

**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 SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR
ON SENATE BILL NO. 855
RELATING TO ELECTIONS

February 16, 2017

Chair Keith-Agaran and members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor, thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Senate Bill No. 855. 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 and to decide whether they wish to be a permanent absentee voter.

The Office of Elections believes that this bill will increase the opportunities for members of our community to register to vote, 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.

Similarly, this bill will make voting more convenient by ensuring that every applicant will be mailed a ballot, unless they opt out and would prefer to vote in person. Without this change, we will be left with the current situation in which many voters do not take advantage of the opportunity to request a permanent absentee ballot when they register to vote and many of those do not subsequently vote in person.

Finally, this bill ensures the accuracy 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

Testimony on SB 855 – Relating to Elections
February 16, 2017
Page 2

will help to ensure timely compliance with the National Voter Registration Act and the Help America Vote Act. 52 USC § 21083(a)(5)(B) & 52 USC § 20504.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Senate Bill No. 855.

JADE K. FOUNTAIN-TANIGAWA
County Clerk

Telephone: (808) 241-4800
TTY: (808) 241-5116



SCOTT K. SATO
Deputy County Clerk

Facsimile: (808) 241-6207
E-mail: elections@kauai.gov

**ELECTIONS DIVISION
OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK
4386 RICE STREET, SUITE 101
LĪHUʻE, KAUAʻI, HAWAII 96766-1819
TESTIMONY OF SCOTT K. SATO**

**DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK, COUNTY OF KAUAʻI
TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR
ON SENATE BILL NO. 855
RELATING TO ELECTIONS**

February 16, 2017

Dear Chair Keith-Agaran and Committee Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony in support of Senate Bill No. 855. This Bill would require an affidavit on the application for voter registration to be included as part of the application for driver's licenses and civil identification cards. Additionally, the Bill would establish an affirmative opt-out automatic voter registration and permanent absentee ballot application process, and allow for the electronic transmission of voter registration data to election officials.

Incorporating a voter registration application into all driver's license and identification card applications, and establishing an affirmative opt-out automatic voter registration and permanent absentee ballot application process will create a seamless and much more convenient process, and will eliminate another impediment that hinders participation in Hawai'i's elections.

Providing for the electronic transfer of voter registration information ensures that the respective election officials receive voter data in a timely manner and reduces data entry errors, thereby increasing the overall integrity of the voter file.

We wish to thank the Legislature for hearing this Bill and respectfully request support of this measure. Additionally, please feel free to contact the County of Kaua'i's Elections Division if we can assist in clarifying issues pertaining to automatic voter registration, the electronic transmission of voter data, or related matters.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in support of Senate Bill No. 855.

SCOTT K. SATO
Deputy County Clerk, County of Kaua'i

DANNY A. MATEO
County Clerk



JOSIAH K. NISHITA
Deputy County Clerk

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK
COUNTY OF MAUI
200 S. HIGH STREET
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793
www.mauicounty.gov/county/clerk

TESTIMONY OF DANNY A. MATEO
COUNTY CLERK, COUNTY OF MAUI

TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR

ON SENATE BILL NO. 855

RELATING TO ELECTIONS

February 16, 2017

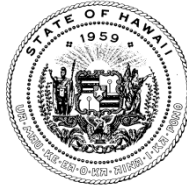
Chair Keith-Agaran and members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor, thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Senate Bill No. 855. The purpose of this bill establishes that applications for a civil identification card or driver's license have an opt-out automatic voter registration and permanent absentee ballot application process and provides for the electronic transmission of voter registration information to the county clerks.

We feel that having an opt-out automatic voter registration and permanent absentee application incorporated into the driver's license and civil identification card applications will provide a convenient way for our Hawaii residents to participate in our elections.

The electronic accessibility to the county clerk's offices will definitely facilitate the processing of the voter registration affidavits.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Senate Bill No. 855.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



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 16, 2017
9:30 a.m.
State Capitol, Room 016

S.B. 855
RELATING TO ELECTIONS

Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

The Department of Transportation (DOT) is providing **comments** with recommendations for S.B. 855 that relates to elections.

This bill requires the modification of the affidavit for the voter registration part of the application process for the issuance of a civil identification card and driver's license.

