

**STATE OF HAWAII
OFFICE OF ELECTIONS**

802 LEHUA AVENUE
PEARL CITY, HAWAII 96782
elections.hawaii.gov

SCOTT T. NAGO
CHIEF ELECTION OFFICER

TESTIMONY OF THE
CHIEF ELECTION OFFICER, OFFICE OF ELECTIONS
TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
ON HOUSE BILL NO. 1652
RELATING TO VOTER REGISTRATION

February 25, 2016

Chair Luke and members of the House Committee on Finance, thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of House Bill No. 1652. The purpose of this bill is to require an applicant for a driver's license or civil identification card to choose to register to vote or not before their application is processed.

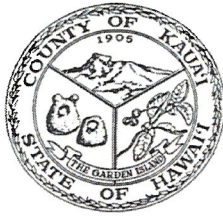
The Office of Elections believes that this bill will increase voter registration as it requires the applicant to directly address the question of whether they wish to be automatically registered to vote or to opt out as part of the driver's license and state identification card application process.

Additionally, this bill ensures the accuracy and integrity of the voter registration rolls by electronically transmitting voter registration data between the driver licensing/state identification card database and the statewide voter registration system. This includes the ability to update the voter file based on updates to the driver's license/state identification card file, such as name or address change. The electronic sharing of data between driver licensing officials and election officials will help to ensure timely compliance with the National Voter Registration Act and the Help America Vote Act. 42 USC § 15483(a)(5)(B) & 42 USC § 1973gg-3.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of House Bill No. 1652.

JADE K. FOUNTAIN-TANIGAWA
County Clerk

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SCOTT K. SATO
Deputy County Clerk

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**ELECTIONS DIVISION
OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK**

4386 RICE STREET, SUITE 101
LĪHUʻE, KAUAʻI, HAWAII 96766-1819

**TESTIMONY OF JADE K. FOUNTAIN-TANIGAWA
COUNTY CLERK, COUNTY OF KAUAʻI
TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
ON HOUSE BILL NO. 1652
RELATING TO VOTER REGISTRATION**

February 25, 2016

Chair Luke and Committee Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony in support of House Bill No. 1652. This Bill proposes to require an affidavit to be included on the application for voter registration as part of an application for a driver's license and/or civil identification cards. The Bill also proposes to prevent the processing of applications for a driver's license and/or civil identification cards unless the voter affidavit is either completed or is declined.

In addition to making the voter registration process more convenient, the Bill will increase the opportunities for voters to update information in their registration records and help to keep the voter rolls updated.

The Bill would also modernize and greatly improve the process for transferring voter registration and Permanent Absentee Ballot (PAB) information from the examiner of drivers to the office of elections by transmitting the information electronically rather than the present process of transferring hardcopy paper documents.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in support of House Bill No. 1652.

JADE K. FOUNTAIN-TANIGAWA
County Clerk, County of Kauaʻi

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 23, 2016 5:35 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: laurie.field@ppvnh.org
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1652 on Feb 25, 2016 15:00PM*

HB1652

Submitted on: 2/23/2016

Testimony for FIN on Feb 25, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Laurie Field	Planned Parenthood Votes Northwest and Hawaii	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 23, 2016 6:43 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: ndavlantes@aol.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1652 on Feb 25, 2016 15:00PM*

HB1652

Submitted on: 2/23/2016

Testimony for FIN on Feb 25, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nancy Davlantes	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 24, 2016 4:39 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: publicpolicy@oha.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1652 on Feb 25, 2016 15:00PM
Attachments: HB1652 Driver License State ID Voter Registration FIN 022516 FINAL.pdf



HB1652

Submitted on: 2/24/2016

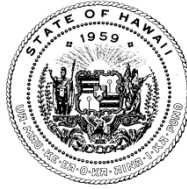
Testimony for FIN on Feb 25, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Office of Hawaiian Affairs	Office of Hawaiian Affairs	Support	Yes

Comments:

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LATE

Testimony by:
FORD N. FUCHIGAMI
DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors
JADE T. BUTAY
ROSS M. HIGASHI
EDWIN H. SNIFFEN
DARRELL T. YOUNG

IN REPLY REFER TO:

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

February 25, 2016
3:00 p.m.
State Capitol, Room 308

**H.B. 1652
RELATING TO VOTER REGISTRATION**

House Committee on Finance

The Department of Transportation (DOT) is submitting **comments** because there are concerns as it relates to H.B. 1652 relating to voter registration. In general, additional time and funding will be needed to comply with the requirements of this measure should it be passed.

The bill allows the “election officials and the statewide voter registration system” to have electronic access to the “databases maintained or operated by the counties or department of transportation containing driver’s license (DL) and civil identification (CID) card information, including documents and images.” If the intent of this bill is to provide unlimited access to databases containing personal information (PII) and documents, DOT must oppose this as such unlimited access could be considered a violation of the federal Driver Protection and Privacy Act.

If it is determined that access can be legally permitted for specific PII of DL and CID applicants and this bill is passed, time will be needed to allow the City and County of Honolulu’s Department of Information Technology (DIT) to collaborate with the Office of Elections’ Information Technology department to ensure the security and protection of PII stored in DIT’s database and the PII that will be transmitted to the Office of Elections.

Additionally, it is more than likely that there will be a need for program modification of DIT’s database to accomplish “real time” transmittance of data from that database to the Office of Elections. To accomplish such an effort would require funding, time and resources for DIT personnel or a contractor/vendor.

DOT is responsible for the driver’s license and civil identification card application forms. Because this bill requires modifications relating to voter registration, it would be helpful if the Chief Elections Officer or its designee collaborates with DOT with the application modifications needed to comply with the requirements of the bill, if passed.

Clerks that process the driver's license and civil identification card applications will be required to take on additional responsibilities. The additional responsibilities related to the voter application will increase the overall processing time of each driver's license and civil identification card transaction.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.



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COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Friday, February 25, 2016, 3:00 pm, Room 325
HB 1652 RELATING TO VOTER REGISTRATON

TESTIMONY

Janet Mason, Legislative Co-Chair, League of Women Voters of Hawaii

Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto and Committee Members:

The League of Women Voters of Hawaii supports HB 1652, which requires an affidavit for voter registration when a person applies for a driver's license or civil identification card.

This step is more important than it may appear, because without it, there could be missing information needed by county Clerks who determine whether a person is eligible to vote. The League heartily endorses so-called "automatic" voter registration through driver's license and state identification card processes such as that found in, but having the affidavit helps ensure prompt processing of the application to register to vote as well as the integrity of our voter registration rolls.

Likewise, the National Voter Registration Act requires that the voter either decline to vote or provide an application to register to vote, so the affidavit is essential.

We urge you to pass this bill. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.