

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR - 8 2022RE: H.B. No. 1883
H.D. 1
S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Thirty-First State Legislature
Regular Session of 2022
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Judiciary, to which was referred H.B. No. 1883, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the exterior of the envelope containing the ballot package for elections by mail to include instructions on how to obtain language translation services in Hawaiian and certain other non-English languages; and
- (2) Apply to all elections beginning with the 2024 primary election.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Elections, Office of Language Access, University of Hawai'i at Hilo, Hawai'i Coalition for Immigrant Rights, Common Cause Hawaii, Hawai'i Friends of Civil Rights, League of Women Voters of Hawaii, Hawai'i Public Health Institute, Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action, and six individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Honolulu Elections Division.



Your Committee finds that Hawai'i is the most diverse state in the country with a diversity index of seventy-six percent. The April 2016 Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism Research and Economic Analysis Division report on the non-English speaking population in Hawai'i indicated that the number of non-English speakers at home increased by forty-four percent from 1980 to 2014, and that Ilocano, Tagalog, and Japanese were the top three most common non-English languages spoken at home, comprising approximately half of the non-English speakers. Your Committee further finds that language translation services are already required and used by the State and counties for in-person voting. This measure will ensure that limited English proficient voters are informed about how to obtain language translation services when voting by mail.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Judiciary that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1883, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Judiciary,



KARL RHOADS, Chair



The Senate
Thirty-First Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Judiciary
JDC

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:		
HB 1883, HD1.SDI	HMS, JDC	03-31-22		
<input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
RHOADS, Karl (C)	/		/	
KEOHOKALOLE, Jarrett (VC)	/			
ACASIO, Laura	/			
GABBARD, Mike	/			
KIM, Donna Mercado	/			
LEE, Chris	/			
FEVELLA, Kurt				/
TOTAL	6	-	-	1
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: <div style="text-align:center; margin-top:10px;"> </div>				
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink Goldenrod File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Copy				

*Only one measure per Record of Votes