

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
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Honolulu, HI 96801-3378
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**Testimony in SUPPORT of SB 2235 SD 2,
RELATING TO THE USE OF INTOXICANTS WHILE OPERATING A VEHICLE**

REPRESENTATIVE HENRY J.C. AQUINO, CHAIR
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

Hearing Date: 3/11/2020

Room Number: 423

1 **Fiscal Implications:** N/A.

2 **Department Testimony:** The Department of Health (Department) supports the intent of SB2235
3 SD2 and recommends amendments consistent with ongoing discussions within the Executive
4 Branch regarding a state and drug and alcohol toxicology laboratory.

5 Presently, testing of blood and urine samples obtained for the purpose of cases involving
6 the operation of a motor vehicle while under the influence of an intoxicant is performed by
7 private laboratories, except for alcohol blood testing within the City and County of Honolulu.
8 This drug and alcohol testing performed by private laboratories is costly.

9 Other states find that costs for drunk and drugged driving cases are greatly reduced when
10 their State-run laboratories perform the testing and confirmations, which will be used in court.
11 Some of these State-run laboratories perform other testing functions, such as workplace drug
12 testing; postmortem drug testing; the testing of inmates and parolees; etc. Such test functions can
13 further reduce costs for the State.

14 DOH supports expanding the role of the State Laboratories Division the State's drug and
15 alcohol toxicology testing laboratory. The intent of this bill is to deposit, into the special fund,
16 fines paid by *repeat and habitual offenders* who have operated vehicles under the influence of
17 an intoxicant and offenders who have operated vehicles after their license and privilege to do so
18 was suspended or revoked for operating a vehicle under the influence of an intoxicant. The

1 Department notes that some fines for repeat offenders do not appear to be explicitly appropriated
2 to the special fund.

3 **Offered Amendments:** If the legislature intends to do so, we suggest the following
4 amendments to Section 291E-61(b).

5 In Section 2 of the bill amending Section 291E-61(b), amending subsection (b)(1)(C) as
6 follows:

7 “(C) Any one or more of the following:

8 (i) Seventy-two hours of community service work;

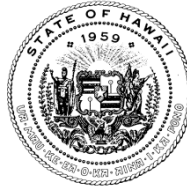
9 (ii) No less than forty-eight hours and no more than five days of imprisonment; or

10 (iii) A fine of no less than \$250 but no more than \$1,000, with fines for an offense
11 other than a first offense to be deposited into the state drug and alcohol toxicology
12 testing laboratory special fund;”

13 In Section 2 of the bill amending Section 291E-61(b), amending subsection (b)(3) as
14 follows:

15 “(3) In addition to a sentence imposed under paragraphs (1) and (2), any person eighteen years
16 of age or older who is convicted under this section and who operated a vehicle with a
17 passenger, in or on the vehicle, who was younger than fifteen years of age, shall be
18 sentenced to an additional mandatory fine of \$500 and an additional mandatory term of
19 imprisonment of forty-eight hours; provided that the total term of imprisonment for a
20 person convicted under this paragraph shall not exceed the maximum term of
21 imprisonment provided in paragraph (1) or (2), as applicable. For an offense that is not a
22 first offense, the additional mandatory fine pursuant to this paragraph (3) shall be
23 deposited into the state drug and alcohol toxicology testing laboratory special
24 fund. Notwithstanding paragraphs (1) and (2), the revocation period for a person
25 sentenced under this paragraph shall be no less than two years; and”

26 Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on this measure.



TESTIMONY BY:

JADE T. BUTAY
DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors
LYNN A.S. ARAKI-REGAN
DEREK J. CHOW
ROSS M. HIGASHI
EDWIN H. SNIFFEN

LATE

**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

March 11, 2020
10:45 A.M.
State Capitol, Room 423

**S.B. 2005, S.D. 1
RELATING TO VOTING**

House Committee on Transportation

The Department of Transportation (DOT) **supports with amendments**, S.B. 2005, S.D. 1, which requires that any person who is eligible to vote and applies for a new or renewal motor vehicle driver's license, provisional license, or instruction permit, or a new, renewal, or duplicate identification card be automatically registered to vote if that person is not already registered to vote unless the applicant affirmatively declines to be registered to vote.

Pursuant to Section 286-172, Hawaii Revised Statutes, the Director of Transportation has the authority to determine the distribution of the personal information contained in the driver license and civil identification statewide traffic records system. The Federal Drivers Privacy Protection Act, 18 U.S.C. §2721, prohibits the release and use of data to any government agency except when used to carry out its function. Similarly, Section 92F-19, Hawaii Revised Statutes, limits the disclosure of government records to any other agency unless it is necessary for the performance of the requesting agency's duties and functions. Therefore, we do not support giving the chief election officer full access to the driver license and State ID file as proposed in SECTION 1 (d) of the bill. This could result in a conflict with Federal and existing State laws. We propose SECTION 1(d) be amended as follows:

8 (d) Databases maintained or operated by the counties or
9 the department of transportation containing driver's license or
10 identification card information, including any documents or
11 images, shall be directly accessible and provided electronically
12 to election officials and the statewide voter registration
13 system to allow for the timely processing of voter applications,
14 ensure the integrity of the voter registration polls, and for
15 any other voter registration or election purposes, as determined
16 by the ~~chief election officer~~ director of transportation.

A Memorandum of Agreement between the DOT and Office of Elections was signed by both parties on August 2017. Sections 1, 2, 5 and 6 are addressed in the agreement. Therefore, the bill only needs to include Sections 3, 4 and 7.

Further, should there be a need to modify the voter registration form, DOT and the Office of Elections will continue to work collaboratively as they have already demonstrated with the current application forms to ensure the driver's license application form and civil identification card application form reflects any State or Federal legislated requirements.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.



DISABILITY AND COMMUNICATION ACCESS BOARD

1010 Richards Street, Room 118 • Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Ph. (808) 586-8121 (V) • Fax (808) 586-8129 • TTY (808) 586-8162

March 11, 2020

LATE

TESTIMONY TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

Senate Bill 2005, SD1 – Relating to Voting

The Disability and Communication Access Board (DCAB) supports the intent of Senate Bill 2005, SD1, which requires that any person who is eligible to vote and applies for a new or renewal motor vehicle driver's license, provisional license, or instruction permit, or a new, renewal, or duplicate identification card be automatically registered to vote if that person is not already registered to vote unless the applicant affirmatively declines to be registered to vote. Senate Bill 2005, SD1 also authorizes access to and electronic transmission of databases maintained or operated by the counties or the department of transportation containing driver's license or identification card information to election officials and the statewide voter registration system.

DCAB offers comments to ensure that all programs, services, or activities associated with voter registration are accessible to the full spectrum of persons with disabilities. Provisions shall also be made to ensure compliance with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, which requires state and local governments to provide equal access for individuals who are disabled when providing services, programs, or activities, especially persons with communication access needs. To ensure individuals have equal opportunity to affirmatively decline to be registered to vote, examples include, but are not limited to, Braille, large print, or alternate text for individuals with vision impairments, and captioning or sign language interpreters for individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing. DCAB encourages the administering agencies to make considerations for such individuals with disabilities, including staff training and advance notification so individuals may request an accommodation as needed.

The comments offered by DCAB are not meant to deter any effort made by the Legislature to increase registration of eligible voters and boost participation in the democratic process. Rather, they are meant to ensure that all individuals have equal opportunity to participate in processes of their government.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Respectfully submitted,

KIRBY L. SHAW
Executive Director



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 HOUSE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION
ON SENATE BILL NO. 2005, SD 1
RELATING TO VOTING

March 11, 2020

Chair Aquino and members of the House Committees on Transportation, thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Senate Bill No. 2005, SD 1. This bill requires that any person who is eligible to vote and applies for a new or renewal motor vehicle driver license, provisional license, or instruction permit, or a new, renewal, or duplicate identification card be automatically registered to vote if that person is not already registered to vote unless the applicant affirmatively declines to be registered to vote; and authorizes access to and electronic transmission of databases maintained or operated by the counties or the department of transportation containing driver license or identification card information to election officials and the statewide voter registration system.

This bill increases the opportunities for members of our community to register to vote, as it requires the applicant to directly address the question of whether they want to register to vote or to opt out as part of the driver license and identification card application process. This bill also ensures the accuracy of the voter registration rolls by electronically transmitting voter registration data between the driver license and identification card database and the statewide voter registration system. The electronic sharing of data between driver licensing officials and election officials ensures timely compliance with the National Voter Registration Act and the Help America Vote Act. 52 USC §21083(a)(5)(B) & 52 USC §20504.

We would propose amending HRS § 11-__ (b), HRS § 286-A, and 286-B, to allow applicants to decline to update their registration to be consistent with the National Voter Registration Act. Specifically, "The examiner of drivers shall not transmit any information necessary to register an applicant as a voter or change

any voter registration record information, if that applicant affirmatively declines to be registered to vote or to have their voter registration record updated.” As such, if an applicant declines to register to vote or to update their voter registration record, it will not be transmitted to election officials.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Senate Bill No. 2005, SD 1.



