
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5 registered to vote in more than one state due to outdated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. (a) No later than June 30, 2025, the office of
3 elections shall file an application with Electronic Registration
4 Information Center, Inc., for the State's admission as a member
5 of that organization. The office of elections shall share with
6 each county the information and services made available by
7 Electronic Registration Information Center, Inc., pursuant to
8 the terms and conditions of the State's membership agreement
9 with the organization.

10 (b) The office of elections shall take necessary actions
11 to maintain the State's membership with Electronic Registration
12 Information Center, Inc.

13 (c) The office of elections and each county office that
14 administers elections shall use information and services made
15 available by Electronic Registration Information Center, Inc.,
16 to verify their respective voter registration rolls."

17 SECTION 3. In accordance with section 9 of article VII of
18 the Hawaii State Constitution and sections 37-91 and 37-93,
19 Hawaii Revised Statutes, the legislature has determined that the
20 appropriations contained in Act 164, Regular Session of 2023,
21 and this Act will cause the state general fund expenditure



1 ceiling for fiscal year 2024-2025 to be exceeded by
2 \$ or per cent. This current declaration takes
3 into account general fund appropriations authorized for fiscal
4 year 2024-2025 in Act 164, Regular Session of 2023, and this Act
5 only. The reasons for exceeding the general fund expenditure
6 ceiling are that:

- 7 (1) The appropriation made in this Act is necessary to
8 serve the public interest; and
9 (2) The appropriation made in this Act meets the needs
10 addressed by this Act.

11 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general
12 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much
13 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2024-2025 for the
14 office of elections to prepare and file an application with
15 Electronic Registration Information Center, Inc., for the State
16 to be admitted as a member of the organization.

17 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the office of
18 elections for the purposes of this Act.

19 SECTION 5. Before fiscal year 2025-2026, the office of
20 elections shall request as part of its annual budget an
21 appropriation from the legislature to pay the State's annual



1 membership dues to Electronic Registration Information Center,
2 Inc.

3 SECTION 6. New statutory material is underscored.

4 SECTION 7. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.



Report Title:

Office of Elections; Voter Registration; Verification; ERIC; Electronic Registration Information Center, Inc.; Membership; Application; Counties; General Fund Expenditure Ceiling Exceeded; Appropriation

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. Declares that the general fund expenditure ceiling is exceeded. Makes an appropriation. Effective 7/1/2050. (SD2)

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