



**STATE OF HAWAII  
OFFICE OF ELECTIONS**

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TESTIMONY OF THE  
CHIEF ELECTION OFFICER, OFFICE OF ELECTIONS  
TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS  
ON HOUSE BILL NO. 1327  
RELATING TO ELECTIONS

February 1, 2019

Chair Yamane and members of the House Committee on Water, Land, & Hawaiian Affairs, thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on House Bill No. 1327. This bill makes a request for an absentee ballot and an absentee ballot available in Hawaiian.

We would like to confirm that we would be making an absentee ballot available in Hawaiian rather than a dual language ballot combining English and Hawaiian. Similarly, we would ask that the provision be limited to absentee ballots, as written, as the current direct recording electronic (DRE) voting system is not certified for Hawaiian. The federal law requires the DRE voting system for in-person voting to ensure accessibility for all voters.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on House Bill No. 1327.

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Unity, Equality, Aloha for all



To: HOUSE COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS  
For hearing Friday, February 1, 2019

Re: HB 1327 RELATING TO ELECTIONS.

Provides that requests for absentee ballots or for permanent absentee voter status may be written in English or Hawaiian. Requires the chief election officer to make English and Hawaiian absentee ballots available. Appropriates funds.

'ŌLELO HO'IKE KŪ'Ē

'O ka mea 'ōlelo i ka 'ōlelo Hawai'i e hiki iā ia ke 'ōlelo Pelekania, a 'oi aku kona 'ōlelo Pelekane ma mua o kāna 'ōlelo Hawai'i. No laila, 'a'ohe pono e hana i nā pāloka a i 'ole nā mea koho 'ē a'e ma ka 'ōlelo Hawai'i. Mai hō'ale'a i ke kālā ma kahi ho'opailua no ka mea lapuwale.