

MAR 16 2026

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# SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE GOVERNOR TO APPOINT AN INDIVIDUAL FROM WITHIN THE  
OFFICE OF ELECTIONS TO TEMPORARILY SERVE AS THE ACTING  
CHIEF ELECTION OFFICER IN THE EVENT OF A VACANCY.

1           WHEREAS, free, fair, and certified elections are the  
2 foundation of a transparent and functioning democracy; and

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4           WHEREAS, in Hawaii, article IV, section 3, of the Hawaii  
5 State Constitution, requires the Legislature to provide for a  
6 Chief Election Officer of the State, whose role is to supervise  
7 state elections and perform related duties as provided by law;  
8 and

9  
10          WHEREAS, section 11-155, Hawaii Revised Statutes, requires  
11 the Chief Election Officer to compile, certify, and release the  
12 election results in state elections; and

13  
14          WHEREAS, if a vacancy were to occur without a clear interim  
15 successor, there would be no one authorized to compile, certify,  
16 and release the results of state elections, undermining public  
17 trust, creating legal ambiguity, and potentially  
18 disenfranchising voters across the State; and

19  
20          WHEREAS, without a designated backup to the Chief Election  
21 Officer, the State risks facing a significant disruption in  
22 election administration authority at a critical moment in its  
23 electoral process; and

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25          WHEREAS, at a time when election integrity is being  
26 challenged nationwide, the State must ensure continuity,  
27 clarity, and stability in its election administration; now,  
28 therefore,

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30          BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-third  
31 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2026, the  
32 House of Representatives concurring, that the Governor is



1 requested to appoint an individual from within the Office of  
2 Elections to temporarily serve as the acting Chief Election  
3 Officer in the event of a vacancy in the following order of  
4 succession:

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- 6 (1) The supervisor of election support services to the  
7 extent available to serve, and if not, then;  
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- 9 (2) The general counsel to the extent available to serve,  
10 and if not, then;  
11
- 12 (3) The supervisor of counting center operations to the  
13 extent available to serve, and if not, then;  
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- 15 (4) The supervisor of ballot operations to the extent  
16 available to serve, and if not, then; and  
17
- 18 (5) The supervisor of voter services to the extent  
19 available to serve; and  
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21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
22 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor and Chief  
23 Election Officer.  
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25  
26

OFFERED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