SB2005 SD1
RELATING TO VOTING
House Committee on Transportation

March 11, 2020

10:45 a.m.

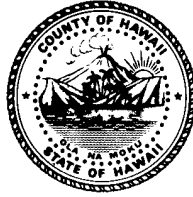
Room 423

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) **SUPPORTS** SB2005 SD1, which would require that any person who is eligible to vote and applies for (1) a new or renewed motor vehicle driver's license, provisional license, or instruction permit, or (2) a new, renewed, or duplicate identification card, be automatically registered to vote unless the applicant affirmatively declines to be registered to do so. The bill would also authorize the electronic transmission of databases from the counties or the Department of Transportation to election officials, to facilitate the entry of newly registered voters into the statewide voter registration system.

This bill will increase the ease with which voter registration can be accomplished, and thereby ensure that greater numbers of Hawai'i citizens have the opportunity to vote at a later time. By making voter registration a default part of obtaining or renewing a driver's license or state identification card, and requiring no additional action on the part of citizens, **this measure would drastically facilitate greater civic participation at the polls.** Notably, this measure would not force any citizen to register to vote if they truly do not wish to participate in the process, and provides an opt out provision for individuals who do not want to become a registered voter.

Accordingly, OHA urges the Committee to **PASS** SB2005 SD1. Mahalo piha for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

JON HENRICKS
County Clerk



AARON BROWN
Deputy County Clerk

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK

Elections Division
County of Hawai'i
Hawai'i County Building
25 Aupuni Street
Hilo, Hawai'i 96720



TESTIMONY OF JON HENRICKS

COUNTY CLERK, COUNTY OF HAWAI'I

TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

ON SENATE BILL NO. 2005, SD1

RELATING TO VOTING

March 11, 2020

Chair Aquino and members of the House Committee on Transportation, thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Senate Bill No. 2005, SD 1. This bill requires that any person who is eligible to vote and applies for a new or renewal motor vehicle driver license, provisional license, or instruction permit, or a new, renewal, or duplicate identification card be automatically registered to vote if that person is not already registered to vote unless the applicant affirmatively declines to be registered to vote; and authorizes access to electronic transmission of databases maintained or operated by the counties or the department of transportation containing driver license or identification card information to election officials and the statewide voter registrations system.

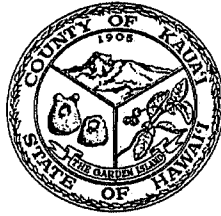
This bill would maximize registration of eligible voters, would provide a convenient way to register, and an opportunity to decline. The bill also ensures that all applicants will meet the qualifications to register to vote.

Also, as we transition to Elections by Mail, this bill would keep the accuracy of voter registration records current and updated as every registered voter will now receive a ballot by mail.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Senate Bill No. 2005, SD 1.

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
LĪHU'E, KAUA'I, HAWAII 96766-1819

March 11, 2020

TESTIMONY OF JADE K. FOUNTAIN-TANIGAWA
COUNTY CLERK, COUNTY OF KAUA'I
TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION
ON SENATE BILL NO. 2005, SD 1
RELATING TO VOTING

Chair Aquino and Committee Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of Senate Bill 2005, SD 1. This Bill would require that any person who is eligible to vote and applies for a new or tries to renew their motor vehicle driver's license, provisional license, or instruction permit, or tries to obtain a new, or renews, or obtains a duplicate identification card, will automatically be registered to vote if they are not already registered to vote unless they affirmatively decline to register to vote. Additionally, the Bill authorizes access to an electronic transmission of databases maintained or operated by the counties or the department of transportation containing driver's license or identification card information which would be provided to election officials and the statewide voter registration system.

The Bill will establish an efficient and reliable means for transferring voter registration information from the examiner of drivers to the county clerks, and will also simplify the registration process for individuals obtaining a new or renewing a Hawai'i driver license, provisional license, instruction permit, or State identification card. Requiring applicants to affirmatively decline to register to vote will ensure that only the registration information from individuals wishing to register will be transmitted to the corresponding county clerk.

Thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony in support of Senate Bill No. 2005, SD 1.

JADE K. FOUNTAIN-TANIGAWA
County Clerk
County of Kauai

SB-2005-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/9/2020 1:34:11 PM

Testimony for TRN on 3/11/2020 10:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Younghi Overly	AAUW of Hawaii	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Chair Aquino, Vice-Chair Hashimoto, and the Members of Committee,

Members of AAUW of Hawaii are grateful for this opportunity to testify in support of S.B. 2005 SD1, which would automatically register any person who is eligible to vote and applies for state issued license/ID.

Automatic Voter Registration would make our voter registration system more accurate, secure, and cost-effective. Sixteen states and Washington DC already have AVR law; twelve states and Washington DC have already implemented AVR.[\[1\]](#)

The American Association of University Women (AAUW) of Hawaii is a state-wide organization made up of six branches (Hilo, Honolulu, Kauai, Kona, Maui, and Windward Oahu) and includes just over 650 active members with over 3800 supporters statewide. As advocates for gender equity, AAUW of Hawaii promotes the economic, social, and physical well-being of all persons.

Please pass this important bill to modernize our voting system. Mahalo.

Public Policy Committee, AAUW of Hawaii

publicpolicy-hi@aauw.net

[\[1\] https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/automatic-voter-registration.aspx](https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/automatic-voter-registration.aspx)



Committee: Committee on Transportation
Hearing Date/Time: Wednesday, March 11, 2020, 10:45 a.m.
Place: Conference Room 423
Re: Testimony of the ACLU of Hawai'i in Support of S.B. 2005, S.D. 1, Relating to Voting

Dear Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Hashimoto, and Members of the Committee on Transportation:

The American Civil Liberties Union of Hawai'i ("ACLU of Hawai'i") writes **in support of, with a suggested amendment to, S.B. 2005, S.D. 1, which would automatically register eligible people to vote or update voter information when they apply for or renew a state identification card or driver's license, with the option to decline registration.**

Hawai'i has the lowest voter turnout in the country. Hawai'i should aggressively seek out solutions to increase voter enrollment and participation, such as automatic voter registration. With the correct safeguards in place, automatic voter registration helps remove barriers to registration for eligible voters, updates voter registration rolls, and leads to more efficient elections.

To further strengthen this measure, the ACLU of Hawai'i respectfully requests that the measure be amended to apply the same process to other forms or applications submitted to a government office, such as applications for public assistance and intake forms at jails. Limiting automatic voter registration to applications to renew or obtain a driver's license or State I.D. may disadvantage marginalized communities who are less likely to obtain licenses or I.D.s. If the Committee is inclined to adopt this amendment, we would be happy to assist in reviewing government forms that could potentially be used for automatic voter registration. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mandy Fernandes".

Mandy Fernandes
Policy Director
ACLU of Hawai'i

The mission of the ACLU of Hawai'i is to protect the fundamental freedoms enshrined in the U.S. and State Constitutions. The ACLU of Hawai'i fulfills this through legislative, litigation, and public education programs statewide. The ACLU of Hawai'i is a non-partisan and private non-profit organization that provides its services at no cost to the public and does not accept government funds. The ACLU of Hawai'i has been serving Hawai'i for over 50 years.

American Civil Liberties Union of Hawai'i
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ADA

HAWAII

AMERICANS FOR DEMOCRATIC ACTION

OFFICERS

John Bickel, President
Alan Burdick, Vice President
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DIRECTORS

Melodie Aduja
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Jan Lubin
Jenny Nomura
Dave Nagaji

MAILING ADDRESS

Stephen O'Harrow
Lyn Pyle
P.O. Box 23404
Honolulu
Hawai'i 96823

March 9 , 2020

TO: Honorable Chair Aquino and Members of Transportation Committee

RE: SB 2005 SD1 Relating to Voting

Support for hearing on March 11

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 SB2005 SD1 as it would modernize our voter registration system to make it more accurate and secure. When a person goes to the County of Department of Motor Vehicles and does not "opt-out" of being a registered voter, the person's information and data are automatically transferred between the County Department of Motor Vehicles and the State Office of Elections. It prohibits DMV from electronically transmitting any information, if an applicant affirmatively declines for the applicant's information to be transmitted.

This bill is both cost effective and good policy as it would increase voter registration; therefore turn-out.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

John Bickel
President

Date: Wednesday, **March 11, 2020**
 Time: 10:45 am
 Place: State Capitol Conference Room **423**

Testimony in support of SB 2005, SD1, Relating to Voting

Aloha, we are testifying on behalf of the AVR Hawaii Coalition in support of SB 2005, SD1, which provides for the voter registration of any person who is eligible to vote and applies for a new or renewal motor vehicle driver's license, provisional license, or instruction permit, or a new, renewal, or duplicate identification unless they decline to be registered to vote. This bill also authorizes access to and electronic transmission of databases maintained or operated by the counties or the department of transportation to election officials.

While mail-in voting will certainly enable registered voters to more conveniently exercise their right to vote, it won't increase voter registration. Hawaii's voter rolls still need to be updated and accurate for voting by mail to function properly, improving our voter participation rates.

