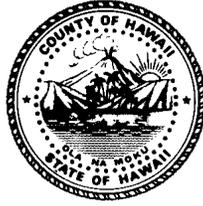


Jennifer Kagiwada
Council Member District 2 South Hilo



Office: (808) 961-8272
jennifer.kagiwada@hawaiicounty.gov

HAWAI'I COUNTY COUNCIL - DISTRICT 2

25 Aupuni Street • Hilo, Hawai'i 96720

DATE: February 21, 2025
TO: Senate Committee on Ways and Means
FROM: Jennifer Kagiwada, Council Member
Council District 2
SUBJECT: SB 124 SD1

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and members of the Committee,

I am writing to you in **opposition of SB 124 SD1**. This bill proposes a constitutional amendment to specify that reapportionment shall be based on the population, as counted in the most recent decennial United States census for the respective reapportionment year, rather than the permanent resident population. If such a change were to occur, it would result in less representation for our Hawai'i Island residents and a possible loss of one of our State House Representatives.

Hawai'i County has continued to see the fastest growth across our State in permanent long-term residents. While students and military members are valued and important members of our community, it has been shown in prior studies that many of them do not vote or pay taxes in our State. Nothing in our Constitution as currently written is denying them the same access to participation in our legislative process and the ability to engage with the representatives from their respective districts. It is paramount that we provide representation for our long-term permanent residents first and foremost.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **opposition to SB 124 SD1**.

Mahalo,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jenn Kagiwada".

Jenn Kagiwada



COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS:
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Sharon Y. Moriwaki, Vice Chair

February 26, 2025, 10:30 a.m., Rm. 211

SB124, SD 1 - Proposing amendments to Article IV, Sections 4 and 6, of the Hawai`i State Constitution regarding Reapportionment

TESTIMONY

Amy Monk, Legislative Committee, League of Women Voters of Hawaii

WAM Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Committee Members:

The League of Women Voters of Hawaii (LWV) supports SB124, SD1. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony. This bill provides welcome clarification as to who should be included in the population counts for the reapportionment of Hawai`i State legislative districts. The LWV believes that governmental legislative bodies should be apportioned substantially on population.

The LWV notes that for the purpose of apportioning U.S. Congressional districts the resident population includes all people (citizens and noncitizens) who are living in the United States at the time of the census. People are counted at their usual residence, which is the place where they live and sleep most of the time.

In Hawai`i's state reapportionment based on the 2020 census, well-meaning citizens argued for the removal from Hawai`i census counts of U.S. military, foreign students and other individuals whose permanent residence was officially in another state or country despite physical presence in the State of Hawai`i. The resulting districts meant that Hawai`i legislators each represented roughly the same number of state tax payers but in practice some represented a larger population of residents. This, in addition to population shifts, may have led to an additional State House District on the Big Island and one less on Oahu.

The changes proposed in SB124, SD1 would allow the Hawai`i and Congressional reapportionment process to use the same U.S. Census data without removing U.S. military and their families, foreign students, and others who are counted in the U.S. Census. This would lead to efficiencies in the process, and no additional expense.

Please pass SB 124, SD1.

SB-124-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/21/2025 11:02:08 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/26/2025 10:03:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Ruth Love | Individual | Support | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

Using the census data makes sense. Military and college students living here currently should not be deleted from the residents count.

Thank you

Mrs Ruth Love

SB-124-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/22/2025 10:59:56 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/26/2025 10:03:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|------------------|--------------|--------------------|------------------------|
| Andrew Crossland | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

As a citizen rooted in values of prioritizing citizen voices, local control, and fair elections, I submit this testimony in firm opposition to SB124. This bill amends Article IV, Sections 4 and 6, of the Hawaii State Constitution to base reapportionment on the total U.S. Census resident count, including non-permanent residents like military and students, instead of permanent residents. It claims fairness but risks distorting representation. I urge you—Republicans and Democrats alike—to **VOTE NO**. Here’s why this bill fails Hawaii.

