

STATE OF HAWAII OFFICE OF ELECTIONS

SCOTT T. NAGO CHIEF ELECTION OFFICER 802 LEHUA AVENUE PEARL CITY, HAWAII 96782 elections.hawaii.gov

TESTIMONY OF THE

CHIEF ELECTION OFFICER, OFFICE OF ELECTIONS

TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

ON SENATE BILL NO. 412, SD 2

RELATING TO VOTING

March 11, 2019

Chair Lee and members of the House Committee on Judiciary, thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Senate Bill No. 412, SD 2. The purpose of this bill is to require any person who is eligible to vote and applies for a driver license or state identification card be automatically registered to vote unless the applicant affirmatively declines.

The Office of Elections believes that this bill will increase the opportunities for members of our community to register to vote, as it requires the applicant to directly address the question of whether they wish to register to vote, or to opt out as part of the driver license and identification card application process. We will work with the examiner of drivers along with the Department of Transportation, and County Election Divisions to update the driver license and state identification applications to accomplish the purpose of this bill.

Additionally, this bill ensures the accuracy of the voter registration rolls by electronically transmitting voter registration data between the driver license and identification card database and the statewide voter registration system. The electronic sharing of data between driver licensing officials and election officials will help to ensure timely compliance with the National Voter Registration Act and the Help America Vote Act. 52 USC §21083(a)(5)(B) & 52 USC §20504.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Senate Bill No. 412, SD 2.



'O kēia 'ōlelo hō'ike no ke Komikina Kūlana Olakino o Nā Wāhine

Testimony on behalf of the **Hawai'i State Commission on the Status of Women**

Prepared for the House Committees on Judiciary

In Support of SB412 SD2
Monday, March 11, 2019, at 2:00 p.m. in Room 325

Dear Honorable Members,

The Hawai'i State Commission on the Status of Women supports SB412 SD2, which would automatically register eligible voters who apply State driver's license or State ID card, unless they decline. SB412 would also provide a convenient way for registered voters to update voter contact information.

This proposal would be important to produce greater Hawai'i voter participation, and solve the state's progressively plummeting voter turnout. This proposal would also assist the Commission in its long-range program of educating women in their political rights and voting duties (H.R.S. § 367-3 (4)). Accordingly, the Commission asks that the Committees pass SB412 SD2.

Mahalo,

Khara Jabola-Carolus Executive Director



TESTIMONY BY:

JADE T. BUTAY DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors LYNN A.S. ARAKI-REGAN DEREK J. CHOW ROSS M. HIGASHI EDWIN H. SNIFFEN

STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION 869 PUNCHBOWL STREET

869 PUNCHBOWL STREET HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

March 11, 2019 2:00 P.M. State Capitol, Room 325



S.B. 412, S.D.2 RELATING TO VOTING.

House Committee on Judiciary

The Department of Transportation (DOT) supports this bill.

Should there be a need to modify the voter registration form, DOT and the Office of Elections will need to work collaboratively to ensure the driver's license application form and civil identification card application form reflects the legislated requirements.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

JON HENRICKS

County Clerk



AARON BROWN
Deputy County Clerk

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK

Elections Division

County of Hawaiʻi Hawaiʻi County Building 25 Aupuni Street Hilo, Hawaiʻi 96720

TESTIMONY OF JON HENRICKS

COUNTY CLERK, COUNTY OF HAWAI'I

TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

ON SENATE BILL NO. 412, SD2

RELATING TO VOTING

March 8, 2019

Chair Lee and members of the House Committee on Judiciary, thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Senate Bill No. 412, SD2. This bill makes completion of a voter registration affidavit a mandatory part of all driver license and identification card applications; automatically registers each applicant for voting; and requires the sharing of data among the driver license and identification card database with election personnel.

This bill will maximize registration of eligible voters, will provide a convenient way to register, and an opportunity to opt out. The bill also ensures that all applicants will meet the qualifications to register to vote.

Additionally, this bill will ensure that voters are registered by Election Day, and will help to eliminate delays for voters at the polls.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Senate Bill No. 412, SD2.

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

March 11, 2019 2:00 PM Room 325 In SUPPORT of SB 412 SD 2: Relating to Voting

Aloha Chair Lee, Vice Chair San Buenaventura, and members of the committee,

On behalf of our 20,000 members and supporters, the Sierra Club of Hawai'i, a member of the Common Good Coalition, supports automatic voter registration (AVR) efforts like SB 412 SD 2.

The Sierra Club of Hawai'i is committed to ensuring a fair, open, and transparent democratic process. We encourage our members and supporters to actively protect their right to vote, have their voices heard in government, and engage in the legislative process. Automatic voter registration would make these efforts just that much easier for many Hawai'i residents. By making registration automatic whenever someone gets a driver's license or updates their address at the DMV, voters are more likely to be engaged and ready to participate in our electoral process. We welcome that—and so should our lawmakers.

Automatic voter registration is the logical next step in modernizing our elections by eliminating needless paperwork. It has been estimated that paper registration costs 30 times more than AVR. The possibility of human error in transcribing voter information from paper forms will be reduced and the state could save the nearly \$600,000 it spent in 2016 alone in processing paper forms. Furthermore, Hawai'i has had the lowest voter turnout in the U.S. for the last twenty years. AVR will not only simplify the process to register to vote, but is likely to save us money and result in increased turnout on Election Day.

Automatic voter registration has already been approved in 17 other states and is a common sense solution for Hawai'i. AVR will strengthen our democracy, increase the security of our elections, and is simply the most cost effective, efficient, and modern system available.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of SB 412.

Mahalo,

godi frolinoski

Jodi Malinoski, Policy Advocate



March 11, 2019

House Committee on Judiciary Conference Room 325 Hawai'i State Capitol Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: Testimony in support of SB 412 SD2, Relating to Voting

Chair Lee, Vice Chair San Buenaventura, and Committee Members:

My name is Christine Sakuda and I serve as the executive director of Transform Hawai'i Government (THG), a coalition of organizations and individuals who believe in improving government services and business practices through technology to ensure that policymakers, State employees, local residents and businesses have convenient and secure access to reliable information and data on demand.

