



Committee on JUDICIARY AND HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS
Chair David A. Tarnas, Vice Chair Gregg Takayama

Friday, March 17, 2023, Room 325 & VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE

SB 9, SD1 — RELATING TO BOARDS OF REGISTRATION

TESTIMONY

Janet Mason, Legislative Committee, League of Women Voters of Hawaii

Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Takayama, and Committee Members:

The League of Women Voters of Hawaii supports SB 9, SD1 that would require members of the Boards of Registration in each County in Hawaii be a registered voter in the respective county of the board to which the member is appointed and remain a registered voter in that county for their term of office. The bill also establishes methods for determining and verifying a board member's political party membership.

Board of Registration volunteers play an important part in maintaining the integrity of our elections, by reviewing and deciding appeals that arise from a voter challenge or a clerk's decision regarding voter registration. If they reside in the County which they represent they are more likely to be familiar with residents of the County, the County Clerk's operation and political parties active in the County.

Each member of the Board is expected to make fair decisions concerning voter appeals and a Clerk's decisions. To avoid overt bias, the law already requires that as a whole the three-member Board represent more than one political party. It is necessary and appropriate to have a procedure such as that outlined in the bill to determine a member's political party membership.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

SB-9-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/16/2023 2:31:30 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/17/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Leimomi Khan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Support. I am a member of the O'ahu Board of Registration. I believe this bill codifies current practices since when I became a Board member it was on nomination by my political party. Beyond the provisions of this bill, however, urge the legislature to review the laws regarding the kuleana of Boards of Registration in view of elections by mail in ballots.