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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. Section 12-3, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
2 amended to read as follows:

3           "**§12-3 Nomination paper; format; limitations.** (a) No  
4 candidate's name shall be printed upon any official ballot to be  
5 used at any primary, special primary, or special election unless  
6 a nomination paper was filed on the candidate's behalf and in  
7 the name by which the candidate is commonly known. The  
8 nomination paper shall be in a form prescribed and provided by  
9 the chief election officer containing substantially the  
10 following information:

11           (1) A statement by the registered voters signing the form  
12           that they are eligible to vote for the candidate;

13           (2) A statement by the registered voters signing the form  
14           that they nominate the candidate for the office  
15           identified on the nomination paper issued to the  
16           candidate;



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- 1           (3) The residence address and county in which the  
2                           candidate resides;
- 3           (4) The legal name of the candidate, the name by which the  
4                           candidate is commonly known, if different, the office  
5                           for which the candidate is running, and the  
6                           candidate's party affiliation or nonpartisanship; all  
7                           of which are to be placed on the nomination paper by  
8                           the chief election officer or the clerk [~~prior to~~  
9                           before releasing the form to the candidate;
- 10          (5) Space for the name, signature, month and date portions  
11                           of the date of birth, and residence address of each  
12                           registered voter signing the form, and other  
13                           information as determined by the chief election  
14                           officer; provided that a voter's social security  
15                           number or any portion thereof and the year portion of  
16                           the voter's date of birth shall not be required;
- 17          (6) A sworn certification by self-subscribing oath by the  
18                           candidate that the candidate qualifies under the law  
19                           for the office the candidate is seeking and that the  
20                           candidate has determined that, except for the  
21                           information provided by the registered voters signing



- 1           the nomination papers, all of the information on the  
2           nomination papers is true and correct;
- 3           (7) A sworn certification by self-subscribing oath by a  
4           party candidate that the candidate is a member of the  
5           party;
- 6           (8) For candidates seeking elective county office, a sworn  
7           certification by self-subscribing oath by the  
8           candidate that the candidate has complied with the  
9           relevant provisions of the applicable county charter  
10          and county ordinances pertaining to elected officials;
- 11          (9) A sworn certification by self-subscribing oath, where  
12          applicable, by the candidate that the candidate has  
13          complied with the provisions of article II, section 7,  
14          of the Hawaii State Constitution;
- 15          (10) A sworn certification by self-subscribing oath by the  
16          candidate that the candidate is in compliance with  
17          section 831-2, dealing with felons, and is eligible to  
18          run for office; and
- 19          (11) The name the candidate wishes to be printed on the  
20          ballot and the mailing address of the candidate.



1 (b) Signatures of registered voters shall not be counted,  
2 unless they are upon the nomination paper having the format set  
3 forth above, written or printed thereon, and if there are  
4 separate sheets to be attached to the nomination paper, the  
5 sheets shall have the name of the candidate, the candidate's  
6 party affiliation or nonpartisanship, and the office and  
7 district for which the candidate is running placed thereon by  
8 the chief election officer or the clerk. The nomination paper  
9 and separate sheets shall be provided by the chief election  
10 officer or the clerk.

11 (c) Nomination papers shall not be filed [~~in~~] on behalf of  
12 any person for more than one party or for more than one office;  
13 nor shall any person file nomination papers both as a party  
14 candidate and as a nonpartisan candidate.

15 (d) The office and district for which the candidate is  
16 running, the candidate's name, and the candidate's party  
17 affiliation or nonpartisanship [~~may~~] shall not be changed from  
18 that indicated on the nomination paper and separate sheets. If  
19 the candidate wishes to run for an office or district different  
20 from that for which the nomination paper states or under a  
21 different party affiliation or nonpartisanship, the candidate



1 may request the appropriate nomination paper from the chief  
2 election officer or clerk and have it signed by the required  
3 number of registered voters.

4 (e) Nomination papers that contain alterations or changes  
5 made by anyone other than the chief election officer or the  
6 clerk to the candidate's information, the candidate's party  
7 affiliation or nonpartisanship, the office to which the  
8 candidate seeks nomination, or the oath of loyalty or  
9 affirmation, after the nomination paper was issued by the chief  
10 election officer or clerk, shall be void and ~~[will]~~ shall not be  
11 accepted for filing by the chief election officer or clerk.

12 (f) Nomination papers that are incomplete and do not  
13 contain all of the certifications, signatures, and requirements  
14 of this section shall be void.

15 (g) The chief election officer shall provide a system for  
16 the electronic filing of nomination papers, including the  
17 submission of the notarized written oath or affirmation and any  
18 other required documentation and the deposit of the filing fee."

19 SECTION 2. Section 12-6, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
20 amended by amending its title and subsection (a) to read as  
21 follows:



1           "§12-6 Nomination papers: time for filing; manner of  
2 filing; fees. (a) For members of Congress, state offices,  
3 county offices, and the board of trustees for the office of  
4 Hawaiian affairs, nomination papers shall be filed with the  
5 chief election officer, or clerk in case of county offices, [~~not~~]  
6 no later than 4:30 p.m. on the first Tuesday in June[~~-~~  
7 ~~However,~~]; provided that in the event of a special primary or  
8 special election, the filing deadline shall be determined in the  
9 proclamation that [~~is issued calling~~] calls for the election as  
10 provided for by state law or county charter. A state candidate  
11 from the counties of Hawaii, Maui, and Kauai may file the  
12 declaration of candidacy with the respective clerk. The clerk  
13 shall transmit to the office of the chief election officer the  
14 state candidate's declaration of candidacy without delay.  
15 Nomination papers may be filed electronically with the chief  
16 election officer, or clerk in the case of a county office, using  
17 an electronic filing system."

18           SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general  
19 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$500,000 or so much  
20 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2025-2026 and the  
21 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year



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1 2026-2027 for the chief election officer to provide a system for  
2 the electronic filing of nomination papers, including the  
3 submission of the notarized written oath or affirmation and any  
4 other required documentation and the deposit of the filing fee.

5 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the office of  
6 elections for the purposes of this Act.

7 SECTION 4. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
8 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

9 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on January 1, 2026;  
10 provided that section 3 shall take effect on July 1, 2025.

11

INTRODUCED BY: \_\_\_\_\_



JAN 14 2025



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**Report Title:**

Office of Elections; Nomination Papers; Electronic Filing;  
Appropriation

**Description:**

Requires the Chief Election Officer to provide a system for the  
electronic filing of nomination papers. Effective 1/1/2026.

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

