



Committee on JUDICIARY
Chair Karl Rhoads, Vice Chair Mike Gabbard

Friday, March 17, 2023, Conference Room 016 & Videoconference, 10:00 a.m.
HB 1294, HD1 RELATING TO ELECTIONS

TESTIMONY

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

Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Committee Members:

The League of Women Voters of Hawaii supports HB 1294, HD1, Relating to Elections, that would require every candidate for public office in Hawaii to use their legal name for election purposes.

This is a straightforward bill that should help eliminate any confusion over the identity of candidates for public office. It is reasonable to ask candidates to comply with this new law, although we do appreciate that many people are commonly known by a nickname or something other than their legal name. This could take some adjustment to campaign plans, but wouldn't prohibit anyone from becoming a candidate.

We continue to rely on the Office of Elections to provide translation access for all voters, and our understanding is the Federal Voting Rights Act currently requires Hawaii ballots in Olelo Hawaii, Chinese, Ilocano, and Tagalog. This translation service complements the new requirement for using a legal name, as required under this bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

HB-1294-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/13/2023 4:02:29 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/17/2023 10:00:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| lynne matusow | Individual | Support | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

We do not need any lying, many named people like George Santos as a candidate in Hawaii.
Please pass this bill.