

JAN 21 2011

A BILL FOR AN ACT

PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE II, SECTION 4, OF THE HAWAII STATE CONSTITUTION, TO RESTRICT VOTING ELIGIBILITY IN PRIMARY AND SPECIAL ELECTIONS TO PARTISAN AND NONPARTISAN DECLARANTS.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that, since its adoption
2 in 1978, article II, section 4, of the Hawaii State
3 Constitution, has encouraged voter participation in primary
4 elections by allowing voters to select any political party's
5 ballot without declaring a party preference or nonpartisanship
6 as a condition of voting. While some candidates may have sought
7 votes from members of a different political party, public
8 confidence in this open primary election system continues to be
9 high.

10 However, the possibility remains that a political party
11 could improperly affect the outcome of an opposing party's
12 primary election by encouraging its members to cast votes for
13 the weaker candidate of the opposing party, thus allowing their
14 candidate to face a weaker opposing candidate in the general
15 election.



1 party [~~preference or nonpartisanship~~] or nonmembership in any
2 political party as a condition of voting in any primary or
3 special primary election. A person who declares membership in a
4 particular political party shall be issued a primary or special
5 primary ballot for that party only. A person who declares
6 nonmembership in any political party shall be issued the primary
7 or special primary ballot for each political party and also the
8 nonpartisan ballot for that election. Secrecy of voting and
9 choice of political party affiliation [~~or nonpartisanship~~] shall
10 be preserved."

11 SECTION 3. The question to be printed on the ballot shall
12 be as follows:

13 "As a condition of voting in any primary or special primary
14 election, shall a person be required to declare membership
15 in a particular political party and be issued the primary or
16 special primary ballot for only that party, or declare
17 nonmembership in any political party and be issued the
18 primary or special primary ballot for each party as well as
19 the nonpartisan primary or special primary ballot?"

20 SECTION 4. Constitutional material to be repealed is
21 bracketed and stricken. New constitutional material is
22 underscored.


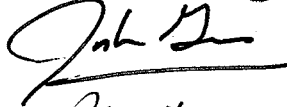






S.B. NO. 66A

1 SECTION 5. This amendment shall take effect upon
2 compliance with article XVII, section 3, of the Constitution of
3 the State of Hawaii.

4

INTRODUCED BY:



Report Title:

Voting; Primary Elections

Description:

Proposes a constitutional amendment to require a voter to declare membership in a political party or nonmembership in any political party to be eligible to cast a ballot in a primary election.

The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.