THG supports Senate Bill 412 SD2, Relating to Voting, which requires that any person who is eligible to vote and applies for a new or renewal motor vehicle driver's license, provisional license, or instruction permit, or a new, renewal, or duplicate identification card be automatically registered to vote if that person is not already registered to vote unless the applicant affirmatively declines to be registered to vote. The bill also authorizes access to and electronic transmission of databases maintained or operated by the counties or the department of transportation containing driver's license or identification card information to election officials and the statewide voter registration system.

This measure represents the logical next step following the implementation of online voter registration in 2015 and the phasing in of same-day registration that started in 2016.

Potential benefits of SB 412 SD2 include:

- Reduction of unnecessary barriers by minimizing bureaucracy and the time and effort required to participate in the voting process.
- Increased security of elections by improving maintenance of accurate voter addresses so ballots are sent to the correct location and correct voter.
- Cost-effectiveness because having up-to-date voter rolls reduces the cost of sending ballots to wrong addresses.
- Protection of privacy and freedom by preserving the opportunity to opt-out.

Hawai'i has the lowest voter turnout in the country, and we believe this bill is a necessary component of helping to turn that around by increasing convenience and improving security and access.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this important bill.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Sakuda Executive Director

Transform Hawai'i Government

email: csakuda@TransformHawaiiGov.org | phone: (808) 321-2811

<u>SB-412-SD-2</u> Submitted on: 3/8/2019 5:42:23 PM

Testimony for JUD on 3/11/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Laurie Field	Planned Parenthood Votes Northwest and Hawaii	Support	No

Comments:



Committee: House Committee on Judiciary Hearing Date/Time: Monday, March 11, 2019, 2:00 p.m.

Place: Conference Room 325

Re: Testimony of the ACLU of Hawai'i in Support of S.B. 412, S.D. 2, Relating

to Voting

Dear Chair Lee, Vice Chair San Buenaventura, and Members of the Committee on Judiciary:

The American Civil Liberties Union of Hawai'i ("ACLU of Hawai'i") writes in support of S.B. 412, S.D.2, which would automatically register eligible people to vote or update voter information when they apply for or renew a state identification card or driver's license.

Hawai'i has the lowest voter turnout in the country. Hawai'i should aggressively seek out solutions to increase voter enrollment and participation, such as automatic voter registration. With the correct safeguards in place, automatic voter registration helps remove barriers to registration for eligible voters, updates voter registration rolls, and leads to more efficient elections.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Mandy Fernandes Policy Director ACLU of Hawai'i

Mendy Ferrandoe

The mission of the ACLU of Hawai'i is to protect the fundamental freedoms enshrined in the U.S. and State Constitutions. The ACLU of Hawai'i fulfills this through legislative, litigation, and public education programs statewide. The ACLU of Hawai'i is a non-partisan and private non-profit organization that provides its services at no cost to the public and does not accept government funds. The ACLU of Hawai'i has been serving Hawai'i for 50 years.

House Committee on Judiciary

DATE: Monday, March 11, 2019

TIME: 2:00 pm

PLACE: Conference Room 325

Testimony in support of SB 412 SD2, Relating to Voting

Aloha, my name is Melissa Pavlicek and I'm testifying on behalf of AVR Hawaii in **support** of SB 412 SD2 which requires that any person who is eligible to vote and applies for a new or renewal motor vehicle driver's license, provisional license, or instruction permit, or a new, renewal, or duplicate identification card be automatically registered to vote if that person is not already registered to vote unless the applicant affirmatively declines to be registered to vote.

We are in support of this measure. Automatic voter registration is a step towards much needed modernization of elections in Hawaii. Hawaii implemented Online Voter Registration in 2015 and phased in same-day registration starting in 2016. Automatic Voter Registration is the logical next step. Hawaii has had the lowest voter turnout in the country for the last 20 years. This measure is intended to turn that around by increasing convenience and improving access to voting.

AVR Hawaii is a coalition of organizations and individuals who support automatic voter registration in Hawaii. For more information go to avrhawaii.com

SB412:

- 1. To clarify that this bill allows citizens to opt-out of providing a voting address update:
 - Page 1, line 16: insert <or update an existing voter registration record.> after "vote."
 - Page 1, line 17: insert <or update an existing voter registration record.> after "vote."
 - Page 2, line 15: insert <or update an existing voter registration record.> after "vote."
 - Page 4, line 14: insert <or update an existing voter registration record.> after "vote."
 - Page 5, line 6: insert <or update an existing voter registration record.> after "vote."
 - Page 6, line 4: insert <or update an existing voter registration record.> after "vote"
 - Page 6, line 17: insert <or update an existing voter registration record.> after "vote."

2. Page 3, line 15: insert <to the extent necessary to> after "system." This clarifies that the DMV doesn't need to actually make all sensitive client information that is unrelated to voter registration available.



Holding Power Accountable

Common Cause Hawaii • 307A Kamani St. • Honolulu, HI 96813 • 808.275.6275

February 3, 2019

TO: Chair Chris Lee, Vice Chair Joy San Buenaventura and Members

of the House Committee on the Judiciary

FROM: Barbara Polk, on behalf of the Board of Common Cause Hawaii

SUPPORT FOR SB 412

Common Cause Hawaii is pleased to support SB 412 Relating to Voting that would require the registration to vote by applicants for drivers' licenses and state ID cards, unless the applicant affirmatively declines to be registered to vote. Common Cause has a long history of working to expand the franchise by registering people, talking with school and community groups, writing Op-Eds, and holding workshops and seminars designed to interest people in participating in political life. We believe that it is important that every qualified voter understands that the State of Hawaii feels that voting is important and should be available to everyone.

We also see the value in using this opportunity to update voter registration information, since it is not unusual for people to forget to do so when they move or chage their names.

Automatic voter registration and the use of electronic means to transmit information to the elections officers will help improve the security of our elections, as well as saving money on the process of hand-in-putting registration information.

