



**STATE OF HAWAII  
OFFICE OF ELECTIONS**

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SCOTT T. NAGO  
CHIEF ELECTION OFFICER

TESTIMONY OF THE  
CHIEF ELECTION OFFICER, OFFICE OF ELECTIONS  
TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR  
ON HOUSE BILL NO. 1055, HD 2  
RELATING TO ELECTIONS

March 18, 2016

Chair Keith-Agaran and members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor, thank you for the opportunity to provide comments for House Bill No. 1055, HD 2. This bill requires applicants registering to vote to provide their Hawaii driver's license or state identification card number, or if the applicant does not have either, the last four digits of their Social Security Number (SSN).

The Office of Elections recognizes that the intent of this bill is to conform with the requirements of the Help America Vote Act (HAVA), as well as to ensure the security of applicants' SSNs. Currently, the State of Hawaii has been grandfathered under the Privacy Act of 1974. By utilizing driver's license number or last four digits of the SSN, jurisdictions must share information between election officials and driver's licensing officials to verify the accuracy of the information provided on applications for voter registration, pursuant to HAVA Section 303(a)(5)(B). Additionally, to the extent an applicant had not been issued an SSN, then the State would issue the applicant a unique identification number and enter them into the statewide voter registration system pursuant to HAVA Section 303(a)(5).

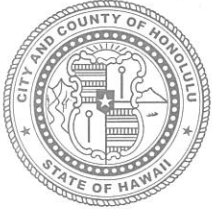
This bill requires the direct sharing of information between the driver license and voter registration files, under HAVA Section 303(a)(5)(B)(i). The DOT is required to enter into an agreement with the Commissioner of Social Security to validate information provided to it by election officials that does not correspond to a driver in its records under HAVA Section 303(a)(5)(B)(ii). This involves DOT

submitting on the behalf of election officials the name, date of birth, and last four digits of the SSN to the Social Security Administration through a web service called Help America Vote Verification (HAVV) to confirm if the person is a recognized person in the Social Security Administration's database, including confirming whether the person is reported as deceased. 42 USC § 15483(a)(5)(B)(ii) and 42 USC § 405(r)(8). The Office of Elections proposes the following language for your consideration.

**§11-A Sharing of data between driver licensing and election officials.** (a) Databases maintained or operated by the counties or the state department of transportation containing driver's license or civil identification card information, including any documents or images, shall be directly accessible to and provided electronically to election officials and the statewide voter registration system, to allow for the timely processing of voter registration applications, ensure the integrity of the voter registration rolls, or for any other government purpose, as determined by the chief election officer; and

(b) The department of transportation shall enter into an agreement with the Commissioner of Social Security to verify voter registration applicant information, in compliance with the Help America Vote Act.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on House Bill No. 1055, HD 2.



GLEN I. TAKAHASHI  
CITY CLERK

KIMBERLY L. RIBELLIA  
DEPUTY CITY CLERK

## OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

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TESTIMONY OF GLEN TAKAHASHI  
CITY CLERK, CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU  
TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR  
ON HOUSE BILL NO. 1055 HD2  
RELATING TO ELECTIONS

March 18, 2016

Chair Keith Agaran and Committee Members:

The Office of the City Clerk provides comment on HB1055 HD2 that would eliminate the requirement to provide a social security number for voter registration within Hawaii's election laws, replacing it with, if available, a Hawaii drivers license number or civil identification number, or the last four digits of the social security number.

While we acknowledge the concerns with identity theft and the discomfort caused when disclosing personal information, this measure would have an immediate and adverse effect upon the integrity of the State's voter registration rolls by increasing the potential for duplicate records (due to the lack of a requirement for a key identifier held by all registrants).

For your information, Hawaii's election statutes are covered under an exemption within the federal Privacy Act of 1974, 5 U.S.C. §552 that allows the use of the full social security number because Hawaii has statutorily (and continuously) required the information for its system of records prior to January 1, 1975.

Enactment of this measure would jeopardize this exemption and in time, also erode the association of Hawaii's voter records/data with the original election documents that the counties have maintained for decades.

If the Legislature intends to enact the policy changes in this bill, we request that enactment be delayed until 2018 to allow completing the transition to the Office of Election's recently procured statewide voter registration database that is better suited to accommodate the requirements of this bill. The delay would also allow the Office of Elections to obtain and associate voters' drivers license number information with existing records within the voter rolls.

As the custodians of voters' personal information, the County Clerks take the responsibility for securing the information entrusted in their care very seriously. It is

my belief that upholding the integrity of Hawaii's elections process justifies the continued requirement for the information.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.



Senate Judiciary + Labor Committee  
Chair Gilbert Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Maile Shimabukuro

Friday 03/18/2016 at 10:00 AM in Room 016  
HB1055 HD2 – Relating to Elections

TESTIMONY — SUPPORT  
Carmille Lim, Executive Director, Common Cause Hawaii

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Dear Chair Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Shimabukuro, and members of the Committee:

**Common Cause Hawaii supports HB1055** which would alter voter registration requirements so that one could provide a Hawaii driver's license number, a Hawaii state identification card number, the last four digits of a her/his Social Security number, or a unique voter-registration related state-assigned number.

Most states require either a driver's license, non-driver's state-issued identification card, or the last four digits of a Social Security number to verify an applicant's ID. Hawaii is one the few states left that still require a full Social Security number for voter registration purposes.

Voter registration drives held by private organizations, political parties, and political candidates/campaigns are common in Hawaii. In these cases, "strangers" approach and ask eligible voters to register to vote. We have heard from individuals that while they may have been interested in registering to vote, they did not feel comfortable giving their Social Security number to someone they had just met.

Requiring only the last four digits of one's Social Security number, as opposed to the full SSN, in the voter registration process can alleviate these privacy concerns.

**We ask the Committee to amend the defective date to the HD1 effective date of January 1, 2018, and pass HB1055 out of Committee.**

Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony **supporting HB1055**.