



**STATE OF HAWAII
OFFICE OF ELECTIONS**

802 LEHUA AVENUE
PEARL CITY, HAWAII 96782
www.hawaii.gov/elections

SCOTT T. NAGO
CHIEF ELECTION OFFICER

May 11, 2015

To: Elections Commission

From: Scott T. Nago
Chief Election Officer

Re: Status of Operations

Since our last meeting, the legislative session has concluded, and our office has continued to develop the online voter registration system, and update our website.

Legislation

Two notable election related measures passed the Legislature and have been transmitted to the Governor.

1. HB 179 HD 1 SD 1 CD 1, Relating to Permanent Absentee Ballots

This measure provides 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.

We are working with the voter registration vendor to incorporate this legislation into the statewide voter registration in anticipation of the Governor's approval.

2. 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.

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Online Voter Registration

We have successfully completed the testing of the web service that will be utilized to confirm that applicants have a valid driver's license or state identification card. Currently, the pages of the online voter registration website are being translated into Chinese, Ilocano, and Japanese to comply with the Voting Rights Act. The online voter registration system project continues to be on track to launch by August 3, 2015.

Office of Elections Revised Website

Our office has completed the initial development of the new Office of Elections website and is doing a final review of its content and design. We plan to finalize the website and make it available to the public 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).