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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO ELECTIONS.

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

1       SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the trend in Hawaii  
2 has been toward increased mail-in voting. The 2014 Hawaii  
3 primary election was the first election where there were more  
4 early votes than ballots cast on primary election day. Fifty-  
5 six per cent of Hawaii voters chose to vote early during the  
6 2014 primary, with approximately eighty-three per cent of these  
7 early voters doing so by mail-in absentee ballot.

8       The legislature further finds that in Hawaii, shifting to  
9 elections by mail would significantly reduce the logistical  
10 issues related to conducting elections. The legislature  
11 concludes that an incremental implementation of an election-by-  
12 mail voting system is the best approach for the State to  
13 transition to elections by mail.

14       Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to:

- 15       (1) Require the office of elections to implement elections  
16             by mail in a county with a population of less than  
17             100,000, beginning with the 2016 primary election;



(2) By 2018, require all federal, state, and county primary, special primary, general, special general, and special elections to be conducted by mail;

(3) Provide places of deposit for personal delivery of mail-in ballots and ensure a limited number of voter service centers in each county to remain open on the day of election to allow voters with special needs to vote and receive personal delivery of absentee, permanent absentee, and mail-in ballots; and

(4) Appropriate funds for the implementation and administration of the election by mail program.

SECTION 2. Chapter 11, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by adding a new part to be appropriately designated and to read as follows:

**"PART . ELECTIONS BY MAIL**

**§11-A Elections eligible to be conducted by mail.**

Beginning with the 2016 primary election, the office of elections shall implement elections by mail in a county with a population of less than 100,000; provided that by 2018, all federal, state, and county primary, special primary, general, special general, and special elections shall be conducted by



1 mail in accordance with this part; provided further that any  
2 person registered to vote may request an absentee ballot or  
3 permanent absentee ballot in accordance with section 15-4, in  
4 lieu of receiving an election-by-mail ballot package pursuant to  
5 this part.

6 **§11-B Procedures for conducting elections by mail. (a)**

7 Ballot packages for elections by mail shall include:

- 8 (1) An official ballot;  
9 (2) A pre-paid postage return identification envelope;  
10 (3) A secrecy envelope; and  
11 (4) Instructions.

12 (b) To the extent practicable, the county clerk shall mail  
13 a ballot package by nonforwardable mail to each registered voter  
14 in the county between fourteen and eighteen days before the date  
15 of an election.

16 (c) The chief election officer shall determine and provide  
17 for places of deposit and voter service centers pursuant to  
18 section 11-92.1.

19 **§11-C Public notice of mailing.** Public notice of the date  
20 or dates that ballot packages are mailed shall be given by the  
21 chief election officer and all county election offices in the



1 manner prescribed in section 1-28.5 when all ballot packages  
2 have been mailed to voters.

3       **§11-D Ballot instructions; ballot return.** (a) Upon  
4 receipt of the ballot package, to cast a valid vote, a voter  
5 shall comply with the instructions included in the ballot  
6 package. The instructions shall include directions on marking  
7 the ballot, inserting the marked ballot in the secrecy envelope,  
8 inserting the secrecy envelope with the marked ballot in the  
9 return identification envelope, and signing the return  
10 identification envelope before mailing or delivering the return  
11 identification envelope containing the secrecy envelope with the  
12 marked ballot.

13       (b) The instructions shall include information on election  
14 fraud and voter fraud, as provided in sections 19-3(5) and  
15 19-3.5, and notice that violation of either section may subject  
16 the voter, upon conviction, to imprisonment, a fine, or both.

17       (c) To cast a valid vote, a voter shall return the  
18 identification envelope containing the secrecy envelope with the  
19 marked ballot:

20       (1) By mail so that the return identification envelope is  
21 received at the office of the clerk no later than the



1 time provided in section 11-131 on the date of the  
2 election;

3 (2) By personal delivery to any place of deposit no later  
4 than 6:00 p.m. on the day preceding the date of the  
5 election; or

6 (3) By personal delivery to any voter service center no  
7 later than the time provided in section 11-131 on the  
8 date of the election.

9 **§11-E Replacement ballots.** (a) A voter may obtain a  
10 replacement ballot if the ballot is destroyed, spoiled, or lost.  
11 Replacement ballots shall be provided to a voter who completes  
12 and signs a replacement ballot request form. The replacement  
13 ballot request form shall include information that allows the  
14 clerk to verify the registration of the voter and ensure that  
15 another ballot has not been returned by the voter.