- SB 2005, SD1 will give voters the opportunity to register to vote or update their address at the same time they complete their driver license application or application for a state identification card. They will also have the opportunity to decline to register to vote. For any applicant who does not decline, the driver licensing office then transmits application information securely and electronically to election officials. Please be assured that no U.S. citizen is "automatically" registered to vote simply by the passing of this legislation. It will be necessary for the U.S. citizen to interact with a government official to be registered to vote or to update their address.

- Any person who does not want to register to vote or to update their address simply ticks a checkbox on the application to decline. No information will be transmitted for any person who ticks the decline checkbox. "Automatic" simply refers to the transfer of information and data between the County Department of Motor Vehicles and the State Office of Elections for those who want to vote.

If voting is the cornerstone of Democracy, voter registration is its bedrock. 'A 'ohe hana nui ke alu 'ia – no task is too big when done together by all. Please support SB 2005, SD1.

The AVR Hawaii Coalition is comprised of organizations and individuals who support automatic voter registration in Hawaii. For more information go to avrhawaii.com



Hawaii
Holding Power Accountable



Hawaii



empowering women since 1881
of Hawaii



AFSCME
LOCAL 152, AFL-CIO



Pono Hawaii Initiative



SIERRA CLUB
OF HAWAII
MĀLAMA I KA HONUA
Cherish the Earth.



Statement Before The
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATIONWednesday, March 11, 2020
10:45 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 423in consideration of
SB 2005, SD1
RELATING TO VOTING.

Chair AQUINO, Vice Chair HASHIMOTO, and Members of the House Transportation Committee

Common Cause Hawaii is testifying in support of SB 2005, SD1, which would provide that any person who is eligible to vote and applies for a new or renewal motor vehicle driver's license, provisional license, or instruction permit, or a new, renewal, or duplicate identification card be automatically registered to vote if that person is not already registered to vote unless the applicant affirmatively declines to be registered to vote. SB 2005, SD1 would also authorize the electronic transmission of information and databases maintained or operated by the counties or the department of transportation containing driver's license or identification card information to election officials and the statewide voter registration system. SB 2005, SD1 is known as Automatic Voter Registration ("AVR").

Common Cause Hawaii supports AVR as a much-needed voter modernization tool for Hawaii. AVR will benefit Hawaii in several ways. One, AVR will modernize our voter registration system to make it more accurate and secure. When a person goes to the County of Department of Motor Vehicles and does not "opt-out" of being a registered voter, the person's information and data are automatically transferred between the County Department of Motor Vehicles and the State Office of Elections. This does not mean that a U.S. citizen will be "automatically" registered to vote by simply enacting AVR. It will still be necessary for a U.S. citizen to interact with a government official through the DMV—and not decline voter registration—to be registered to vote.

Two, AVR is cost-effective. AVR has been estimated, according to one evaluation, to possibly save approximately \$1 million statewide in each election cycle by eliminating paper-based registrations and decreasing undeliverable mail related to registration issues.

Three, AVR encourages good policy and governance through the promotion of a more inclusive society in accordance with UN Sustainable Development Goal #16. AVR is a vital step to making sure that all Hawaii US citizens have an equal voice in the political process by allowing voters to automatically register to vote when they interact with DMV.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of SB 2005, SD1. If you have further questions of me, please contact me at sma@commoncause.org.

Very respectfully yours,

Sandy Ma
Executive Director, Common Cause Hawaii

SB-2005-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/10/2020 8:27:38 AM

Testimony for TRN on 3/11/2020 10:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kat Brady	Community Alliance on Prisons	Support	No

Comments:

Community Alliance on Prisons supports Automatic Voter Registration to promote a strong and vibrant democracy!

Please pass SB 2005!



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION
Wednesday, March 11, 2020 | 10:45 AM | State Capitol, Conference Room 423
SB 2005, SD1 RELATING TO VOTING.

Chair AQUINO, Vice Chair HASHIMOTO, and Members of the House of Representatives Transportation Committee:

Faith Action for Community Equity is testifying in **support** of SB 2005, which would provide that any person who is eligible to vote and applies for a new or renewal motor vehicle driver's license, provisional license, or instruction permit, or a new, renewal, or duplicate identification card be automatically registered to vote if that person is not already registered to vote unless the applicant affirmatively declines to be registered to vote. SB 2005 would also authorize the electronic transmission of information and databases maintained or operated by the counties or the department of transportation containing driver's license or identification card information to election officials and the statewide voter registration system. SB 2005 is known as Automatic Voter Registration ("AVR").

Faith Action for Community Equity supports AVR as a much-needed voter modernization tool for Hawaii. AVR will benefit Hawaii in several ways. One, AVR will modernize our voter registration system to make it more accurate and secure. When a person goes to the County of Department of Motor Vehicles and does not "opt-out" of being a registered voter, the person's information and data are automatically transferred between the County Department of Motor Vehicles and the State Office of Elections. This does not mean that a U.S. citizen will be "automatically" registered to vote by simply enacting AVR. It will still be necessary for a U.S. citizen to interact with a government official through the DMV—and not decline voter registration—to be registered to vote.

Two, AVR is cost-effective. AVR has been estimated, according to one evaluation, to possibly save approximately \$1 million statewide in each election cycle by eliminating paper-based registrations and decreasing undeliverable mail related to registration issues.

Three, AVR encourages good policy and governance through the promotion of a more inclusive society in accordance with UN Sustainable Development Goal #16. AVR is a vital step to making sure that all Hawaii US citizens have an equal voice in the political process by allowing voters to automatically register to vote when they interact with DMV.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of SB 2005.

SB-2005-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/9/2020 1:10:18 PM

Testimony for TRN on 3/11/2020 10:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Meizhu Lui	Hamakua Resistance	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha fellow lovers of democracy,

Voting is fundamental to the democratic process, and we should make that as easy as possible. It is not just a right; I see it as our obligation as citizens since voting greases the wheels of democracy. Automatic registration with drivers' licenses is an easy way to expand the voting public. More voters will strengthen the mandates of elected representatives to represent their constituencies.

Please support SB 2005/SD1.

Meizhu Lui



**Testimony to the House Committee on Transportation
Representative Henry J.C. Aquino, Chair
Representative Troy N. Hashimoto, Vice Chair
Wednesday, March 11, 2020 at 10:45 a.m., Conference Room 423
SB 2005, SD1 Relating to Voting**

Dear Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Hashimoto, and members of the TRN Committee:

On behalf of the Hawai'i Alliance of Nonprofit Organizations, I would like express support of SB 2005, SD1, Relating to Voting.

Hawai'i Alliance of Nonprofit Organizations (HANO) is a statewide, sector-wide professional association of nonprofits. Our mission is to unite and strengthen the nonprofit sector as a collective force to improve the quality of life in Hawai'i. Our member organizations provide essential services to every community in the state.

HANO supports a civically engaged populace and believes all citizens should participate in the democratic process of voting to have a say in community matters.

SB 2005, SD1 requires that any person who is eligible to vote and applies for a new or renewal motor vehicle driver's license, provisional license, or instruction permit, or a new, renewal, or duplicate identification card be automatically registered to vote if that person is not already registered to vote unless the applicant affirmatively declines to be registered to vote. Hawaii's voting record has been the lowest in the country for the last 20 years. Automatic voter registration (AVR) will help improve access to voting.

AVR will help modernize the election system and make it more accurate and secure. AVR is cost-effective, estimated to possibly save more than \$1 million statewide in each election cycle by eliminating paper-based registrations and decreasing undeliverable mail related to registration issues.

AVR will help vote-by-mail implementation, which is how Hawaii will be conducting elections statewide starting 2020. AVR will ensure that Hawaii's voter rolls are accurate and up to date.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide written testimony.

Lisa Maruyama
President and CEO



HAWAII APPLESEED

CENTER FOR LAW & ECONOMIC JUSTICE

Testimony of the Hawai‘i Appleseed Center for Law and Economic Justice
In Support of SB 2005, SD1 – Relating to Voting
House Committee on Transportation
Wednesday, March 11, 2020, at 10:45 AM, in conference room 423

Dear Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Hashimoto, and members of the Committees:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in **SUPPORT** of **SB 2005, SD1**, which would automatically register eligible citizens to vote when they apply for or renew their motor vehicle driver’s license, provisional license, instruction permit, or identification card, unless they choose to opt out.

According to the United States Election Project, fewer than 4 in 10 of Hawai‘i’s voting-eligible population voted in the 2018 general election, yet again placing us last in the nation.¹

The logistical barriers to registering to vote are especially high for our low-income neighbors, since they are less likely to have the time or flexibility in their schedules to register in person or via mail or to have internet access to register online.

Automatic Voter Registration (AVR) would help overcome those barriers. The data shows that AVR improves the likelihood that people will vote by minimizing bureaucracy and requiring less time and effort from eligible voters. Implementing AVR would:

- Save the state of Hawai‘i a lot of money. It costs almost 30 times more to process a paper application versus an electronic one. For the 2016 election, the labor costs to process paper forms totaled over half a million dollars.
- Make elections more secure and accurate with frequent updates to the voter rolls.
- Make voting more convenient for seniors, voters in rural areas, and working and military families who move frequently.

