

JAN 17 2024

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 young people are
2 passionate about political issues and often want to engage in
3 the political process, but they face barriers to participation.
4 College students are particularly transient thereby making it a
5 struggle to update their voter registration, and they may also
6 be less likely to have a driver's license or other acceptable
7 form of voter identification. Further, because voter engagement
8 is vital to a robust democratic and representative form of
9 government, the legislature finds that providing greater
10 opportunities for young people to vote is a matter of statewide
11 concern pursuant to article X, section 6, of the Hawaii State
12 Constitution and that college campuses are well-positioned to
13 promote and increase the engagement of young people in
14 elections.

15 The purpose of this Act is to require public institutions
16 of higher learning to expand voting registration access and



1 opportunities for young people to improve election
2 participation.

3 SECTION 2. Chapter 11, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended
4 by adding a new section to part II to be appropriately
5 designated and to read as follows:

6 "§11- University of Hawaii; voter registration agency.
7 Each campus within the university of Hawaii system shall serve
8 as a voter registration agency as defined in the National Voter
9 Registration Act of 1993."

10 SECTION 3. Section 11-2, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
11 amended to read as follows:

12 "§11-2 Chief election officer; duties. (a) The chief
13 election officer shall supervise all state elections. The chief
14 election officer may delegate responsibilities in state
15 elections within a county to the clerk of that county or to
16 other specified persons.

17 (b) The chief election officer shall be responsible for
18 the maximization of registration of eligible electors throughout
19 the State. In maximizing registration, the chief election
20 officer shall make an effort to equalize registration between
21 districts, with particular effort in those districts in which



1 the chief election officer determines registration is lower than
2 desirable. The chief election officer, in carrying out this
3 function, may make surveys, carry on house-to-house canvassing,
4 and assist or direct the clerk in any other area of
5 registration.

6 (c) The chief election officer shall maintain data
7 concerning registered voters, elections, apportionment, and
8 districting. The chief election officer shall use this data to
9 assist the reapportionment commission provided for under Article
10 IV of the Constitution.

11 (d) The chief election officer shall collect and maintain
12 data concerning voter registration and election participation to
13 study voter registration, absentee voting, and provisional
14 voting trends by age, race, and class to inform future efforts
15 to improve youth involvement in elections.

16 [~~d~~] (e) The chief election officer shall be responsible
17 for public education with respect to voter registration and
18 information.

19 [~~e~~] (f) The chief election officer shall adopt rules
20 governing elections in accordance with chapter 91."



1 SECTION 4. Section 11-15, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

3 "(a) Any person qualified to and desiring to register as a
4 voter in any county shall make and subscribe to an application
5 in the form of an affidavit.

6 The affidavit shall contain the following information:

7 (1) Name;

8 (2) The applicant's Hawaii driver's license number [øø],
9 Hawaii state identification card number; student
10 identification card number issued by the university of
11 Hawaii system; or a copy of a student identification
12 card containing a photograph of the person issued by
13 any college or university located in any other state
14 or territory in the United States; provided that:

15 (A) If no driver's license [øø], identification card,
16 or student identification card has been issued to
17 the applicant, the last four digits of the
18 applicant's social security number; and

19 (B) If no social security number has been issued to
20 the applicant, an election official or county
21 clerk shall assign the applicant a unique



1 identification number for voter registration
2 purposes and enroll the applicant in the State's
3 computerized voter registration list, if any;

4 (3) Date of birth;

5 (4) Residence, including mailing address;

6 (5) That the residence stated in the affidavit is not
7 simply because of the person's presence in the State,
8 but that the residence was acquired with the intent to
9 make Hawaii the person's legal residence with all the
10 accompanying obligations therein;

11 (6) That the person is a citizen; and

12 (7) A statement, if the applicant is unable to read
13 standard print due to disability, acknowledging that
14 fact and requesting an electronic ballot be sent to
15 the applicant's email address."

16 SECTION 5. Section 11-109, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
17 amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

18 "(a) Voter service centers shall be established by the
19 clerks to service the particular needs of each county's
20 voters[-]; provided that each university of Hawaii system campus
21 shall be a voter service center."



S.B. NO. 2004

Report Title:

Elections; University of Hawaii; National Voter Registration Act; Voter Registration Agency; Voter Service Center; Chief Election Officer; Voting Data; Student Identification Card

Description:

Designates all University of Hawaii system campuses as voter registration agencies as defined in the National Voter Registration Act. Requires the Chief Election Officer to use data concerning voter registration and election participation to study voter registration, absentee voting, and provisional voting trends by age, race, and class to improve youth voter registration and election participation. Allows student identification cards issued by the University of Hawaii system to be used to register to vote. Designates all University of Hawaii campuses as voter service centers.

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

