

JAN 17 2025

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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO ADVISORY REFERENDUMS.

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

1           SECTION 1. Chapter 11, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended  
2 by adding a new section to be appropriately designated and to  
3 read as follows:

4           "§11-       Advisory referendums. (a) The legislature may  
5 adopt any concurrent resolution to propose a non-binding  
6 advisory referendum question to the people, who may vote on the  
7 question during any general election. The legislature may  
8 determine what subject matters are appropriate for referendum.  
9 No concurrent resolution adopted pursuant to this section shall  
10 embrace more than one referendum question.

11           (b) The chief election officer shall publish a notice of  
12 each advisory referendum question in a newspaper of general  
13 circulation in the State at least thirty days before the date of  
14 the advisory referendum. The notice of the advisory referendum  
15 shall also be available at all public libraries in the State and  
16 the office of the clerk of each county.



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1        (c) Each advisory referendum question shall be printed on  
2 the ballot and the question shall have a designated space to  
3 mark "yes" or "no".

4        (d) Except as provided in subsection (e), advisory  
5 referendum questions that appear on a ballot shall be  
6 collectively placed under a single heading that includes a  
7 statement that reads as follows:

8        "This section of the ballot enables voters to make  
9 recommendations advising the legislature whether or not to take  
10 action on the questions posed. Regardless of the outcome of the  
11 votes on these questions, further action by the legislature is  
12 necessary for any recommendation to become law."

13        (e) The chief election officer may make grammatical  
14 changes to the statement required by subsection (d) if a single  
15 advisory referendum question appears on any ballot.

16        (f) The chief election officer shall certify and report to  
17 the public the general election results regarding any advisory  
18 referendum question at or about the same time of the release of  
19 other results for the same general election. The chief election  
20 officer shall also report to the legislature the general  
21 election results regarding any advisory referendum question no



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1 less than twenty days before the convening of the first regular  
2 session that follows the general election."

3 SECTION 2. This Act does not affect rights and duties that  
4 matured, penalties that were incurred, and proceedings that were  
5 begun before its effective date.

6 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

7 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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INTRODUCED BY: 



# S.B. NO. 1031

**Report Title:**

Elections; Legislature; Advisory Referendums; Questions; Ballots

**Description:**

Authorizes the Legislature to adopt any Concurrent Resolution to propose a non-binding advisory referendum question to the people, who may vote on the question during any general election. Imposes notice, certification, and reporting requirements on the Chief Election Officer.

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