We need to act to get more than 4 in 10 of our eligible voters to vote in our elections. Hawai‘i should join the 16 other states and the District of Columbia that have already approved AVR.

We appreciate your consideration of this testimony.

¹ <http://www.electproject.org/2018g>



**HAWAI'I COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION**

To: The Honorable Henry Aquino, Chair
The Honorable Troy Hashimoto, Vice Chair
And Members of the House Committee on Transportation

LATE

From: Micah Kāne, Chief Executive Officer & President
Hawai'i Community Foundation

Re: **Testimony in Support of SB 2005 SD1, Relating to Voting**

Date: Wednesday, March 11, 2020

Time: 10:45 A.M.

Place: Conference Room 423, State Capitol

The Hawaii Community Foundation supports Senate Bill 2005 SD1, relating to voting. Voting is a hallmark of civic participation and one of the cornerstones of our democracy. This bill will help collective community efforts to engage all our citizens. It requires that any person who is eligible to vote and applies for a new or renewal motor vehicle driver's license, provisional license, or instruction permit, or a new, renewal, or duplicate identification card be automatically registered to vote if that person is not already registered to vote unless the applicant affirmatively declines to be registered to vote. It allows an applicant to affirmatively decline to have any of the applicant's information electronically transmitted.

Hawaii has the lowest voter turnout in the nation and this trend is unlikely to reverse itself without new strategies. Data by generation shows substantially more voting interest by Baby Boomers compared to other groups and trends show a declining participation by younger age groups. The 2016 election would have been the first presidential election for which some of the Millennial generation were eligible to vote. Only 40 percent of eligible millennials registered, while only 30 percent of those registered voted.

Automatic voter registration can lead to cleaner registration rolls because the process updates existing registrations with current addresses. Incorporating automatic voter registration during routine and necessary transactions like license renewal removes barriers to registration for eligible voters. Removing barriers to voter registration is a step in the right direction to increasing voter participation in Hawaii.

Please advance this measure.



HAWAII GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION
AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO

RANDY PERREIRA, Executive Director • Tel: 808.543.0011 • Fax: 808.528.0922

The Thirtieth Legislature, State of Hawaii
House of Representatives
Committee on Transportation

Testimony by
Hawaii Government Employees Association

March 11, 2020

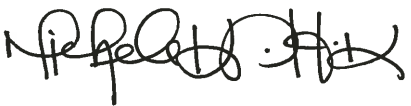
S.B. 2005, S.D. 1 – RELATING TO VOTING

The Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO supports the purpose and intent of S.B. 2005, S.D. 1 which requires that any person who is eligible to vote and applies for a new or renewal motor vehicle driver's license, provisional license, instruction permit, or identification card be automatically registered to vote if that person is not already registered to vote.

The right to vote is the foundation of our democracy and essential to protect all other rights, therefore we must ensure that the voting process is easy to understand and participate in. Given Hawaii's infamously low voter turn out, the Legislature has taken appropriate steps to make it easier for residents to vote, which include implementing online voter registration in 2015, phasing in same-day registration in 2016, and establishing an all-mail election in 2019. The next logical step to improve and increase access to voting is to implement automatic voter registration, as many other states have done. Automatic voter registration reduces the time and effort it takes to register, ensures current addresses are on file, and reduces the overall costs to the state.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of S.B. 2005, S.D. 1.

Respectfully submitted,


for Randy Perreira
Executive Director

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 2526, HD 2

TO: Chair Ruderman, Vice-Chair Rhoads, and Senate Committee on Human Services

FROM: Nikos Leverenz
Grants, Development & Policy Manager

DATE: March 9, 2020 (3:15 PM)

This bill provides funding for much needed long-term case management services for families who received homeless services to maintain their housing wellness. We are part of Partners in Care (PIC), a coalition of more than 60 organizations working to address homelessness, and we join them in **strongly supporting \$1.9 million for self-sufficiency services in this bill**. As PIC notes \$1.33 million in TANF funds could be utilized. An additional \$570,000 in general funds is needed to help non-TANF-eligible families to prevent repeat homelessness.

[One succinct definition of case management](#) terms it “a comprehensive and strategic form of service provision whereby a case worker assesses the needs of the client (and potentially their family) and, where appropriate, arranges, coordinates and advocates for delivery and access to a range of programs and services designed to meet the individual’s needs.”

HHRC provides medical case management services for many persons living with HIV on the island of O’ahu, social case management services for those currently eligible for Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) and in for those who are homeless or at risk of homelessness. In the context of housing instability, case management workers can assist with navigation of the housing and utility markets, rental assistance, and other government services (including nutritional assistance and medical care), and overall financial literacy skills to better establish and maintain housing wellness.

In short, **long-term case management is a key component of homelessness prevention.**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



HIPHI Board

Michael
Robinson, MBA, MA
Chair
Hawaii Pacific Health

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Medicine, Native Hawaiian
Research Office

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Native Hawaiian Health

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William S. Richardson School
of Law

Bryan Mih, MD, MPH
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Medicine, Department of
Pediatrics

Rachel Novotny,
PhD, RDN, LD
University of Hawaii at Manoa,
College of Tropical Agriculture
and Human Resources

Garret Sugai
Kaiser Permanente

Catherine Taschner, JD
McCorriston Miller Mukai
MacKinnon LLP

Date: March 10, 2020

To: Representative Henry J.C. Aquino , Chair
Representative Troy N. Hashimoto, Vice Chair
Members of the House Transportation Committee

Re: Support for SB 2005, SD1, Relating to Voting

Hrg: March 11, 2020 at 10:45 AM at Conference Room 423

The Hawai'i Public Health Instituteⁱ is in **Support of SB 2005, SD1**, which would automatically register any person who is eligible to vote by default when they apply for a state driver's license or state ID.

This measure, also known as Automatic Voter Registration (AVR), will help to modernize Hawaii's elections process and complement the new "Vote by Mail" law. With AVR, the information of eligible voters that do not opt out are transferred electronically and automatically from the Department of Motor Vehicles to the State Office of Elections. This system is efficient, saves money, and keeps the voter rolls up to date.

HIPHI supports increasing civic engagement and believes AVR will reduce barriers to participation in the democratic process. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Mahalo,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Jessica Yamauchi'.

Jessica Yamauchi, MA
Executive Director

ⁱ Hawai'i Public Health Institute is a hub for building healthy communities, providing issue-based advocacy, education, and technical assistance through partnerships with government, academia, foundations, business, and community-based organizations.

SB-2005-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/9/2020 11:41:56 AM

Testimony for TRN on 3/11/2020 10:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Laurie Field	Hawaii Women's Coalition	Support	No

Comments:

SB-2005-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/9/2020 6:02:09 PM

Testimony for TRN on 3/11/2020 10:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Puanani Rogers	Ho`okipa Network - Kauai	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

My name is Puanani Rogers, I am 80 years old and was born, raised and still live in the ahupua`a of Kealia, on the island of Kauai.

I submit this testimony in strong support. Mahalo for your consideration to this matter.

Sincerely,

Puanani Rogers

4702 Maiihuna Road

Kapa`a, HI 96746

LATE

SB-2005-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/10/2020 3:44:20 PM

Testimony for TRN on 3/11/2020 10:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Barbara Shimei	Indivisible Hawaii	Support	No

Comments:

Indivisible Hawaii supports AVR.

In these complex and troubling times, it is essential that we encourage voters to participate in elections. Part of this is to make registration and voting as straightforward and accurate as possible.

In times of limited resources (always), it is essential to consolidate the number of government offices and forms that are currently collecting and entering data. While at the DMV, checking additional boxes can take care of whether or not you wish to register to vote, while also allowing your voter registration address to be updated (critical in a vote-by-mail-system). This eliminates the inefficiency of additional time-consuming procedures (for both voters and the government) in under a minute.

It may be too late to implement for the upcoming 2020 elections, but now is the time to take action to insure that this improvement is fully operational before the 2022 elections.

Thank you for your consideration.



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

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

Wednesday, March 11, 2020, 10:45 a.m., Room 423
SB 2005 SD1 RELATING TO AUTOMATIC VOTER REGISTRATION

TESTIMONY

Janet Mason, Legislative Committee, League of Women Voters of Hawaii

Chair Aquino, Vice-Chair Hashimoto, and Committee Members:

The League of Women Voters of Hawaii strongly supports SB 2005 SD1. 17 states and the District of Columbia have passed this reform¹, and last year 10 bills were introduced in Hawaii with widespread support. The demand signal from the public is clear - they want "Opt-Out" Automatic Voter Registration (AVR).

"Opt-Out" AVR builds upon Congress's findings in the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 that 1) voting is a fundamental right and 2) it is the duty of governments to promote the exercise of that right². This bill empowers voters by letting them affirmatively choose whether their information is used to update their registration, or to register them at all, when they interact with the Department of Motor Vehicles. "Opt- Out" AVR will promote - but not mandate - registration by making it convenient and cost-effective.

