
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



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

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5 registered to vote in more than one state due to outdated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 require:

12 (1) The office of elections to file an application with
13 ERIC for the State to be admitted as a member of the
14 organization; and

15 (2) The State and each county to use the information and
16 services made available by ERIC to verify their voter
17 rolls.

18 SECTION 2. Chapter 11, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended
19 by adding a new section to part I to be appropriately designated
20 and to read as follows:



1 "§11- Electronic Registration Information Center, Inc.;
2 membership; voter registration; verification; annual budget
3 request. (a) No later than June 30, 2025, the office of
4 elections shall file an application with Electronic Registration
5 Information Center, Inc., for the State's admission as a member
6 of that organization.

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

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

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



1 pay the State's annual membership dues to 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; ERIC; Electronic Registration Information Center, Inc.; Membership; Voter Registration; Verification; Application; Appropriation; Expenditure Ceiling

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. Effective 7/1/3000.
(HD1)

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