
HOUSE RESOLUTION

URGING THE COUNTIES TO OPEN ADDITIONAL VOTER SERVICE CENTERS FOR
THE 2020 ELECTIONS TO PROVIDE AMPLE ELECTION SERVICES TO
VOTERS IN THEIR RESPECTIVE JURISDICTIONS.

1 WHEREAS, starting with the 2020 primary election, Hawaii
2 registered voters will no longer be voting at traditional
3 polling places, such as schools and community centers; and
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5 WHEREAS, instead all elections statewide will be conducted
6 by mail; and
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8 WHEREAS, under the vote-by-mail election system, ballots
9 will be automatically mailed to all registered voters in the
10 State; and
11

12 WHEREAS, Act 136, Session Laws of Hawaii 2019, which
13 enacted vote-by-mail uniformly statewide, also establishes voter
14 service centers to receive personal delivery of mail-in ballots,
15 accommodate voters with special needs, offer same-day
16 registration and voting, and provide other election services;
17 and
18

19 WHEREAS, despite the transition to a completely new all-
20 mail-in election system, only eight voter service centers are
21 planned to open in the State for the 2020 elections; and
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23 WHEREAS, in past years, election officials have staffed
24 about two hundred thirty polling locations across the State on
25 election day; and
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27 WHEREAS, while mail-in voting is convenient and can save
28 money, ease administrative burdens, and provide flexibility for
29 voters, having only eight voter service centers for the upcoming
30 elections will broadly limit a citizen's constitutional right to
31 vote, especially since this year will be the first election for
32 which Hawaii has implemented statewide vote-by-mail; and



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1 WHEREAS, Hawaii's already low voter turnout could be worse
 2 if election officials do not properly implement the new vote-by-
 3 mail system; and

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 5 WHEREAS, additional voter service centers are needed in
 6 case unexpected issues arise and to help residents get used to
 7 the new vote-by-mail system; now, therefore,

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 9 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
 10 Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of
 11 2020, that the counties are urged to open additional voter
 12 service centers for the 2020 elections to provide ample election
 13 services to voters in their respective jurisdictions; and

14
 15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 16 Resolution be transmitted to the Chief Election Officer, City
 17 Clerk of the City and County of Honolulu, and the County Clerks
 18 of the respective Counties of Hawaii, Kauai, and Maui.

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OFFERED BY:

[Handwritten signatures and names]

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MAR 06 2020

