

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 05 2021

RE: S.B. No. 560

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Thirty-First State Legislature
Regular Session of 2021
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Judiciary, to which was referred S.B. No. 560 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO RANKED CHOICE VOTING,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to establish ranked choice voting for special federal elections and special elections of vacant county council seats.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Americans for Democratic Action, Common Cause Hawaii, FairVote Action, The Libertarian Party of Hawaii, and nine individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the League of Women Voters of Hawaii and one individual.

Your Committee finds that numerous candidates often run in special elections for federal or county council offices, which often results in the election of a candidate by a mere plurality of votes. Your Committee recognizes that conducting these elections by ranked choice voting would result in the election of candidates who receive a clear majority of votes.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Judiciary that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 560 and recommends that it pass Third Reading.



Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Judiciary,

Karl Rhoads

KARL RHOADS, Chair