16 (b) Upon receipt of the replacement ballot request form,  
17 the clerk shall:

18 (1) Verify the registration of the voter and ensure that  
19 another ballot has not been returned by the voter;

20 (2) Note on the list of registered voters that the voter  
21 has requested a replacement ballot;



(3) Mark the return identification envelope as a replacement ballot; and

(4) Issue the replacement ballot package by mail or by making the ballot package available for pick-up by the voter.

(c) Voters requesting a replacement ballot shall return the identification envelope containing the secrecy envelope with the marked replacement ballot by mail or by personal delivery to a place of deposit no later than 6:00 p.m. on the day preceding the date of the election or by personal delivery to a voter service center no later than the time provided in section 11-131 on the date of the election.

**§11-F Counting of mail-in ballots.** (a) Counting may begin no sooner than the seventh day before the election. In the presence of official observers, counting center employees may count the ballots on the day of the election; provided that no results shall be disclosed to the public until the close of the voter service centers. All handling and counting of the mailed-in ballots shall be in accordance with procedures established by the chief election officer.

(b) A mail-in ballot shall be counted only if:



1 (1) It is returned in the return identification envelope;

2 (2) The return identification envelope is signed by the  
3 voter to whom the ballot is mailed or delivered;

4 (3) The signature on the return identification envelope is  
5 verified by the clerk with the signature of the voter  
6 shown on the registry of voters; and

7 (4) The return identification envelope is received in a  
8 timely manner by any of the methods prescribed under  
9 section 11-D.

10 (c) Upon receipt of a marked replacement ballot, the  
11 county clerk shall verify that a completed and signed  
12 replacement ballot request form has been received by the county  
13 clerk or is included with the marked replacement ballot. If a  
14 request form has been completed and signed by the voter and  
15 received by the county clerk, the county clerk shall process the  
16 ballot. If the replacement ballot request form is not completed  
17 or signed by the voter or not received by the county clerk, the  
18 county clerk shall not process the ballot."

19 SECTION 3. Section 11-1, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
20 amended as follows:



1 1. By adding two new definitions to be appropriately  
2 inserted and to read:

3 "Place of deposit" means a site designated by the chief  
4 election officer for the purpose of receiving return  
5 identification envelopes in an election conducted by mail  
6 pursuant to part \_\_\_\_\_.

7 "Voter service center" means a site designated by the chief  
8 election officer to serve all of the following purposes:

9 (1) Receive return envelopes for absentee and permanent  
10 absentee ballots pursuant to chapter 15;

11 (2) Receive return identification envelopes in an election  
12 by mail pursuant to part \_\_\_\_\_;

13 (3) Provide voting machine services for persons with  
14 disabilities pursuant to the Help America Vote Act of  
15 2002 (Pub.L. 107-252), as amended, and any other  
16 federal or state law relating to persons with  
17 disabilities;

18 (4) Assist with voter registration services as provided by  
19 law; and

20 (5) Any other purposes as the chief election officer may  
21 deem necessary in the event of a natural disaster or



1           other exigent circumstances occurring prior to an  
2           election."

3           2. By amending the definitions of "ballot" and "voting  
4 system" to read:

5           "Ballot" [7] means a ballot, including an absentee ballot,  
6 that is a written or printed, or partly written and partly  
7 printed paper or papers, containing the names of persons to be  
8 voted for, the office to be filled, and the questions or issues  
9 to be voted on. "Ballot" includes a ballot used in an election  
10 by mail pursuant to part . A ballot may consist of one or  
11 more cards or pieces of paper, or one face of a card or piece of  
12 paper, or a portion of the face of a card or piece of paper,  
13 depending on the number of offices, candidates to be elected  
14 thereto, questions or issues to be voted on, and the voting  
15 system in use. It shall also include the face of the mechanical  
16 voting machine when arranged with cardboard or other material  
17 within the ballot frames, containing the names of the candidates  
18 and questions to be voted on.

19           "Voting system" [7] means the use of paper ballots,  
20 electronic ballot cards, voting machines, elections by mail



1 pursuant to part , absentee voting pursuant to chapter 15, or  
2 any system by which votes are cast and counted."

3 SECTION 4. Section 11-4, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
4 amended to read as follows:

5 **"§11-4 Rules [~~and regulations~~].** The chief election  
6 officer may make, amend, and repeal [~~such~~] rules [~~and~~  
7 ~~regulations~~] governing elections held under this title, election  
8 procedures, and the selection, establishment, use, and operation  
9 of all voting systems now in use or to be adopted in the State,  
10 and all other similar matters relating thereto as in the chief  
11 election officer's judgment shall be necessary to carry out this  
12 title.

