

From:  
To: JDLTestimony  
Subject: HB140I - Oppose  
Date: Wednesday, March 29, 2017 4:34:20 PM

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**With nine years of experience in Oregon, 2006-2015, I can state that their ONLY Vote by Mail system does NOT increase voter participation. It may "save" money from having to staff polling places; but it is not a major difference-maker in citizen participation.**

**HAWAI'I has "vote by mail" currently for those who want to do so - - it is called absentee ballot.**

**HAWAI'I should retain is current options for mail, early-voting, and election day polling place.**

**It ain't broke, folks; so don't change it!**

**Prof Willis H A Moore**

**Professor of Political Science and USA history**

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"In essentials, unity; in non-essentials, liberty; in all matters, love." THE MORAVIANS:  
1457 / 1741 C.E.

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"...for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness." James 3:1b

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"What in God's name am I doing here?"

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Prof Willis H A Moore

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1401 on Mar 30, 2017 09:45AM  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 29, 2017 11:48:22 PM

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**HB1401**

Submitted on: 3/29/2017

Testimony for JDL/WAM on Mar 30, 2017 09:45AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jill Yoshicedo	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Dear Judiciary and Labor Committee and Ways and Means Committee: I am writing in support of HB1401 to establish Voting By Mail in Hawaii. Primarily, I support this bill because I believe allowing citizens to review the ballot and complete it on their own time schedule will ultimately allow each of us to make the most informed and considered decisions. Second, voting by mail has been shown to increase voter participation, which is vital to a functional democracy. On a practical level, the current system of running both polling centers and accepting absentee ballots is inefficient and wasting our state's limited financial resources. I understand the nostalgia and attachment for some to physically going to the polls on Election Day, but I believe the planned Voter Service Centers would fulfill that need. Please allow Hawaii to join other progressive states such as Oregon, Washington, and Colorado in instituting Voting by Mail! Thank you for your consideration.

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## DISABILITY AND COMMUNICATION ACCESS BOARD

919 Ala Moana Boulevard, Room 101 • Honolulu, Hawaii 96814  
Ph. (808) 586-8121 (V/TDD) • Fax (808) 586-8129

March 30, 2017

### TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEES ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR, AND WAYS AND MEANS

#### House Bill 1401, HD1 – Relating to Elections

The Disability and Communication Access Board (DCAB) supports on House Bill 1401, HD1 Relating to Elections which enacts voting by for all elections statewide commencing in 2020; repeals and amends provisions relating to polling places, including absentee polling places; establishes voter service centers to accommodate personal delivery of ballots; and appropriates funds. Our comments relate to voters with disabilities, and how to make appropriate references to said voters throughout the bill. There have been several lawsuits on the Mainland related to voting being a fundamental right of individuals with disabilities, and inherent in that right is the ability to cast a ballot independently and privately.

Our concerns with the bill are as follows on:

1. Page 2, line 7, the phrase "voter with special needs" should be changed to read "voters with disabilities;"
2. Page 7, lines 8–14 in referencing that a ballot "be forwarded by electronic transmission," there are final rules promulgated in 2017 related to Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act that requires electronic transmissions to be accessible to individuals with disabilities. Therefore, any ballot transmitted electronically must comply with Section 508 requirements;
3. Page 12, lines 16–19 the definition for "Electronic transmission" should include that the transmission will comply with Section 508;
4. Page 13, lines 10–13 should include reference to the Americans with Disabilities Act with an indication that the polling site and its elements must be physically accessible to all voters, including people with disabilities;
5. Page 34, lines 3–5 reword to read "Any person designated to assist a voter with a disability, while the person is assisting the voter;" and
6. Page 36, lines 15-18 should also include a reference to a voter with a disability requesting assistance. A voter may not need a person's help, but may request an assistive device. That voter should be directed to the Voter Assistance Official who can offer a device such as a magnifier, pen grip or a signature guide.

We defer to the Office of Elections regarding the appropriation necessary to implement this measure.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Respectfully submitted,

BARBARA FISCHLOWITZ-LEONG  
Chairperson  
Legislative Committee

FRANCINE WAI *eyo*  
Executive Director

# LATE TESTIMONY

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
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## **HB1401**

Submitted on: 3/29/2017

Testimony for JDL/WAM on Mar 30, 2017 09:45AM in Conference Room 211

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Tiare Lawrence	Individual	Support	No

### Comments:

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## **HB1401**

Submitted on: 3/29/2017

Testimony for JDL/WAM on Mar 30, 2017 09:45AM in Conference Room 211

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Sandra Fujita	Individual	Support	No

### Comments:

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