"Opt-Out" AVR would also help the state keep the voter registration rolls more accurate. The same proven and secure processes are used to update a voter's information. The measure complements voting by mail, since accurate registration information avoids errors in ballot delivery and reduces demand for registration services at Voter Service Centers. The savings in time and money add up quickly.

Language in the bill provides that applicants for a Provisional driver's license be automatically registered to vote. Our understanding is that such licenses are issued to citizens 16 years of age, but not yet 18. It appears that the intent of including provisional licenses was to permit drivers under 18 to preregister to vote, since they are not currently old enough to vote. The League supports this "Automatic Pre-Registration."

"Opt-Out" AVR improves access to voting by providing a secure, convenient, and cost-effective approach to voter registration. It does not guarantee that turnout will rise, but it will remove a barrier to that turnout.

This is a simple, cost-effective bill, widely supported by the public and elections officials. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

1. "Automatic Voter Registration Bills, 2015-Present". *Brennan Center for Justice at NYU Law*. <https://www.brennancenter.org/our-work/research-reports/automatic-voter-registration-bills-2015-present>, accessed 28 December 2019.

2. 52 USC §20501(a).

SB-2005-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/9/2020 11:46:53 AM

Testimony for TRN on 3/11/2020 10:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michael Golojuch Jr	LGBT Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawaii	Support	Yes

Comments:

SB-2005-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/10/2020 12:58:26 PM

Testimony for TRN on 3/11/2020 10:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rosemarie Muller	LWVHC	Support	No

Comments:

I support this bill because:

AVR will modernize voting, be cost effective, and help implement voting by mail.

Rosemarie Muller

President LWV Hawai'i County

SB-2005-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/9/2020 11:38:59 AM

Testimony for TRN on 3/11/2020 10:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Laurie Field	Planned Parenthood Votes Northwest and Hawaii	Support	No

Comments:



Pono Hawai'i Initiative

Josh Frost - President • Patrick Shea - Treasurer • Kristin Hamada
Nelson Ho • Summer Starr

Wednesday, March 11, 2020

Relating to Relating to Voting
Testifying in Support

Aloha Chair and members of the committee,

The Pono Hawai'i Initiative (PHI) **supports SB2005 SD1, Relating to Voting**, which updates the option to register to vote on an individual's license application (new, provisional and renewal) to an opt-out rather than an opt-in. This small change means that a person would be automatically registered to vote unless they actively affirm not to be.

Improving access to voting is fundamental to the democratic process. The more accessible and available we can make voting the better our community will be. Upgrading how we encourage voter registration is the foundation to reforming and improving our elections.

Hawai'i struggles with voter turnout, November 2018 (a general election in a Presidential voting year) saw that only 39% of those eligible actually voted. Arguably that election should be the higher turnout than any of the elections since it contained a major race. One can assume primary elections in non-presidential voting years would yield and even lower turnout. If we can increase the number of those registered, that is the first step in right direction of increasing Hawaii's voter turnout.

This measure will create a seamless modernized system with the information collected from the licensing officials being electronically transferred and linked to the elections offices resulting in a more efficient, secure, convenient process that saves money. Hawai'i is presently using out-of-date systems and decades-old technology. It's time to modernize both the system and the process in which people vote.

For all these reasons, we urge you to **vote in favor of SB2005 SD1**.

Mahalo for the opportunity,
Gary Hooser
Executive Director
Pono Hawai'i Initiative

SB-2005-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/9/2020 11:46:13 AM

Testimony for TRN on 3/11/2020 10:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Pride at Work - Hawaii	Pride @ Work - Hawaii	Support	No

Comments:



SIERRA CLUB OF HAWAI'I

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

March 11, 2020 10:45 AM Room 423

In **SUPPORT** of **SB2005 SD1**: Relating to Voting

LATE

Aloha Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Hashimoto, and members of the committee,

On behalf of our 20,000 members and supporters, the Sierra Club of Hawai'i **supports SB2005**, which makes completion of a voter registration application affidavit a mandatory part of all driver's license and identification card applications, automatically registers each applicant for voting, and requires sharing of information among the counties, Department of Transportation, and election personnel.

The Sierra Club of Hawai'i is committed to ensuring a fair, open, and transparent democratic process. We encourage our members and supporters to actively protect their right to vote, have their voices heard in government, and engage in the legislative process. Automatic voter registration would make these efforts just that much easier for many Hawai'i residents. By making registration automatic whenever someone gets a driver's license or updates their address at the DMV, voters are more likely to be engaged and ready to participate in our electoral process. We welcome that—and so should our lawmakers.

Automatic voter registration is the logical next step in modernizing our elections by eliminating needless paperwork. It has been estimated that paper registration costs 30 times more than AVR. The possibility of human error in transcribing voter information from paper forms will be reduced and the state could save the nearly \$600,000 it spent in 2016 alone in processing paper forms. Furthermore, Hawai'i has had the lowest voter turnout in the U.S. for the last twenty years. AVR will not only simplify the process to register to vote, but is likely to save us money and result in increased turnout on Election Day.

Automatic voter registration has already been approved in 17 other states and is a common sense solution for Hawai'i. AVR will strengthen our democracy, increase the security of our elections, and is simply the most cost effective, efficient, and modern system available.

Thank you very much for this opportunity to provide testimony in **support of SB2005**.

TRANSFORM
HAWAI'I GOVERNMENT
Every Citizen • Every Service • Every Island

March 11, 2020

Representative Henry Aquino Chair
Representative Troy Hashimoto, Vice Chair
House Committee on Transportation
Conference Room 423
Hawai'i State Capitol

RE: Testimony in **Support of SB 2005, SD1**, Relating to Voting

Aloha Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Hashimoto, and committee members:

On behalf of Transform Hawai'i Government, I am writing in **strong support** of SB 2005, SD1, relating to voting. This bill allows people who are eligible to vote to be automatically registered to vote when they apply for a new or renewal motor vehicle driver's license or identification card. This bill is a significant step forward in promoting civic engagement.

This bill will ease voter registration and is a logical complement to the legislature's approval of vote-by-mail. It is intended to increase the number of Hawai'i citizens who will exercise the opportunity to vote. Making voter registration a default part of obtaining or renewing a driver's license or state identification card has effectively promoted greater civic participation at the polls in other jurisdictions. Reassuringly, this bill provides an opt out provision for individuals who do not want to become a registered voter. We ask that you advance this measure.

Transform Hawai'i Government, a coalition of organizations and individuals committed to improving government services and business practices through technology to ensure that policymakers, State employees, local residents and businesses have convenient and secure access to reliable information and data. Civic engagement is among its most important values. We commend the legislature for recognizing the needs of our community and moving forward to address those needs.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this important bill.

Respectfully submitted,



Christine Sakuda
Executive Director
Transform Hawai'i Government
email: csakuda@TransformHawaiiGov.org | phone: (808) 321-2811

SB-2005-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/9/2020 4:25:58 PM

Testimony for TRN on 3/11/2020 10:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Joseph Kohn MD	We Are One, Inc. - www.WeAreOne.cc - WAO	Support	No

Comments:

Strongly support SB2005 SD1

www.WeAreOne.cc



Young Progressives Demanding Action
P.O. Box 11105
Honolulu, HI 96828

March 10, 2020

TO: House Committee on Transportation
RE: Testimony in support of SB2005

Dear Representatives,

Young Progressives Demanding Action (YPDA) advocates for public policies that reflect the values of young people throughout the State of Hawai'i. One of those values is that an open democracy is a necessary component to ensuring a healthy society that is free of oppression.

Too often, the economic and social realities of life make participating in the democratic and civic processes unnecessarily burdensome for average citizens. Between working multiple jobs, studying to earn a degree to help us get ahead, taking care of our families—both keiki and aging kupuna—and allowing for the necessary level of social interactions we need to stay connected with our communities, young people in particular find it challenging to participate.

Young people have much to offer by way of ideas and solutions to the 21st century's most pressing problems. But too often our voice is not heard in the public policy discourse. Young people should have a seat at the table because identifying and implementing the best solutions requires a diverse set of view points and ideas be included from the beginning. When young people—or any group with much to contribute to policy discussions—are unable to participate, and go unheard, our interests are not considered and we lose out. And that's bad for all of society, because it prevents the healthy development of a new generation of leaders and problem-solvers who will need to take over the reins at some point. Don't we want our future leaders to have a solid foundation from which to build the solutions of tomorrow?

This issue gets at the very heart of why YPDA was founded to begin with. We saw the tragic result of an election process that failed to bring young people into the electoral process—that failed to capture the imaginations and hopes of what has become the largest single voting bloc in the country. Apathy is the biggest challenge we face in mobilizing young people to participate. The result of that apathy in 2016—not just among young people, but among far too

many eligible voters who did not participate—is a dangerous administration that puts into place policies that actively harm people and planet in the name of enriching the ultra-rich even further. We are determined to do everything we can to ensure that apathy is overcome so that the inclusive values of our generation are represented in policy and implemented by administrators who share those values. We overcome apathy, in part, through aggressive outreach. But we also do everything we can to cut out barriers and unnecessary steps to make participating as simple, easy and clear as possible.

