



**STATE OF HAWAII
OFFICE OF ELECTIONS**

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SCOTT T. NAGO
CHIEF ELECTION OFFICER

**TESTIMONY OF THE
CHIEF ELECTION OFFICER, OFFICE OF ELECTIONS
TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
ON SENATE BILL NO. 2114, SD 1
RELATING TO CLASS C FELONIES**

February 11, 2016

Chair Tokuda and members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means, thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Senate Bill No. 2114, SD 1. The purpose of this bill is to increase the fine associated with providing false information in relation to a same day voter registration application from \$1,000 to \$10,000.

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. 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 with the traditional fine of \$10,000 associated with a class C felony, the bill seeks to amend the fine in advance of the implementation of same day voter registration at absentee walk sites this year.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Senate Bill No. 2114, SD 1.



Senate Ways and Means Committee
Chair Jill Tokuda, Vice Chair Donovan Dela Cruz

Thursday, 02/11/2016 at 9:30 AM in Room 211
SB 2114 – Relating to Class C Felonies

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

Dear Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Dela Cruz, and members of the Senate Ways and Means Committee:

Common Cause Hawaii supports SB 2114 which would increase the fine from \$1,000 to \$10,000 for a person who provides false information when registering to vote late or at an absentee polling place.

While falsifying one's information when registering to vote is already considered a felony, we believe that increasing the applicable fine will act 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 SB 2114**.