To accomplish this required amendment to the application form, the DOT is recommending the effective date be amended to January 1, 2018, for all sections of the bill, in order to provide a uniform transition to the new application form.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.



Senate Judiciary and Labor Committee
Chair Gilbert Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Rhoads

02/16/2017 at 9:30AM in Room 016
SB855 – Relating to Elections

TESTIMONY / SUPPORT with COMMENTS
Corie Tanida, Executive Director, Common Cause Hawaii

Dear Chair Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Rhoads, and members of the committee:

Common Cause Hawaii supports SB855 with comments. Under SB855 applications for civil identification cards or driver's licenses would not be processed until the applicant declined to register to vote or completed the registration affidavit. It also authorizes the electronic transfer of voter registration information from the counties and Department of Transportation, to election officials and the statewide voter registration system.

This proposal, commonly known as Automatic Voter Registration (AVR) is a critical step toward modernizing our elections system. With AVR:

- Elections will be more secure. The electronic transfer of data in real time will lead to fewer typos, duplicates, and lost forms, thus our voter rolls will be more accurate and the chances of voter fraud will be reduced.
- The state will save money. States that have upgraded their systems estimate it costs approximately 30 times less to process an electronic application than a paper application.¹

In order to protect applicants who may mistakenly register to vote we suggest including the following language:

Unless an ineligible individual willfully and knowingly takes affirmative steps to register to vote knowing that he or she is not eligible to do so, the record and signature of an ineligible individual that is transmitted through an electronic system by a government agency to any elections or voter registration authority shall not constitute a completed voter registration form, and that individual shall not be considered to have registered to vote. Therefore if such registration is processed by the state, it shall be presumed to have been effectuated and officially authorized by the state and the individual cannot be subject to any penalty under any relevant laws.

Automatic Voter Registration works. Oregon was the first state to implement this system in 2016. Over 270,000 were registered via Automatic Voter Registration, of those 42.73% (or 97,184) voted in the 2016 General Election, which helped Oregon set a new state record for number of votes cast.²

As a state that consistently ranks last in the nation for voter participation, we commend your consideration of this important step to use existing technology and pathways to improve the process for registering eligible voters.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **support of SB855**.

¹ Center for Secure and Modern Elections. (2016). *Modernelections.org*.

² Oregon Secretary of State. (2016). *Oregon Breaks 2 Million Ballots in Nov. 8 General Election, Setting New Record*. Retrieved from <http://oregonsosblog.us/2016/11/oregon-breaks-2-million-ballots-nov-8-general-election-setting-new-record/>



ADA

HAWAII

AMERICANS FOR DEMOCRATIC ACTION

OFFICERS

John Bickel, President
Alan Burdick, Vice President
Marsha Schweitzer, Treasurer
Karin Gill, Secretary

DIRECTORS

Guy Archer	Jan Lubin	George Simson
Dylan Armstrong	Jenny Nomura	Emmanuel Zibakalam
Gloria Borland	Stephen O'Harrow	
Chuck Huxel	Cameron Sato	

MAILING ADDRESS

P.O. Box 23404
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96823
www.adaaction.org

February 13 , 2017

TO: Honorable Chair Keith-Agaran and Members of the Judiciary Committee

RE: SB 855 Relating to Elections
Support for hearing on Feb. 16

Americans for Democratic Action is an organization founded in the 1950s by leading supporters of the New Deal and led by Patsy Mink in the 1970s. We are devoted to the promotion of progressive public policies.

We support SB 855 as it would provide that the submission of a voter registration application either to register to vote or update the voter's registration information would constitute a request for permanent absentee voter status unless the applicant specifically indicates the applicant does not wish to be a permanent absentee voter.

Hawaii has one of the lowest voter turnout rates. We believe this bill will make it easier to vote as it will increase electronic registration and the use of absentee ballots to allow people to vote at home.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

John Bickel
President



49 South Hotel Street, Room 314 | Honolulu, HI 96813
www.lwv-hawaii.com | 808.531.7448 | voters@lwv-hawaii.com

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR
THURSDAY February 16, 2017, 9:30 A.M., CONFERENCE ROOM 016

SB 855 RELATING TO ELECTIONS

TESTIMONY

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

Chair Keith-Agaran, Vice-Chair Rhoads, and Committee Members:

The League of Women Voters of Hawaii strongly supports SB 855 which provides that all applicants who are eligible to vote and apply for a driver's license will be automatically registered to vote (if not already registered to vote) unless the applicant affirmatively declines to register to vote.