Hawai'i has a perennially underperforming voter participation rate, but it wasn't always like that, and it doesn't have to be going forward. There exist multiple opportunities to change the current paradigm, boost voter turnout, and strengthen our democracy as a result. Last year, this legislature took a bold step in the right direction by expanding Hawai'i's Vote By Mail program to the entire state for the 2020 election cycle. The passage of Automatic Voter Registration would be another bold step in the right direction.

Automatic Voter Registration won't eliminate voter apathy—that will require the hard work of organizing. But it will eliminate one barrier to participation. It's a quick and easy step—low-hanging fruit—that the state can take this year that will have dramatic results. How do we know? Because in other jurisdictions, implementation of Automatic Voter Registration policies have made huge differences in participation rates. One early-adopting jurisdiction (Oregon), now has a 90 percent registration rate, and blew the rest of the country out of the water for voter participation in the 2018 midterm elections—68 percent compared to the national average of 49 percent. (Read more: <https://www.sightline.org/2018/12/13/voter-turnout-oregon-tops-charts-2018-midterms>).

Oregon also demonstrated that Automatic Voter Registration increases the diversity of voters too by enfranchising the very demographic groups that have the hardest time making time to participate in the process: young people, struggling working class families, minorities—all of whom need to have an electoral voice and a seat at the policy table if we are to develop well-rounded, inclusive solutions to our problems that have genuine community buy-in.

If we are serious when we say that we value democracy, then let us show that we are willing to take action to live up to our values. Let us demonstrate that we mean what we say when we insist that a healthy democracy is the only practical defense against tyranny. To live up to that value, we must make sure that we provide access to democracy for groups who struggle to find time to engage with the process. We lose out as a society when potential solutions to our problems are not heard. We lose out as a society when apathy keeps people from participating.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify,

Will Caron
2019–2020 Co-Chair
Action@YPDAhawaii.org

SB-2005-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/9/2020 7:49:59 PM

Testimony for TRN on 3/11/2020 10:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Troy Abraham	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

LATE

SB-2005-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/10/2020 4:07:50 PM

Testimony for TRN on 3/11/2020 10:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Donna Ambrose	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Automatic voter registration will provide many benefits, including saving money by eliminating paper-based registration and decreasing undeliverable mail. Now that Hawai'i is shifting to vote-by-mail, accurate address details gain even more importance. I strongly support passage of Automatic Voter Registration.

To: Hawaii State House Committee on Transportation
Hearing Date/Time: Wednesday, 11-Mar-2020 at 10:45am
Place: Hawaii State Capitol, Room 423
Re: Judith Ann Armstrong is in support SB2005-SD1 relating to Voter Registration.

Aloha Chair Henry J.C. Aquino, Vice Chair Troy N. Hashimoto, and members of this Committees,
I, Judith Armstrong, am writing in strong support of SB2005-SD1.

*AVR will modernize our voter registration system to make it more accurate and secure. When a person goes to the DMV and does not “opt-out” of being a registered voter, the person’s information and data are automatically transferred between the County Department of Motor Vehicles and the State Office of Elections.

*AVR is cost-effective. AVR has been estimated to possibly save more than \$1 million statewide in each election cycle by eliminating paper-based registrations and decreasing undeliverable mail related to registration issues.

*AVR does not mean US citizens are “automatically” registered to vote if they have a driver’s license or state ID. People must still interact with a government official with AVR and not “opt-out” to be a registered voter.

*With AVR, this will help vote by mail implementation, which is how Hawaii will be conducting elections statewide starting 2020. AVR will ensure that Hawaii’s voter rolls are accurate and update to date.

I strongly urge our legislators to support this important benefit change.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of this important measure.

Sincerely,
Judith Ann Armstrong
1717 Ala Wai Blvd
Apt 3006
Honolulu, HI 96815

SB-2005-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/9/2020 2:49:47 PM

Testimony for TRN on 3/11/2020 10:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Samantha Berberich	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SB-2005-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/9/2020 12:44:56 PM

Testimony for TRN on 3/11/2020 10:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Patricia Blair	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SB-2005-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/10/2020 8:51:42 AM

Testimony for TRN on 3/11/2020 10:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Amy Brinker	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SB-2005-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/10/2020 8:09:45 AM

Testimony for TRN on 3/11/2020 10:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
pamela burrell	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Hopefully automatic voter registration will increase voting participation!

Please pass this bill.

regards,

pamela Burrell, Kalihiwai Kaua'i

SB-2005-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/9/2020 7:41:40 PM

Testimony for TRN on 3/11/2020 10:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Raymond Catania	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chair, Rep.Henry Aquino,

I support SB2005 SD1. We need to encourage and grow Hawaii's voting base. I'm all in.

Mahalo,

Raymond Catania may11nineteen71@gmail.com 4215 Kole Pl. Lihue, Hi 96766

SB-2005-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/9/2020 12:48:51 PM

Testimony for TRN on 3/11/2020 10:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dyson Chee	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

TO: HOUSE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION
RE: SB 2005, SD1 RELATING TO VOTING.

Requires that any person who is eligible to vote and applies for a new or renewal motor vehicle driver's license, provisional license, or instruction permit, or a new, renewal, or duplicate identification card be automatically registered to vote if that person is not already registered to vote unless the applicant affirmatively declines to be registered to vote. Authorizes access to and electronic transmission of databases maintained or operated by the counties or the department of transportation containing driver's license or identification card information to election officials and the statewide voter registration system. Effective 1/1/2021. (SD1)

FOR HEARING ON Wednesday, March 11, 2020

FROM:

Kenneth R. Conklin, Ph.D.
46-255 Kahuhipa St. Apt. 1205
Kane'ohe, HI, 96744
Tel. 808.247.7942

TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION

This bill makes it automatic that anyone who applies for a driver license will thereby be registered to vote, unless they intentionally refuse to be registered.

Before you move this bill forward, please carefully consider whether it will allow people who are not citizens of the United States to easily become voters, either deliberately or negligently.

Does the driver license application form require a person to prove U.S. citizenship either through a birth certificate or a naturalization document? (A "green card" does not confirm citizenship and actually implies non-citizenship.)

If the driver license application form does not require proof of U.S. citizenship, does it at least have an affidavit requiring applicant to affirm having U.S. citizenship and a very visible WARNING that the affirmation is under penalty of perjury? Or is there merely a checkbox where an applicant in a rush, and perhaps not speaking good English, simply checks the box much like many of us check those boxes on internet websites saying yes we have read all 20 pages of legal mumbo jumbo.

News reports from other states (such as California) that provide automatic voter registration through driver license applications indicate that many non-citizens are becoming registered as voters through this mechanism, and are actually voting. The concept is that it's good government policy to encourage all drivers to actually have a driver license for purposes of insurance and identification, whether they are citizens or not. In previous years there were efforts to allow the Mexican government identification document to be used when applying for driver licenses -- Matrícula Consular de Alta Seguridad is an identification card issued by the Government of Mexico through its consulate offices to Mexican nationals residing outside of Mexico.

SB-2005-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/9/2020 3:52:11 PM

Testimony for TRN on 3/11/2020 10:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Steven Costa	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SB-2005-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/9/2020 12:36:32 PM

Testimony for TRN on 3/11/2020 10:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
David Dinner	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Although it is hard to imagine that anyone who lives in his country would be too lazy or busy to register, it evidently does happen and just maybe some of those people will take enough of an interest to vote. Let's give everyone that access.

SB-2005-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/10/2020 3:29:06 AM

Testimony for TRN on 3/11/2020 10:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Noreen Dougherty	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Senators,

This bill is so simple but absolutely brilliant. I strongly support SD2005. Please pass AVR into Law this legislative session. Mahalo

Noreen Dougherty

Kapaa, Kauai

SB-2005-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/10/2020 10:25:57 AM

Testimony for TRN on 3/11/2020 10:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Susan Dursin	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Chair Acquino, Vice-Chair Hashimoto, and Members of the Committee:

I would urge you to vote in favor of SB2005.

I have worked for many years registering voters. We answer questions for registered voters as well as provide forms and information for those who are not registered. You might be surprised at how often people -- often younger voters or those new to the state -- believe that they are already registered because they have received their driver's license. But they have not received a yellow card or any other evidence of being registered to vote. When we help them check, they find that they are not registered at all. This happens even at the polls, where I have worked for many elections.

We have discovered that the would-be voter may have been distracted at the DMV with all the other procedures and questions. The DMV employees may have had their hands full and not given ample explanation of the opt-in policy, or the applicant may not have understood the term or the explanation. In any case, the opt-out policy is much more to the point when it comes to allowing easy registration and voting in this state. This argument is the same for those applying for state ID.

Since Oregon became the first state in the nation to implement AVR in 2016, the Beaver State has seen registration rates quadruple at DMV offices. The policy is easy to implement and will help Hawai'i avoid the frustration of people who believe themselves to be registered voters. These people are much more likely to actually vote.

