

#### STATE OF HAWAII OFFICE OF ELECTIONS 802 LEHUA AVENUE PEARL CITY, HAWAII 96782 www.hawaii.gov/elections

SCOTT T. NAGO CHIEF ELECTION OFFICER

# TESTIMONY OF THE

# CHIEF ELECTION OFFICER, OFFICE OF ELECTIONS

## TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR

## ON SENATE BILL NO. 2114

## RELATING TO CLASS C FELONIES

January 26, 2016

Chair Keith-Agaran and members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor, thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Senate Bill No. 2114. 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 fine associated with a class C felony, the bill seeks to amend the fine to \$10,000.

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

DANNY A. MATEO County Clerk



JOSIAH K. NISHITA Deputy County Clerk

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK COUNTY OF MAUI 200 S. HIGH STREET WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793

www.mauicounty.gov/county/clerk

## TESTIMONY OF DANNY A. MATEO

### COUNTY CLERK, COUNTY OF MAUI

#### TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR

#### ON SENATE BILL NO. 2114

#### **RELATING TO CLASS C FELONIES**

#### JANUARY 26, 2016

Chair Keith-Agaran and members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor, thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony in support for Senate Bill No, 2114. The purpose of this bill increases the fine from from \$1,000 to \$10,000 for a person who provides false information when registering to vote late or at an absentee polling place.

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) & HRS §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 & HRS §706-660). In order to be consistent with the fine associated with a class C felony, the bill seeks to amend the fine to \$10,000.

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



Senate Judiciary and Labor Committee Chair Gil Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Maile Shimabukuro

Tuesday, 01/26/2016 at 9:00 AM in Room 016 SB2114 – Relating to Class C Felonies

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

Dear Chair Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Shimabukuro, and members of the Senate Judiciary and Labor Committee:

**Common Cause Hawaii supports SB2114** 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 SB2114.