

Board of Registration Questions

Philip Barnes - Hawaii County

1. The major function of the Board of Registration is to resolve and conflicts that arise between the Division of Elections and individuals who have questions raised about their ability to vote in a given election.
2. Members of the board should be unbiased and open minded in their interpretation of the state's voting laws as issues may arise.
3. I was invited to serve on the board by Democratic Party officers. I think that an open and transparent voting process is the most import aspect of our elections and therefore was honored to serve.
4. I have been actively involved in the Democratic Party for many years and as part of my duties have been involved in the whole electoral process from many different levels. I have also worked the polls on several occasions. I have also been involved in organizing the process of filling legislative vacancies caused by the death of elected officials on several occasions.
5. My main goal of serving on the board is to let all individuals who come before the board to get a fair chance to have their issues resolved.
6. I am not personally aware of past actions of the board as no issues have arisen during the two years that I have spent on the board. As the state progresses further in our process of running mail in elections I would like the board to clarify any special issues that should arise as this process is fine tuned.
7. As an active member of the Democratic Party I can see how a partisan issue could be seen as a conflict of interest for me. If the issue would directly relate to past decisions made by me in my role as a party officer I would be willing to recuse myself if necessary.
8. I am a strong believer in our democratic process here in our state and in the nation as a whole. I have voted in every primary, general, and special election since I turned 21 which is over 50 years ago. Voting is the essential foundation upon which our government's authority is based and I take this very seriously.
9. I do not see anything in my background as being controversial however I guess I see where a Republican could have some complaints as to my not being nonpartisan. I consider myself to place a fair review of any issue that arises before the board far beyond any partisan leanings of mine.