

# GOV. MSG. NO. 1291

### EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS KE KE'ENA O KE KIA'ĀINA

JOSH GREEN, M.D. GOVERNOR KE KIA'ĀINA

July 3, 2024

The Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi President of the Senate, and Members of the Senate Thirty-Second State Legislature State Capitol, Room 409 Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813 The Honorable Scott K. Saiki Speaker, and Members of the House of Representatives Thirty-Second State Legislature State Capitol, Room 431 Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear President Kouchi, Speaker Saiki, and Members of the Legislature:

This is to inform you that on July 3, 2024, the following bill was signed into law:

SB2240 SD2 HD1 CD1

RELATING TO ELECTIONS. **ACT 190** 

Sincerely,

Josh Green, M.D.

Governor, State of Hawai'i

OD JUL 3 2024

THE SENATE THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE, 2024 STATE OF HAWAII S.B. NO. S.D. 2 H.D. 1 C.D. 1

# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO ELECTIONS.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the participation of 2 eligible voters in elections is vital to American democracy. integral part of voter participation is the maintenance of 3 accurate and current voter registration rolls. The Electronic 4 5 Registration Information Center, Inc., or ERIC, is a nonprofit 6 organization that was formed in 2012 to help states improve the 7 accuracy of voter registration rolls by using secure 8 data-matching tools. ERIC uses the voter registration rolls of 9 member states and several other databases, such as driver's licensing records, Social Security Administration records, and 10 the United States Postal Service's national change of address 11 12 registry to compare voting lists. Twenty-four states and the 13 District of Columbia now participate in ERIC and receive, as 14 member states, reports that list voters who have moved within the respective states, voters who have moved out of a state, 15 16 voters having duplicate registrations within a state, voters who 17 have passed away, and individuals who are potentially eligible 18 to vote and have not yet registered to do so.

1	The legislature further finds that many persons reside in
2	Hawaii on a part-time basis. This mobile population may be
3	registered to vote in more than one state due to outdated
4	registration records, thus challenging the accuracy of Hawaii's
5	and other states' voter registration rolls. The legislature
6	also finds that part of the process for a state to be admitted
7	as a member of ERIC is for that state to send mailers to its
8	residents who have driver's licenses but are not registered to
9	vote, encouraging them to register to vote. Accordingly, the
10	legislature finds that modernizing Hawaii's system of verifying
11	voter registration data is essential to ensuring the integrity
12	of Hawaii's voter registration rolls.
13	The purpose of this Act is to require:
14	(1) The office of elections to file an application with
15	ERIC for the State to be admitted as a member of the
16	organization; and
17	(2) The State and each county to use the information and
18	services made available by ERIC to verify their voter
19	rolls.

1	SECTION 2. Chapter II, hawall kevised Statutes, is amended
2	by adding a new section to part I to be appropriately designated
3	and to read as follows:
4	"§11- Electronic Registration Information Center, Inc.;
5	membership; voter registration; verification; annual budget
6	request. (a) No later than June 30, 2025, the office of
7	elections shall file an application with Electronic Registration
8	Information Center, Inc., for the State's admission as a member
9	of that organization.
10	(b) The office of elections shall share with each county
11	the information and services made available by Electronic
12	Registration Information Center, Inc., pursuant to the terms and
13	conditions of the State's membership agreement with the
14	organization. The office of elections and each county office
15	that administers elections shall use information and services
16	made available by Electronic Registration Information Center,
17	Inc., to verify their respective voter registration rolls.
18	(c) The office of elections shall take necessary actions
19	to maintain the State's membership with Electronic Registration
20	Information Center, Inc

- 1 (d) Beginning with fiscal year 2025-2026 and each fiscal
- 2 year thereafter, the office of elections shall request as part
- 3 of its annual budget an appropriation from the legislature to
- 4 pay the State's annual membership dues to Electronic
- 5 Registration Information Center, Inc."
- 6 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
- 7 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$125,000 or so much
- 8 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2024-2025 for the
- 9 office of elections to prepare and file an application with
- 10 Electronic Registration Information Center, Inc., for the State
- 11 to be admitted as a member of the organization, and for the
- 12 office of elections to send mailers to all Hawaii residents who
- 13 have driver's licenses but are not registered to vote,
- 14 encouraging them to register to vote.
- 15 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the office of
- 16 elections for the purposes of this Act.
- 17 SECTION 4. New statutory material is underscored.
- 18 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2024.

S.B. NO. S.D. 2 H.D. 1 C.D. 1

APPROVED this

3rd

day of

July

, 2024

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF HAWAI'I

## THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF HAWAI'I

Date: May 1, 2024

Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

We hereby certify that the foregoing Bill this day passed Final Reading in the Senate of the Thirty-Second Legislature of the State of Hawai'i, Regular Session of 2024.

President of the Senate

Clerk of the Senate

### THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

Date: May 1, 2024 Honolulu, Hawaii

We hereby certify that the above-referenced Bill on this day passed Final Reading in the House of Representatives of the Thirty-Second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2024.

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Scott K. Saiki Speaker House of Representatives

Mi Li Thete

Brian L. Takeshita

Chief Clerk

House of Representatives