13 In making, amending, and repealing rules [~~and regulations~~]  
14 for voters who cannot vote [~~at the polls~~] in person or receive  
15 or return ballots by mail, and all other voters, the chief  
16 election officer shall provide for voting by [~~such~~] these  
17 persons in [~~such~~] a manner as to [~~insure~~] ensure secrecy of the  
18 ballot and to preclude tampering with the ballots of these  
19 voters and other election frauds. [~~Such~~] The rules [~~and~~  
20 ~~regulations~~], when adopted in conformity with chapter 91 and



1 upon approval by the governor, shall have the force and effect  
2 of law."

3 SECTION 5. Section 11-17, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
4 amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

5 "(a) The clerk, not later than 4:30 p.m. on the sixtieth  
6 day after every general election, shall remove the name of any  
7 registered voter who did not vote in that general election, and  
8 also did not vote in the primary election preceding that general  
9 election, and also did not vote in the previous general  
10 election, and also did not vote in the primary election  
11 preceding that general election, and also did not vote in the  
12 regularly scheduled special elections held in conjunction with  
13 those primary and general elections, if any, with the exception  
14 of:

15 (1) Those who submitted written requests for absentee  
16 ballots as provided in section 15-4; or

17 (2) Anyone who preregistered pursuant to section 11-12(b).

18 If a person voted, at least once, in any of the above-mentioned  
19 elections, the person's name shall remain on the list of  
20 registered voters. For this purpose, "vote" means the  
21 depositing of the ballot in the ballot box whether the ballot is



1 blank or later rejected for any reason. In the case of voting  
2 machines, "vote" means the voter has activated the proper  
3 mechanism and fed the vote into the machine. In the case of an  
4 election by mail pursuant to part , "vote" means the voter  
5 has returned the ballot to the chief election officer or county  
6 clerk by the United States Postal Service or by delivering the  
7 ballot to a place of deposit or voter service center."

8 SECTION 6. Section 11-92.1, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
9 amended by amending its title and subsection (a) to read as  
10 follows:

11 **"§11-92.1 Election proclamation; ~~[establishment of a new~~**  
12 **~~precinct.] places of deposit; voter service centers.~~** (a) The  
13 chief election officer shall issue a proclamation ~~[whenever a~~  
14 ~~new precinct is established in any representative district. The~~  
15 ~~chief election officer shall provide a suitable polling place~~  
16 ~~for each precinct.]~~ listing all places of deposit and voter  
17 service centers. There shall be no minimum number of places of  
18 deposit in any county, and the chief election officer shall  
19 provide places of deposit only if the locations and apparatus  
20 for the purposes pursuant to part can be securely maintained  
21 throughout the period of use for each election. The chief



1 election officer shall provide at least one voter service center  
2 on each inhabited island. Schools, recreational halls, park  
3 facilities, and other publicly owned or controlled buildings,  
4 whenever possible and convenient, shall be used as [~~polling~~  
5 ~~places.~~] voter service centers. The chief election officer  
6 shall make arrangements for the rental or erection of suitable  
7 shelter for this purpose whenever public buildings are not  
8 available and shall cause these [~~polling places~~] voter service  
9 centers to be equipped with the necessary facilities for  
10 lighting, ventilation, and equipment needed for elections on any  
11 island. This proclamation may be issued jointly with the  
12 proclamation required in section 11-91."

13 SECTION 7. Section 11-92.3, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
14 amended by amending the title and subsection (a) to read as  
15 follows:

16 **"§11-92.3 [~~Consolidated precincts; natural~~] Natural**  
17 **disasters; postponement; absentee voting [~~required~~]; vote by**  
18 **mail; special elections.** (a) In the event of a flood, tsunami,  
19 earthquake, volcanic eruption, high wind, or other natural  
20 disaster, occurring prior to an election, that makes a  
21 [~~precinct~~] place of deposit or voter service center



1 inaccessible, the chief election officer or county clerk in the  
2 case of county elections may [~~consolidate precincts within a~~  
3 ~~representative district.~~] provide alternate places of deposit or  
4 voter service centers. If the extent of damage caused by any  
5 natural disaster is such that the ability of voters[~~, in~~] on any  
6 [~~precinct, district, or county,~~] inhabited island to exercise  
7 their right to vote is substantially impaired, the chief  
8 election officer or county clerk in the case of county elections  
9 may [~~require the~~]:

10 (1) Require the registered voters of the affected  
11 [~~precinct~~] island to vote by absentee ballot pursuant  
12 to section 15-2.5 [~~and may postpone~~] or vote by mail  
13 pursuant to part ; and

14 (2) Postpone the conducting of an election [~~in~~] on the  
15 affected [~~precinct~~] island for no more than twenty-one  
16 days; provided that any [~~such~~] postponement shall not  
17 affect the conduct of the election, tabulation, or  
18 distribution of results for [~~these precincts,~~  
19 ~~districts, or counties~~] islands not designated for  
20 postponement.



