

JAN 25 2017

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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO VOTING.

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

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**PART I**

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SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the age

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qualification to vote in any federal, state, or local election

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is eighteen years of age. However, there are individuals whose

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dates of birth fall between the primary and general elections

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and therefore, due to current age restrictions, are unable to

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participate in state and local primary elections, which

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determine the ballot for the general elections in which they

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will later be eligible to vote. Granting voting rights to these

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individuals to participate in the voting process for state and

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local elections may improve voter turnout among youths and

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better educate youths about the democratic process.

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The purpose of this Act is to:

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(1) Allow an individual who is seventeen years of age but

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will be eighteen years of age on or before the next

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state or local general election to register and vote



1 at the state or local primary election immediately  
2 preceding that state or local general election; and  
3 (2) Provide that in the case of an unopposed candidate in  
4 any state or local election, the candidate's name  
5 shall appear on the general election ballot.

6 PART II

7 SECTION 2. Section 11-11, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
8 amended to read as follows:

9 "§11-11 Registration. A person who registers as required  
10 by law shall be entitled to vote at any federal election  
11 provided that the person shall have attained the age of eighteen  
12 at the time of that election. A person who registers as  
13 required by law shall be entitled to vote at any state or local  
14 election if the person will attain the age of eighteen by the  
15 date of that election; provided that a person who is seventeen  
16 years of age but will attain the age of eighteen by the date of  
17 the next state or local general election shall be entitled to  
18 vote beginning with the state or local primary election  
19 immediately preceding the state or local general election by  
20 which the person will attain the age of eighteen years. The  
21 county clerk shall be responsible for voter registration in the



1   respective counties and the keeping of the general register and  
2   precinct lists within the county."

3           SECTION 3.   Section 11-12, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
4   amended to read as follows:

5           "**§11-12 Age; place of registering.** (a) Every person who  
6   has reached the age of eighteen years or who is seventeen years  
7   of age and will be eighteen years of age by the date of the next  
8   federal election, and is otherwise qualified to register may do  
9   so for that election. Every person who has reached the age of  
10 eighteen years or who is seventeen years of age but will be  
11 eighteen years of age by the date of the next state or local  
12 election, and is otherwise qualified to register may do so for  
13 that election and the state or local primary election  
14 immediately preceding that election. The person shall then be  
15 listed upon the appropriate county general register and precinct  
16 list. No person shall register or vote in any other precinct  
17 than that in which the person resides except as provided in  
18 section 11-21.

19           (b) A person who is otherwise qualified to register and is  
20 at least sixteen years of age but will not be eighteen years of  
21 age by the date of the next election may preregister upon



1 satisfactory proof of age and shall be automatically registered  
2 upon reaching age eighteen[-] for federal elections or age  
3 seventeen for certain state or local primary elections in  
4 accordance with subsection (a)."

5 SECTION 4. Section 11-14.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
6 amended to read as follows:

7 "**§11-14.5 Residence address; confidentiality.** (a) If a  
8 life threatening circumstance exists to:

- 9 (1) A law enforcement person;  
10 (2) The law enforcement person's family; or  
11 (3) Persons otherwise determined by the clerk of the  
12 county in which the person is registered,  
13 that person may apply to the county clerk in writing to keep  
14 confidential the information relating to the residence address  
15 and telephone number contained in the affidavit of registration  
16 of that person, or any list or register prepared therefrom.

17 (b) If the disclosure of the residence address or  
18 telephone number of a person would result in an unwarranted  
19 invasion of personal privacy or expose the person or a member of  
20 the person's family to risk of bodily harm, the person may apply  
21 to the chief election officer or county clerk to keep



1 confidential the person's residence address and telephone number  
2 contained in the person's affidavit of registration, or any list  
3 or register prepared therefrom.

4 (c) In accordance with procedures and rules adopted by the  
5 chief election officer or county clerk to protect personal  
6 privacy, the chief election officer or county clerk shall not  
7 disclose the residence address or telephone number of a person  
8 who is under the age of eighteen and is registered to vote at  
9 any federal, state, or local election.

10 [~~e~~] (d) Upon good cause shown, the clerk shall determine  
11 whether to grant confidentiality in accordance with rules  
12 established by the chief election officer, and that decision  
13 shall be final.

14 [~~d~~] (e) If the voter registration of a person covered by  
15 this section is challenged, the clerk shall release the  
16 residence address of that person to the challenger pursuant to  
17 rules established by the chief election officer. If an appeal  
18 is taken relating to the challenge, the residence address shall  
19 also be released to the appropriate appellate body."

20 SECTION 5. Section 11-15.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
21 amended to read as follows:





1 candidate who has no opposition in any state or local election,  
2 the candidate's name shall be printed on the general election  
3 ballot.

4 In multimember races the ballot shall state that the voter  
5 shall not vote for more than the number of seats available or  
6 the number of candidates listed where such number is less than  
7 the seats available."

8 SECTION 7. Section 12-21, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
9 amended to read as follows:

10 "§12-21 Official party ballots. The primary or special  
11 primary ballot shall be clearly designated as such. The names  
12 of the candidates of each party qualifying under section 11-61  
13 or 11-62 and of nonpartisan candidates may be printed on  
14 separate ballots, or on a single ballot[-]; provided that the  
15 name of a candidate who is unopposed in any state or local  
16 election shall be printed on the general election ballot. The  
17 name of each party and the nonpartisan designation shall be  
18 distinctly printed and sufficiently separate from each other.  
19 The names of all candidates shall be printed on the ballot as  
20 provided in section 11-115. When the names of all candidates of  
21 the same party for the same office exceed the maximum number of



1 voting positions on a single side of a ballot card, the excess  
2 names may be arranged and listed on both sides of the ballot  
3 card and additional ballot cards if necessary. When separate  
4 ballots for each party are not used, the order in which parties  
5 appear on the ballot, including nonpartisan, shall be determined  
6 by lot.

7 The chief election officer or the county clerk, in the case  
8 of county elections, shall approve printed samples or proofs of  
9 the respective party ballots as to uniformity of size, weight,  
10 shape, and thickness prior to final printing of the official  
11 ballots."

12 **PART IV**

13 SECTION 8. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
14 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

15 SECTION 9. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2017;  
16 provided that part II of this Act shall take effect upon  
17 ratification of a constitutional amendment allowing individuals  
18 who are seventeen years of age but will be eighteen years of age  
19 on or before the date of the next state or local general  
20 election to register and vote in the state or local primary



# S.B. NO. 1272

1 election immediately preceding that state or local general  
2 election.

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INTRODUCED BY:



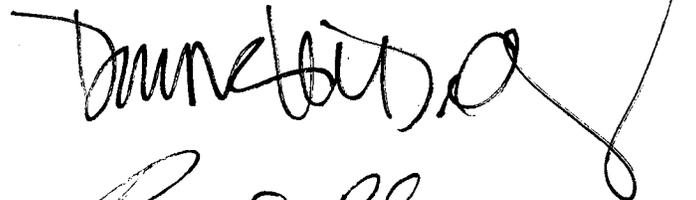


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# S.B. NO. 1272

**Report Title:**

State and Local Elections; Voter Registration; Voter Age;  
Unopposed Candidates; General Election Ballot

**Description:**

Part II: Allows an individual who is seventeen years of age but will be eighteen years of age on or before the next state or local general election to register and vote at the state or local primary election immediately preceding that state or local general election. Takes effect upon ratification of an appropriate constitutional amendment. Part III: Provides that in the case of an unopposed candidate in any state or local election, the candidate's name shall appear on the general election ballot.

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

