### HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE, 2011 STATE OF HAWAII

## H.B. NO. <sup>716</sup> H.D. 1 S.D. 1

# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO ELECTIONS.

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

1 SECTION 1. The purpose of this Act is to revise various 2 election deadlines to be consistent with Act 126, Session Laws 3 of Hawaii 2010, which changed the date of the State's primary 4 election to comply with the National Defense Authorization Act 5 for Fiscal Year 2010, P.L. 111-84, mandating the mailing of absentee ballots to uniformed and overseas voters no later than 6 7 forty-five days prior to elections for federal offices. SECTION 2. Section 11-113, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is 8 9 amended by amending subsection (c) to read as follows: 10 "(c) All candidates for president and vice president of 11 the United States shall be qualified for inclusion on the 12 general election ballot under either of the following 13 procedures:

14 (1) In the case of candidates of political parties [which]
15 <u>that</u> have been qualified to place candidates on the
16 primary and general election ballots, the appropriate
17 official of those parties shall file a sworn

18 application with the chief election officer not later 2011-1920 HB716 SD1 SMA.doc



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| 1  |       | than 4:30 p.m. on the sixtieth day prior to the                       |
|----|-------|---|
| 2  |       | general election, which shall include:                                |
| 3  |       | (A) The name and address of each of the two                           |
| 4  |       | candidates;   |
| 5  |       | (B) A statement that each candidate is legally                        |
| 6  |       | qualified to serve under the provisions of the                        |
| 7  | ι.    | United States Constitution; and                                       |
| 8  |       | (C) A statement that the candidates are the duly                      |
| 9  |       | chosen candidates of both the state and the                           |
| 10 |       | national party, giving the time, place, and                           |
| 11 |       | manner of the selection $[-]$ ; and                                   |
| 12 | (2)   | In the case of candidates of parties or groups not                    |
| 13 |       | qualified to place candidates on the primary or                       |
| 14 |       | general election ballots, the person desiring to place                |
| 15 | 5 - A | the names on the general election ballot shall file                   |
| 16 |       | with the chief election officer not later than 4:30                   |
| 17 |       | p.m. on the [ <del>sixticth</del> ] <u>ninetieth</u> day prior to the |
| 18 |       | general election:   |
| 19 |       | (A) A sworn application [which] that shall include                    |
| 20 |       | the information required under paragraph (1)(A)                       |
| 21 |       | and (B), and (C) where applicable; and                                |



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| 1  | (B) A petition $[which]$ that shall be upon the form             |
|----|--|
| 2  | prescribed and provided by the chief election                    |
| 3  | officer containing the signatures of currently                   |
| 4  | registered voters which constitute not less than                 |
| 5  | one per cent of the votes cast in the State at                   |
| 6  | the last presidential election. The petition                     |
| 7  | shall contain the names of the candidates, a                     |
| 8  | statement that the persons signing intend to                     |
| 9  | support those candidates, the address of each                    |
| 10 | signatory, the date of the signer's signature <u>,</u>           |
| 11 | and other information as determined by the chief                 |
| 12 | election officer.  |
| 13 | Prior to being issued the petition form, the person              |
| 14 | desiring to place the names on the general election              |
| 15 | ballot shall submit a notarized statement from each              |
| 16 | candidate of that person's intent to be a candidate              |
| 17 | for president or vice president of the United States             |
| 18 | on the general election ballot $[in]$ of the State of            |
| 19 | Hawaii. [Such] The statements by a prospective                   |
| 20 | candidate for vice president may be withdrawn by $[\frac{1}{2}]$ |
| 21 | that prospective candidate [for vice president] and an           |
| 22 | alternative candidate for vice president may be                  |

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1 substituted [anytime] any time prior to the 2 notification of qualification or disqualification 3 provided in subsection (d). Any [such] substitutions shall be accompanied by a notice of substitution 4 satisfying subparagraph (A), a statement of intent as 5 required by this paragraph, and a letter by the 6 7 candidate for president endorsing the substitute 8 candidate for vice president. Upon receipt of a 9 notice of substitution and all other required 10 documents, the substitute shall replace the original 11 candidate for vice president on the general election 12 ballot. The petitions issued in the names of the 13 original candidates will remain valid for the purposes of this section." 14 SECTION 3. Section 11-117, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is 15 amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows: 16 Any candidate may withdraw in writing not later than 17 "(a) 18 4:30 p.m. on the day immediately following the close of filing for any reason and may withdraw after the close of filing up to 19 20 4:30 p.m. on the [twentieth] fiftieth day prior to an election for reasons of ill health. When a candidate withdraws for ill 21 22 health, the candidate shall give notice in writing to the chief 2011-1920 HB716 SD1 SMA.doc 

1 election officer if the candidate was seeking a congressional or
2 state office, or the candidate shall give notice in writing to
3 the county clerk if the candidate was seeking a county office.
4 The notice shall be accompanied by a statement from a licensed
5 physician or physician assistant indicating that such ill health
6 may endanger the candidate's life."

7 SECTION 4. Section 11-119, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
8 amended by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:

9 "(b) Whenever the chief election officer is responsible 10 for the printing of ballots, unless provided otherwise, the 11 exact wording to appear thereon, including  $[\tau]$  but not limited 12 to  $[\tau]$  questions and issues shall be submitted to the chief 13 election officer not later than 4:30 p.m. on the [sixtieth] 14 seventy-fifth calendar day prior to the applicable election." 15 SECTION 5. Section 12-8, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is 16 amended as follows:

17

1. By amending subsection (a) to read:

18 "(a) All nomination papers filed in conformity with 19 section 12-3 shall be deemed valid unless objection is made 20 thereto by a registered voter, an officer of a political party 21 whose name is on file with the chief election officer, the chief 22 election officer, or the county clerk in the case of a county 2011-1920 HB716 SD1 SMA.doc Page 6

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office. All objections shall be filed in writing not later than
 4:30 p.m. on the [thirtieth] sixtieth day or the next earliest
 working day prior to the primary or special election."

2. By amending subsections (e) and (f) to read:

5 "(e) If the chief election officer or clerk in the case of 6 county offices determines that the objection [may warrant] 7 warrants the disqualification of the candidate, the chief 8 election officer or clerk shall file a complaint in the circuit 9 court for a determination of the objection; provided that [such] 10 the complaint shall be filed with the clerk of the circuit court 11 not later than 4:30 p.m. on the seventh working day after the 12 objection was filed.

13 (f) If a political party objects to the nomination paper 14 filed by a candidate because the candidate is not a member of 15 the party pursuant to the party's rules filed in conformance 16 with section 11-63, an officer of the party whose name appears 17 on file with the chief election officer shall file a complaint 18 in the circuit court for a prompt determination of the 19 objection; provided that the complaint shall be filed with the 20 clerk of the circuit court not later than 4:30 p.m. on the 21 [thirtieth] sixtieth working day or the next earliest working 22 day prior to that election day."

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SECTION 6. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.
 SECTION 7. This Act shall take effect on January 7, 2050.

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Report Title:

Election Deadlines

#### Description:

Establishes new election deadlines to comply with state primary election date required by federal law. Effective January 7, 2050. (SD1)

The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.

