



Testimony by:  
FORD N. FUCHIGAMI  
DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors  
JADE T. BUTAY  
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EDWIN H. SNIFFEN  
DARRELL T. YOUNG

IN REPLY REFER TO:

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

February 5, 2016  
2:00PM  
State Capitol, Room 325

**LATE TESTIMONY**

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

House Committee On Judiciary

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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.

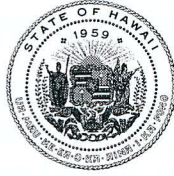
If it is determined that access can be legally permitted for specific PII of DL and CID applicants and this bill is passed, time will be needed to allow the City and County of Honolulu's Department of Information Technology (DIT) to collaborate with the Office of Elections' Information Technology department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



**STATE OF HAWAII  
OFFICE OF ELECTIONS**

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PEARL CITY, HAWAII 96782  
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SCOTT T. NAGO  
CHIEF ELECTION OFFICER

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

February 5, 2016

Chair Rhoads and members of the House Committee on Judiciary, 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 will be 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's 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's 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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**ELECTIONS DIVISION  
OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK**

4386 RICE STREET, SUITE 101  
LIHU'E, KAUA'I, HAWAI'I 96766-1819

**TESTIMONY OF JADE K. FOUNTAIN-TANIGAWA  
COUNTY CLERK, COUNTY OF KAUA'I  
TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY  
ON HOUSE BILL NO. 1652  
RELATING TO VOTER REGISTRATION**

February 5, 2016

Chair Rhoads 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 Kaua'i



49 South Hotel Street, Room 314 | Honolulu, HI 96813  
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## COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

Friday, February 5, 2016, 2:00 pm, Room 325  
HB 1652 RELATING TO VOTER REGISTRATION

### TESTIMONY

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

Chair Rhoads, Vice-Chair San Buenaventura, and Committee Members:

**The League of Women Voters of Hawaii supports HB 1652**, which requires an affidavit from an individual when that person registers to vote.

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. House Bill B401, HD2 for example, clearly refers to use of the affidavit for automatic voter registration.

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/hold this bill. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.



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## COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

Friday, February 5, 2016, 2:00 pm, Room 325  
HB 1652 RELATING TO VOTER REGISTRATON

### REVISED TESTIMONY

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

Chair Rhoads, Vice-Chair San Buenaventura and Committee Members:

**The League of Women Voters of Hawaii supports HB 1652**, which requires an affidavit from an individual when that person registers to vote.

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. House Bill B401, HD2 for example, clearly refers to use of the affidavit for automatic voter registration.

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.

**LATE**



**HB1652**  
**RELATING TO VOTER REGISTRATION**  
House Committee on Judiciary

February 5, 2016

2:00 p.m.

Room 325

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) Committee on Beneficiary Advocacy and Empowerment will recommend that the Board of Trustees **SUPPORT** HB1652, which would reduce barriers to voting and potentially increase voter participation, by requiring applicants for a driver's license or state-issued identification card to either register to vote, or affirmatively decline to do so.

It is well known that Hawai'i has historically suffered from low voter turnout. Hawai'i consistently ranks lower than the national average for voter participation among those eligible to vote in the presidential election.<sup>1</sup> In response to historical data also reflecting the underrepresentation of Native Hawaiians in particular in the polls, during the past two election seasons OHA has implemented the "Hawaiian Voice, Hawaiian Vote: I Mana Ka Leo" campaign to increase Native Hawaiian voter registration, education, and turnout. **In line with our efforts, OHA generally supports the reduction of barriers to the complex system of voter registration, voter education, and election day polls.**

Hawai'i's electorate will likely grow if citizens are required to affirmatively decide whether to register to vote, when submitting a driver's license or state-issued identification card application. Accordingly, OHA supports this measure as consistent with its past and ongoing efforts to increase voter turnout. OHA does recognize that consistency with federal law is of paramount importance and the logistics of implementation can be complex and costly; on these matters, we defer to the Attorney General's Office, Office of Elections, and County Clerks' offices.

Therefore, OHA urges the Committee to **PASS** HB1652. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

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<sup>1</sup> Editorial Board, *The Worst Voter Turnout in 72 Years*, THE NEW YORK TIMES, Nov. 11, 2014, available at <http://www.nytimes.com/2014/11/12/opinion/the-worst-voter-turnout-in-72-years.html>.



**LATE**

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Friday, February 05, 2016 12:14 AM  
**To:** JUDtestimony  
**Cc:** annsfreed@gmail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB1652 on Feb 5, 2016 14:00PM\*

**HB1652**

Submitted on: 2/5/2016

Testimony for JUD on Feb 5, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ann S Freed	Individual	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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**Sent:** Friday, February 05, 2016 11:16 AM  
**To:** JUDtestimony  
**Cc:** hawaiifishingfanatic@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1652 on Feb 5, 2016 14:00PM

**HB1652**

Submitted on: 2/5/2016

Testimony for JUD on Feb 5, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Don Aweau	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Support the intent and future implementation of the legislation to register potential Native Hawaiian voters (as much as allowed by Federal law). The simplified voting process would help the underrepresentation of Native Hawaiians and further increase Native Hawaiian voter participation. Mahalo.

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