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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. The legislature finds that young people are  
2 passionate about political issues and often want to engage in  
3 the political process, but they face barriers to participation.  
4 College students are particularly transient thereby making it a  
5 struggle to update their voter registration, and they may also  
6 be less likely to have a driver's license or other acceptable  
7 form of voter identification. Further, because voter engagement  
8 is vital to a robust democratic and representative form of  
9 government, the legislature finds that providing greater  
10 opportunities for young people to vote is a matter of statewide  
11 concern pursuant to article X, section 6, of the Hawaii State  
12 Constitution and that college campuses are well-positioned to  
13 promote and increase the engagement of young people in  
14 elections.

15           The purpose of this Act is to require public institutions  
16 of higher learning to expand voting registration access and



1 opportunities for young people to improve election  
2 participation.

3 SECTION 2. Chapter 11, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended  
4 by adding a new section to part II to be appropriately  
5 designated and to read as follows:

6 "**§11- University of Hawaii; voter registration agency.**

7 Each campus within the university of Hawaii system shall serve  
8 as a voter registration agency as defined in the National Voter  
9 Registration Act of 1993."

10 SECTION 3. Section 11-2, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
11 amended to read as follows:

12 "**§11-2 Chief election officer; duties.** (a) The chief  
13 election officer shall supervise all state elections. The chief  
14 election officer may delegate responsibilities in state  
15 elections within a county to the clerk of that county or to  
16 other specified persons.

17 (b) The chief election officer shall be responsible for  
18 the maximization of registration of eligible electors throughout  
19 the State. In maximizing registration, the chief election  
20 officer shall make an effort to equalize registration between  
21 districts, with particular effort in those districts in which



1 the chief election officer determines registration is lower than  
2 desirable. The chief election officer, in carrying out this  
3 function, may make surveys, carry on house-to-house canvassing,  
4 and assist or direct the clerk in any other area of  
5 registration.

6 (c) The chief election officer shall maintain data  
7 concerning registered voters, elections, apportionment, and  
8 districting. The chief election officer shall use this data to  
9 assist the reapportionment commission provided for under Article  
10 IV of the Constitution.

11 (d) The chief election officer shall collect and maintain  
12 data concerning voter registration and election participation to  
13 study voter registration, absentee voting, and provisional  
14 voting trends by age, race, and class to inform future efforts  
15 to improve youth involvement in elections.

16 [~~d~~] (e) The chief election officer shall be responsible  
17 for public education with respect to voter registration and  
18 information.

19 [~~e~~] (f) The chief election officer shall adopt rules  
20 governing elections in accordance with chapter 91."



1 SECTION 4. Section 11-15, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
2 amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

3 "(a) Any person qualified to and desiring to register as a  
4 voter in any county shall make and subscribe to an application  
5 in the form of an affidavit.

6 The affidavit shall contain the following information:

7 (1) Name;

8 (2) The applicant's Hawaii driver's license number [~~or~~],  
9 Hawaii state identification card number; student  
10 identification card number issued by the university of  
11 Hawaii system; or a copy of a student identification  
12 card containing a photograph of the person issued by  
13 any college or university located in any other state  
14 or territory in the United States; provided that:

15 (A) If no driver's license [~~or~~], identification card,  
16 or student identification card has been issued to  
17 the applicant, the last four digits of the  
18 applicant's social security number; and

19 (B) If no social security number has been issued to  
20 the applicant, an election official or county  
21 clerk shall assign the applicant a unique



1                    identification number for voter registration  
2                    purposes and enroll the applicant in the State's  
3                    computerized voter registration list, if any;

4            (3)    Date of birth;

5            (4)    Residence, including mailing address;

6            (5)    That the residence stated in the affidavit is not  
7                    simply because of the person's presence in the State,  
8                    but that the residence was acquired with the intent to  
9                    make Hawaii the person's legal residence with all the  
10                   accompanying obligations therein;

11           (6)    That the person is a citizen; and

12           (7)    A statement, if the applicant is unable to read  
13                    standard print due to disability, acknowledging that  
14                    fact and requesting an electronic ballot be sent to  
15                    the applicant's email address."

16           SECTION 5.    Section 11-109, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
17           amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

18           "(a)    Voter service centers shall be established by the  
19           clerks to service the particular needs of each county's  
20           voters[-]; provided that each university of Hawaii system campus  
21           shall be a voter service center."



1 SECTION 6. The office of elections shall amend section 3-  
2 177-550, Hawaii Administrative Rules, and other provisions of  
3 its rules, as necessary, to authorize a voter service center  
4 clerk to verify a voter's identity upon production of:

5 (1) Any valid student identification card issued by the  
6 university of Hawaii system; or

7 (2) Any valid student identification card containing a  
8 photograph of the voter and issued by any college or  
9 university located in any other state or territory of  
10 the United States.

11 SECTION 7. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
12 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

13 SECTION 8. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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INTRODUCED BY:

  
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JAN 17 2024



# H.B. NO. 1678

**Report Title:**

Elections; University of Hawaii; National Voter Registration Act; Voter Registration Agency; Voter Service Center; Chief Election Officer; Voting Data; Student Identification Card

**Description:**

Designates all University of Hawaii system campuses as voter registration agencies as defined in the National Voter Registration Act. Requires the Chief Election Officer to use data concerning voter registration and election participation to study voter registration, absentee voting, and provisional voting trends by age, race, and class to improve youth voter registration and election participation. Allows student identification cards issued by the University of Hawaii system to be used to register to vote. Designates all University of Hawaii campuses as voter service centers.

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

