

JAN 16 2020

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO VOTER REGISTRATION.

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

1 SECTION 1. The purpose of this Act is to conform the voter
2 registration deadline provision with Hawai'i's vote by mail
3 statutes by extending the voter registration deadline from
4 thirty days to fifteen days prior to each election.

5 SECTION 2. Section 11-15.2, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
6 amended to read as follows:

7 "§11-15.2 [~~Late registration.~~] Same day in-person
8 registration. (a) Notwithstanding the closing of the general
9 county register pursuant to section 11-24, a person who is
10 [~~eligible to vote but is~~] not registered to vote may register by
11 appearing in person at any voter service center on or before
12 election day.

13 (b) The clerk shall designate a registration clerk [~~, who~~
14 ~~may be an election official,~~] at each voter service center [~~,~~

15 ~~(c) The registration clerk]~~ who shall process applications
16 for any person [~~not registered to vote~~] who submits a signed



1 affidavit in accordance with section 11-15, which shall include
2 a sworn affirmation:

3 (1) Of the person's qualification to vote;

4 (2) Acknowledging that the person has not voted and will
5 not attempt to vote again in that election, and has
6 not cast and will not cast any absentee ballot
7 pursuant to chapter 15 in that election; and

8 (3) Acknowledging that providing false information may
9 result in a class C felony, punishable by a fine not
10 exceeding \$1,000 or imprisonment not exceeding five
11 years, or both.

12 [~~(d)~~] (c) The registration clerk may accept, as prima
13 facie evidence, the allegation of the person in the application
14 regarding the person's residence in accordance with section
15 11-15(b), unless the allegation is contested by a qualified
16 voter. The registration clerk may demand that the person
17 furnish substantiating evidence to the other allegations of the
18 person's application in accordance with section 11-15(b).

19 [~~(e)~~] ~~Registration may be challenged in accordance with~~
20 ~~section 11-25.~~



1 ~~(f) Notwithstanding subsection (a), registration pursuant~~
2 ~~to this section may also be used by a person who is registered~~
3 ~~to vote but whose name cannot be found on the county register.~~

4 ~~(g) The clerk of each county shall add persons who~~
5 ~~properly register under this section to the respective general~~
6 ~~county register. Within thirty days of registration, the clerk~~
7 ~~shall mail to the person a notice including the person's name,~~
8 ~~current street address, district, and date of registration. A~~
9 ~~notice mailed pursuant to this subsection shall serve as prima~~
10 ~~facie evidence that the person is a registered voter as of the~~
11 ~~date of registration.] "~~

12 SECTION 3. Section 11-24, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
13 amended to read as follows:

14 "**§11-24 Closing register.** (a) At 4:30 p.m. on the
15 [~~thirtieth~~] fifteenth day prior to each [~~primary, special~~
16 ~~primary, or special~~] election, but if the day is a Saturday,
17 Sunday, or holiday then at 4:30 p.m. on the first working day
18 immediately thereafter, the general county register shall be
19 closed to registration for persons seeking to vote [~~at the~~
20 ~~primary, special primary, or special election~~] and remain closed
21 to registration until after the election, subject to change only



1 as provided in sections 11-15.2, 11-21(c), 11-22, 11-25, 11-26,
2 and this section.

3 (b) Notwithstanding the [~~closing of the register for~~
4 ~~registration to vote at the primary or special primary election,~~
5 ~~the register shall remain open for the registration of persons~~
6 ~~seeking to vote at the general or special general election,~~
7 ~~until 4:30 p.m. on the thirtieth day prior to the general or~~
8 ~~special general election, but if the day is a Saturday, Sunday,~~
9 ~~or holiday then at 4:30 p.m. on the first working day~~
10 ~~immediately thereafter, at the end of which period the general~~
11 ~~county register shall be closed to registration and remain~~
12 ~~closed until after the general or special general election next~~
13 ~~following, subject to change only as provided in sections 11-~~
14 ~~21(c), 11-22, 11-25, and 11-26.] time of closing the general
15 county registrar under subsection (a), the clerk may accept an
16 application submitted on the fifteenth day if it was received
17 electronically in accordance with section 11-15.3 or received as
18 part of a drivers licensing transaction. The clerk shall also
19 accept an application that is postmarked prior to or on the
20 fifteenth day before the election."~~



1 SECTION 4. Section 11-102, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:

3 "(b) To the extent practicable, the clerk shall mail a
4 ballot package by non-forwardable mail to each registered voter
5 in the county so as to enable voters to receive the ballot
6 package approximately eighteen days before the election. The
7 clerk shall continue mailing ballot packages to voters who
8 register to vote no later than fifteen days before the date of
9 the election and to voters who update their voter registration
10 address no later than fourteen days before the date of the
11 election. In determining the initial mailing date of the ballot
12 packages, the clerk shall consider the mailing place of origin
13 and the most recent postal service delivery standards. The
14 clerk shall not mail a ballot package to any voter in the county
15 register who is identified as having an outdated or non-
16 deliverable mailing address. Nothing in this part shall be
17 construed to change the responsibilities of the clerk or chief
18 election officer under chapter 15D with respect to uniform
19 military and overseas voters."

20 SECTION 5. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
21 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.



S.B. NO. 2048

1 SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

2

INTRODUCED BY:

Kal Rhoan



S.B. NO. 2048

Report Title:

Voter Registration

Description:

Extends the voter registration deadline from thirty to fifteen days prior to each election. Makes conforming amendments.

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

