



**STATE OF HAWAII  
OFFICE OF ELECTIONS**

802 LEHUA AVENUE  
PEARL CITY, HAWAII 96782  
elections.hawaii.gov

SCOTT T. NAGO  
CHIEF ELECTION OFFICER

**TESTIMONY OF THE  
CHIEF ELECTION OFFICER, OFFICE OF ELECTIONS  
TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE  
ON HOUSE BILL NO. 1651, HD 1  
RELATING TO CLASS C FELONIES**

February 25, 2016

Chair Luke and members of the House Committee on Finance, thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of House Bill No. 1651, HD 1. The purpose of this bill is to clarify the penalties associated with providing false information in relation to a same day voter registration application.

Currently, the law provides that the provision of false information in relation to a same day voter registration application will constitute "a class C felony, punishable by a fine not exceeding \$1,000 or imprisonment not exceeding five years, or both." HRS §§ 11-15.2(c)(3) & 15-7(e)(3). A class C felony is normally associated with a fine not exceeding \$10,000 or imprisonment not exceeding five years. HRS §§ 706-640 & 706-660. In order to be consistent, the bill removes the specific reference to the fine and imprisonment in HRS §§ 11-15.2(c)(3) and 15-7(e)(3) and leaves the reference to a class C felony.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of House Bill No. 1651, HD 1.



House Finance Committee  
Chair Sylvia Luke, Vice Chair Scott Nishimoto

Thursday 02/25/2016 at 3:00 PM in Room 308  
HB 1651 – Relating to Class C Felonies

TESTIMONY — SUPPORT  
Carmille Lim, Executive Director, Common Cause Hawaii

---

Dear Chair Luke, Vice Chair San Nishimoto, and members of the House Finance Committee:

**Common Cause Hawaii supports HB1651** which would essentially consider falsifying voter registration information as a class C felony, whereas currently, falsifying this information “may result in” a class C felony.

We believe that strengthening and clarifying the consequences for such an act will serve as a further deterrent toward individuals who are considering provide false information on his or her voter registration affidavit.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony **supporting HB1651**.



**LATE**

49 South Hotel Street, Room 314 | Honolulu, HI 96813  
[www.lwv-hawaii.com](http://www.lwv-hawaii.com) | 808.531.7448 | [voters@lwv-hawaii.com](mailto:voters@lwv-hawaii.com)

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

THURSDAY, February 25, 2016, 3:00 P.M., Room 308  
HB 1651 RELATING TO CLASS C FELONIES

**TESTIMONY**

Janet Mason, Legislative Co-Chair, League of Women Voters of Hawaii

Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto and Committee Members:

**The League of Women Voters of Hawaii supports HB1651 which requires that a person applying for late registration or registration at an absentee polling place acknowledge that providing false information on their affidavit is a class C felony.**

To protect the integrity of voter registration records and prevent fraud, every person who registers to vote should be prepared to take this step. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.