

JAN 20 2017

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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO ELECTIONS.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the participation of  
2 eligible voters in elections is vital to American democracy.  
3 More than fifty-one million eligible citizens nationwide remain  
4 unregistered to vote, one in eight voter registration records  
5 contain a serious error, and many voter registration systems  
6 remain inefficient and largely based on outdated technology.

7           The Electronic Registration Information Center, or ERIC, is  
8 a nonprofit organization that was formed in 2012 to help states  
9 improve the accuracy of voter registration rolls by using secure  
10 data-matching tools. ERIC uses the voter registration rolls of  
11 member states and several other databases, such as driver's  
12 licensing records, Social Security Administration records, and  
13 the United States Postal Service's national change of address  
14 registry to compare voting lists. Twenty states and the  
15 District of Columbia now participate in ERIC and receive, as  
16 member states, reports that show voters who have moved within a  
17 participating state, voters who have moved out of the state,



1 voters with duplicate registrations within the state, voters who  
2 have passed away, and individuals who are potentially eligible  
3 to vote and have not yet registered to vote.

4       The legislature further finds that many persons reside in  
5 Hawaii on a part-time basis. This mobile population may be  
6 registered to vote in more than one state due to outdated  
7 registration records, thus challenging the accuracy of Hawaii's  
8 and other states' voter registration rolls. Accordingly, the  
9 legislature finds that modernizing Hawaii's system of verifying  
10 voter registration data is essential to ensuring the integrity  
11 of Hawaii's voter registration rolls.

12       The purpose of this Act is to require:

- 13       (1) The office of elections to join the Electronic  
14             Registration Information Center;
- 15       (2) The State and each county to use the Electronic  
16             Registration Information Center to verify their voter  
17             rolls; and
- 18       (3) Any documents or images of driver's licenses and civil  
19             identification card information maintained by the  
20             department of transportation or the counties to be



1           electronically provided to election officials and the  
2           statewide voter registration system.

3           SECTION 2. Chapter 11, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended  
4 by adding a new section to part II to be appropriately  
5 designated and to read as follows:

6           "§11-     Driver's license and state identification card  
7 databases. The databases maintained or operated by the counties  
8 or the department of transportation containing driver's license  
9 and civil identification card information, including any  
10 documents or images, shall be provided electronically to  
11 election officials and the statewide voter registration system  
12 to allow for the timely processing of voter registration  
13 applications and ensure the integrity of the voter registration  
14 rolls or for any other government purpose, as determined by the  
15 chief election officer."

16           SECTION 3. No later than May 8, 2018, the office of  
17 elections shall join the Electronic Registration Information  
18 Center. The office of elections shall share with each county  
19 the information and services provided by the Electronic  
20 Registration Information Center pursuant to terms of the  
21 office's membership agreement with that organization.



# S.B. NO. 327

1 The office of elections and each county office that administers  
 2 elections shall use information and services provided by the  
 3 Electronic Registration Information Center to verify their  
 4 respective voter registration rolls.

5 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general  
 6 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so  
 7 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2017-2018 and  
 8 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal  
 9 year 2018-2019 for the office of elections to join the  
 10 Electronic Registration Information Center.

11 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the office of  
 12 elections for the purposes of this Act.

13 SECTION 5. New statutory material is underscored.

14 SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2017.

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# S.B. NO. 327

**Report Title:**

Voter Registration; Verification; Appropriation

**Description:**

Authorizes the electronic transmission of databases containing driver's license and civil identification card information to election officials and the statewide voter registration system. Requires the Office of Elections to join the Electronic Registration Information Center and share information with counties to encourage voter participation and ensure integrity of voter registration rolls. Appropriates funds.

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