It Dilutes the Voice of Permanent Residents

Counting non-permanent residents—like transient military and students—inflates districts without ensuring they’re invested in Hawaii’s future. The current system, in place since 1992, prioritizes permanent residents who live here long-term, pay taxes, and vote consistently—over 70% of Hawaii’s population per 2020 Census data. Democrats, you’ve fought for voter equity—why let temporary residents skew representation away from families rooted in our communities? This isn’t inclusion; it’s dilution.

It Risks Overrepresentation in Urban Areas

Non-permanent residents aren’t evenly spread—military bases and colleges cluster them on Oahu, per Census tracts showing 25% of its population as transient (2020). This bill could shrink rural districts’ seats, handing urban elites more power despite equal protection claims. Democrats, you’ve championed rural voices—why back a reapportionment shift that could drown out Maui, Kauai, and Hawaii Island in favor of Honolulu’s transient-heavy zones? Fairness should balance, not tip, the scales.

It Undermines Local Control with Federal Data

Switching to raw Census counts hands Hawaii’s reapportionment to federal bureaucrats, ignoring our unique needs. The current method—extracting non-permanents—lets us tailor districts to our state’s reality, a flexibility 47 states lack. Trump’s administration cut federal overreach; this bill invites it back. Democrats, you’ve pushed for local autonomy—why surrender our constitutional process to unadjusted D.C. numbers that don’t reflect Hawaii’s character? We should lead, not follow.

It Ignores Practical Alternatives for Equity

Equal representation matters, but this isn't the fix. Kansas ditched extraction in 2019, yet its urban-rural split widened—rural seats dropped 5% (2020 Census). We could adjust voting access or services for non-permanents without rewriting our Constitution. Democrats, you've favored targeted solutions—why overhaul a system that's worked for decades instead of refining it? This bill's broad brush risks chaos over precision.

It Betrays Our Shared Commitment to Fairness

Committee members, we all seek just elections—Republicans defend citizen-first governance, Democrats uphold community equity. SB124 fails both by sidelining permanent residents, skewing power, and ceding control to federal data. **VOTE NO** to protect Hawaii's voice. Let's keep reapportionment rooted in our people's long-term stake—not transient numbers—ensuring a balanced, locally driven future for all.

SB-124-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 7:07:14 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/26/2025 10:03:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Mallory De Dely | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

I oppose this bill.

SB-124-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 7:05:27 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/26/2025 10:03:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| kamakani de dely | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

I oppose this bill.

SB-124-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 7:08:48 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/26/2025 10:03:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Susan Dedely | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

I oppose this bill.

SB-124-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 7:17:59 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/26/2025 10:03:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Joelle Seashell | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

I OPPOSE this bill

SB-124-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 7:46:14 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/26/2025 10:03:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Madeleine D Fernandez | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

I strongly oppose this bill!
this bill would rig reapportionment to inflate liberal districts with transient non-residents,
diluting the voice of the true Hawaiian patriots.

SB-124-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 8:18:03 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/26/2025 10:03:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Robin D. Ganitano | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

I oppose SB124 in which this bill rigs reapportionment to inflate liberal districts with transient non-residents.

SB-124-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 8:48:20 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/26/2025 10:03:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Marlies Lee | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

I oppose this

Marlies Lee

SB-124-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 9:06:08 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/26/2025 10:03:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Deven English | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

I am in strong opposition of this bill.

SB-124-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 9:22:41 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/26/2025 10:03:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Bart Burford | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

I oppose this measure - Sincerely, Bart

SB-124-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 9:33:04 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/26/2025 10:03:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Ailanna Lagmay-josiah | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

Bill is not in favor for local more in favor for non residents.

SB-124-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 10:27:18 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/26/2025 10:03:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Paul Littleton | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

I oppose SB124

SB-124-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 10:58:52 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/26/2025 10:03:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Debbie Wyand | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:
VOTE NO!

This bill rigs reapportionment to inflate liberal districts with transient non-residents, diluting the voice of true Hawalian patriots.

