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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO ELECTIONS.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the participation of  
2 eligible voters in elections is vital to American democracy. An  
3 integral part of voter participation is the maintenance of  
4 accurate and current voter registration rolls. The Electronic  
5 Registration Information Center, Inc., or ERIC, is a nonprofit  
6 organization that was formed in 2012 to help states improve the  
7 accuracy of voter registration rolls by using secure data-  
8 matching tools. ERIC uses the voter registration rolls of  
9 member states and several other databases, such as driver's  
10 licensing records, Social Security Administration records, and  
11 the United States Postal Service's national change of address  
12 registry to compare voting lists. Twenty-four states and the  
13 District of Columbia now participate in ERIC and receive, as  
14 member states, reports that show voters who have moved within  
15 the respective states, voters who have moved out of the state,  
16 voters with duplicate registrations within the state, voters who



1 have passed away, and individuals who are potentially eligible  
2 to vote and have not yet registered to vote.

3       The legislature further finds that many persons reside in  
4 Hawaii on a part-time basis. This mobile population may be  
5 registered to vote in more than one state due to outdated  
6 registration records, thus challenging the accuracy of Hawaii's  
7 and other states' voter registration rolls. Accordingly, the  
8 legislature finds that modernizing Hawaii's system of verifying  
9 voter registration data is essential to ensuring the integrity  
10 of Hawaii's voter registration rolls.

11       The purpose of this Act is to:

- 12       (1) Require and appropriate funds for the office of  
13           elections to file an application with ERIC for the  
14           State to be admitted as a member of the organization;
- 15       (2) Require the State and each county to use the  
16           information and services made available by ERIC to  
17           verify their voter rolls; and
- 18       (3) Require the office of elections to annually request an  
19           appropriation from the legislature for the State's  
20           annual membership dues to ERIC.



1 SECTION 2. Chapter 11, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended  
2 by adding a new section to be appropriately designated and to  
3 read as follows:

4 "§11- Electronic Registration Information Center, Inc.;  
5 membership; voter registration; verification; annual budget  
6 request. (a) No later than June 30, 2025, the office of  
7 elections shall file an application with the Electronic  
8 Registration Information Center, Inc., for the State to be  
9 admitted as a member of the organization.

10 (b) The office of elections shall share with each county  
11 the information and services made available by the Electronic  
12 Registration Information Center, Inc., pursuant to the terms and  
13 conditions of the State's membership agreement with the  
14 organization. The office of elections and each county office  
15 that administers elections shall use information and services  
16 made available by the Electronic Registration Information  
17 Center, Inc., to verify their respective voter registration  
18 rolls.

19 (c) Beginning with fiscal year 2025-2026 and each fiscal  
20 year thereafter, the office of elections shall request as part  
21 of its annual budget an appropriation from the legislature to



1 pay the State's annual membership dues to the Electronic  
2 Registration Information Center, Inc."

3 SECTION 3. In accordance with section 9 of article VII of  
4 the Hawaii State Constitution and sections 37-91 and 37-93,  
5 Hawaii Revised Statutes, the legislature has determined that the  
6 appropriations contained in Act 164, Regular Session of 2023,  
7 and this Act will cause the state general fund expenditure  
8 ceiling for fiscal year 2024-2025 to be exceeded by  
9 \$ or per cent. This current declaration takes  
10 into account general fund appropriations authorized for fiscal  
11 year 2024-2025 in Act 164, Regular Session of 2023, and this Act  
12 only. The reasons for exceeding the general fund expenditure  
13 ceiling are that:

- 14 (1) The appropriation made in this Act is necessary to  
15 serve the public interest; and
- 16 (2) The appropriation made in this Act meets the needs  
17 addressed by this Act.

18 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general  
19 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so  
20 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2024-2025 for  
21 the office of elections to prepare and file an application with



1 Electronic Registration Information Center, Inc., for the State  
2 to be admitted as a member of the organization.

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

5 SECTION 5. New statutory material is underscored.

6 SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 3000.



**Report Title:**

Office of Elections; Counties; Electronic Registration Information Center, Inc.; Membership; Voter Registration; Verification; Application; Expenditure Ceiling; Appropriation

**Description:**

Requires the Office of Elections to apply to be a member of the Electronic Registration Information Center, Inc. (ERIC), by 6/30/2025. Requires the Office of Elections and counties to use information and services made available by ERIC to verify their respective voter registration rolls. Appropriates funds. Effective 7/1/3000. (HD1)

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