We urge you to **SUPPORT SB 412.**

<u>SB-412-SD-2</u> Submitted on: 3/10/2019 1:54:36 PM

Testimony for JUD on 3/11/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melodie Aduja	O`ahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawai`i	Support	No

Comments:



COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY Rep. Chris Lee, Chair Rep. Joy A. San Buenaventura, Vice Chair

DATE: Monday, March 11, 2019

TIME: 2:00pm

PLACE: Conference Room 325

Aloha Chair Lee, Vice Chair San Buenaventura and members,

The Hawaii Women's Coalition is in strong support of SB412 that would require any person who is eligible to vote and applies for a new or renewal motor vehicle driver's license, provisional license, or instruction permit, or a new, renewal, or duplicate identification card be automatically registered to vote if that person is not already registered to vote....

Voter turnout in Hawaii is one of the lowest in the nation, and women are the lowest of those demographics, according to a study done by the Patsy T. Mink PAC a few years ago. This measure might increase voter turnout by making it that much easier to register. It's worth a shot.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Ann S. Freed Co-Chair Hawaii Women's Coalition



Testimony of Hawai'i Appleseed Center for Law and Economic Justice In Support of SB 412 SD2 – Relating to Voting House Committees on Judiciary Monday, March 11, 2019, 2:00 PM, conference room 325

Dear Chair Lee, Vice Chair San Buenaventura, and members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in **SUPPORT** of **SB 412 SD2**, which would automatically register eligible citizens to vote when they apply for or renew their Hawai'i Drivers' License or State ID, unless they choose to opt out.

According to the United States Election Project, fewer than 4 in 10 of Hawai'i's voting-eligible population voted in the 2018 general election, yet again placing us last in the nation.¹

The logistical barriers to registering to vote are especially high for our low-income neighbors, since they are less likely to have the time or flexibility in their schedules to register in person or via mail or to have internet access to register online.

Automatic Voter Registration (AVR) would help overcome those barriers. The data shows that AVR improves the likelihood that people will vote by minimizing bureaucracy and requiring less time and effort from eligible voters. Implementing AVR would:

- Save the state of Hawai'i a lot of money. It costs almost 30 times more to process a paper application versus an electronic one. For the 2016 election, the labor costs to process paper forms totaled over half a million dollars.
- Make elections more secure and accurate with frequent updates to the voter rolls.
- Make voting more convenient for seniors, voters in rural areas, and working and military families who move frequently.

We need to act to get more than 4 in 10 of our eligible voters to vote in our elections. Hawai'i should join the 17 other states and the District of Columbia that have already approved AVR.

We appreciate your consideration of this testimony.

¹ http://www.electproject.org/2018g



Testimony to the House Committee on Judiciary Representative Chris Lee, Chair Representative Joy San Buenaventura, Vice Chair Monday, March 11, 2019, 2:00 p.m. Conference Room 325 SB 412 – Relating To Voting

Dear Chair Lee, Vice-Chair San Buenaventura and members of the Judiciary Committee:

On behalf of the Hawai`i Alliance of Nonprofit Organizations, I would like express **support of SB 412, SD 2,** Relating to Voting.

Hawai'i Alliance of Nonprofit Organizations (HANO) is a statewide, sector-wide professional association of nonprofits. Our mission is to unite and strengthen the nonprofit sector as a collective force to improve the quality of life in Hawai'i. Our member organizations provide essential services to every community in the state.

HANO supports a civically engaged populace and believes all citizens should participate in the democratic process of voting to have a say in community matters.

SB 412, SD 2 requires that any person who is eligible to vote and applies for a new or renewal motor vehicle driver's license, provisional license, or instruction permit, or a new, renewal, or duplicate identification card be automatically registered to vote if that person is not already registered to vote unless the applicant affirmatively declines to be registered to vote.

Hawaii's voting record has been the lowest in the country for the last 20 years. Automatic voter registration (AVR) will help improve access to voting. Hawaii would follow 17 other states and the District of Columbia in adopting AVR.

AVR helps ensure that voting isn't difficult for working and military families who move frequently, as well as homebound seniors, students, and voters in rural areas, many of whom are also constituents of Hawaii's nonprofit sector.

We ask for your support of this bill and appreciate your consideration of this written testimony.

Mahalo,

Lisa Maruyama
President and CEO

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 12:03:03 AM

Testimony for JUD on 3/11/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brett Kulbis	Honolulu County Republican Party	Oppose	No

Comments:

The Honolulu County Republican Party OPPOSES automatic voting registration.

Mandating voter registration is like a solution in search of a problem. Mandatory voter registration (MVR), previously termed "universal" registration, could significantly damage the integrity of Hawaii's voter registration system. The concept of automatically registering individuals through information contained in various existing government databases (i.e. DMV) would throw the current voter registration system into chaos.

Lack of registration is not the reason people do not vote. Ideological organizations is support of automatically registering all individuals to vote using existing government databases. Base their support on the false premise that large numbers of Hawaii residents do not vote "for no other reason than they are not registered to vote." Yet after every federal election, the U.S. Census Bureau publishes reports on the levels of registration and voting, including surveys of individuals who do not vote, that disprove the claims that the major reason individuals do not vote is a lack of registration opportunities.

With regard to those individuals who are not registered to vote, the Census Bureau's 2008 report demonstrated that the major reason individuals failed to register was that they were not "interested in the election/not involved in politics. In fact, the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 showed that voter registration is not a barrier to voting. The push to pass the National Voter Registration Act (NVRA) of 1993 was based on the same, similarly flawed premise: that voter registration is a barrier to voting.

Requiring individuals who would not register on their own to "opt-out' from registration if they want to remain unregistered for whatever reason interferes with the basic right of individuals to decide whether—and to what extent—to participate in the political and democratic process.

While we might hope that all citizens will exercise their right to vote, each and every American has the liberty not to do so for whatever reason. Hawaii residents who choose not to vote should not have to act every time they make a transaction with the DMV or other government agency to avoid registration or to remove themselves from a government list that they had no interest in joining in the first place, particularly if it

involves investigation of their citizenship, felon status, and other factors that are important to eligibility.

Even if individuals can ask to be removed from the registration list after the database information has been transferred to election officials, such automatic registration raises serious privacy concerns. Voter registration lists are public documents that are (and should be) accessible to journalists, candidates, political parties, and individual citizens. In fact, this transparency is an important component of our election process since these lists are often bought by candidates and political parties for the purposes of identifying voters for political campaigns and organizing get-out-the-vote programs for Election Day.

