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 participation of eliqible voters in elections is vital to American democracy. 2 More than fifty-one million eligible citizens nationwide remain 3 4 unregistered to vote, one in eight voter registration records contain a serious error, and many voter registration systems 5 remain inefficient and largely based on outdated technology. 6 The Electronic Registration Information Center, or ERIC, is 7 a nonprofit organization that was formed in 2012 to help states 8 improve the accuracy of voter registration rolls by using secure 9 data-matching tools. ERIC uses the voter registration rolls of 10 member states and several other databases, such as driver's 11 12 licensing records, Social Security Administration records, and the United States Postal Service's national change of address 13 registry to compare voting lists. Twenty states and the 14 District of Columbia now participate in ERIC and receive, as 15 member states, reports that show voters who have moved within a 16 **17** participating state, voters who have moved out of the state, voters with duplicate registrations within the state, voters who 18

- 1 have passed away, and individuals who are potentially eligible
- 2 to vote and have not yet registered to vote.
- 3 The legislature further finds that many persons reside in
- 4 Hawaii on a part-time basis. This mobile population may be
- 5 registered to vote in more than one state due to outdated
- 6 registration records, thus challenging the accuracy of Hawaii's
- 7 and other states' voter registration rolls. Accordingly, the
- 8 legislature finds that modernizing Hawaii's system of verifying
- 9 voter registration data is essential to ensuring the integrity
- 10 of Hawaii's voter registration rolls.
- 11 The purpose of this Act is to require:
- 12 (1) The office of elections to join the Electronic
- Registration Information Center;
- 14 (2) The State and each county to use the Electronic
- 15 Registration Information Center to verify their voter
- 16 rolls; and
- 17 (3) Any documents or images of driver's licenses and civil
- 18 identification card information maintained by the
- 19 department of transportation or the counties to be
- 20 electronically provided to election officials and the
- 21 statewide voter registration system.

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- 1 SECTION 2. Chapter 11, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended
- 2 by adding a new section to part II to be appropriately
- 3 designated and to read as follows:
- 4 "§11- Driver's license and civil identification card
- 5 databases. The databases maintained or operated by the counties
- 6 or the department of transportation containing driver's license
- 7 and civil identification card information, including any
- 8 documents or images, shall be provided electronically to
- 9 election officials and the statewide voter registration system
- 10 to allow for the timely processing of voter registration
- 11 applications and ensure the integrity of the voter registration
- 12 rolls or for any other government purpose, as determined by the
- 13 chief election officer."
- 14 SECTION 3. No later than May 8, 2018, the office of
- 15 elections shall join the Electronic Registration Information
- 16 Center. The office of elections shall share with each county
- 17 the information and services provided by the Electronic
- 18 Registration Information Center pursuant to terms of the
- 19 office's membership agreement with that organization.
- 20 The office of elections and each county office that administers
- 21 elections shall use information and services provided by the

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- 1 Electronic Registration Information Center to verify their
- 2 respective voter registration rolls.
- 3 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general
- 4 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
- 5 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2017-2018 and
- 6 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal
- 7 year 2018-2019 for the office of elections to join the
- 8 Electronic Registration Information Center.
- 9 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the office of
- 10 elections for the purposes of this Act.
- 11 SECTION 5. New statutory material is underscored.
- 12 SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect on January 7, 2059.

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Report Title:

Voter Registration; Verification; Appropriation

Description:

Authorizes the electronic transmission of databases containing driver's license and civil identification card information to election officials and the statewide voter registration system. Requires the Office of Elections to join the Electronic Registration Information Center and share information with counties to encourage voter participation and ensure integrity of voter registration rolls. Appropriates funds. Takes effect on 01/07/2059. (SD1)

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