SB-124-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 11:43:30 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/26/2025 10:03:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Shannon Matson | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and committee members,

I am a resident of Hawai'i Island who followed the last Reapportionment and Redistricting process extremely closely and testified in opposition to this measure when it was brought up in the last few sessions. I am still in strong opposition. There were many frustrating and inequitable issues that occurred during this last redistricting, a quick (but in no way complete) list would be that the census data has many documented and undocumented errors, stemming from difficulties in counting people during COVID, the fact that they do not send census letters to P.O. Boxes, of which a HUGE population in rural areas of Hawai'i are (with even more people being on general delivery and/or not having a post office box at all considering that there is a year or more wait list to get a box in my neighborhood of over 4,000 lots on 75 miles of unpaved roads), the Reapportionment Commission did not do an adequate job of education or outreach during their process, and they failed to follow part of the Constitution that dictates that they are to place representative districts WHOLLY within senatorial districts. There was a supreme court case on this issue, and it was clear that the judges would have directed them to redraw the maps in alignment with the Constitution had there been more time to do so and if it would not have held up filing deadlines.

As many of us already feel significantly underrepresented on the neighbor islands, seeking to dilute our permanent, long-term resident representation further in favor of granting additional seats to O'ahu's short-term student or military population is insulting and disheartening. Let's fix the other reapportionment and redistricting issues first. Once we know we truly have an accurate count of how many residents live in rural areas then we can discuss any remaining equality issues around removing students and military from the count. Based on data provided by the military last reapportionment it was difficult to say how many of them retained their right to vote elsewhere and where they pay their taxes, but without definitive data on that it can be assumed that they follow in keeping with what the majority of students and military personnel do, which is that they continue to vote and pay taxes in their home state.

The first sentence of this bill states that Hawai'i is unique in its reapportionment extraction process, and it fails to note that we are unique for a very important reason. No where else are districts separated by water, with the seat of government located on the island most heavily populated by military and student non-residents and the rest of the islands would lose representation if the count were performed differently. This helps bridge the gap between the inquiry that exists for many of our permanent residents. Almost anyone who lives in Hawai'i,

outside of O'ahu, already feels disenfranchised due to the seat of Government and affairs that occur on O'ahu. Our voices are already significantly diluted. We already must travel to O'ahu for most complex or specialty medical procedures. We suffer greatly from the lack of services, infrastructure, and funding of basic needs that get prioritized for O'ahu first. Do not take away more of our power in getting our voices heard and the representation we deserve for our permanent residents. Please do not support this bill.

Mahalo,

Shannon Matson

Hawai'i Island Resident

SB-124-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 11:46:11 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/26/2025 10:03:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Wendy | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

I oppose this bill.

SB-124-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 12:39:07 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/26/2025 10:03:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Kirk Powles | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

Keep Hawaii for Hawaiians.

SB-124-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 12:44:27 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/26/2025 10:03:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Jeffrey F Mizuno | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

Text

SB-124-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 12:45:00 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/26/2025 10:03:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Sharron VanDeusen | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

Oppose!

SB-124-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 1:11:01 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/26/2025 10:03:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Bronson Teixeira | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

Aloha, I stand in strong opposition to this bill. Mahalo

SB-124-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 1:23:37 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/26/2025 10:03:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Laurie Anne Bell | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

I oppose this.

SB-124-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 1:48:58 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/26/2025 10:03:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Sarah Wing | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

I oppose this bill

SB-124-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 2:14:31 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/26/2025 10:03:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Yvonne Alvarado | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

I, Yvonne Alvarado is in Strong Opposition to Bill SB124.

SB-124-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 2:41:26 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/26/2025 10:03:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Paul Giles | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

I strongly Oppose SB124,

Paul Giles

SB-124-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 3:43:41 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/26/2025 10:03:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Kealii Makekau | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

Kill this bill

SB-124-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 3:53:09 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/26/2025 10:03:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Candace Vizcarra | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

HOLY MOLY, STOP COMMITTING FRAUDULENT CRIMES WITH THESE BOGUS BILLS TO CORRUPT HAWAII!! WE NEED TRANSPARENCY!! GOD KNOWS AND SEES ALL!!

