

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 186

Honolulu, Hawaii  
, 2021

**FEB 11**  
RE: H.B. No. 740  
H.D. 1

Honorable Scott K. Saiki  
Speaker, House of Representatives  
Thirty-First State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2021  
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, to which was referred H.B. No. 740 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO VOTING,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Make an application for voter registration, including an affidavit, part of all driver's license and state identification card applications;
- (2) Automatically register each applicant who elects to be registered to vote, unless the applicant affirmatively declines to be registered to vote; and
- (3) Require sharing of information among the counties, Department of Transportation, and election personnel.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Elections; Department of Transportation; Sierra Club of Hawai'i; Faith Action for Community Equity; Hawai'i Alliance of Nonprofit Organizations; Americans for Democratic Action Hawai'i; Young Progressives Demanding Action; Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO; League of Women Voters of Hawaii; Community Alliance on Prisons;

American Association of University Women of Hawaii; Hawai'i Friends of Civil Rights; LGBT Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawaii; Hawai'i Health & Harm Reduction Center; Common Cause Hawaii; AVR Hawaii Coalition; American Civil Liberties Union of Hawai'i; AARP Hawai'i; Women's Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawaii; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that this measure will require applicants to either automatically register to vote or affirmatively opt out of registration as part of the driver's license and identification card application process. In addition, the electronic sharing of data will help ensure the accuracy of voter registration rolls and compliance with the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 and Help America Vote Act of 2002.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that an application for voter registration must be a part of the application for issuance of a provisional driver's license or instruction permit;
- (2) Deleting language that would have made databases containing driver's license, provisional license, instruction permit, or identification card information maintained or operated by the counties or Department of Transportation directly accessible to election officials and the online voter registration system;
- (3) Authorizing the Director of Transportation, rather than the Chief Election Officer, to determine other government purposes for providing election officials and the online voter registration system access to the databases maintained or operated by the counties or Department of Transportation;
- (4) Inserting language that requires an application for a driver's license, provisional license, instruction permit, or identification card to include the affidavit and voter registration application into more appropriate statutes; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.



As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 740, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 740, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committee on Judiciary &  
Hawaiian Affairs,



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MARK M. NAKASHIMA, Chair