1 The chief election officer or county clerk in the case of county  
2 elections shall give notice of the [~~consolidation,~~]  
3 postponement[~~]~~ or requirement to vote by absentee ballot[~~, in~~]  
4 or by mail, on the affected [county or precinct] island prior to  
5 the opening of the [~~precinct polling place~~] alternative place of  
6 deposit or voter service center by whatever possible news or  
7 broadcast media are available. [~~Precinct officials and workers~~  
8 ~~affected by any consolidation shall not forfeit their pay.~~]"

9 SECTION 8. Section 11-184, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
10 amended to read as follows:

11 **"§11-184 Election expenses and responsibilities in**  
12 **combined state and county elections[~~]~~ by mail.** Election  
13 expenses in elections by mail involving both state and county  
14 offices shall be shared as [~~set forth below.~~] follows:

15 [~~(1) The State shall pay and be responsible for:~~

16 [~~(A) Precinct officials,~~

17 [~~(B) Instruction of precinct officials when initiated~~  
18 [~~or approved by the chief election officer,~~

19 [~~(C) Boards of registration,~~



- 1       ~~(D) Polling place costs other than supplies;~~  
2       ~~installation rentals, ballot boxes, voting~~  
3       ~~booths, custodians, telephones, and maintenance;~~  
4       ~~(E) Other equipment such as ballot transport~~  
5       ~~containers;~~  
6       ~~(F) Temporary election employees hired to do strictly~~  
7       ~~state work; and~~  
8       ~~(G) Extraordinary voter registration and voter~~  
9       ~~education costs when approved by the chief~~  
10      ~~election officer.~~
- 11      ~~(2) The county shall pay and be responsible for:~~
- 12      ~~(A) Normal voter registration, voters list~~  
13      ~~maintenance, and all printing connected with~~  
14      ~~voter registration, including printing of the~~  
15      ~~voters list;~~
- 16      ~~(B) Temporary election employees hired to do strictly~~  
17      ~~county work;~~
- 18      ~~(C) Maintenance of existing voting machines,~~  
19      ~~including parts, freight, storage, programming,~~  
20      ~~and personnel;~~



~~(D) Maintenance and storage of voting devices and  
other equipment; and~~

~~(E) Employees assigned to conduct absentee polling  
place functions.~~

~~(3) The remaining election expenses shall be divided in  
half between the State and the counties. Each county  
will pay a proration of expenses as a proportion of  
the registered voters at the time of the general  
election. These expenses shall include but not be  
limited to:~~

~~(A) Polling place supplies;~~

~~(B) All printing, including ballots, but excluding  
printing connected with voter registration;~~

~~(C) Temporary election employees not including voting  
machine programmers doing work for both the State  
and county;~~

~~(D) Ballot preparation and packing; and~~

~~(E) All other costs for which the State or county are  
not specifically responsible relating to the  
operation of voting machines, electronic voting  
systems, and other voting systems except paper~~



~~ballots to include but not be limited to real  
property rentals, equipment rentals, personnel,  
mileage, telephones, supplies, publicity,  
computer programming, and freight.~~

~~The responsibility for the above functions shall  
be determined by the chief election officer where the  
responsibility for such functions has not been  
assigned by the legislature.~~

~~Any future expenses not presently incurred under any voting  
system now in use or to be used shall be assigned to paragraphs  
(1), (2), or (3) above by the chief election officer upon  
agreement with the clerks or by the legislature.]~~

(1) The State shall pay and be responsible for all costs  
initially related to an election-by-mail system,  
except for costs associated with voter registration,  
which shall be paid for by and the responsibility of  
the counties; and

(2) Subsequent costs in an election-by-mail system shall  
be divided in half between the State and the counties.  
Each county will pay a proration of expenses as a



1           proportion of the registered voters at the time of the  
2           general election."

