STAND. COM. REP. NO. 2939

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 2 3 2012

RE: H.B. No. 2251

Honorable Shan S. Tsutsui President of the Senate Twenty-Sixth State Legislature Regular Session of 2012 State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Judiciary and Labor, to which was referred H.B. No. 2251 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to authorize the county clerk of any county to mail absentee ballots to all registered voters residing in population areas of less than one hundred thousand voters on an island county that is not contiguous with the county seat of government.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Elections, Office of the County Clerk of the County of Kauai, Office of the County Clerk of the County of Maui, and League of Women Voters of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that this measure addresses the logistical and administrative issues associated with establishing polling places in areas on an island county that are not contiguous with the county seat of government. For the island of Niihau, these issues include the delivery and return of ballots, voting machines, and associated election materials in addition to the recruitment of on-island precinct officials to operate the polling place. Authorizing the county clerk to mail absentee ballots to registered voters residing in such areas encourages more eligible voters to register and participate in voting.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Judiciary and Labor that is attached to this report,

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your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 2251, and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

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

CLAYTON HEE Chair

## The Senate Twenty-Sixth Legislature State of Hawaiʻi

## Record of Votes Committee on Judiciary and Labor JDL

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral: Date:				
HB 2251	JDL, WAM 5//3//2				
The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure.					
If so, then the previous decision was to:					
The Recommendation is:					
Pass, unamended Pass, with amendments Hold Recommit 2312 2311 2310 2313					
Members	· _	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
HEE, Clayton (C)					
SHIMABUKURO, Maile (VC)		)			
GABBARD, Mike					
IHARA, Jr., Les					
SLOM, Sam		/			
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TOTAL		5			
Recommendation:			<u> </u>		<u> </u>
Adopted Not Adopted					
Chair's or Designee's Signature:					
<b>Distribution:</b> Original File with Committee R	Yellow eport Clerk's Office		Pink Prafting Agency		
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<sup>\*</sup>Only one measure per Record of Votes