

JAN 21 2021

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO ELECTIONS.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the date of the
2 primary election was recently advanced approximately one month
3 from September to August. However, the deadline to file
4 nomination papers to run for office was not similarly adjusted.
5 A deadline to file nomination papers that is closer to an
6 election limits the exposure of candidates to the public. By
7 restoring the deadline to file nomination papers to
8 approximately three months prior to the primary election, the
9 public will have additional time to learn about the candidates
10 running to represent them.

11 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to change the
12 deadline to file nomination papers from the first Tuesday in
13 June to the first Tuesday in May for certain elections.

14 SECTION 2. Section 12-6, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
15 amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

16 "(a) For members of Congress, state offices, county
17 offices, and the board of trustees for the office of Hawaiian



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1 affairs, nomination papers shall be filed with the chief
2 election officer, or clerk in case of county offices, [~~not~~] no
3 later than 4:30 p.m. on the first Tuesday in [~~June~~] May.
4 However, in the event of a special primary or special election,
5 the filing deadline shall be determined in the proclamation that
6 is issued calling for the election as provided for by state law
7 or county charter. A state candidate from the counties of
8 Hawaii, Maui, and Kauai may file the declaration of candidacy
9 with the respective clerk. The clerk shall transmit to the
10 office of the chief election officer the state candidate's
11 declaration of candidacy without delay."

12 SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
13 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

14 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

15

INTRODUCED BY: 



S.B. NO. 160

Report Title:

Primary Elections; Nomination Papers; Filing Deadline

Description:

Changes the deadline to file nomination papers for public office from the first Tuesday in June to the first Tuesday in May for certain elections.

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