SB-124-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 4:02:03 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/26/2025 10:03:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Louella Vidinha | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

I'm in opposition to SB124.

I'm a native Hawaiian, and a permanent resident. Any others, who are temporarily living here, which are not a permanent resident, should not be counted. It could falsely inflate the population numbers in the future and will not be corrected later. And the strength of my vote will be lessened, due to the flood of temporary residents being counted as a permanent one.

I vote a STRONG NO to this bill.

Louella

SB-124-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 4:48:28 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/26/2025 10:03:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|--------------|--------------|--------------------|------------------------|
| Willie | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

Aloha Gov & friends

I'm standing in serious opposition of this Bill it's simply appalling that this is even on the table here! Honestly how can this help the people of HAWAI'I or KANAKA'S this is CRRUPTTION at it's finest you law makers work for whom?! Is it legal for me a life long resident of OAHU to vote on matters of another state or country?! Can I?! Seriously this is a horrible crime SB124 should have died long ago

WHOM & by what means is this gonna help?!... how can visiting military who live here a few months out of the year have permanent residency in another state/county be voting on matters of OAHU and that'll effect us for life....

I'm attempting to speak to the best side of you every single one of you in a position in power DO THE RIGHT THING. Think of the HAWAIIANS WHOM Gave all the ALOHA to the rest of the world & what have we ever asked for other then understanding in return!

Im humbly requesting that you kill this bill SB124 where it stands for all the people who live & work here on OAHU 🙏

This is not ALOHA, if any of you truly love HAWAI'I and appreciate the ALOHA spirit that you've received then be ALOHA and kill this bill already.

Sincerely yours

Willie Keola Robello

ALOHA

SB-124-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 5:30:35 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/26/2025 10:03:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|--------------|--------------|--------------------|------------------------|
| Tiare Smith | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

****Testimony in Opposition to SB 124 – Proposing Amendments to Article IV, Sections 4 and 6, of the Hawaii State Constitution Regarding Reapportionment****

Aloha Honorable Members of the Legislature,

My name is Tiare Smith, a Native Hawaiian resident of Kahalu‘u, O‘ahu, where I have lived for 45 years. As a lifelong member of this community and a descendant of its original stewards, I write to express my unequivocal opposition to SB 124, which seeks to amend Article IV, Sections 4 and 6, of the Hawaii State Constitution to base reapportionment on the total resident population as reported by the decennial U.S. Census, rather than the current standard of permanent residents. While the intent to align with federal norms is evident, I contend that this proposal jeopardizes the integrity of our electoral system, dilutes the voice of Hawaii’s permanent population, and disregards the unique socio-political context of our islands. I urge you to reject this measure for the reasons outlined below.

First, the shift from permanent residents to the broader census-defined “usual residents” risks undermining the representational equity of Hawaii’s long-term populace. For over three decades, since the 1992 constitutional amendment, our state has deliberately prioritized permanent residents in reapportionment—a method that reflects the stable, committed core of our communities. Including transient populations, such as military personnel and college students who may lack deep ties to Hawaii, inflates district counts without ensuring these individuals bear the long-term consequences of legislative decisions. This dilution disproportionately affects Native Hawaiian communities like Kahalu‘u, where generational residency shapes our political priorities—priorities that could be sidelined by a temporary influx of non-permanent voices.

Second, the bill’s reliance on unadjusted census data dismisses Hawaii’s exceptional demographic realities, rendering it an ill-fitting import from mainland standards. Unlike the 47 states cited in the bill’s findings, Hawaii hosts a significant military presence and transient student population, neither of which are evenly distributed across our islands. This unevenness, already acknowledged in the bill’s reference to negative net populations in some census tracts, exacerbates disparities in representation. Rather than achieving the equal protection touted by proponents, SB 124 could entrench inequities, as districts with high concentrations of non-permanent residents gain disproportionate influence at the expense of areas like rural O‘ahu, where permanent residents predominate.

