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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO ELECTIONS.

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

1           SECTION 1. Section 11-2, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
2 amended to read as follows:

3           "**§11-2 Chief election officer; duties.** (a) The chief  
4 election officer shall supervise all state elections. The chief  
5 election officer may delegate responsibilities in state  
6 elections within a county to the clerk of that county or to  
7 other specified persons.

8           (b) The chief election officer shall be responsible for  
9 the maximization of registration of eligible electors throughout  
10 the State. In maximizing registration, the chief election  
11 officer shall make an effort to equalize registration between  
12 districts, with particular effort in those districts in which  
13 the chief election officer determines registration is lower than  
14 desirable. The chief election officer, in carrying out this  
15 function, may make surveys, carry on house-to-house canvassing,  
16 and assist or direct the clerk in any other area of  
17 registration.



1 (c) The chief election officer shall maintain data  
2 concerning registered voters, elections, apportionment, and  
3 districting. The chief election officer shall use this data to  
4 assist the reapportionment commission provided for under  
5 ~~[Article]~~ article IV of the Constitution.

6 (d) The chief election officer shall be responsible for  
7 public education with respect to voter registration and  
8 information.

9 (e) The chief election officer shall develop and  
10 distribute a voter information guide for all candidates running  
11 for federal or state office, including candidates for any  
12 trustee position of the office of Hawaiian affairs. The voter  
13 information guide shall include a short statement of less than  
14 one hundred fifty words for each candidate running for office,  
15 to be prepared by the candidate; provided that the statement is  
16 based on a template or criteria created by the office of  
17 elections. The office of elections shall provide a translation  
18 of the voter information guide in Olelo Hawaii. The voter  
19 information guide may be distributed by whatever means practical  
20 given the resources available to the chief election officer,  
21 including but not limited to electronic distribution, mail, or



1 newspaper, and may be distributed in different versions to fit  
2 the respective electoral districts or regions. In each regular  
3 session of the legislature that immediately precedes an election  
4 year, the chief election officer shall request an appropriation  
5 that is sufficient to carry out the purposes of this subsection,  
6 to be effective in the year in which the election is to be held.

7       ~~(e)~~ (f) The chief election officer shall adopt rules  
8 governing elections in accordance with chapter 91."

9       SECTION 2. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
10 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

11       SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval;  
12 provided that it shall apply to the 2024 election and shall be  
13 repealed on November 6, 2024.



**Report Title:**

Elections; Chief Election Officer; Voter Information Guide

**Description:**

Requires the chief election officer to develop and distribute a voter information guide for all candidates running for federal or state office, including candidates running for any trustee position of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs for the 2024 election. Sunsets 11/6/2024. (SD1)

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