



**STATE OF HAWAII  
OFFICE OF ELECTIONS**

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[www.hawaii.gov/elections](http://www.hawaii.gov/elections)

SCOTT T. NAGO  
CHIEF ELECTION OFFICER

March 30, 2015

To: Elections Commission

From: Scott T. Nago  
Chief Election Officer

Re: STATUS OF OPERATIONS

The Office of Elections is testifying on proposed legislation, developing the online voter registration system, and updating our website.

Legislation

The Office of Elections continues to track election-related measures through the legislative process. The following is a summary of the notable election related measures that are still active.

1. HB 124 HD 2 SD 1 and SB 287 HD 2 SD 1, Relating to Elections

These measures require all-mail elections, statewide, by 2020. All-mail will be implemented incrementally beginning with the County of Kauai in 2016. In addition to every registered voter receiving their ballot in the mail, voter service centers will be open through election day and function similarly to current absentee walk locations.

2. HB 179 HD 1 SD 1 and SB 442 SD 1 HD 1, Relating to Permanent Absentee Ballots

These measures provide that the forwarding address for permanent absentee ballots shall be the in-state mailing address associated with the voter's registration record. Voters seeking to have their ballot mailed out-of-state will be permitted to do so by utilizing the seasonal absentee application.

3. SB 364 SD 2 HD 1, Relating to Elections

This measure requires the Office of Elections to conduct recounts for elections decided by less than five hundred votes or one-quarter of one per cent of all votes cast for the contest, whichever is less.

4. SB 440 SD 1 HD 1, Relating to Vacancies

This measure amends the timing for vacancy elections associated with the office of U.S. Senator to be the same as the candidate filing deadline as regularly scheduled offices to meet the 45 day mailing of ballots to overseas and military voters requirement.

Online Voter Registration

The Office of Elections is still on schedule to launch the online voter registration system by August 3, 2015. Over the last month, the Office of Elections and the counties have worked with the vendor to finalize how the online voter registration system will guide applicants through the process of registering to vote. We have also been testing the web service that will be utilized to confirm that applicants have a valid driver's license or state identification card. The Voter Services section of the Office of Elections is in the planning stages for a media information program to accompany the deployment of the system.

Office of Elections Revised Website

We are currently working on a new website designed to provide easier, more-intuitive access to essential voter information. The site will also incorporate new features to help determine a voter's registration and absentee mail status. We are consulting with Information and Communication Services Division regarding layout, as well as other technical issues related to the page. The updated website is scheduled to be launched by June 30, 2015.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (808) 453-VOTE (8683) or 1-800-442-VOTE (8683).