Hawai'i has done a lot to enable easy registration with online registration. However, that is a more cumbersome process as various documents must be provided one way or another. With AVR, people already have produced the documents in a face-to-face situation. There is no reason not to take this additional step;

Please support SB2005.

SB-2005-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/9/2020 12:59:37 PM

Testimony for TRN on 3/11/2020 10:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Steven Forman	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I would like to make the voter registration easier but I don't agree with the proposed method in the bill SB2005SD1. Same day registration seems to be a much more appropriate way to allow people to vote.

SB-2005-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/9/2020 6:20:09 PM

Testimony for TRN on 3/11/2020 10:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mike Golojuch, Sr.	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support SB2005. Please pass.

Mike Golojuch, Sr.

SB-2005-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/10/2020 11:04:08 AM

Testimony for TRN on 3/11/2020 10:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Maile Griffin	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Hello, my name is Maile Griffin and I support SB2005 because I believe Automatic Voting Registration (AVR) would greatly ease the voting registration process for my community and Hawaii. I live in Downtown, Honolulu with a significant homeless population. Everyday, I walk by at least 3 people sleeping on sidewalks with holes in their blankets, soiled newspapers as bedding, and insects crawling at their bare feet scorched by the burning sidewalks under Hawaii's sun.

The current voting registration process can deter the houseless and other low-income earners from voting because they have no time to register as they juggle family and work to make their living. By making the transfer of information for voter registration automatic when one goes to the DMV, the process becomes more convenient and keeps voter polls updated. People are free to say NO if they do not want to have their information transmitted to the Office of Elections. That is important.

The homeless and other low-income earners below the federal poverty line are 47% of Hawaii's population -- a statistic our own senators acknowledged during this year's Legislative Opening Session. It is important for these groups to represent themselves in deciding their own future in this state and country. AVR would make registration easier and increase the chance that people will vote in both the Primary and General election this year. This would ensure that those who vote will better represent Hawaii's population.

As a UH student, I hope to become more civically engaged and AVR will help. Please pass AVR: it will save the state and people like us time and money. It will help families from disadvantaged communities have a voice. I hope to serve families as a psychologist when I graduate. Thank you for your time, Senators.

SB-2005-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/9/2020 2:58:06 PM

Testimony for TRN on 3/11/2020 10:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Timothy Gust	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Sb2005 will encourage eventual voting,by encouraging people to initially register.
Democracy in action.

SB-2005-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/9/2020 10:22:01 PM

Testimony for TRN on 3/11/2020 10:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Edward B Hanel Jr	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Maximize access to the right to vote. Concur with CommonCause Hawaii comments.

SB-2005-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/9/2020 2:35:46 PM

Testimony for TRN on 3/11/2020 10:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Glenn Head	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I encourage you to pass this important legislation. It would be improved if you also had everyone become an organ donor at the same time. (of course they could opt out).

SB-2005-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/9/2020 1:59:20 PM

Testimony for TRN on 3/11/2020 10:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Aisha Heredia	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

March 11, 2020

Committee on Transportation
Rep. Henry J.C. Aquino, Chair
Rep. Troy N. Hashimoto, Vice Chair

State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Aloha Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Hashimoto, and esteemed Committee Members,

I'm in strong support of SB2005 SD1, Automatic Voter Registration (AVR) will modernize our voter registration system to make it more accurate and secure. When a person goes to the DMV and does not "opt-out" of being a registered voter, the person's information and data are automatically transferred between the County Department of Motor Vehicles and the State Office of Elections.

Since Hawaii is the lowest state for voter turn-out, a measure like AVR will help us set a course for higher voter registration rates, a much needed action to increase voter turn-out. Sixteen states and the District of Columbia have already approved automatic voter registration, AVR is proven to work in increasing numbers of first time voters, including people of color(1). Since Oregon became the first state to implement AVR in 2016, Oregon has seen registration rates [quadruple](#) at DMV offices, and, in the first six months after AVR was implemented in Vermont on New Year's Day 2017, registration rates [jumped](#) 62 percent when compared to the first half of 2016 (2). I am in strong support of SB2005 SD1 because we need to make changes if we want to increase voter turnout, and AVR is proven to work in other states.

Mahalo,
Aisha Heredia

References:

(1)[https://www.demos.org/sites/default/files/publications/AVR%20in%20Oregon%20FIN
AL.pdf](https://www.demos.org/sites/default/files/publications/AVR%20in%20Oregon%20FIN%20AL.pdf)

(2)[https://www.brennancenter.org/our-work/research-reports/automatic-voter-
registration-summary](https://www.brennancenter.org/our-work/research-reports/automatic-voter-registration-summary)

SB-2005-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/9/2020 1:34:53 PM

Testimony for TRN on 3/11/2020 10:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Fern Anuenue Holland	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

Please support this measure!

Mahalo,

Fern A Holland

SB-2005-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/9/2020 6:00:21 PM

Testimony for TRN on 3/11/2020 10:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Richard Janik	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

No brainer. Regestar everyone eligable.

Richard J Janik, MD

Lihue, HI 96766

SB-2005-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/11/2020 12:09:16 AM

Testimony for TRN on 3/11/2020 10:45:00 AM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sarah-Lyn Kaeo	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support SB 2005 because I believe making it easier for communities like mine to vote is a good thing for them and for Hawai'i. My community in NÄ• nÄ• kuli is highly under-represented. Homelessness and limited resources are significant issues that requires more discussion. In fact, I've had relatives in the past who experienced homelessness. Increases in voting registration will allow the voices of my community to be heard.

The traditional process of registering to vote can interfere some people from voting for several reasons. Many families have to face challenges such as unbalanced work schedules and not enough time to register. Instead of having them go to the voting registration, the voting registration can be brought to them at the DMV. Through this, it becomes more convenient. Voter rolls can be updated by then.

Excluded communities will be able to receive better representation. Easing the registration process means more votes will be submitted in both the Primary (Aug 8) and General (Nov 3) election this year. As a UH student, I hope to become more civically engaged and AVR will help. Please pass AVR: It will save the state and people like us time and money. Thank you, Senators Scott Saiki and Stanley Chang.

SB-2005-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/9/2020 10:19:14 PM

Testimony for TRN on 3/11/2020 10:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Joshua Kay	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am in **strong support** of SB2005 SD1, the automatic voter registration bill.

SB-2005-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/9/2020 8:22:00 PM

Testimony for TRN on 3/11/2020 10:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Leimomi Khan	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SB-2005-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/9/2020 8:32:47 PM

Testimony for TRN on 3/11/2020 10:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kayla Kunisaki	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

SB-2005-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/10/2020 6:45:32 AM

Testimony for TRN on 3/11/2020 10:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Caroline Kunitake	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Chair Aquino and Members of the Committee on Transportation,

I am writing in support of SB2005 SD1.

AVR will modernize our voter registration system to make it more accurate and secure. When a person goes to the DMV and does not “opt-out” of being a registered voter, the person’s information and data are automatically transferred between the County Department of Motor Vehicles and the State Office of Elections.

AVR is cost-effective. AVR has been estimated to possibly save more than \$1 million statewide in each election cycle by eliminating paper-based registrations and decreasing undeliverable mail related to registration issues.

AVR does not mean US citizens are “automatically” registered to vote if they have a driver’s license or state ID. People must still interact with a government official with AVR and not “opt-out” to be a registered voter.

With AVR, this will help vote by mail implementation, which is how Hawaii will be conducting elections statewide starting 2020. AVR will ensure that Hawaii’s voter rolls are accurate and update to date.

Please support this bill.

Mahalo,

Caroline Kunitake

SB-2005-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/9/2020 4:02:13 PM

Testimony for TRN on 3/11/2020 10:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
clare Ioprinzi	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SB-2005-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/9/2020 2:28:56 PM

Testimony for TRN on 3/11/2020 10:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lorn	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

How obvious it is for everyone to have a vote!! Please support this bill...

SB-2005-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/9/2020 4:37:11 PM

Testimony for TRN on 3/11/2020 10:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Marion McHenry	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I strongly support this bill.

I volunteer in my community to register voters. It should be automatic and will save time and money and improve voter participation.

Marion McHenry

Princeville, Kauai

SB-2005-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/9/2020 12:18:21 PM

Testimony for TRN on 3/11/2020 10:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Paul McKimmy	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

This is a long overdue measure to increase citizen participation in governance. Please pass automaic voter registration.

SB-2005-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/10/2020 2:02:37 PM

Testimony for TRN on 3/11/2020 10:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Magoon Ohana	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

We support this bill, but are also very concerned that NON US citizens will gain illegal access to voting by things falling through the cracks. I still wonder when people move after they have their drivers license & records are not updated, how many ballots will be submitted/mailed in by someone who is not the actual intended recipient. There are already recent stories of more voters casting ballots in the primaries than there were actual registered voters. Very interesting!

"Fifteen states and the District of Columbia have enacted laws to allow unauthorized immigrants to obtain driver's licenses".

HAWAII: This law authorizes the issuance of driver's licenses to residents of Hawaii who cannot provide proof of authorized presence in the United States. Applicants must provide satisfactory proof of identity and Hawaii residency.

