



**STATE OF HAWAII  
OFFICE OF ELECTIONS**

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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 SENATE BILL NO. 97, SD 2  
RELATING TO ELECTIONS

March 11, 2019

Chair Lee and members of the House Committee on Judiciary, thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Senate Bill No. 97, SD 2. This bill requires the Office of Elections to join the Electronic Registration Information Center (ERIC).

Joining ERIC would help us to maintain the accuracy of the voter registration rolls by allowing us to compare our voter registration file and driver license/identification card file with other member states. This will permit our election officials to determine if voters have moved to other jurisdictions, as they register to vote or obtain a driver license in another jurisdiction. Additionally, ERIC membership requires all driver license/identification card holders who are eligible to register to vote, but are not currently registered, to be sent a mailer encouraging them to register.

It will initially cost \$25,000 to join ERIC, and approximately \$63,000 to conduct the initial mailing to non-registered driver license and state identification card holders. We also estimate the annual membership fee would be \$23,000 based on voter registration.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Senate Bill No. 97, SD 2.



## O`ahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

Rep. Chris Lee, Chair

Rep. Joy A. San Buenaventura, Vice Chair

DATE: Monday, March 11, 2019

TIME: 2:00 p.m.

PLACE: Conference Room 325 State Capitol

RE: SB 97, SD 2, Relating to Elections

To the Honorable Chris Lee, Chair; the Honorable Joy A. San Buenaventura, Vice Chair; and Members of the Committee on Judiciary:

My name is Melodie Aduja and I serve as Chair of the O`ahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawai`i ("DPH"). Mahalo for this opportunity to submit testimony on SB 97, SD 2. The O`ahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities ("OCCLP") hereby submits its testimony in **SUPPORT of SB 97, SD 2, Relating to Elections.**

SB 97, SD 2, 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. SB 97, SD 2, authorizes election officials to have electronic access to driver's license and state identification databases for election related purposes.

It is a core principle of the Democratic Party to maximize voter participation for all Americans. Our democracy suffers when nearly two thirds of our citizens do not or cannot participate. Democrats believe we must make it easier to vote, not harder.

We will bring our democracy into the 21<sup>st</sup> century by expanding early voting and vote-by-mail, implementing universal automatic voter registration and same day registration and making Election Day a national holiday. We will restore voter rights for those who have served their sentences. And we will continue to fight against discriminatory voter identification laws which disproportionately burden young voters, diverse communities, Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders, low-income families, people with disabilities, the elderly, and women. *Democratic Party of Hawai`i Platform (2018), p. 19, ln. 21-30.*

For the foregoing reasons, to wit, it is a core principle of the Democratic Party to maximize voter participation for all Americans, OCCLP supports SB 97, SD 2, and urges that it passes out of the Committee on Judiciary.

Mahalo nui loa

Me ka `oia`i`o

/s/ *Melodie Aduja*

Melodie Aduja

Chair, O`ahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawai`i

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**Hawaii**

*Holding Power Accountable*

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To: The House Committee on Judiciary  
From: Brodie Lockard, Board Member, Common Cause Hawaii  
Date: Monday, March 11, 2019, 2:00 pm

**In support of SB 97 SD2, with comments**

Dear JUD Chair Lee, Vice Chair San Buenaventura and Committee Members—

Common Cause Hawaii supports SB 97 SD2.

Accurate voter information is crucial to fair, organized and legal elections. Outdated addresses, duplicate registrations and registered voters who have passed away compromise the integrity of the electoral process.

An organization like the Electronic Registration Information Center can prevent or at least reduce these and other election issues. If 20 states are members of ERIC, it should be quite effective at catching inaccuracies and inconsistencies that could yield invalid votes.

We do have concerns about voter privacy with a system that contains and shares personal information with so many government agencies. We hope that "information and records acquired by the examiner of drivers under this part shall be confidential" and "the information shall be available only to authorized individuals under such restrictions as the director shall prescribe" are sufficient precautions to prevent inappropriate or unauthorized access to or use of voters' personal information.

Please pass SB 97 SD2 and help to improve the accuracy and integrity of Hawaii's elections.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Brodie Lockard  
Board Member, Common Cause Hawaii

**SB-97-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/9/2019 3:05:53 PM

Testimony for JUD on 3/11/2019 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Gerard Silva	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

This is a Violation of the fist Amendment is you do not want to register to vote you can not be forced to do so. I belive that is were this is headed.

**SB-97-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/10/2019 11:04:58 AM

Testimony for JUD on 3/11/2019 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Andrea Quinn	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Honorable Committee Members:

Please support SB97, which will help reverse the pathetic voter turnout we've seen in recent elections.

Thank you for the opportunity to present my testimony.

Andrea Quinn

Kihei