Third, the proposal raises pragmatic concerns about the accuracy and stability of reapportionment. The U.S. Census’s “usual residence” metric—defined as where one “lives and sleeps most of the time”—is a blunt instrument, ill-suited to capture the fluid residency patterns of military families or students, many of whom maintain legal domiciles elsewhere. Counting these individuals for apportionment, when they are neither counted in other states nor fully invested in Hawaii’s future, introduces volatility into our districting process. After 45 years witnessing the steady heartbeat of Kahalu‘u, I fear this change could destabilize the careful balance our current system strives to maintain.

Finally, SB 124’s invocation of the U.S. Constitution’s equal protection clause is a misapplication of federal doctrine to a state-specific framework. Our elected officials indeed serve all residents, but reapportionment is about crafting districts that reflect a durable political community—not a snapshot of whoever happens to be here on census day. Hawaii’s outlier status, far from being a flaw, is a strength—a tailored response to our geographic isolation and cultural identity. Abandoning this for conformity with Kansas or other states disregards the sovereignty of our constitutional design, a design ratified by Hawaii’s people, including my own vote in 1992.

I appreciate the legislature’s effort to refine our democratic processes, but SB 124 sacrifices precision for a misguided pursuit of uniformity. I respectfully implore you to vote no, preserving a reapportionment system that honors the permanence of Hawaii’s people over the transience of its visitors.

Mahalo nui loa for your thoughtful consideration.

Sincerely,

Tiare Smith

Kahalu‘u, O‘ahu

SB-124-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 5:36:09 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/26/2025 10:03:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Kaiulani Bowers | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

I oppose this bill because what happens here in the islands should only be determined by the actual People of Hawaii, not people who will be gone after a few years. Make it make sense

SB-124-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 5:46:58 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/26/2025 10:03:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Terri Yoshinaga | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

I oppose this bill.

SB-124-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 6:22:17 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/26/2025 10:03:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Joanna Maile Pokipala Resurrection | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

Aloha,

I oppose this bill. Any voice that has lineage and generations here should be heard loud and clear. Especially, over people who won't be here long. Please listen to your constituents.

Mahalo,

Joanna M P Resurrection

SB-124-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 7:22:05 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/26/2025 10:03:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Frederick Wong | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

I oppose SB124. This bill should not be implemented because the bill takes away the voice of families who live here permanently. Hawaiians are a minority in there own homes! Many are forced to move away due to the crazy cost of living crisis. By including the voice of Transient Households, individuals who don't live here permanently. The vote for legislation that impacts the Hawaiian Community becomes weak and hurts our communities. I would hope that you see the impact that this has already had on our communities as more people move here from outside and local families are pushed out.

SB-124-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 7:26:55 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/26/2025 10:03:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| James K. Rzonca | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

Counting people that are not actually Hawaii residents no make sense. I oppose this bill

SB-124-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 8:39:11 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/26/2025 10:03:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Doneileen Willets | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

Dear committee Members,

I am in opposition to bill SB124 as this lessens the voices of the natives, the littlest remaining here on island and disempowering the native island folks as well. I don't think it would matter to those who will only be here temporarily, but it'll affect us who choose to stay here permanently. Please I urge you to oppose this bill.

Thank you for allowing me to testify on this matter.

SB-124-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 9:34:19 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/26/2025 10:03:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| J Miles | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

I oppose SB124 and urge you to vote "NO."

Thank you.

SB-124-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 9:38:59 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/26/2025 10:03:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Dayna Matsumura | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

Only residents of Hawaii should vote.
this bill would allow non-residents to "elect" people who may not have Hawaii's best interest.
Oppose.

SB-124-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 9:48:55 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/26/2025 10:03:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Kyle | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

I oppose this bill

SB-124-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 9:55:02 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/26/2025 10:03:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Jennifer Cabjuan | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

Oppose this bill. Stop rigging the system. We see what you are trying to accomplish

SB-124-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 10:02:00 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/26/2025 10:03:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Emerson | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

I dont want non-permanant residence coming in and running our state/districts. The people of Hawaii want people who are from Hawaii. This amendment is a step to taking the power out of people's hands in Hawaii. This amendment is corrupt.