This is excellent, much-needed legislation, if Hawaii is to make significant progress in improving its voter turnout. We will not be able to make inroads with voter turnout until we boost the number of persons registered to vote as a percent of those eligible to vote. One recent estimate is that about 36% of those eligible haven't registered.¹ Of course the League acknowledges motivating registered voters to vote also remains a challenge, and we are committed to working on this effort as well.

We are pleased that the actual affidavit for voter registration would be included as a part of these applications., . This should satisfy provisions of the National Voter Registration Act that require an "opt out" clause. Likewise, we support automatically registering an application for registration as a permanent absentee voter.

The bill makes clear that information from County departments of motor vehicles should be transmitted electronically to the clerk of the county on a real-time basis and permits the counties to electronically share the voter registration data with the statewide voter registration system, so applications to vote can be processed in a timely way.

¹ Office of Elections, Hawaii registered voters as of 3/9/2016 = 711,518; U.S. Census Bureau Hawaii Voting Eligible Population is 1,111,117, March 2016., https://www.census.gov/library/visualizations/2016/comm/cb16-tps35_voting_hawaii-social.html



49 South Hotel Street, Room 314 | Honolulu, HI 96813
www.lwv-hawaii.com | 808.531.7448 | voters@lwv-hawaii.com

The bill requires that for voter registration purposes data transmitted to the county clerk would include the digitized signature of the person who wishes to register. The bill also makes clear that databases operated by the counties or department of transportation should be electronically accessible to the statewide voter registration system. Though not the express purpose of this measure we fully expect these steps will also support quality voter registration data.

To us making data processing changes to correspond with this his bill are straightforward, so we respectfully request that the bill take effect upon its approval. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Cc:
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB855 on Feb 16, 2017 09:30AM
Date: Monday, February 13, 2017 11:23:29 AM

SB855

Submitted on: 2/13/2017

Testimony for JDL on Feb 16, 2017 09:30AM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Scott Foster	The Kupuna Caucuse of the Democratic Party of Hawaii	Support	No

Comments: SB855 would implement Automatic Voter Registration and modernize Hawaii's elections. Thanks to advances in technology, we no longer have to stick to traditional paper forms which require staff to literally have to take the forms from one agency to the next and then manually enter data. Updating and modernizing our system will lead to increased processing efficiency and productivity. SB855 would also save money. States that have switched to electronic systems have reported that it costs about 30 times less to process an electronic application than a paper application. Elections will be more secure. Due to the increased accuracy of voter rolls—thanks to real time data transfers, fewer typos, fewer duplicate records, no more lost forms, etc. the chances of voter fraud will be reduced. The use of an encrypted system rather than paper forms to transfer data, will also make our elections more secure. Privacy and the right to choose to participate would be assured, as those who do not want to register to vote can opt-out and their information will not be shared with the Office of Elections. The Kupuna Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai`i Contact Scott Foster, Chair 808-590-5880

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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Cc:
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB855 on Feb 16, 2017 09:30AM
Date: Tuesday, February 14, 2017 7:52:18 AM

SB855

Submitted on: 2/14/2017

Testimony for JDL on Feb 16, 2017 09:30AM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Alan B Burdick	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Progressive Democrats of Hawaii supports SB 855, which provides a mechanism for automatic voter registration. We need to take all reasonable steps to encourage greater voter participation. Improving registration figures is an important first step.

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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Cc:
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB855 on Feb 16, 2017 09:30AM
Date: Tuesday, February 14, 2017 3:29:38 PM

SB855

Submitted on: 2/14/2017

Testimony for JDL on Feb 16, 2017 09:30AM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brian Murphy	Individual	Support	No

Comments: All voice must be heard!

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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Cc:
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB855 on Feb 16, 2017 09:30AM
Date: Tuesday, February 14, 2017 4:12:47 PM

SB855

Submitted on: 2/14/2017

Testimony for JDL on Feb 16, 2017 09:30AM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Elif Beall	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Dear Chair Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Rhoads, and Committee Members, I am in strong support of both SB855 to automate voter registration in service of increasing civic participation and strengthening democracy in Hawai'i. This will modernize our elections consistent with the available advances in technology, save money (states that have switched to electronic systems have reported that it costs about 30 times less to process an electronic application than a paper application), and make our elections more secure. Please pass SB855. Thank you for considering my testimony. Elif Beall Attorney and non-profit director Kilauea, Kaua'i, Hawai'i

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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Cc:
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB855 on Feb 16, 2017 09:30AM
Date: Tuesday, February 14, 2017 3:41:13 PM

SB855

Submitted on: 2/14/2017

Testimony for JDL on Feb 16, 2017 09:30AM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Eloise Engman	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Our elections need reform. Gand counted paper ballots are more secure, & much cheaper than machines.

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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Cc:
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB855 on Feb 16, 2017 09:30AM*
Date: Tuesday, February 14, 2017 7:30:57 PM

SB855

Submitted on: 2/14/2017

Testimony for JDL on Feb 16, 2017 09:30AM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Erika Lechuga Disalvo	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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Cc:
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB855 on Feb 16, 2017 09:30AM*
Date: Tuesday, February 14, 2017 2:53:58 PM

SB855

Submitted on: 2/14/2017

Testimony for JDL on Feb 16, 2017 09:30AM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Fern Rosenstiel	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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Cc:
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB855 on Feb 16, 2017 09:30AM
Date: Tuesday, February 14, 2017 8:00:28 AM

SB855

Submitted on: 2/14/2017

Testimony for JDL on Feb 16, 2017 09:30AM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ihilani Coffee	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am in support of this bill and also VOTE BY MAIL.

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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Cc:
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB855 on Feb 16, 2017 09:30AM
Date: Tuesday, February 14, 2017 12:10:19 AM

SB855

Submitted on: 2/14/2017

Testimony for JDL on Feb 16, 2017 09:30AM in Conference Room 016

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

Comments: Dear Committee: I am in support of SB855 as automatic voter registration helps ensure every citizen's right to vote. I am in favor of an electronic system over manual data entry, which will save money, increase departmental efficiency, and increase accuracy. Thank you for your consideration.

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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Cc:
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB855 on Feb 16, 2017 09:30AM*
Date: Monday, February 13, 2017 9:55:06 PM

SB855

Submitted on: 2/13/2017

Testimony for JDL on Feb 16, 2017 09:30AM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kaulana Dameg	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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Cc:
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB855 on Feb 16, 2017 09:30AM
Date: Wednesday, February 15, 2017 9:46:02 AM

SB855

Submitted on: 2/15/2017

Testimony for JDL on Feb 16, 2017 09:30AM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Larry Meacham	Individual	Support	No

Comments: February 15, 2017 Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony in SUPPORT of SB 855. Because of advances in technology, we can now expand and update our voter lists automatically, reduce errors, save money and make it easier to vote. We have the lowest voter turnout rate in the country and anything we can do to make it easier to vote will increase participation and citizen involvement in the process. Also, people can opt out if they wish. This has worked well in Oregon and other states, and we should take advantage of this idea to improve our system. Again, thank you for the the opportunity to offer testimony.

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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Cc:
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB855 on Feb 16, 2017 09:30AM*
Date: Tuesday, February 14, 2017 9:39:30 AM

SB855

Submitted on: 2/14/2017

Testimony for JDL on Feb 16, 2017 09:30AM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lauren Ampolos	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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Cc: blackbird4aloha@hotmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB855 on Feb 16, 2017 09:30AM*
Date: Tuesday, February 14, 2017 11:49:03 PM

SB855

Submitted on: 2/14/2017

Testimony for JDL on Feb 16, 2017 09:30AM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Merle Hayward	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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Cc:
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB855 on Feb 16, 2017 09:30AM
Date: Monday, February 13, 2017 11:58:53 AM

SB855

Submitted on: 2/13/2017

Testimony for JDL on Feb 16, 2017 09:30AM in Conference Room 016

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

Comments: Hawaii needs all the help it can get to boost its dismal voter turnout, and making it easier to register is a giant step in the right direction.