Copied & pasted from <https://www.ncsl.org/research/immigration/states-offering-driver-s-licenses-to-immigrants.aspx>

SB-2005-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/9/2020 12:55:11 PM

Testimony for TRN on 3/11/2020 10:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Christian Palmer	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

To: Committee on Transportation

From: Christian Palmer

In Strong Support of SB 2005

Dear Committee Members,

Voting is crucial to a healthy democracy. In order to improve our democracy we need to make the process of registering to vote as simple and automatic as possible. This bill moves us towards that goal. By simplifying the registration process, we will allow more people to regularly participate in the democratic process so I strong encourage you to support SB 2005.

Mahalo,

Christian Palmer

SB-2005-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/9/2020 9:54:04 PM

Testimony for TRN on 3/11/2020 10:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Stephen Paselk	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support automatic voter registration as more secure, more efficient and to increase voter turnout as Hawaii has the lowest participation in the country. Many young people move multiple times and their registration is often lost. Our democracy depends on decreasing alienation and making it easier and less bureaucratic to stay registered and to increase participation.

SB-2005-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/9/2020 12:53:26 PM

Testimony for TRN on 3/11/2020 10:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Judith Perino	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SB-2005-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/9/2020 4:21:39 PM

Testimony for TRN on 3/11/2020 10:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Barbara Polk	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please pass SB2005 on Automatic Voter Registration. This will ensure that people who want to vote will already be registered. It will produce more accurate voter rolls and decrease the cost of handling registrations submitted in varying formats (paper, electronic, etc.).

SB-2005-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/9/2020 1:13:26 PM

Testimony for TRN on 3/11/2020 10:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Pamela Polland	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

This seems like a "no brainer" to me. Don't we want as many people to get out and vote as possible? Making voter registration automatic will certainly increase the the number of people who will vote, and that seems like only a positive step. Please pass this bill.
Mahalo, Pamela

SB-2005-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/9/2020 4:22:41 PM

Testimony for TRN on 3/11/2020 10:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tony Radmilovich	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Vote by Mail Would Be Enhanced If Automatic Voter Registration Was Enacted in 2020

February 28, 2020 by [mauitime](#) [Leave a Comment](#)
by **Keani Rawlins-Fernandez**



Hawai'i's move to vote by mail (VBM) is critical in maintaining democratic inclusion in a place that consists of communities scattered across many islands. For this process to be successful, it is equally important that the legislature enact Automatic Voter Registration (AVR) in 2020 to augment VBM's effectiveness, to ensure that it does not decrease voter accessibility when we are working to increase it.

Voting should not be a hardship for people. It is my hope that the State Office of Elections and Maui Clerk's Office will spare no effort to inform and educate the public in this first year. Everyone needs to understand that we are making a dramatic switch from the past practice of having polling stations in precincts. Over half of our electorate already vote by mail, but for those who have enjoyed going to their neighborhood polling station, it is important to know that their polling station will NOT be there as usual. It is also important to ensure the first-time voter will not be disenfranchised.

VBM and AVR working in concert would not only save us all time, money, and grief; it would also increase voter integrity and minimize ballots being sent to the wrong addresses. AVR will help clean up the voter rolls every time one goes to renew or get a new driver's license or file a change of address, unless one opts not to have that information automatically passed on to the Office of Elections.

For now, please check that your information is accurate by going to [Elections.hawaii.gov](https://elections.hawaii.gov). The Maui County Clerk's Office announced that it will have a voter service center on each island (Maui, Moloka'i, and Lana'i). The voter service centers will receive personal delivery of mail-in ballots, accommodate voters with special needs, offer same-day registration and voting, and provide other election services. Voter service centers are where voters can register and drop off ballots, if it's less than five days before the election or if the voter registration deadline passes. Individuals who aren't registered can register at a voter service center, which will be open from July 27 through August 9 for the Primary Election, and October 20 through November 3 for the general election. However, I urge the Maui County Clerk's Office to provide more voter service centers and ballot drop-boxes, to ensure a smooth transition and to ensure that all voters have the opportunity to vote.

Keep a watch for notifications that are being mailed to you by the Office of Elections or the Maui County Clerk's Office to confirm addresses, and tell everyone you know about the new system. When you receive your ballot in the mail a few weeks prior to the primary election on August 8 and before the general election on November 3, be sure to cast your vote. Your vote matters and our community's well-being depends on it!

Councilmember Keani Rawlins-Fernandez (Moloka'i) is vice chair of the Maui County Council. Community members interested in writing opinion editorials for MauiTime can contact [Axel Beers at editor@mauitime.com](mailto:Axel.Beers@mauitime.com).



SB-2005-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/11/2020 9:28:56 AM

Testimony for TRN on 3/11/2020 10:45:00 AM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rayne	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SB-2005-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/9/2020 10:06:30 PM

Testimony for TRN on 3/11/2020 10:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ben Robinson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SB-2005-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/9/2020 4:43:55 PM

Testimony for TRN on 3/11/2020 10:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Henri Etta Schmitz	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Chair Henry Aquino
Vice Chair Troy Hashimoto
House Committee on Transportation

Wednesday, March 11, 2020
10:45 AM

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB2005 SD1 RELATING TO VOTING

Aloha Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Hashimoto, Members of the House Committee on Transportation,

My name is Jun Shin. I am a Sophomore at the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa, and currently serve as the Environmental Justice Action Committee Chair for the Young Progressives Demanding Action (YPDA). Today, I am testifying as an **individual in support of SB2005 SD1**, Relating to Voting.

I appreciate that the legislature continues to have important dialogues with the community on how we can improve participation in politics and civics. One of these big ideas that is now in the process of being implemented is Vote-By-Mail starting from the 2020 election. However, we can't and we shouldn't stop. We need to continue to find ways to build on the work we've already done historically such as the expansion of voting rights over the course of U.S. history, and continue to make our democratic institutions easier to understand and more accessible to take part in.

For me, automatic voter registration really seems to be the natural next step. Automatic voter registration is going to really make being a registered voter much easier and efficient, and we don't even need to create a new process. We all go to the DMV, even as a non driving person who uses the bus, I went to the DMV for a State ID and will have to go back soon to renew it. People have the option of having the information that they gave to the DMV, the DMV being a government office where you regularly update your information, and opt in for that information to be used to register you to vote. It really sounds like a natural transition for me. Then when Vote-By-Mail happens, it will be run even more smoothly, as voter rolls will be accurate and up-to-date. We can make this happen.

I support SB2005 SD1 and request for this measure to be passed through your committee.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify,

Jun Shin

1561 Kanunu St.

Honolulu, HI 96814

Cell: 808-255-6663

Email: junshinbusiness729@gmail.com

SB-2005-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/9/2020 1:43:58 PM

Testimony for TRN on 3/11/2020 10:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Diane Ware	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

This measure is a no brainer to increase voter participation and awareness.

I strongly urge you to support.

mahalo nui, Diane Ware, Volcano HI 96785-0698

SB-2005-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/9/2020 11:53:50 AM

Testimony for TRN on 3/11/2020 10:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dawn Morais Webster Ph.D.	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Now more than ever, we need to pass Automatic Voter Registration. As fears of the economic impact of the coronavirus mount, anything we can do to make government work better and save money is something we should embrace. This bill does NOT compel anyone to vote. It simply allows for our voter rolls to be updated in an efficient, cost-saving way that improves our democracy. It saves money all around.

I support the enactment of Automatic Voter Registration because it helps bring people to the table. The ability to vote and be heard when policies are enacted is good for democracy, especially when it improves access to voting for those who have typically been excluded or feel unable to participate in our democracy for one reason or another.

Over the course of the impeachment of President Trump, we have been reminded more than once that more than a century ago the Supreme Court declared that voting is “a fundamental political right, because [it is] preservative of all rights.”

Whatever the community needs or wants—whether it’s a living wage, decent public education, safety, health care, all our civil liberties—can only be assured if we all have the ability to make our voices heard. That is sometimes easier said than done. People get left out. People feel marginalized.

Rural communities. People who are rushing from one job to the next to pay the bills. People who are juggling child care and kupuna care. These harried people do not always place voter registration at the top of their to-do list.

Vote By Mail (VBM) is a great step in the direction of improving access to voting. The next logical step is Automatic Voter Registration. Why? Because it will make VBM work better by improving the accuracy of our voter rolls.

No matter how stressed they are, people have to renew their driver’s license, have to get a state ID, have to file a change of address. And when they do, unless they say NO, their latest updated address and relevant information will automatically be transmitted electronically to the Office of Elections. This saves them and the state time and money and increases the likelihood that ballots will be mailed to the right address.

In a state where voter turnout is very low but where concerns about big simmering issues in the community are causing people to agitate for corrective action with ever greater fervor, why not take steps that will bring people together and give them a voice sooner rather than later?

Please move this bill forward so that all of Hawaii will be better positioned to participate in our elections.

Mahalo nui.

SB-2005-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/9/2020 2:33:21 PM

Testimony for TRN on 3/11/2020 10:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michael deYcaza	Individual	Support	No

Comments: