STAND. COM. REP. NO. 347

Honolulu, Hawaii

## APR 0 5 2013

RE:

H.B. No. 321

H.D. 1

S.D. 2

Honorable Donna Mercado Kim President of the Senate Twenty-Seventh State Legislature Regular Session of 2013 State of Hawaii

## Madam:

Your Committee on Ways and Means, to which was referred H.B. No. 321, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to increase participation in elections by facilitating voter registration.

Specifically, this measure authorizes voter registration at absentee polling places notwithstanding the expiration of the regular voter registration deadline, which is thirty days prior to the election.

Your Committee received written comments in opposition to this measure from three individuals.

Your Committee received written comments on this measure from the Hawaii Women's Coalition.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii has the lowest voter turnout rate in the nation. This measure seeks to remove barriers to voting by providing a means for voter registration notwithstanding the close of the general county register.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Amending the provision allowing challenges to a voter's registration under this measure pursuant to the procedures set forth in section 11-25, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to include the procedures under that section for challenging registration prior to Election Day; and
- (2) Making technical nonsubstantive amendments for clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Ways and Means that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 321, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 321, H.D. 1, S.D. 2.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the members of the Committee on Ways and Means,

DAVID TIGE Chair

## The Senate Twenty-Seventh Legislature State of Hawai'i

## Record of Votes Committee on Ways and Means WAM

HB 321, HD1, SDI	Committee Referral:		Date: 3-27-13		
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
IGE, David Y. (C)					
KIDANI, Michelle N. (VC)		V			
CHUN OAKLAND, Suzanne		V			
DELA CRUZ, Donovan M.					
ENGLISH, J. Kalani					1/
ESPERO, Will		1			
KAHELE, Gilbert		<u> </u>			
KEITH-AGARAN, Gilbert S.C.					/
KOUCHI, Ronald D.					V
RUDERMAN, Russell E.					
THIELEN, Laura H.		$\nu$			
TOKUDA, Jill N.		-			
SLOM, Sam					
	-				
			. :		
TOTAL		10		O	2
Recommendation:   Adopted  Not Adopted					
Chair's or Designee's Signature: Kululle A Kuluni					
Distribution:         Original         Yellow         Pink         Goldenrod           File with Committee Report         Clerk's Office         Drafting Agency         Committee File Copy					