

STATE OF HAWAII OFFICE OF ELECTIONS

SCOTT T. NAGO CHIEF ELECTION OFFICER 802 LEHUA AVENUE PEARL CITY, HAWAII 96782 elections.hawaii.gov

TESTIMONY OF THE

CHIEF ELECTION OFFICER, OFFICE OF ELECTIONS

TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

ON SENATE BILL NO. 194

RELATING TO ARRANGEMENT OF CANDIDATE NAMES ON BALLOTS

February 7, 2019

Chair Rhoads and members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary, thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on Senate Bill No. 194. The purpose of this bill is to require candidate names to be randomized on individual ballots and randomly rotated across precincts.

We would accomplish the purpose of this measure by randomly selecting a letter of the alphabet for each district/precinct (ballot type) to be the first letter to organize the candidate names. For example, if the letter "H" was randomly selected by lot, candidates whose last name started with an "H" would be listed first and subsequent names will follow alphabetically (e.g., "H", "I", "J").

We would also note that the randomly selected letter should only be applied to the first letter of the last name and not modify additional alphabetizing. We use the alphabetical organization for proofing the ballots to ensure all candidates are properly listed, which corresponds to the voting position for the vote counting system.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill No. 194.

<u>SB-194</u> Submitted on: 2/6/2019 2:53:04 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/7/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing	
De MONT R. D. CONNER	Testifying for Ho'omanapono Political Action Committee (HPAC)	Support	Yes	

Comments:

WE STRONGLY SUPPORT THIS BILL.