
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO VOTING BOARDS.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the use of voting
2 boards and electronic voting systems are incredibly common among
3 state legislatures. The National Conference of State
4 Legislatures found that nearly two-thirds of states have
5 implemented electronic voting systems. The Wisconsin Assembly
6 (1917), the Texas House (1919) and the Virginia House (1923)
7 were the first chambers to install electronic voting systems,
8 but almost half the legislative assemblies had such systems in
9 place by 1980. Although many voting systems are more than ten
10 years old, one trend that has been noticeable for several years
11 is the willingness of state legislatures to upgrade their voting
12 systems. Upgrades have been made in more than forty per cent of
13 the chambers since 1990.

14 In 2008, the Wyoming legislature conducted a study about
15 various voting methods in the legislature. The study found that
16 there are many different options to produce an electronic voting
17 board, such as through hard-wired display boards, projection



1 screens, plasma screens, video monitors, or screens that blend
2 into the background when not in use. The Hawaii State
3 Legislature's Chambers are already equipped with a projector
4 which creates one option for how transparent electronic voting
5 could be displayed with little cost and no large renovations
6 required.

7 The purpose of this Act is to have LRB conduct a
8 feasibility study on electronic voting boards for both chambers
9 of the Hawaii State Capitol.

10 SECTION 2. (a) The legislative reference bureau shall
11 conduct a feasibility study that includes the costs associated
12 with the implementation of an electronic voting board in both
13 chambers of the legislature. The study shall examine:

14 (1) The type of electronic voting board technology
15 available;

16 (2) The costs associated with installing, operating, and
17 maintaining equipment in both chambers;

18 (3) The feasibility of retrofitting existing technology
19 installed in the chambers; and

20 (4) The amount of time needed to implement an electronic
21 voting board system.



4 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

5

INTRODUCED BY:

John

JAN 26 2026



H.B. NO. 2180

Report Title:

Voting; LRB Study; Electronic Voting Board

Description:

Requires LRB to conduct a feasibility study associated with the implementation of an electronic voting board in both chambers of the legislature and submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the legislature.

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