3           SECTION 9. Section 15D-3, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
4 amended to read as follows:

5           "~~15D-3~~ **Elections covered.** The voting procedures in  
6 this chapter apply to:

7           (1) A general, special, or primary election for federal  
8 office;

9           (2) A general, special, or primary election for statewide  
10 or state legislative office or state ballot measure;  
11 and

12           (3) A general, special, recall, primary, or runoff  
13 election for local government office or local ballot  
14 measure conducted under ~~[section 11-91.5]~~ part of  
15 chapter 11 for which absentee voting or voting by mail  
16 is available for other voters."

17           SECTION 10. Section 19-6, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
18 amended to read as follows:

19           "**§19-6 Misdemeanors.** The following persons shall be  
20 guilty of a misdemeanor:



- 1 (1) Any person who offers any bribe or makes any promise  
2 of gain, or with knowledge of the same permits any  
3 person to offer any bribe or make any promise of gain  
4 for the person's benefit to any voter to induce the  
5 voter to sign a nomination paper, and any person who  
6 accepts any bribe or promise of gain of any kind as  
7 consideration for signing the same, whether the bribe  
8 or promise of gain be offered or accepted before or  
9 after the signing;
- 10 (2) Any person who wilfully tears down or destroys or  
11 defaces any election proclamation or any poster or  
12 notice or list of voters or visual aids or facsimile  
13 ballot, issued or posted by authority of law;
- 14 (3) Any person printing or duplicating or causing to be  
15 printed or duplicated any ballot, conforming as to the  
16 size, weight, shape, thickness, or color to the  
17 official ballot so that it could be cast or counted as  
18 an official ballot in an election;
- 19 (4) Every person who is disorderly or creates a  
20 disturbance whereby any meeting of the precinct  
21 officials or the board of registration of voters



1 during an election is disturbed or interfered with; or  
2 whereby any person who intends to be lawfully present  
3 at any meeting or election is prevented from  
4 attending; or who causes any disturbance at any  
5 election; and every person assisting or aiding or  
6 abetting any disturbance;

7 (5) Every person who, either in person or through another,  
8 in any manner breaks up or prevents, or endeavors to  
9 break up or prevent, the holding of any meeting of the  
10 board of registration of voters, or in any manner  
11 breaks up or prevents, or endeavors to break up or  
12 prevent, the holding of any election;

13 (6) Any person, other than those designated by section  
14 11-132, who remains or loiters within the area set  
15 aside for voting as set forth in section 11-132 during  
16 the time appointed for voting;

17 (7) Any person, including candidates carrying on any  
18 campaign activities within the area described in  
19 section 11-132 during the period of time starting one  
20 hour before the polling place opens and ending when  
21 the polling place closes for the purpose of



1 influencing votes. Campaign activities shall include  
2 the following:

3 (A) Any distribution, circulation, carrying, holding,  
4 posting, or staking of campaign cards, pamphlets,  
5 posters and other literature;

6 (B) The use of public address systems and other  
7 public communication media;

8 (C) The use of motor caravans or parades; and

9 (D) The use of entertainment troupes or the free  
10 distribution of goods and services;

11 (8) Any person who opens a return envelope containing [an  
12 absentee]:

13 (A) An absentee ballot voted under chapter 15 other  
14 than those persons authorized to do so under  
15 chapter 15; or

16 (B) A ballot voted by mail under part of chapter  
17 11 other than those persons authorized to do so  
18 under part of chapter 11;

19 (9) Any unauthorized person found in possession of any  
20 voting machine or keys thereof; and



(10) Every person who wilfully violates or fails to obey any of the provisions of law, punishment for which is not otherwise in this chapter specially provided for."

SECTION 11. Section 11-91.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is repealed.

~~["§11-91.5 Federal, state, and county elections by mail.~~

~~(a) Any federal, state, or county election held other than on the date of a regularly scheduled primary or general election may be conducted by mail.~~

~~(b) The chief election officer shall determine whether a federal or state election, other than a regularly scheduled primary or general election, may be conducted by mail or at polling places.~~

~~(c) The county clerk shall determine whether a county election, held other than on the date of a regularly scheduled primary or general election, may be conducted by mail or at polling places. An election by mail in the county shall be under the supervision of the county clerk.~~

~~(d) Any ballot cast by mail under this section shall be subject to the provisions applicable to absentee ballots under sections 11-139 and 15-6.~~



~~(c) The chief election officer shall adopt rules pursuant to chapter 91 to provide for uniformity in the conduct of federal, state, and county elections by mail."~~

SECTION 12. Act 166, Session Laws of Hawaii 2014, is amended as follows:

