
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE OFFICE OF ELECTIONS TO PREPARE AND SUBMIT A
PROPOSAL TO THE LEGISLATURE ON THE COST AND PERSONNEL
REQUIRED TO PREPARE AND DISTRIBUTE A VOTER INFORMATION
GUIDE.

1 WHEREAS, public confidence in the conduct of elections is
2 essential to the operation of self-governance; and

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4 WHEREAS, the public needs access to information on
5 candidates for elected office and ballot questions in a clear,
6 standardized format; and

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8 WHEREAS, there is increasing demand for access to
9 information in a digital format; and

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11 WHEREAS, voters with special-needs require adaptive
12 technology to access digital information; and

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14 WHEREAS, voters may require ballot information to be made
15 available in their native language; and

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17 WHEREAS, the House of Representatives established the
18 Commission to Improve Standards of Conduct pursuant to House
19 Resolution No. 9, Regular Session of 2022, with the essential
20 goal of providing recommendations that would help restore public
21 trust in state government and increase the level of transparency
22 in its operations and accountability of individuals; and

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24 WHEREAS, the Commission to Improve Standards of Conduct
25 convened regularly throughout 2022 to diligently review,
26 discuss, and consider the issues presented; submit an interim
27 report to the House of Representatives outlining areas of
28 immediate and long-term focus; receive input from the public and
29 invited individuals and agencies; and issue a final report with



1 various recommendations and accompanying proposed legislation;
2 and
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4 WHEREAS, one of the recommendations made by the Commission
5 to Improve Standards of Conduct was to require the Office of
6 Elections to prepare a voter information guide that includes
7 candidate statements and statements on ballot questions; now,
8 therefore,
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10 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
11 Thirty-second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
12 Session of 2023, the Senate concurring, that the Office of
13 Elections is requested to prepare a proposal detailing the cost
14 and personnel required to prepare and distribute a voter
15 information guide in a printed format, digital format, and
16 screen reader-accessible format for voters with special needs
17 who are unable to read standard print due to disability; and a
18 translation of the digital voter information guide in Olelo
19 Hawaii, Chinese, Ilocano, and Tagalog, and any other language as
20 required by federal or state law on the Office of Elections'
21 website. The voter information guide would include:
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23 (1) A photograph and short statement of less than one
24 hundred fifty words for each candidate running for
25 public office, to be prepared by the candidate;
26 provided that the Office of Elections may uniformly
27 limit the number of words for the candidate statement
28 by applicable public office;
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30 (2) A clear and concise explanation drafted by the
31 Department of the Attorney General of each state
32 constitutional amendment that will be proposed to
33 voters in the next general election; and
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35 (3) A clear and concise explanation drafted by the
36 appropriate county corporation counsel for each
37 proposed county charter amendment, proposed
38 initiative, and proposed referendum issue; and
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40 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Office of Elections is
41 requested to include in its cost estimate the cost to print and
42 mail a physical copy of the voter information guide to any voter



H.C.R. NO. 87

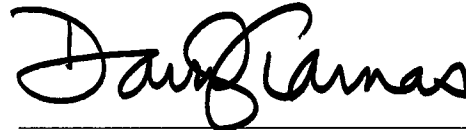
1 upon request, and to prepare and mail with each ballot for a
2 primary election a notice to voters that a digital voter
3 information guide is available on the Office of Elections'
4 website and send the notice by electronic mail to all voters
5 with special needs who have registered to receive alternate
6 format ballots; and
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8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the information made available
9 over the Internet as part of the voter information guide would
10 need to meet or exceed the most current, ratified standards
11 under section 508 of the federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29
12 U.S.C. 794d), as amended, and the Web Content Accessibility
13 Guidelines 2.0 adopted by the World Wide Web Consortium for
14 accessibility; and
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16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Office of Elections is
17 requested to submit the proposal to the Legislature no later
18 than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session
19 of 2024; and
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21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
22 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor and Chief
23 Election Officer.
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OFFERED BY:



MAR 10 2023