SB-124-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 10:17:04 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/26/2025 10:03:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Hauoli Lau | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

I oppose this bill. The people of Hawai'i - born and raised and not moved here should be the only ones counted and have a voice on matters!!

SB-124-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 10:26:03 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/26/2025 10:03:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Sarah Tiritas | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

I oppose this bill.

SB-124-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 10:35:52 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/26/2025 10:03:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Alika Valdez | Individual | Support | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

I support this bill.

SB-124-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 10:50:20 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/26/2025 10:03:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Tim Huycke | Individual | Support | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

I support SB124.

SB-124-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 11:20:21 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/26/2025 10:03:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Blaine De Ramos | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

I strongly oppose SB124 Reapportionment should be reserved for permanent Hawaii residents only.

SB-124-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 11:32:20 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/26/2025 10:03:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Dorinda Ohelo | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

I strongly oppose this bill.

SB-124-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 11:45:31 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/26/2025 10:03:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Rosa L Jaime | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

Aloha WAM Committee,

I am asking that you would oppose this bill as it would completely change the dynamics of our beautiful island community. Permanent residents are the only ones who need to be counted for reapportionment purposes.

Military and College students who will not be here for the long run have no vested interest as long term residents as they will not be living under these new laws.

Thank you for reading my testimony

Sincerely,

R. Lilia Jaime

SB-124-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 11:51:30 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/26/2025 10:03:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Matt | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

hawaii does not need this attempt to skew votes to the monopoly party at the risk of freedom loving voters in Hawaii

SB-124-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 7:17:59 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/26/2025 10:03:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Bruce Javellana | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

I oppose this bill.

SB-124-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 8:19:41 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/26/2025 10:03:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Reid | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

I oppose SB124

SB-124-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 8:32:05 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/26/2025 10:03:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| David Nichols | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

I'm against S.B. No. 124 S.D. 1 because it messes with a system that's been working just fine for Hawaii since 1992 and ignores what makes our state unique. I get that most states use the full census count, but I don't see why we should ditch our focus on permanent residents just to follow the crowd. Counting military folks, their families, and college kids who might not stick around feels like padding the numbers with transients who don't have deep roots here. We need to hear the voices of Hawaiian residents—those who live and breathe this place every day—more than these passersby who might be gone in a year or two. Those permanent residents are the backbone of our communities, and their voices should shape our districts, not some temporary headcount. Sure, the bill says it's about fairness, but I think it's unfair to dilute the say of folks who've committed to Hawaii long-term just to boost numbers with people who don't stay. Plus, I'm skeptical it'll really fix anything—districts already get uneven, and tweaking the math won't magically make them perfect. I'd rather keep what we've got, where the focus stays on the people who call Hawaii home for real, not just for a tour of duty or a semester.

SB-124-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 9:03:23 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/26/2025 10:03:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Ranee Jones | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

124 SB PROPOSING AMENDMENTS TO ARTICLE IV, SECTIONS 4 AND 6, OF THE HAWAII STATE CONSTITUTION REGARDING REAPPORTIONMENT

Aloha, I oppose SB124.

Hawai'i future should be decided by the people who actually live here. Not transient residents who are going to leave Hawai'i in a few years.

SB-124-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 9:22:07 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/26/2025 10:03:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Tryslynn Kauionalani Jones | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

Aloha,

I strongly oppose this bill because we need to bring back the Aloha and the Aloha spirit we once had. Keep the people of Hawaii here and the locals as well.

Mahalo

SB-124-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 9:23:09 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/26/2025 10:03:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Jacqueline Bosman | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments: Aloha, I oppose this bill SB124. Why are we taking away more ways for local, Native Hawaiian people to help make decisions here in Hawaii? Where is the fair representation!? You are diluting the voices of permanent residents who live and work here, who want better! Transient residents can be voting elsewhere, is that a double vote and how can we trust their judgement when they aren't here long term and often aren't invested in the betterment of our State. How will this favor politics to stack numbers against what the government wants vs. the people... Why are we alienating more of our Hawaiian voices from being heard?? Vote NO on this, the state and our people are depending on fair and equal treatment in how our local government is run.

