
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO ELECTIONS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. Section 12-3, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended to read as follows:

3 "**§12-3 Nomination paper; format; limitations.** (a) No
4 candidate's name shall be printed upon any official ballot to be
5 used at any primary, special primary, or special election unless
6 a nomination paper was filed on the candidate's behalf and in
7 the name by which the candidate is commonly known. The
8 nomination paper shall be in a form prescribed and provided by
9 the chief election officer containing substantially the
10 following information:

- 11 (1) A statement by the registered voters signing the form
12 that they are eligible to vote for the candidate;
13 (2) A statement by the registered voters signing the form
14 that they nominate the candidate for the office
15 identified on the nomination paper issued to the
16 candidate;



- 1 (3) The residence address and county in which the
2 candidate resides;
- 3 (4) The legal name of the candidate, the name by which the
4 candidate is commonly known, if different, the office
5 for which the candidate is running, and the
6 candidate's party affiliation or nonpartisanship; all
7 of which are to be placed on the nomination paper by
8 the chief election officer or the clerk [~~prior to~~
9 before releasing the form to the candidate;
- 10 (5) Space for the name, signature, month and date portions
11 of the date of birth, and residence address of each
12 registered voter signing the form, and other
13 information as determined by the chief election
14 officer; provided that a voter's social security
15 number or any portion thereof and the year portion of
16 the voter's date of birth shall not be required;
- 17 (6) A sworn certification by self-subscribing oath by the
18 candidate that the candidate qualifies under the law
19 for the office the candidate is seeking and that the
20 candidate has determined that, except for the
21 information provided by the registered voters signing



1 the nomination papers, all of the information on the
2 nomination papers is true and correct;

3 (7) A sworn certification by self-subscribing oath by a
4 party candidate that the candidate is a member of the
5 party;

6 (8) For candidates seeking elective county office, a sworn
7 certification by self-subscribing oath by the
8 candidate that the candidate has complied with the
9 relevant provisions of the applicable county charter
10 and county ordinances pertaining to elected officials;

11 (9) A sworn certification by self-subscribing oath, where
12 applicable, by the candidate that the candidate has
13 complied with the provisions of article II, section 7,
14 of the Hawaii State Constitution;

15 (10) A sworn certification by self-subscribing oath by the
16 candidate that the candidate is in compliance with
17 section 831-2, dealing with felons, and is eligible to
18 run for office; and

19 (11) The name the candidate wishes to be printed on the
20 ballot and the mailing address of the candidate.



(b) Signatures of registered voters shall not be counted, unless they are upon the nomination paper having the format set forth above, written or printed thereon, and if there are separate sheets to be attached to the nomination paper, the sheets shall have the name of the candidate, the candidate's party affiliation or nonpartisanship, and the office and district for which the candidate is running placed thereon by the chief election officer or the clerk. The nomination paper and separate sheets shall be provided by the chief election officer or the clerk.

(c) Nomination papers shall not be filed [~~in~~] on behalf of any person for more than one party or for more than one office; nor shall any person file nomination papers both as a party candidate and as a nonpartisan candidate.

(d) The office and district for which the candidate is running, the candidate's name, and the candidate's party affiliation or nonpartisanship [~~may~~] shall not be changed from that indicated on the nomination paper and separate sheets. If the candidate wishes to run for an office or district different from that for which the nomination paper states or under a different party affiliation or nonpartisanship, the candidate



1 may request the appropriate nomination paper from the chief
2 election officer or clerk and have it signed by the required
3 number of registered voters.

4 (e) Nomination papers that contain alterations or changes
5 made by anyone other than the chief election officer or the
6 clerk to the candidate's information, the candidate's party
7 affiliation or nonpartisanship, the office to which the
8 candidate seeks nomination, or the oath of loyalty or
9 affirmation, after the nomination paper was issued by the chief
10 election officer or clerk, shall be void and ~~[will]~~ shall not be
11 accepted for filing by the chief election officer or clerk.

12 (f) Nomination papers that are incomplete and do not
13 contain all of the certifications, signatures, and requirements
14 of this section shall be void.

15 (g) The chief election officer shall provide a system for
16 the electronic filing of nomination papers, including the
17 submission of the notarized written oath or affirmation and any
18 other required documentation and the deposit of the filing fee.
19 No additional fee shall be charged to the filer for using the
20 electronic filing system."



1 SECTION 2. Section 12-6, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended by amending its title and subsection (a) to read as
3 follows:

4 "**§12-6 Nomination [~~papers~~] papers; time for filing;**
5 **manner of filing; fees.** (a) For members of Congress, state
6 offices, county offices, and the board of trustees for the
7 office of Hawaiian affairs, nomination papers shall be filed
8 with the chief election officer, or clerk in case of county
9 offices, [~~not~~] no later than 4:30 p.m. on the first Tuesday in
10 June[~~.—However,~~] ; provided that in the event of a special
11 primary or special election, the filing deadline shall be
12 determined in the proclamation that [~~is issued calling~~] calls
13 for the election as provided for by state law or county charter.
14 A state candidate from the counties of Hawaii, Maui, and Kauai
15 may file the declaration of candidacy with the respective clerk.
16 The clerk shall transmit to the office of the chief election
17 officer the state candidate's declaration of candidacy without
18 delay. Nomination papers may be filed electronically with the
19 chief election officer, or clerk in the case of a county office,
20 using an electronic filing system operated and maintained by the
21 office of elections; provided that no additional fee shall be



1 charged to the filer for submitting nomination papers
2 electronically."

3 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
4 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$150,000 or so much
5 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2025-2026 and the
6 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year
7 2026-2027 for the chief election officer to provide a system for
8 the electronic filing of nomination papers, including the
9 submission of the notarized written oath or affirmation and any
10 other required documentation and the deposit of the filing fee;
11 provided that the chief election officer shall make the
12 electronic filing system available to the county clerks for the
13 electronic filing of nomination papers for election to county
14 offices.

15 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the office of
16 elections for the purposes of this Act.

17 SECTION 4. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
18 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

19 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on January 1, 2028;
20 provided that section 3 shall take effect on July 1, 2025.



Report Title:

Office of Elections; Nomination Papers; Electronic Filing;
Appropriation

Description:

Requires the Chief Election Officer to provide a system for the electronic filing of nomination papers. Requires that the system for the electronic filing of nomination papers be provided at no additional cost to the filer. Appropriates funds. Effective 1/1/2028. (CD1)

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