Requiring automatic registration risks the integrity of the election process and improperly shifts the responsibility for registering from the individual to the government, which in our opinion is a violation of our State Constitution Article II Section 4, that states "The Legislature shall provide for voter registration...," not "mandate" it.

Respectfully,

Brett Kulbis

Chairman

Honolulu County Republican Party



HAWAII GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION

AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO

RANDY PERREIRA, Executive Director • Tel: 808.543.0011 • Fax: 808.528.0922



The Thirtieth Legislature, State of Hawaii
House of Representatives
Committee on Judiciary

Testimony by Hawaii Government Employees Association

March 11, 2019

S.B. 412, S.D. 2 – RELATING TO VOTING

The Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO supports the purpose and intent of S.B. 412, S.D. 2 which requires that any person who is eligible to vote and applies for a new or renewal motor vehicle driver's license, provisional license, instruction permit, or identification card be automatically registered to vote if that person is not already registered to vote.

The right to vote is the foundation of our democracy and essential to protect all other rights, therefore we must ensure that the voting process is easy to understand and participate in. Given Hawaii's infamously low voter turn out, the Legislature has taken appropriate steps to make it easier for residents to vote, which include permitting permanent absentee voter status, implementing online voter registration in 2015, and phasing in same-day registration in 2016. The next logical step to improve and increase access to voting is to implement automatic voter registration, as many other states have done. Automatic voter registration reduces the time and effort it takes to register, ensures current addresses are on file, and reduces the overall costs to the state.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of S.B. 412, S.D. 2.

Respectfully submitted,

Randy Perreira
Executive Director







Board of Directors:

Gary L. Hooser

President

Andrea N. Brower Ikaika M. Hussey Co-Vice Presidents

Kim Coco Iwamoto Treasurer

Bart E. Dame Secretary

Paul Achitoff

Nancy Aleck

Kaleikoa Ka'eo

Michael Miranda

Walter Ritte Jr.

Pua Rossi-Fukino

Karen Shishido

Leslie Malulani Shizue Miki

House Committee on Judiciary

Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action SUPPORTS SB 412 SD2

Aloha Chair Lee, Vice San Buenaventura & Members of the Committee,

On behalf of the Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action (HAPA) I strongly urge you to SUPPORT SB 412 SD2. HAPA is a statewide environmental, social and economic justice organization that engages over 10,000 local residents throughout Hawai'i annually.

AVR is a step towards much needed modernization of elections in Hawaii:

- Hawaii is using out-of-date systems and decades-old technology. It's time to modernize.
- Hawaii, implemented Online Voter Registration in 2015 and phased in same day registration starting in 2016. Automatic Voter Registration is the logical next step.
- Hawaii has had the lowest voter turnout in the country for the last 20 years. This will help turn that around by increasing convenience and improving access to voting.
- As of December 2018, AVR has been approved in 17 states and the District of Columbia.
- The data shows that AVR improves the likelihood that people will vote by minimizing bureaucracy and requiring less time and effort from eligible voters.

AVR will enhance the security of our elections:

- Recent court challenges surrounding local races highlight the need for greater security.
- Elections will be more secure due to the increased accuracy of voter rolls, and use of an encrypted system, rather than paper forms, to transfer data.
- Automatic Voter Registration helps to make sure that all eligible voters in Hawaii are registered to vote at their current address. This increases the security of our elections because we know that ballots are sent to the correct location and correct voter.

The Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action (HAPA) is a public non-profit organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. HAPA's mission is to catalyze community empowerment and systemic change towards valuing 'aina (environment) and people ahead of corporate profit.

Privacy and freedom are protected, as people may choose to opt-out.

Automatic Voter Registration will save us money:

- Traditional paper registration typically costs 30 times more than AVR. The cost of implementing AVR is outweighed by the long-term savings it will yield.
- Processing paper forms in Hawaii during the 2016 election cycle cost nearly \$575,000 for labor. This does not include the printing of voter registration forms, mailings related to duplicate registration entries, and the postage of forwarding registration forms to the proper recipient. It does not include more than 33,000 applications submitted during the 2016 election cycle that the state did not categorize when reporting the data.
- Up-to-date voter rolls will help reduce the cost of sending ballots to wrong addresses.

AVR improves access to voting for eligible voters in Hawaii:

- AVR helps ensure that voting isn't needlessly difficult for working and military families who move frequently, as well as homebound seniors, students, and voters in rural areas.
- AVR reduces unnecessary barriers to voting and time demands on people holding two jobs or who are juggling school, work and family.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Anne Frederick, Executive Director

Submitted on: 3/8/2019 4:02:39 PM

Testimony for JUD on 3/11/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing	
Randy Ching	Individual	Support	No	

Comments:

Chair Lee, Vice Chair San Buenaventura and members of the committee,

I support SB412 SD2. Please pass this bill so that more people are registered to vote. It will help increase the number of voters.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Randy Ching (Honolulu)

Submitted on: 3/8/2019 10:18:39 PM

Testimony for JUD on 3/11/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dawn Morais Webster Ph.D.	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

It is wonderful to see Hawaii lawmakers take this important step towards much needed modernization of our elections system. As an instructor at UH Manoa, I keep hearing my students tell me they did not vote because they "forgot to register." Let's encourage our millennials to become more civically engaged by removing some of the barriers to voting--like time-consuming paper resgistration. Busy or not, they are conscientious about remembering to get and renew their driver's license. Even the busiest worker who does not drive, still has to get a state ID and knows to file a change of address. AVR will make registering to vote a cheaper, more efficient and less error-prone process by making it automatic, unless they opt out. No more deciphering of handwriting. No balllots mailed to the wrong address. AND THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS SAVED that can be put to better use. Please move this bill forward. Thank you.

Submitted on: 3/9/2019 7:07:02 PM

Testimony for JUD on 3/11/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jun Shin	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

This is a very important bill that we need ASAP. We have known for the longest time that our voter turnout is low and we all want to do something about it. This is one way to solve this, by modernizing our election system. We have to face it that people are busy, taking care of their kids, taking care of their elderly parents, working several jobs, going to school, etc, etc. We have the needed information already from paperwork for State IDs to Driver's License that people fill out constantly that we can apply to insure that people are ready to go when elections roll around, and update any necessary changes. By having them automatically registered with the option of opting out, we can improve the likelihood of more people willing to vote and keep voting without feeling that they have to give up too much time with more applications, especially applications that you need to constantly update. It's efficient and its good government. Let's improve democracy and continue to create a system, culture, and environment that encourages citizens to be a part of civic society.