SB-124-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 9:25:56 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/26/2025 10:03:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Mary Healy | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

Aloha Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and committee members,

Thank you for reading my testimony.

I oppose this bill because it clearly damages the reappointment process. The proposed changes will make the outer islands interests in representation moot. Hawaii is the only island state in the USA. These changes are not in interest of the rural parts of our state and localizes power to Oahu. Please vote no to these changes to the Hawaii State Constitution.

Mahalo nui ,

Mary Healy

SB-124-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 9:29:00 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/26/2025 10:03:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Dawn O'Brien | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

Aloha Representatives of We the Citizens of Hawai'i~

Mahalo for taking time to read & review our votes via these letters on topics at hand, i know it takes extra on your part & i do so appreciate it, GOD BLESS YOU!

I stand in opposition to SB124 re: reapportionment of Hawai'i to inflate districts with transient non-residents. For obvious reasons this is not only illegal & inethical but immoral. Why would non-residents be given rights over our residents & legal tax-paying citizens. This is giving away the constitutional rights & power of we the people. It also undermines our national security and financial security. It is all around a truly bad idea. In fact, i wonder whose idea it is? Why would this person &/or party propose such a bad idea is the biggest question herein, & one i ask honestly?!

In summary, I strongly oppose SB124 as a proposal for yet further illegal laws in our State of Hawaii that will destroy our people, place & state.

Aloha & Malama Always,

Dawn O'Brien

President, HOPE HI, Inc.

Lifelong resident & taxpaying citizen

SB-124-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 9:31:31 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/26/2025 10:03:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Terry Murakami | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

I oppose. This bill could rig the system allowing districts that have more liberal leanings to reapportion transient non-residents, drowning out the voices of people who live and have a vested interest in the long-term future of their state and neighborhood.

SB-124-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 9:40:19 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/26/2025 10:03:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Pamela Vera | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

I strongly Oppose this bill.

Reapportionment should only ever be based on the Permanent Residence. It is ridiculous to use any figures that would "inflate" the numbers based on transient, non-residents.

I urge you to Vote NO on this bill.

Respectfully,

Pamela Vera

SB-124-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 9:47:45 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/26/2025 10:03:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Jr Tupai | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

Aloha and mahalo for you folks service. This bill would shift power away from Native Hawaiians and local residents by inflating other districts with transient non residents. For his reason I strongly oppose SB124. Mahalo nui and aloha.

LATE

SB-124-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 10:05:37 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/26/2025 10:03:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Noela von Wiegandt | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

Oppose

LATE

SB-124-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 11:17:09 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/26/2025 10:03:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Ihilani Buffett | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

I strongly oppose this bill. The voice that should be heard is those of permanent residents here, not temporary residents. Decisions will not affect them, they will affect those that live here full time and have to live with the outcomes of our government decisions.

LATE

SB-124-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 1:13:18 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/26/2025 10:03:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Gregory Misakian | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

I do not support SB124 SD1.

All legal residents should be counted, and all illegal residents should not.

We are a country of laws, and the body that should be creating and amending laws for Hawaii (the Legislature), should not be subverting them.

Please take the politics out, and put the rule of law in.

Gregory Misakian

LATE

SB-124-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 8:00:53 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/26/2025 10:03:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| james wallace | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

I oppose SB124 SD1. This bill rigs the constitutional amendment. Voting system in hawaii is already rigged, thanks to Scott Nago who needs to be in jail!!!!

LATE

SB-124-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 10:07:47 PM
Testimony for WAM on 2/26/2025 10:03:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Momi Nuuhiwa | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

I oppose SB124. Do not pass it. Support permanent residents and not transient visitors and foreigners.

LATE

SB-124-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 12:39:51 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/26/2025 10:03:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Michelle R Stefanik | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

I oppose SB124! Hawaii SHOULD NOT count Transient Residents when determining political districts. The permanent residents who live here should not have their votes minimized by people who are only here temporarily. Iurge you to VOTE No for SB124.

Respectfully

Michelle Stefanik