

Honolulu, Hawaii
FEB 06, 2024

RE: H.B. No. 1976
H.D. 1

Honorable Scott K. Saiki
Speaker; House of Representatives
Thirty-Second State Legislature
Regular Session of 2024
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, to which was referred H.B. No. 1976 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE OFFICE OF ELECTIONS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Appropriate funds to the Office of Elections for the Statewide Elections Accessibility Needs Advisory Committee to carry out its mandate; and
- (2) Require the Office of Elections to annually request funding for the Statewide Elections Accessibility Needs Advisory Committee.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii State Council on Developmental Disabilities; Statewide Voters with Accessibility Needs Advisory Committee; Hawaii Disability Rights Center; League of Women Voters of Hawaii; and three individuals.

Your Committee finds that the purpose of the Statewide Elections Accessibility Needs Advisory Committee is to ensure equal and independent access to voter registration, casting of

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ballots, and all other Office of Elections services. This measure will enable the Advisory Committee to carry out its mandate.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Codifying the requirement that the Office of Elections annually request funding for the Statewide Elections Accessibility Needs Advisory Committee in the Hawaii Revised Statutes;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$10,000.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1976, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1976, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

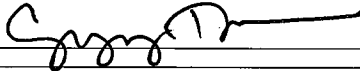
Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Judiciary &
Hawaiian Affairs,



DAVID A. TARNAS, Chair



Record of Votes of the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

Bill/Resolution No.: HB 1976	Committee Referral: JHA, FIN	Date: 1-30-24		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.				
The recommendation is to: <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended (as is) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments (HD) <input type="checkbox"/> Hold <input type="checkbox"/> Pass short form bill with HD to recommit for future public hearing (recommit)				
JHA Members	Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. TARNAS, David A. (C)	/			
2. TAKAYAMA, Gregg (VC)	/			
3. EVSLIN, Luke A.	/			
4. GANADEN, Sonny	/			
5. HOLT, Daniel	/			
6. ICHIYAMA, Linda	/			
7. ILAGAN, Greggor	/			
8. KONG, Sam Satoru	/			
9. MIYAKE, Tyson K.	/			
10. SOUZA, Kanani	/			
TOTAL (10)	10	-	-	-
The recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation. committee acronym(s)				
Vice Chair's or designee's signature: 				
Distribution: Original (White) – Committee Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office Duplicate (Pink) – HMSO				