A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO ELECTION DAY POLL WATCHERS.

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

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 11-77, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
- 2 amended as follows:
- 3 1. By amending subsection (a) to read:
- 4 "(a) Each qualified political party shall be entitled to
- 5 appoint no more than one watcher who may be present at any time
- 6 in each precinct and absentee polling place in which the
- 7 candidates of that political party are on the ballot. Each
- 8 party shall submit its list of watchers not later than 4:30 p.m.
- 9 on the [tenth] twentieth day prior to any election to the chief
- 10 election officer or to the clerk in county elections. All
- 11 watchers shall serve without expense to the State or county.
- 12 All watchers so appointed shall be registered voters. No person
- 13 shall serve as a watcher unless that person has received
- 14 instruction and has been certified by the authorized instructor
- 15 to that effect. No person shall serve as a watcher who could
- 16 not qualify to serve as a precinct official under [+] section 11-
- **17** 72 (b) (3) [+]."

HB462 HD1 HMS 2006-1436

- 1 2. By amending subsection (d) to read:
- 2 "(d) The watcher shall call the attention of the
- 3 chairperson to any violations of the election laws that the
- 4 watcher observes. After the chairperson's attention is called
- 5 to the violation the chairperson shall make an attempt to
- 6 correct such violation. If the chairperson fails to correct the
- 7 violation, the watcher may appeal to the chief election officer
- 8 or the clerk of the county[-] in county elections."
- 9 SECTION 2. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
- 10 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.
- 11 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2020.

Report Title:

Election Day; Poll Watchers

Description:

Requires poll watchers to be instructed and certified by an authorized instructor. Requires list of watchers to be submitted 20 rather than 10 days before an election. (HB462 HD1)