
HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE OFFICE OF ELECTIONS TO CONVENE A WORKING GROUP ON
AUTOMATIC VOTER REGISTRATION.

1 WHEREAS, the legislature finds that every eligible person
2 should be able to register to vote in a convenient and secure
3 way that is beneficial to new voters and administrators alike;
4 and

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6 WHEREAS, key voter registration improvements can ensure
7 state election systems are secure and efficient, safeguard
8 votes, and save money; and

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10 WHEREAS, in the 2024 primary election, for example, the
11 State experienced its lowest turnout in sixty-five years, with
12 only 32.1 percent of registered voters filling out a ballot; and

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14 WHEREAS, to improve statewide voter turnout, the
15 Legislature must enact measures that strengthen the right to
16 vote; and

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18 WHEREAS, in 2021, Hawaii established automatic voter
19 registration to increase the State's historically low voter
20 participation rates; and

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22 WHEREAS, the automatic voter registration system
23 established by the Legislature was an opt-in system that places
24 the responsibility for registration on the part of individual
25 voters, which fails to fully include the total potential
26 population of new voters; and

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28 WHEREAS, changing the State's automatic voter registration
29 system from an opt-in to an opt-out model would maximize
30 democratic participation by making voter registration as
31 streamlined as possible; now, therefore,



1 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
2 Thirty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
3 of 2025, that the Office of Elections is requested to convene a
4 working group on automatic voter registration; and

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6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested
7 to make recommendations regarding changing the State's automatic
8 voter registration system to an opt-out system; and

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10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested
11 to consist of the following members:

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13 (1) The Chief Election Officer of the Office of Elections
14 or the Chief Election Officer's designee, who is
15 requested to serve as the chairperson of the working
16 group;
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18 (2) The Director of Transportation or the Director's
19 designee;
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21 (3) The Director of the Department of Customer Services of
22 the City and County of Honolulu or the Director's
23 designee;
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25 (4) A representative from Common Cause Hawaii;
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27 (5) A representative from the League of Women Voters; and
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29 (6) A representative from the Institute for Responsive
30 Government; and

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32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested
33 to submit a report of its findings and recommendations,
34 including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later
35 than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session
36 of 2026; and

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38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
39 Resolution be transmitted to the Chief Election Officer,
40 Director of Transportation, Director of the Department of
41 Customer Services of the City and County of Honolulu, Executive
42 Director of Common Cause Hawaii, President of the League of



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1 Women Voters, and Executive Director of the Institute for
2 Responsive Government.

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OFFERED BY:

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'B' followed by a series of loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

MAR - 7 2025

