
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO ABSENTEE VOTING.

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

1 SECTION 1. Section 11-131, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended to read as follows:
3 "**§11-131 Hours of voting.** The polls shall be opened by
4 the precinct officials at 7:00 a.m. of the election day and
5 shall be kept open continuously until 6:00 p.m. of that day[-];
6 provided that hours of voting in absentee polling places shall
7 be as provided in section 15-7. If, at the closing hour of
8 voting, any voter desiring to vote is standing in line outside
9 the entrance of the polls with the desire of entering and
10 voting, but due to the polling place being overcrowded has been
11 unable to do so, the voter shall be allowed to vote irrespective
12 of the closing hour of voting. No voter shall be permitted to
13 enter or join the line after the prescribed hour for closing the
14 polls. If all of the registered voters of the precinct have
15 cast their votes prior to the closing time, the polls may be
16 closed earlier but the votes shall not be counted until after
17 closing time unless allowed by the chief election officer."



1 SECTION 2. Section 15-7, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended to read as follows:

3 **"§15-7 Absentee polling place[-]; hours of voting.** (a)

4 Absentee polling places shall be established at the office of
5 the respective clerks, and may be established at such other
6 sites as may be designated by the clerk under the provisions
7 prescribed in the rules adopted by the chief election officer.
8 Section 11-21 relating to changes and transfers of registration
9 shall apply to the absentee polling place as though it were the
10 precinct at which a person's name properly appears on the list
11 of registered voters.

12 (b) The absentee polling places shall be open no later
13 than ten working days before election day, and all Saturdays
14 falling within that time period, or as soon thereafter as
15 ballots are available; provided that all absentee polling places
16 shall be open on the same date statewide, as determined by the
17 chief election officer.

18 (c) Each day that absentee polling places shall be open
19 before election day, the absentee polling places shall be opened
20 at 7:00 a.m. and shall be kept open continuously until 7:00 p.m.
21 of each day. If, at the closing hour of the last day that
22 absentee polling places are open, any absentee voter desiring to



1 vote is standing in line outside the entrance of an absentee
 2 polling place with the desire of entering and voting, but due to
 3 the absentee polling place being overcrowded has been unable to
 4 do so, the absentee voter shall be allowed to vote absentee
 5 irrespective of the closing hour of the absentee polling place.
 6 No absentee voter shall be permitted to enter or join the line
 7 after the prescribed hour for closing the absentee polling
 8 places."

9 SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
 10 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

11 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

12

INTRODUCED BY:

Cindy Evans
 Mel Carroll
 Calvin K. Boy


JAN 23 2007



Report Title:

Absentee Voting; Polling Place Hours

Description:

Establishing voting hours from 7 a.m. until 7 p.m. each day for absentee polling places.

