



**STATE OF HAWAII
OFFICE OF ELECTIONS**

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SCOTT T. NAGO
CHIEF ELECTION OFFICER

TESTIMONY OF THE
CHIEF ELECTION OFFICER, OFFICE OF ELECTIONS
TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
ON HOUSE BILL NO. 134, HD 1, SD 1
RELATING TO ELECTIONS

March 31, 2025

Chair Dela Cruz and members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means, thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of House Bill No. 134, HD 1, SD 1. This bill requires the Chief Election Officer to provide a system for the electronic filing of nomination papers.

Our office looks forward to developing a system for the electronic filing of nomination papers. Our initial estimate is that the development of the necessary software would cost approximately \$150,000. However, we would note that this does not include any hardware or security cost which could only be determined as part of the software development process.

Additionally, we would ask that the eventual effective date be established as January 1, 2028, to ensure we have sufficient time to be able to procure, test, and train candidates on the use of the system. Given the security and resource requirements involved, we do not believe it is feasible to develop and implement a system prior to the start of candidate filing on February 2, 2026, for the upcoming 2026 Elections.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of House Bill No. 134, HD 1, SD 1.



LATE

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB134 HD1 SD1, RELATING TO ELECTIONS

SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
MONDAY, MARCH 31, 2025

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Members of the Committee:

The Democratic Party of Hawai'i **SUPPORTS** HB134 HD1 SD1, RELATING TO ELECTIONS. Pursuant to the Platform of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i, the Party supports full transparency in all government functions and endorses policies that protect the integrity of our electoral process.

Updating the process that candidates for public office must complete in order to be placed on the ballot by including the option to electronically submit nomination papers will ensure that more of our community members have the ability to participate in our electoral process as candidates, thereby enhancing the accessibility and inclusivity of our democracy.

Mahalo nui loa for the opportunity to testify in Support of HB134 HD1 SD1, RELATING TO ELECTIONS. Should you have any questions or require further information, please contact the Democratic Party of Hawai'i at legislation@hawaiidemocrats.org.

HB-134-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/29/2025 8:20:22 AM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2025 10:02:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Master Shelby "Pikachu" Billionaire	Testifying for Ohana Unity Party & Kingdom of The Hawaiian Islands	Comments	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Legislators,

As Master Shelby "Pikachu" Billionaire, HRM of the Kingdom of The Hawaiian Islands and Chairman of the Ohana Unity Party (www.ohanaunityparty.com), I present an honest report on H.B. No. 134, "Relating to Elections." This bill seeks to refine nomination paper processes and fund an electronic filing system, but I must speak plainly: it fails to confront the corruption festering in our elections, especially on Maui, where no chain-of-custody documentation guards our people's voice.

H.B. No. 134 standardizes nomination papers under HRS §12-3, barring unauthorized changes and voiding flawed submissions—noble steps to curb tampering. It mandates electronic filing at no cost to candidates, a modern tool to ease access across our islands. Yet, its silence on chain-of-custody protocols is deafening. Maui's 2024 elections saw 95% turnout, but without logs tracking papers from issuance to filing, we cannot prove their integrity. Post-wildfire chaos left our election staff 20% short, and whispers of lost ballots echo unaddressed.

Corruption is no stranger to Hawaii—\$356,000 in shady donations linked to Milton Choy (2022) and lawmakers' bribery convictions in 2022 stain our trust. H.B. No. 134's electronic system, while promising, risks becoming a new playground for manipulation without safeguards. Nationally, 15% of states faced election cyberattacks in 2023; Maui's vulnerability demands more than good intentions.

The bill's funding is blank—insulting when Oregon spends \$2.8 million yearly on similar systems. Its January 1, 3000, effective date is a farce, likely meant for 2025. I demand: add chain-of-custody logs, fund \$3 million annually, secure it with NIST standards, fix the date to July 1, 2025, and appoint a Maui audit team. Only then can it shield our ohana from corruption's grasp.

Mahalo for heeding this call to protect our kingdom's elections.

With Royal Duty,
Master Shelby "Pikachu" Billionaire

HRM, Kingdom of The Hawaiian Islands
Chairman, Ohana Unity Party
www.ohanaunityparty.com