



**STATE OF HAWAII  
OFFICE OF ELECTIONS**

802 LEHUA AVENUE  
PEARL CITY, HAWAII 96782  
elections.hawaii.gov

**SCOTT T. NAGO**  
CHIEF ELECTION OFFICER

**TESTIMONY OF THE  
CHIEF ELECTION OFFICER, OFFICE OF ELECTIONS  
TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS  
ON HOUSE BILL NO. 134  
RELATING TO ELECTIONS**

January 28, 2025

Chair Tarnas and members of the House Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs, thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of House Bill No. 134. 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. However, since the bill provides for candidates to be able to pay their filing fee online, we would ask that this measure clarify that election officials may charge a processing fee in connection with an online payment.

Additionally, we would ask that the effective date be changed from January 1, 2026, to January 1, 2028, to ensure we are able to procure, test, and train candidates on the use of the system. Given the security and resource requirements, we do not believe it is feasible to develop and implement a system prior to the start of candidate filing on February 2, 2026.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of House Bill No. 134.

**HB-134**

Submitted on: 1/23/2025 3:46:23 PM

Testimony for JHA on 1/28/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

**I STRONGLY OPPOSE** the excessive amount of up to \$500,000 to implement an electronic filing system for nomination papers and I urge all members of the Committee to **VOTE NO** on this Bill.

**HB-134**

Submitted on: 1/24/2025 12:04:48 AM

Testimony for JHA on 1/28/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sylvie Madison	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

## Comments:

<p>As a former candidate I oppose this bill as it is unnecessary spending. The process of getting valid signatures, having the form notarized and walking them into the elections office is not so cumbersome that we need to spend&nbsp;\$1,000,000. This is definitely not a priority.&nbsp;<br /> &nbsp;</p>

**HB-134**

Submitted on: 1/24/2025 7:22:53 PM

Testimony for JHA on 1/28/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jacob Wiencek	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Committee Members,

It is an absolute no brainer that we should allow electronic filing of candidate papers. This crucial but simple change will bring Hawaii into the 21st century. Make it easier to register candidate papers!

**HB-134**

Submitted on: 1/26/2025 4:18:46 PM

Testimony for JHA on 1/28/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Wendy M Cook	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Strongly oppose.

Spend our tax dollars on programs that benefit tax paying citizen instead of processes for politicians for the cost of this program or find a program with a reasonable cost.

**HB-134**

Submitted on: 1/26/2025 5:57:49 PM

Testimony for JHA on 1/28/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Aria Juliet Castillo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Testimony in Support of Bill Relating to Campaign Finance HB 134

Dear Chair Tarnas, ViceChair Poepoe and Members of the Committee,

Please support HB 134, which modernizes the process of filing papers for candidates to run for public office. This investment will improve the Office of Elections.

Mahalo

Aria Juliet Castillo

Kailua, HI

**HB-134**

Submitted on: 1/26/2025 6:07:42 PM

Testimony for JHA on 1/28/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ruth Robison	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Poepoe, and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs,

I am a voter who lives in Hilo. I am testifying in support of HB 134 RELATING TO ELECTIONS.

This bill would make filing papers to run for office more convenient for many candidates. It requires the Chief Election Officer to provide a system for the electronic filing of nomination papers effective 1/1/2026.

I urge you to pass HB 134 RELATING TO ELECTIONS and provide the option of electronic filing of nomination papers for candidates.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony. Thank you for your service to the people of Hawai'i.

**HB-134**

Submitted on: 1/27/2025 7:17:42 AM

Testimony for JHA on 1/28/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jennifer Chiwa	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Representative Tarnas, Vice Chair Representative Poepoe and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs.

Please support HB134, a good government reform measure, to provide a system for electronic filing of nomination papers.

Mahalo.

Jennifer Chiwa

Makiki