1. By repealing section 1.

~~["SECTION 1. Chapter 11, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated and to read as follows:~~

~~**"§11—Late registration.** (a) Notwithstanding the closing of the general county register pursuant to section 11-24, a person who is eligible to vote but is not registered to vote may register by appearing in person:~~

~~(1) Prior to the day of the election, at any absentee polling place established pursuant to section 15-7 in~~

~~the county associated with the person's residence; or~~

~~(2) On the day of the election, at the polling place in the precinct associated with the person's residence.~~

~~(b) The county clerk shall designate a registration clerk, who may be an election official, at each of the absentee polling places in the county established pursuant to section 15-7, prior~~



~~to the day of the election and at each of the polling places in the county on the day of the election.~~

~~(c) The registration clerk shall process applications for any person not registered to vote who submits a signed affidavit in accordance with section 11-15, which shall include a sworn affirmation:~~

~~(1) Of the person's qualification to vote;~~

~~(2) Acknowledging that the person has not voted and will not vote at any other polling place for that election and has not cast and will not cast any absentee ballot pursuant to chapter 15 for that election; and~~

~~(3) Acknowledging that providing false information may result in a class C felony, punishable by a fine not exceeding \$1,000 or imprisonment not exceeding five years, or both.~~

~~(d) The registration clerk may accept, as prima facie evidence, the allegation of the person in the application regarding the person's residence in accordance with section 11-15(b), unless the allegation is contested by a qualified voter. The registration clerk may demand that the person furnish~~



1 ~~substantiating evidence to the other allegations of the person's~~  
2 ~~application in accordance with section 11-15(b).~~

3 ~~(e) Registration may be challenged in accordance with~~  
4 ~~section 11-25.~~

5 ~~(f) Notwithstanding subsection (a), registration pursuant~~  
6 ~~to this section may also be used by a person who is registered~~  
7 ~~to vote but whose name cannot be found on the precinct list for~~  
8 ~~the polling place associated with the person's residence.~~

9 ~~(g) The clerk of each county shall add persons who~~  
10 ~~properly register under this section to the respective general~~  
11 ~~county register. Within thirty days of registration at the~~  
12 ~~polling place, the county clerk shall mail to the person a~~  
13 ~~notice including the person's name, current street address,~~  
14 ~~district and precinct, and date of registration. A notice~~  
15 ~~mailed pursuant to this subsection shall serve as prima facie~~  
16 ~~evidence that the person is a registered voter as of the date of~~  
17 ~~registration."~~]

18 2. By amending section 6 to read:

19 "SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2014;  
20 provided that[+]



1       ~~(1) Section]~~ section 3 of this Act shall take effect on  
2       January 1, 2016[, ~~and~~

3       ~~(2) Section 1 of this Act shall take effect on January 1,~~  
4       2018]."

5       SECTION 13. There is appropriated out of the general  
6       revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$               or so  
7       much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2015-2016 and  
8       the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal  
9       year 2016-2017 for the purpose of implementing and administering  
10      the election by mail program.

11      The sums appropriated shall be expended by the office of  
12      elections for the purposes of this Act.

13      SECTION 14. In codifying the new sections added by section  
14      2 of this Act, the revisor of statutes shall substitute  
15      appropriate section numbers for the letters used in designating  
16      the new sections in this Act.

17      SECTION 15. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
18      and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

19      SECTION 16. This Act shall take effect on January 7, 2059;  
20      provided that:



- 1           (1) Sections 2 through 12 of this Act shall take effect on  
2           January 1, 2016, in counties with a population of less  
3           than 100,000;  
4           (2) Sections 2 through 12 of this Act shall take effect on  
5           January 1, 2018, in counties with a population of  
6           100,000 or more; and  
7           (3) Section 13 of this Act shall take effect on July 1,  
8           2015.



**Report Title:**

Elections; Voting; Elections by Mail; Absentee Voting;  
Appropriation

**Description:**

Requires the office of elections to implement elections by mail in a county with a population of less than 100,000, beginning with the 2016 primary election. By 2018, requires all federal, state, and county primary, special primary, general, special general, and special elections to be conducted by mail. Provides places of deposit for personal delivery of mail-in ballots and ensures a limited number of voter service centers in each county to remain open on the day of election to allow voters with special needs to vote and receive personal delivery of absentee, permanent absentee, and mail-in ballots. Makes conforming amendments. Appropriates funds for the implementation and administration of the election by mail program. (SD1)

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