Jun Shin

1561 Kanunu St

junshinbusiness729@gmail.com

808-255-6663

Submitted on: 3/9/2019 9:21:57 PM

Testimony for JUD on 3/11/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Martha Nakajima	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I was a poll worker in 2018 and was happy that with same day registration virtually every eligible voter who came to the polling place was able to vote, but automatic registration goes one step further toward extending the franchise to all in a convenient way.

Submitted on: 3/9/2019 11:44:20 PM

Testimony for JUD on 3/11/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Cory Harden	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha legislators,

People with a couple of jobs and a couple of kids may not have time to register to vote.

Let's have a real democracy, by doing all we can to support voting!

mahalo,

Cory Harden

<u>SB-412-SD-2</u> Submitted on: 3/10/2019 11:06:41 AM

Testimony for JUD on 3/11/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Andrea Quinn	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Honorable Committee Members:

Please support SB412, which will help reverse the pathetic voter turnout we've seen in recent elections.

Thank you for the opportunity to present my testimony.

Andrea Quinn

Kihei

<u>SB-412-SD-2</u> Submitted on: 3/10/2019 11:12:10 AM

Testimony for JUD on 3/11/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Raelyn Reyno Yeomans	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

STRONG SUPPORT!

Gary L. Hooser 5685 Ohelo Rd. Kapaa, HI 96746 garylhooser@gmail.com

March 11, 2019

Aloha Committee Chair and members,

Thank you for hearing **SB412 SD2** Relating to Voting. I stand in **strong support** of this measure. This measure will help to ensure higher rates of registered voters by creating an opt out system for registering to vote rather than an opt in system. By changing the default to registering an eligible individual you will ensure more people are registered to vote. This slight change will have huge positive results.

Improving access to voting is fundamental to the democratic process. The more accessible and available we can make voting the better. Upgrading how we encourage voter registration is the foundation reforming and improving our elections. Hawaii struggles with voter turnout, November 2018 saw that only 39% of those eligible actually voted. If we can increase the number of those registered that is the first step in right direction of increasing Hawaii's voter turnout.

Automatic voter registration creates a seamless modernized system. The information that is collected from the licensing officials and will be electronically transferred and linked to the elections offices resulting in a more efficient, secure, convenient process that saves money. Hawaii is presently using out-of-date systems and decades-old technology. It's time to modernize. **Please pass SB 412 SD2.**

Mahalo for your time and positive consideration.

Gary L. Hooser

<u>SB-412-SD-2</u> Submitted on: 3/10/2019 1:37:39 PM

Testimony for JUD on 3/11/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Javier Mendez-Alvarez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

<u>SB-412-SD-2</u> Submitted on: 3/9/2019 3:10:00 PM

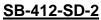
Testimony for JUD on 3/11/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Gerard Silva	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

You cannot Force people to Vote. This is a Demo thing that is going to back fire on them. The people of Hawaii do not like when some one trys to tell them what to do or how to live.

Stop the Corruption in Government!!!!



<u>SB-412-SD-2</u> Submitted on: 3/11/2019 8:15:38 AM

Testimony for JUD on 3/11/2019 2:00:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	l estifier Position	Present at Hearing
John Bickel	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

The more we can make voting easy, the better.

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 8:25:05 AM Testimony for JUD on 3/11/2019 2:00:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	Testitier Position	Present at Hearing
Dr Marion Ceruti	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

SB412 is still a terrible idea, recent changes not withstanding. Not everyone who drives wants to register to vote or should vote. SB 412 will take away our choices. Voters and residents of Hawai'i should decide if and when they register to vote. The government should NOT makes this choice for the people. Low voter turnout is not caused by a lack of registration. Rather, it is a signal to improve the quality of candidates and ballot issues. It should not be used as an excuse to encourage people to vote who don't follow the news and don't know what is going on politically. Some chose not to vote because they don't have time to study the candidates or the issues. Others choose not to vote because they believe that they cannot make a difference, or because they don't support any of the candidates. The 2008 Census Bureau's report demonstrated that the main reason why individuals do not register was that they were not interested in the election and/or because the were not involved in politics. If Hawai'i residents choose not to vote, why force them register to vote just because they have HI drivers licenses or ID cards? If any legal HI resident and US citizen wants to register to vote, this is already easy to do.

There is no sensible reason to couple two independent activities - driving and/or being a resident of Hawai'i vs. registering to vote. These functions are separate now and should never be linked so that one depends on the other. Coupling driving with voting is bad now, but will become even worse if and when the Hawai'i state legislature decides to issue drivers licenses to people who are not US citizens and/or residents of Hawai'i, as some other states have done. SB412 is obviously a power grab by the ruling party.

SB412 will encourage voter fraud which, in many districts throughout the US, has reached epidemic proportions - especially where "Motor-Voter" laws have been enacted. We must stop trying to find "solutions" to problems that don't exist, and start to address the very real problem of fraudulent voting and other fraudulent tampering with votes. Some people think that disallowing fraudulent votes is the same as voter suppression (of legal votes). However, this is a lie that has been perpetrated by those who want more political power. Violations of both federal and state election laws are felonies, which should be prosecuted. Fraudulent votes take power away from legal voters. SB412 imposes a policy that facilitates the violation election laws. Protect the integrity of our elections and vote NO on SB412.

SB412 will encourage the violation of individual privacy. Even if individuals can ask to be removed from the registration list after the database information has been transferred to election officials, such automatic registration raises serious privacy concerns. Voter registration lists are public documents, accessible to journalists, candidates, political parties, and individual citizens - anyone who wants to read them. If citizens and residents want to drive in Hawai'i, this should never be used as an excuse to invade their privacy with campaign literature, the volume of which can become quite annoying during the time before elections.