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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Cc:
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB855 on Feb 16, 2017 09:30AM
Date: Tuesday, February 14, 2017 8:47:34 AM

SB855

Submitted on: 2/14/2017

Testimony for JDL on Feb 16, 2017 09:30AM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Richard Greever	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I'm in support of getting more people registered and making it easier to vote. Absentee voting seems like a reasonable way to accomplish this. There are however two issues I see with the bill in it's current format. 1) There is an exemption to a driver having proof of financial responsibility (insurance) for drivers allowed with outstanding traffic citations or failures to appear in court, if a judge decides you need you car to get to work (§286-109c). EVERYONE should have insurance! This should not be at a judges discretion to allow someone has driving citations to continue to drive (poorly) and be exempt for carrying insurance; I don't want to pay for their bad driving if there is an accident. 2) There seems to be no provision for verifying US citizenship when accepting the voter affidavit; this should be a requirement if this is going to be included on the application. I'm don't think citizenship should be a requirement for a license or id card, but it should be checked for the voter portion of the application. Are we trying to increase voter participation, or increase legal voter participation? Richard Greever Keaau, Hawaii

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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Cc:
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB855 on Feb 16, 2017 09:30AM
Date: Tuesday, February 14, 2017 7:19:20 PM

SB855

Submitted on: 2/14/2017

Testimony for JDL on Feb 16, 2017 09:30AM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Shannon Rudolph	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Strongly Support!!!!

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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Cc:
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB855 on Feb 16, 2017 09:30AM
Date: Tuesday, February 14, 2017 7:44:54 AM

SB855

Submitted on: 2/14/2017

Testimony for JDL on Feb 16, 2017 09:30AM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sharron Cushman	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support SB855.

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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

Capt. T. J. Davies, Jr. (Ret.)

12 February 2017

To: Committee on Judiciary & Labor, Sen. Gilbert Keith-Agaran, Chair, Sen. Karl Rhoads, Vice Chair

Date: Thursday, February 16, 2017, 9:30 a.m.

Re: **SB 855, Relating to Elections**, Voter Registration; Permanent Absentee Voter Status.

Chair Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Rhoads and members of the committee:

My name is T. J. Davies Jr. I am 82 years old, retired and live in Kakaako. I am writing in **STRONG SUPPORT** of SB 855, Relating to Elections, Voter Registration and; Permanent Absentee Voter Status.

We no longer have to stick to traditional paper forms which require staff to literally have to take the forms from one agency to the next and then manually enter data. Updating and modernizing our system will lead to increased processing efficiency and productivity.

States that have switched to electronic systems have reported that it costs about 30 times less to process an electronic application than a paper application.

Due to the increased accuracy of voter rolls—thanks to real time data transfers, fewer typos, fewer duplicate records, no more lost forms, etc. the chances of voter fraud will be reduced. The use of an encrypted system rather than paper forms to transfer data, will also make our elections more secure.

Privacy and the right to choose to participate is assured, as those who do not want to register to vote can opt-out and their information will not be shared with the Office of Elections.

• Your favorable consideration of this legislation is requested. Mahalo & Aloha

T. J. Davies Jr., Volunteer
Treasurer, AARP Chapter 60 Honolulu
Treasurer, Kokua Council for Senior Citizens of Hawaii Education Fund
Director, Hawaii Alliance for Retired Americans
Kakaako (District 26 / Senate District 12)

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Cc:
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB855 on Feb 16, 2017 09:30AM*
Date: Tuesday, February 14, 2017 5:37:26 PM

SB855

Submitted on: 2/14/2017

Testimony for JDL on Feb 16, 2017 09:30AM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tulsi Greenlee	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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Cc:
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB855 on Feb 16, 2017 09:30AM
Date: Tuesday, February 14, 2017 3:38:13 PM

SB855

Submitted on: 2/14/2017

Testimony for JDL on Feb 16, 2017 09:30AM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tiare Lawrence	Individual	Support	No

Comments: THis will help Increase voter participation. Please pass this bill

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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov