A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO ELECTIONS.

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

SECTION 1. The office of elections shall establish an internet voting pilot project to enable registered voters to vote via the internet. The pilot project shall only apply to the primary and general elections of 2014.

SECTION 2. (a) The office of elections shall:

(1) Create and implement an internet voting pilot project that is at least as secure from tampering as the current voting process;

(2) Make the pilot project available to all registered voters in the State;

(3) Work with the clerk of each county in the development and implementation of the pilot project; and

(4) Adopt rules necessary to implement this Act in accordance with chapter 91, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

(b) The chief election officer shall be responsible for educating registered voters and the public with respect to the internet voting pilot project.
SECTION 3. No later than January 1, 2014, the office of elections shall submit a preliminary report to the legislature that includes:

(1) The current status of implementation of the internet voting pilot project; and

(2) A brief description of any operational problems or legal impediments that have affected or are anticipated to affect implementation of the pilot project.

SECTION 4. Upon the conclusion of the 2014 general election, but no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the regular session of 2015, the office of elections shall submit a final report to the legislature that includes:

(1) Voter demographics, turnout, and other statistical information, as deemed necessary by the chief election officer, to accurately assess the efficacy of the internet voting pilot project;

(2) Efforts made by the office of elections to promote and provide voter education with respect to the pilot project and the cost of those efforts;

(3) The effect, if any, of the pilot project on increasing or decreasing:
(A) The costs of conducting an election; and

(B) Voter turnout;

(4) Any operational problems or legal impediments that arose and affected the implementation or operation of the pilot project; and

(5) A recommendation as to whether the pilot project should be made permanent and, if recommended to be made permanent, any proposed statutory revisions and budgetary requirements necessary to effectuate voting via the internet.

SECTION 5. There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of $ ______ or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2013-2014 and the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2014-2015 for the purposes of this Act.

The sums appropriated shall be expended by the office of elections for the purposes of this Act.

SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2013.
Report Title:
Elections; Internet Voting Pilot Project; Appropriation

Description:
Establishes a pilot project to enable registered voters to vote via the Internet. Makes an appropriation.

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