SB412 is unconstitutional. Requiring automatic registration is a violation of the Hawai'i State Constitution, Article II Section 4, that states "The Legislature shall provide for voter registration...," not "mandate" voter registration. Maintain individual choice, prevent fraud, and protect individual privacy. Vote NO on SB 412.



Submitted on: 3/11/2019 8:59:15 AM

Testimony for JUD on 3/11/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mary Smart	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Vote NO. California has found to have at least 1.5 million ineligible individuals on the voter registration rolls due to similar programs as the one being proposed in this bill. We don't need to add to the possibility of voter fraud in our state. Do not pass this bill.

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 9:25:13 AM

Testimony for JUD on 3/11/2019 2:00:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
William Caron	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chair Lee, members of JUD,

I strongly support the implementation of a system of automatic voter registration. In a nationwide poll, millennials most commonly cited "not being registered" as the primary barrier to them casting a vote in the 2012 general election. What does that tell us? It tells us that millennials are so busy trying to keep up with the fast-paced, modern, consumer-capitalist society our elders have created over the past 40 years, and which we have inherited, that we simply do not have enough time to do the little things, even those that, theoretically, should be quick and easy.

Many of us work multiple jobs, and many more attend school at the same time. Some of us have families of our own, and others are taking care of their aging parents and grandparents. A good amount of millennials must do both. When you take a step back and examine the kind of lifestyles young people are being forced to lead, it becomes quite clear that any amount of added ease and convenience will go a long way toward participation.

Young people do care; I promise you. We are deeply concerned about our future. But the system is set up to make it hard to know what to do about it sometimes. I have spent the past three years organizing young people and trying to make participation in the democratic and legislative processes easier, and I can tell you that the fewer barriers we put up between young people and the action we want them to take, the more likley they are to take it.

We are like water, fighting our way through a rugid and barren terrain, seeking the path of least resistance to our ability to survive. Please, make my job easier by implementing this easy, secure, common sense upgrade to our democracy. After Oregon implemented AVR, it saw huge gains in voter participation, particularly among young people. We know this works. Don't listen to the naysayers. Pass SB412.

Mahalo!

<u>SB-412-SD-2</u> Submitted on: 3/11/2019 11:39:52 AM Testimony for JUD on 3/11/2019 2:00:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing	
Nancy Davlantes	Individual	Support	No	

Comments:

Whatever one's opinion of why Hawaii's voter turnout is so low, making the voter registration process easier and more efficient should be something everyone supports.

<u>SB-412-SD-2</u> Submitted on: 3/11/2019 5:50:00 PM Testimony for JUD on 3/11/2019 2:00:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Leimomi Khan	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

From: Shannon Rudolph <noreply@jotform.com>

Sent: Monday, March 11, 2019 8:57 AM

To: JUDtestimony

Subject: Re: Testimony in SUPPORT of SB412 - Shannon Rudolph

Testimony in SUPPO	RT of SB412
Name	Shannon Rudolph
Zip Code	Postal / Zip Code: 96725 Country: United States
Email	shannonkona@gmail.com
Subject	Testimony in SUPPORT of SB412
Testimony	Aloha Chair Lee, members of the House Judiciary Committee,
	I support establishment and implementation of a system of automatic voter (AVR) registration in the State of Hawaii. AVR is a step towards much needed modernization of elections in Hawaii.
	Hawaii has had the lowest voter turnout in the country for the last 20 years. AVR will help turn that around by increasing convenience and improving access to voting. As of December 2018, AVR has been approved in 17 states and the District of Columbia. The data shows that AVR improves the likelihood that people will vote by minimizing bureaucracy and requiring less time and effort from eligible voters.
	Additionally, AVR will enhance the security of our elections, save the state money, and expand voting access for traditionally under-represented people.
	Mahalo,

From: Elizabeth O'Connor <noreply@jotform.com>

Sent: Monday, March 11, 2019 3:22 AM

To: JUDtestimony

Subject: Re: Testimony in SUPPORT of SB412 - Elizabeth O'Connor

Testimony in SUPPO	PRT of SB412
Name	Elizabeth O'Connor
Zip Code	Postal / Zip Code: 96815
Email	island.auntee@gmail.com
Subject	Testimony in SUPPORT of SB412
Testimony	Aloha Chair Lee, members of the House Judiciary Committee,
	I support establishment and implementation of a system of automatic voter (AVR) registration in the State of Hawaii. AVR is a step towards much needed modernization of elections in Hawaii.
	Hawaii has had the lowest voter turnout in the country for the last 20 years. AVR will help turn that around by increasing convenience and improving access to voting. As of December 2018, AVR has been approved in 17 states and the District of Columbia. The data shows that AVR improves the likelihood that people will vote by minimizing bureaucracy and requiring less time and effort from eligible voters.
	Additionally, AVR will enhance the security of our elections, save the state money, and expand voting access for traditionally under-represented people.
	Mahalo,

From: Christine Weger <noreply@jotform.com>

Sent: Sunday, March 10, 2019 10:38 PM

To: JUDtestimony

Subject: Re: Testimony in SUPPORT of SB412 - Christine Weger

Testimony in SUPPO	RT of SB412
Name	Christine Weger
Zip Code	Postal / Zip Code: 96825
Email	cweger@hawaii.rr.com
Subject	Testimony in SUPPORT of SB412
Testimony	Aloha Chair Lee, members of the House Judiciary Committee,
	I support establishment and implementation of a system of automatic voter (AVR) registration in the State of Hawaii. AVR is a step towards much needed modernization of elections in Hawaii.
	Hawaii has had the lowest voter turnout in the country for the last 20 years. AVR will help turn that around by increasing convenience and improving access to voting. As of December 2018, AVR has been approved in 17 states and the District of Columbia. The data shows that AVR improves the likelihood that people will vote by minimizing bureaucracy and requiring less time and effort from eligible voters.
	Additionally, AVR will enhance the security of our elections, save the state money, and expand voting access for traditionally under-represented people.
	Mahalo,

From: Mai Lopez <noreply@jotform.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 10, 2019 1:00 PM

