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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO ELECTION INTEGRITY.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that signature  
2 verification is necessary to protect against voter fraud and  
3 ensure election integrity. The purpose of this Act is to ensure  
4 that signature verification is implemented in election  
5 procedures.

6           SECTION 2. Section 16-45, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
7 amended to read as follows:

8           "**§16-45 Official observers.** Official observers shall be  
9 designated by the chief election officer or the clerk in county  
10 elections to be present at the counting centers and ballot  
11 envelope signature verification facilities and selected in the  
12 following manner:

13           (1) No less than one official observer designated by each  
14 political party;

15           (2) No less than one official observer from the news  
16 media;



1 (3) Additional official observers as space and facilities  
2 permit designated by the chief election officer in  
3 state elections and the clerk in county elections.

4 The chief election officer or clerk shall give all official  
5 observers reasonable notice of the time and place where the  
6 ballots shall be counted and ballot envelope signatures shall be  
7 verified. No person shall be permitted in the counting center  
8 and ballot envelope signature verification facilities without  
9 the written authorization of the chief election officer or  
10 clerk."

11 SECTION 3. Chapter 16, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended  
12 by adding a new section to be appropriately designated and to  
13 read as follows:

14 "§16- Signature verification of ballot envelopes.  
15 Signature verification personnel, to be designated by the chief  
16 election officer or the clerk in county elections, shall perform  
17 all duties related to ballot envelope signature verification in  
18 the presence of at least two official observers."

19 SECTION 4. New statutory material is underscored.

20 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2024.

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INTRODUCED BY:

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JAN 18 2024



# H.B. NO. 1752

**Report Title:**

Minority Caucus Package; Voting; Signature Verification

**Description:**

Requires that ballot signatures be verified by employees in the presence of at least two official observers.

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

