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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  
8 data-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 list voters who have moved within  
15 the respective states, voters who have moved out of a state,  
16 voters having duplicate registrations within a state, voters who  
17 have passed away, and individuals who are potentially eligible  
18 to vote and have not yet registered to do so.



1           The legislature further finds that many persons reside in  
2 Hawaii on a part-time basis. This mobile population may be  
3 registered to vote in more than one state due to outdated  
4 registration records, thus challenging the accuracy of Hawaii's  
5 and other states' voter registration rolls. The legislature  
6 also finds that part of the process for a state to be admitted  
7 as a member of ERIC is for that state to send mailers to its  
8 residents who have driver's licenses but are not registered to  
9 vote, encouraging them to register to vote. Accordingly, the  
10 legislature finds that modernizing Hawaii's system of verifying  
11 voter registration data is essential to ensuring the integrity  
12 of Hawaii's voter registration rolls.

13           The purpose of this Act is to require:

- 14           (1) The office of elections to file an application with  
15           ERIC for the State to be admitted as a member of the  
16           organization; and  
17           (2) The State and each county to use the information and  
18           services made available by ERIC to verify their voter  
19           rolls.



1 SECTION 2. Chapter 11, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended  
2 by adding a new section to part I to be appropriately designated  
3 and to 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 Electronic Registration  
8 Information Center, Inc., for the State's admission as a member  
9 of that organization.

10 (b) The office of elections shall share with each county  
11 the information and services made available by 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 Electronic Registration Information Center,  
17 Inc., to verify their respective voter registration rolls.

18 (c) The office of elections shall take necessary actions  
19 to maintain the State's membership with Electronic Registration  
20 Information Center, Inc.



1        (d) Beginning with fiscal year 2025-2026 and each fiscal  
2 year thereafter, the office of elections shall request as part  
3 of its annual budget an appropriation from the legislature to  
4 pay the State's annual membership dues to Electronic  
5 Registration Information Center, Inc."

6        SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general  
7 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$125,000 or so much  
8 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2024-2025 for the  
9 office of elections to prepare and file an application with  
10 Electronic Registration Information Center, Inc., for the State  
11 to be admitted as a member of the organization, and for the  
12 office of elections to send mailers to all Hawaii residents who  
13 have driver's licenses but are not registered to vote,  
14 encouraging them to register to vote.

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

17        SECTION 4. New statutory material is underscored.

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



**Report Title:**

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

**Description:**

Requires the Office of Elections to file an application with Electronic Registration Information Center, Inc. (ERIC), by 6/30/2025, for the State to be admitted as a member of that organization. Requires the Office of Elections to share with each county the information and services made available by ERIC pursuant to the State's membership agreement with that organization. Requires the Office of Elections and each county office that administers elections to use information and services made available by ERIC to verify their respective voter registration rolls. 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.*