To: JUDtestimony

Subject: Re: Testimony in SUPPORT of SB412 - Mai Lopez

Testimony in SUPPO	RT of SB412
Name	Mai Lopez
Zip Code	Postal / Zip Code: 96706 Country: United States
Email	mdglopez@hotmail.com
Subject	Testimony in SUPPORT of SB412
Testimony	Aloha Chair Lee, members of the House Judiciary Committee,
	I support establishment and implementation of a system of automatic voter (AVR) registration in the State of Hawaii. AVR is a step towards much needed modernization of elections in Hawaii.
	Hawaii has had the lowest voter turnout in the country for the last 20 years. AVR will help turn that around by increasing convenience and improving access to voting. As of December 2018, AVR has been approved in 17 states and the District of Columbia. The data shows that AVR improves the likelihood that people will vote by minimizing bureaucracy and requiring less time and effort from eligible voters.
	Additionally, AVR will enhance the security of our elections, save the state money, and expand voting access for traditionally under-represented people.
	Suffrage is a right that is ours to refuse, not to apply for.
	Mahalo,

From: Shari Olander <noreply@jotform.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 10, 2019 11:12 AM

To: JUDtestimony

Subject: Re: Testimony in SUPPORT of SB412 - Shari Olander

RT of SB412
Shari Olander
Postal / Zip Code: 86748
akshario@gmail.com
Testimony in SUPPORT of SB412
Aloha Chair Lee, members of the House Judiciary Committee,
I support establishment and implementation of a system of automatic voter (AVR) registration in the State of Hawaii. AVR is a step towards much needed modernization of elections in Hawaii.
Hawaii has had the lowest voter turnout in the country for the last 20 years. AVR will help turn that around by increasing convenience and improving access to voting. As of December 2018, AVR has been approved in 17 states and the District of Columbia. The data shows that AVR improves the likelihood that people will vote by minimizing bureaucracy and requiring less time and effort from eligible voters.
Additionally, AVR will enhance the security of our elections, save the state money, and expand voting access for traditionally under-represented people.
Mahalo,

From: Patricia Wistinghausen <noreply@jotform.com>

Sent: Sunday, March 10, 2019 9:31 AM

To: JUDtestimony

Subject: Re: Testimony in SUPPORT of SB412 - Patricia Wistinghausen

Testimony in SUPPO	RT of SB412
Name	Patricia Wistinghausen
Zip Code	Postal / Zip Code: 96746
Email	pwistinghausen@gmail.com
Subject	Testimony in SUPPORT of SB412
Testimony	Aloha Chair Lee, members of the House Judiciary Committee,
	I support establishment and implementation of a system of automatic voter (AVR) registration in the State of Hawaii. AVR is a step towards much needed modernization of elections in Hawaii.
	Hawaii has had the lowest voter turnout in the country for the last 20 years. AVR will help turn that around by increasing convenience and improving access to voting. As of December 2018, AVR has been approved in 17 states and the District of Columbia. The data shows that AVR improves the likelihood that people will vote by minimizing bureaucracy and requiring less time and effort from eligible voters.
	Additionally, AVR will enhance the security of our elections, save the state money, and expand voting access for traditionally under-represented people.
	Mahalo,

From: Carla Allison <noreply@jotform.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 9, 2019 9:14 PM

To: JUDtestimony

Subject: Re: Testimony in SUPPORT of SB412 - Carla Allison

RT of SB412
Carla Allison
Postal / Zip Code: 96825
cbm@hawaii.rr.com
Testimony in SUPPORT of SB412
Aloha Chair Lee, members of the House Judiciary Committee,
I support automatic voter registration (AVR) and urge you to bring AVR to Hawaii by supporting this bill. AVR is a step towards much needed modernization of elections in Hawaii.
Hawaii has had the lowest voter turnout in the country for the last 20 years. AVR will help turn that around by increasing convenience and improving access to voting. As of December 2018, AVR has been approved in 17 states and the District of Columbia. The data shows that AVR improves the likelihood that people will vote by minimizing bureaucracy and requiring less time and effort from eligible voters.
Additionally, AVR will enhance the security of our elections, save the state money, and expand voting access for traditionally under-represented people.
Mahalo,

From: Sheila Sue-Noguchi <noreply@jotform.com>

Sent: Saturday, March 9, 2019 8:40 PM

To: JUDtestimony

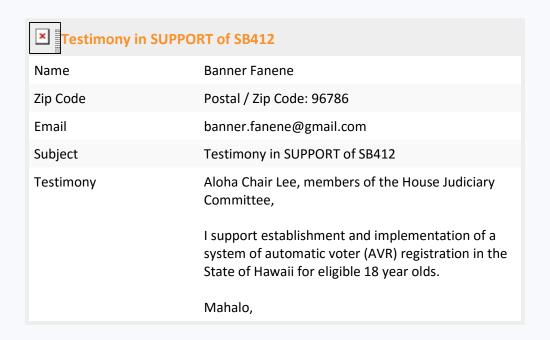
Subject: Re: Testimony in SUPPORT of SB412 - Sheila Sue-Noguchi

Testimony in SUPPO	RT of SB412
Name	Sheila Sue-Noguchi
Zip Code	Postal / Zip Code: 96820
Email	suenoguchilaw@gmail.com
Subject	Testimony in SUPPORT of SB412
Testimony	Aloha Chair Lee, members of the House Judiciary Committee,
	I support establishment and implementation of a system of automatic voter (AVR) registration in the State of Hawaii. AVR is a step towards much needed modernization of elections in Hawaii.
	Hawaii has had the lowest voter turnout in the country for the last 20 years. AVR will help turn that around by increasing convenience and improving access to voting. As of December 2018, AVR has been approved in 17 states and the District of Columbia. The data shows that AVR improves the likelihood that people will vote by minimizing bureaucracy and requiring less time and effort from eligible voters.
	Additionally, AVR will enhance the security of our elections, save the state money, and expand voting access for traditionally under-represented people.
	Mahalo,

From: Banner Fanene <noreply@jotform.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 9, 2019 8:20 PM

