

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 13 2007

RE: S.R. No. 7

Honorable Colleen Hanabusa
President of the Senate
Twenty-Fourth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2007
State of Hawaii

Madam:

Your Committee on Judiciary and Labor, to which was referred
S.R. No. 7 entitled:

"SENATE RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE OFFICE OF ELECTIONS TO
STUDY THE FEASIBILITY OF CONDUCTING ALL ELECTIONS BY MAIL,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to request the feasibility of
conducting all elections by mail.

Testimony in support of this measure was received from the
Interim Chief Election Officer, the City & County of Honolulu City
Clerk and the Chair of the Disability and Communication Access
Board. No one testified in opposition.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii has the lowest voter turnout
rate in the nation with just over forty per cent of eligible
voters casting their ballot in the last two elections. In
contrast, Oregon enjoys an eighty-four per cent rate of registered
voters who voted in 2004. Oregon also has a vote-by-mail system
which was approved in 1998.

There are many challenges that our election system faces.
For example, finding people willing to work in a polling place is
an increasing challenge in each election. A vote-by-mail system
may alleviate some challenges and may allow more voters to
participate in our election system. Therefore your Committee
agrees with the intent of this measure.



As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Judiciary and Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.R. No. 7 and recommends its adoption.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Judiciary and
Labor,



CLAYTON HEE, Chair



The Senate
Twenty-Fourth Legislature
State of Hawaii

Record of Votes
Committee on Judiciary and Labor
JDL

Bill / Resolution No.:* <div style="font-size: 1.2em; font-family: cursive;">SR 7</div>	Committee Referral: <div style="font-size: 1.2em; font-family: cursive;">JDL</div>	Date: <div style="font-size: 1.2em; font-family: cursive;">4-11-07</div>		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: flex-start;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313 </div> </div>				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
HEE, Clayton (C)	✓			
KOKUBUN, Russell S. (VC)				✓
INOUE, Lorraine R.				✓
NISHIHARA, Clarence K.	✓			
GABBARD, Mike	✓			
TOTAL	3			2
Recommendation: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; margin-top: 5px;"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted </div>				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: <div style="font-size: 1.2em; font-family: cursive; margin-top: 10px;">Clarence K. Nishihara</div>				
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 30%;"> Distribution: </div> <div style="width: 40%; text-align: center;"> Original File with Committee Report </div> <div style="width: 30%; text-align: center;"> Yellow Clerk's Office </div> <div style="width: 30%; text-align: center;"> Pink Drafting Agency </div> </div>				

*Only one measure per Record of Votes