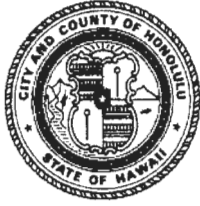


LATE

SB 111

RELATING TO VOTING

Provides that the ballot of an absentee or military-overseas voter is valid even if the voter becomes ineligible to vote after casting the ballot. Repeals the requirement that an absentee voter's ballot be deemed invalid if the voter returns the return envelope but dies prior to the opening of polls.



GLEN I. TAKAHASHI
City Clerk

KIMBERLY L. RIBELLIA
Deputy City Clerk

ELECTIONS
OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
530 SOUTH KING STREET, ROOM 100
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-3099
TELEPHONE: (808) 768-3800 • FAX: (808) 768-3835

TESTIMONY OF GLEN TAKAHASHI
CITY CLERK, CITY & COUNTY OF HONOLULU
TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR
ON SENATE BILL NO. 111
RELATING TO VOTING
February 2, 2017

Chair Keith-Agaran and Committee members:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on Senate Bill 111.

The bill proposes that a voter's absentee ballot be counted even if deemed ineligible. This proposal would apply to absentee ballots cast by mail or at an absentee polling place. The measure also deletes HRS § 15-3, which directs election officials to invalidate ballots cast by voters who die before election day.

We provide the following comments:

A ballot cast at the absentee polling place cannot be individually identified or retrieved once it is deposited in a ballot box (or electronic voting machine) by the voter. Therefore, there is no way for election officials to retrieve a cast ballot if a voter dies or loses eligibility after voting in person.

The Office of the City Clerk is capable of intercepting and/or segregating the returned mail ballot of a voter whose eligibility is subsequently deemed invalid. In practice, if the Elections Division should receive a ballot from a person that has been identified as deceased, that ballot is segregated and not counted (invalidated).

Should SB111 become law, processes can be adjusted to simply accept ballots for these "ineligibility" conditions and allow the ballot return envelope to go through the normal affirmation signature review prior to acceptance for counting.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on SB111.

The Uniformed Service Member's Voice in Government
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR UNIFORMED SERVICES
Hawaii Chapter (HI-1)

LATE TESTIMONY

FEBRUARY 2nd 2017

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL 111
RELATING TO VOTING**

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR AT 8:45AM, ON
FRIDAY FEBRUARY 3rd 2017, IN CONFERENCE ROOM 016**

Aloha Chair Keith-Agaran and Vice Chair Rhodes: Mahalo for providing this opportunity to share our sentiments, in support of Senate Bill 111. The National Association for Uniformed Services (NAUS) is well known, as "The Service Member's Voice in Government." While this voice is silent, on Capitol Hill, NAUS Hawaii Chapter (HI-1) continues to serve at the will and pleasure of our nation's largest per-capita uniformed services community.

NAUS Hawaii Chapter (HI-1) sincerely appreciates your willingness to consider repealing the requirement that an absentee or military-overseas voter's ballot is deemed invalid, if the voter returns the return envelope but dies prior to the polls opening.

This noble provision will no doubt, be much appreciated by our deployed military personnel and their love ones.

Thank you for being here for us,

D Egge

Dennis Egge; NAUS Hawaii Chapter President



1298 Kukila Street, Honolulu, Hawaii 96818;
Naushawaii1@yahoo.com; 808-382-5833