

MAR 16 2026

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO PROVIDE INFORMATION TO
STUDENTS ON HOW TO PREREGISTER TO VOTE PRIOR TO REACHING
VOTING AGE.

1 WHEREAS, civic participation is fundamental to a healthy
2 democracy and that young adults aged eighteen to twenty-four
3 represent a growing portion of Hawaii's electorate; and
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5 WHEREAS, according to the United States Census Bureau,
6 fewer than forty per cent of young adults participated in state
7 elections from 2014 to 2024; and
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9 WHEREAS, voting at a young age creates and empowers
10 lifelong voters, as data shows that after an individual votes
11 once, the individual often becomes a habitual voter; and
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13 WHEREAS, this lack of participation is primarily the result
14 of informational and time barriers, which have pronounced
15 effects on youth from low-income backgrounds, who are twice as
16 likely to miss registration deadlines or run out of time; and
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18 WHEREAS, by making information on voter preregistration and
19 registration more accessible for people sixteen years of age and
20 older, the State can empower a new generation of lifelong
21 voters; and
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23 WHEREAS, public schools, including charter schools, are
24 excellent venues for preregistering and registering students to
25 vote, since schools already require participation in a democracy
26 and civics class for graduation, and therefore have the
27 foundation to help increase civic engagement; now, therefore,
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29 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-third
30 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2026, the
31 House of Representatives concurring, that the Department of



S.C.R. NO. 105

1 Education provide information to students on how to preregister
2 to vote prior to reaching voting age; and

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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education is
5 urged to provide specific information regarding:

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7 (1) Voting eligibility information and guidance published
8 by the office of elections;

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10 (2) Procedures for properly completing and submitting a
11 voter registration application to the Hawaii online
12 voter registration system, the appropriate county
13 clerk, or through other lawful means;

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15 (3) Information on opportunities to register to vote; and

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17 (4) Information on opportunities for students sixteen
18 years of age or older to volunteer at a voter service
19 center, including information on how to sign up
20 through the office of elections website; and

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22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education
23 make available paper copies of voter registration and
24 preregistration application forms; and

25
26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education
27 make available resources describing accessible voting options
28 and accommodations to students who require assistance to vote
29 due to a disability, visual or hearing impairment, or inability
30 to read or write; and

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32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education
33 designate the last two full weeks in September of each year as
34 "high school voter registration and preregistration weeks",
35 which shall include activities to:

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37 (1) Raise civic awareness among high school students;

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39 (2) Encourage eligible students ages sixteen or seventeen
40 to preregister or register to vote; and