To: JUDtestimony

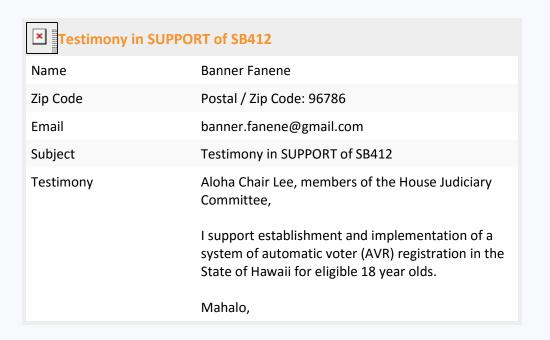
Subject: Re: Testimony in SUPPORT of SB412 - Banner Fanene



From: Banner Fanene <noreply@jotform.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 9, 2019 8:20 PM

To: JUDtestimony

Subject: Re: Testimony in SUPPORT of SB412 - Banner Fanene



From: Sylvia Ching <noreply@jotform.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 9, 2019 8:03 PM

To: JUDtestimony

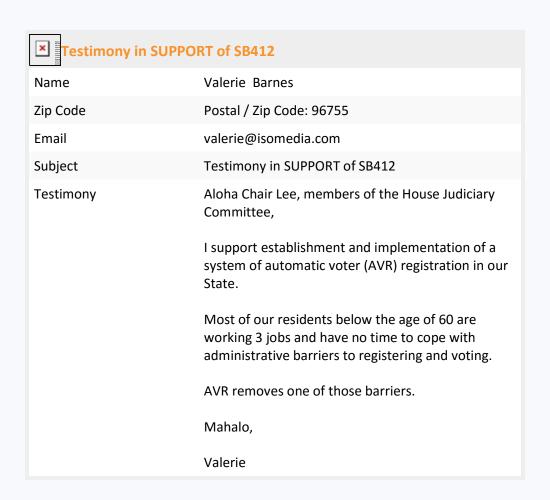
Subject: Re: Testimony in SUPPORT of SB412 - Sylvia Ching

Testimony in SUPPO	PRT of SB412
Name	Sylvia Ching
Zip Code	Postal / Zip Code: 96813
Email	sching35@gmail.com
Subject	Testimony in SUPPORT of SB412
Testimony	Aloha Chair Lee, members of the House Judiciary Committee,
	I support establishment and implementation of a system of automatic voter (AVR) registration in the State of Hawaii. AVR is a step towards much needed modernization of elections in Hawaii.
	Hawaii has had the lowest voter turnout in the country for the last 20 years. AVR will help turn that around by increasing convenience and improving access to voting. As of December 2018, AVR has been approved in 17 states and the District of Columbia. The data shows that AVR improves the likelihood that people will vote by minimizing bureaucracy and requiring less time and effort from eligible voters.
	Additionally, AVR will enhance the security of our elections, save the state money, and expand voting access for traditionally under-represented people.
	Mahalo,

From: Valerie Barnes <noreply@jotform.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 9, 2019 7:11 PM

To: JUDtestimony

Subject: Re: Testimony in SUPPORT of SB412 - Valerie Barnes



From: Sharon Willeford <noreply@jotform.com>

Sent: Saturday, March 9, 2019 6:56 PM

To: JUDtestimony

Subject: Re: Testimony in SUPPORT of SB412 - Sharon Willeford

Testimony in SUPPO	RT of SB412
Name	Sharon Willeford
Zip Code	Postal / Zip Code: 96740
Email	slwsurfing@yahoo.com
Subject	Testimony in SUPPORT of SB412
Testimony	Aloha Chair Lee, members of the House Judiciary Committee,
	I support establishment and implementation of a system of automatic voter (AVR) registration in the State of Hawaii. AVR is a step towards much needed modernization of elections in Hawaii.
	Hawaii has had the lowest voter turnout in the country for the last 20 years. AVR will help turn that around by increasing convenience and improving access to voting. As of December 2018, AVR has been approved in 17 states and the District of Columbia. The data shows that AVR improves the likelihood that people will vote by minimizing bureaucracy and requiring less time and effort from eligible voters.
	Additionally, AVR will enhance the security of our elections, save the state money, and expand voting access for traditionally under-represented people.
	Mahalo,

From: Marion McHenry <noreply@jotform.com>

Sent: Saturday, March 9, 2019 5:29 PM

To: JUDtestimony

Subject: Re: Testimony in SUPPORT of SB412 - Marion McHenry

Testimony in SUPPO	PRT of SB412
Name	Marion McHenry
Zip Code	Postal / Zip Code: 96722
Email	bob-marion@hawaiiantel.net
Subject	Testimony in SUPPORT of SB412
Testimony	Aloha Chair Lee, members of the House Judiciary Committee,
	I support establishment and implementation of a system of automatic voter (AVR) registration in the State of Hawaii. AVR is a step towards much needed modernization of elections in Hawaii.
	Hawaii has had the lowest voter turnout in the country for the last 20 years. AVR will help turn that around by increasing convenience and improving access to voting. As of December 2018, AVR has been approved in 17 states and the District of Columbia. The data shows that AVR improves the likelihood that people will vote by minimizing bureaucracy and requiring less time and effort from eligible voters.
	Additionally, AVR will enhance the security of our elections, save the state money, and expand voting access for traditionally under-represented people.
	Mahalo,

From: Cindy Aban <noreply@jotform.com>
Sent: Monday, March 11, 2019 1:41 PM

To: JUDtestimony

Subject: Re: Testimony in SUPPORT of SB412 - Cindy Aban



Testimony in SUPPORT of SB412	
Name	Cindy Aban
Zip Code	Postal / Zip Code: 96797
Email	caban54@gmail.com
Subject	Testimony in SUPPORT of SB412
Testimony	Aloha Chair Lee, members of the House Judiciary Committee,
	I support establishment and implementation of a system of automatic voter (AVR) registration in the State of Hawaii. AVR is a step towards much needed modernization of elections in Hawaii.
	Hawaii has had the lowest voter turnout in the country for the last 20 years. AVR will help turn that around by increasing convenience and improving access to voting. As of December 2018, AVR has been approved in 17 states and the District of Columbia. The data shows that AVR improves the likelihood that people will vote by minimizing bureaucracy and requiring less time and effort from eligible voters.
	Additionally, AVR will enhance the security of our elections, save the state money, and expand voting access for traditionally under-represented people.
	Mahalo, Cindy Aban Medical Assistant Unite Here Local 5 member Waipahu