1076 S.D. 2 H.D. 2 S.B. NO.

C.D. 1

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO ELECTIONS.

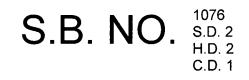
### BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1	SECTION 1. In accordance with section 9 of article VII of
2	the Hawaii State Constitution and sections 37-91 and 37-93,
3	Hawaii Revised Statutes, the legislature has determined that the
4	appropriations contained in H.B. No. 300, H.D. 1, S.D. 1,
5	C.D. 1, and this Act will cause the state general fund
6	expenditure ceiling for fiscal year 2023-2024 to be exceeded by
7	\$1,063,938,615 or 11.0 per cent. This current declaration takes
8	into account general fund appropriations authorized for fiscal
9	year 2023-2024 in H.B. No. 300, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, C.D. 1, and this
10	Act only. The reasons for exceeding the general fund
11	expenditure ceiling are that:
12	(1) The appropriation made in this Act is necessary to
13	serve the public interest; and
14	(2) The appropriation made in this Act meets the needs
15	addressed by this Act.
16	SECTION 2. Chapter 11, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended
17	by adding a new section to part VIII to be appropriately

18 designated and to read as follows:

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1	" <u>§11</u>	- Digital voter information guide. (a) The office
2	of election	ons shall:
3	(1)	Prepare a digital voter information guide, which shall
4		be posted on the office of elections website in a
5		screen reader-accessible format for voters with
6		special needs who are unable to read standard print
7		due to disability;
8	(2)	Provide a translation of the digital voter information
9		guide in Olelo Hawaii on its website; and
10	(3)	Provide printed copies of the digital voter
11		information guide to all public libraries for viewing
12		by the public.
13	(b)	The digital voter information guide shall include:
14	(1)	A photograph and short statement of less than one
15		hundred fifty words for each candidate running for
16		public office, to be prepared by the candidate;
17		provided that the office of elections may uniformly
18		limit the number of words for the candidate statement
19		by applicable public office;
20	(2)	The explanation drafted by the department of the
21		attorney general of each state constitutional



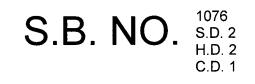
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1		amendment that will be proposed to voters in the next
2		general election pursuant to section 11-118.5(b);
3		provided that the department of the attorney general
4		shall transmit the materials required by this
5		paragraph to the office of elections no later than
6		seventy-five days before the general election;
7	(3)	A clear and concise explanation, drafted by the
8		appropriate county corporation counsel, for each
9		proposed county charter amendment, proposed
10		initiative, and proposed referendum issue; provided
11		that the respective corporation counsel shall:
12		(A) Translate the explanation into Olelo Hawaii and
13		any other languages required under the federal
14		Voting Rights Act, as specified by the office of
15		elections; and
16		(B) Transmit the materials required by this paragraph
17		to the office of elections no later than
18		seventy-five days before the general election;
19		and
20	(4)	Information regarding mailing deadlines, places of
21		deposit locations, same day voter registration,

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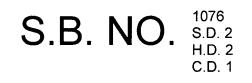
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1	accessible voting locations, and opening hours of
2	voter service centers.
3	(c) The office of elections shall prepare and mail with
4	each ballot for a primary election a notice to voters that a
5	digital voter information guide is available on the office of
6	elections website. The notice shall be sent by electronic mail
7	to all voters with special needs who have registered to receive
8	alternate format ballots.
9	(d) Information made available over the Internet pursuant
10	to this section shall meet or exceed the most current, ratified
11	standards under section 508 of the federal Rehabilitation Act of
12	1973 (29 U.S.C. 794d), as amended, and the Web Content
13	Accessibility Guidelines 2.0 adopted by the World Wide Web
14	Consortium for accessibility."
15	SECTION 3. Section 11-118.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
16	amended by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:
17	"(b) The attorney general[ <del>, in</del> ] <u>shall:</u>
18	(1) In consultation with the legislative reference bureau,
19	[ <del>shall</del> ] prepare a statement in English and [ <del>Hawaiian</del> ]
20	Olelo Hawaii for each proposed constitutional
21	amendment in language that is clear and that indicates



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1		the purpose, limitations, and effects of the proposed
2		amendment[ <del>. The attorney general shall distribute</del> ];
3	(2)	Translate the statement into other languages required
4		under the federal Voting Rights Act, as specified by
5		the office of elections; and
6	(3)	Distribute each statement, including the translations,
7		to the state office of elections pursuant to
8		section 11- (b) and all county clerks for further
9		distribution.
10	The offic	e of elections and county clerks shall make the
11	statement	available to the public at all polling places in the
12	State and	on $[a \text{ website operated by}]$ the office of elections $[-]$
13	website p	ursuant to section 11"
14	SECT	ION 4. There is appropriated out of the general
15	revenues	of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$171,248 or so much
16	thereof a	s may be necessary for fiscal year 2023-2024 for the
17	office of	elections to prepare and mail a notice to voters that
18	a digital	voter information guide may be found on the office of
19	elections	website.

20 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the office of21 elections for the purposes of this Act.

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- 1 SECTION 5. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
- 2 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.
- 3 SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2023.





#### Report Title:

Digital Voter Information Guide; Ballot; Office of Elections; AG; Counties; Corporation Counsel; Appropriation; Expenditure Ceiling

### Description:

Requires the Office of Elections to prepare a digital voter information guide; post the guide on its website in compliance with certain accessibility standards; and mail each ballot with a notice that states a voter information guide may be found on its website. Requires the Attorney General and county corporation counsels to draft explanations of proposed constitutional or charter amendment ballot questions and translate them into certain languages for purposes of the digital voter information guide. Appropriates funds. (CD1)

The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.

