S.B. NO. 1217

JAN 25 2023

A BILL FOR AN ACT

PROPOSING TO AMEND ARTICLE V OF THE STATE CONSTITUTION TO RAISE THE STATE RESIDENCY REQUIREMENT FOR CANDIDATES FOR GOVERNOR AND LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR.

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

1 SECTION 1. The purpose of this Act is to propose an amendment to article V, sections 1 and 2, of the Constitution of 2 3 the State of Hawaii to provide that, beginning with the 2026 4 general election, the minimum state residency requirement for a 5 candidate for governor or lieutenant governor shall be raised from five years to thirty years. 6 7 SECTION 2. Article V, section 1, of the Constitution of 8 the State of Hawaii is amended to read as follows: 9 "ESTABLISHMENT OF THE EXECUTIVE 10 Section 1. The executive power of the State shall be 11 vested in a governor. The governor shall be elected by the 12 qualified voters of this State at a general election. The 13 person receiving the highest number of votes shall be the governor. In case of a tie vote, the selection of the governor 14 15 shall be determined as provided by law.

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1 The term of office of the governor shall begin at noon on 2 the first Monday in December next following the governor's 3 election and end at noon on the first Monday in December, four 4 years thereafter. 5 No person shall be elected to the office of governor for 6 more than two consecutive full terms. 7 [No] Beginning with the general election of 2026, no person 8 shall be eligible for the office of governor unless the person 9 shall be a qualified voter, have attained the age of thirty 10 years and have been a resident of this State for [five] thirty 11 years immediately preceding the person's election. 12 The governor shall not hold any other office or employment 13 of profit under the State or the United States during the 14 governor's term of office." SECTION 3. Article V, section 2, of the Constitution of 15 16 the State of Hawaii is amended to read as follows: 17 "LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR 18 Section 2. There shall be a lieutenant governor who shall 19 have the same qualifications, including state residency 20 qualifications, as the governor. The lieutenant governor shall 21 be elected at the same time, for the same term and in the same



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1	manner as the governor; provided that the votes cast in the
2	general election for the nominee for governor shall be deemed
3	cast for the nominee for lieutenant governor of the same
4	political party. No person shall be elected to the office of
5	lieutenant governor for more than two consecutive full terms.
6	The lieutenant governor shall perform such duties as may be
7	provided by law."
8	SECTION 4. The question to be printed on the ballot shall
9	be as follows:
10	"Beginning with the 2026 general election, shall the
11	minimum state residency requirement for a candidate for
12	governor or lieutenant governor be raised from five years
13	to thirty years?"
14	SECTION 5. Constitutional material to be repealed is
15	bracketed and stricken. New constitutional material is
16	underscored.
17	SECTION 6. This amendment shall take effect upon
18	compliance with article XVII, section 3, of the Constitution of
19	the State of Hawaii.
20	The I
	INTRODUCED BY:

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Report Title:

State Constitution; Amendments; Elections; Governor; Lieutenant Governor

Description:

Proposes to amend the state Constitution to provide that, beginning with the 2026 general election, the minimum state residency requirement for a candidate for Governor or Lieutenant Governor shall be raised from 5 years to 30 years.

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