



**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 SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY  
AND THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS  
ON HOUSE BILL NO. 1116, HD 1  
RELATING TO THE OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS**

**April 3, 2019**

Chair Rhoads, Chair Dela Cruz, and members of the Senate Committees on Judiciary and Ways and Means, thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on House Bill No. 1116, HD 1. The purpose of this bill is to display candidates for the Board of Trustees, Office of Hawaiian Affairs by residency and non-residency requirements, and to randomize the order of candidate names within those groupings.

We would accomplish the purpose of this measure by randomly selecting a letter of the alphabet for each district/precinct (ballot type) to be the first letter to organize the candidate names for the Office of Hawaiian Affairs contests. For example, if the letter "H" was randomly selected by lot, candidates whose last name start with an "H" would be listed first and subsequent names will follow alphabetically (e.g., "H", "I", "J").

We would also note that the randomly selected letter should only be applied to the first letter of the last name and not modify additional alphabetizing. We use the alphabetical organization for proofing the ballots to ensure all candidates are properly listed, which corresponds to the voting position for the vote counting system.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on House Bill No. 1116, HD 1.

**HB-1116-HD-1**

Submitted on: 4/2/2019 9:53:08 AM

Testimony for JDC on 4/3/2019 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Melodie Aduja	Testifying for O`ahu County Democrats Legislative Priorities Committee	Support	No

Comments:

The O`ahu County Democrats Legislative Priority Committee supports HB1116, HD 1, as it is designed to mitigate any advantage that may arise from the order of candidate names on the ballot. This measure requires that the names of candidates for the Board of Trustees of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs be randomized on individual ballots and also randomly rotated between precincts.

Mahalo nui loa.

Melodie Aduja

Chair, OCDLPC

**HB-1116-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/29/2019 2:22:24 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/3/2019 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jeannine Johnson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

TESTIMONY OF ESTHER KIA'AINA IN SUPPORT OF HB 1116, HD1  
BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

April 3, 2019, 10:00 a.m., Conference Room 211

Chair Rhoads, Chair Dela-Cruz, and Members of the Senate Committees on Judiciary and Ways and Means:

My name is Esther Kia'aina of Nanakuli, Oahu. I am testifying in support of HB 1116, HD1, which amends ballot requirements to display candidates for the Board of Trustees, Office of Hawaiian Affairs, by residency and non-residency requirements and to randomize the order of candidate names within those groupings on individual ballots and on ballots across precincts.

Given the sheer number of candidates that run for OHA elections and the costs for candidates to mount a state-wide campaign, random balloting would provide for a fairer opportunity for all candidates to be considered by the electorate.

I respectfully urge the committee members to support the passage of HB 1116, HD1 out of your committees with an effective date after enactment into law of the measure.

Respectfully,

Esther Kia'aina