

JAN 23 2008

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# SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE CLERK OF EACH COUNTY TO INCLUDE A POSTAGE PREPAID  
RETURN ENVELOPE WITH EACH BALLOT MAILED TO AN ABSENTEE  
VOTER.

1           WHEREAS, in 2006, voter turnout in Hawaii plummeted to a  
2 new low of fifty-three per cent of registered voters; and  
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4           WHEREAS, voting by absentee ballot is becoming increasingly  
5 popular, with thirty-four per cent of the voter turnout  
6 comprised of absentee voters either by walk-in or mail; and  
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8           WHEREAS, in the interest of bolstering the electoral  
9 process, the absentee voting process should be as convenient as  
10 possible and should promote informed voting; and  
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12           WHEREAS, section 15-6.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, directs  
13 that the mailed distribution and return of absentee ballots  
14 shall be at no cost to the voter; and  
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16           WHEREAS, section 15-6.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, further  
17 directs that the State and counties share in the cost of all  
18 postage associated with the distribution and return of absentee  
19 ballots, if the costs are not covered by the federal government;  
20 now, therefore,  
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22           BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fourth  
23 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2008, the  
24 House of Representatives concurring, that the Clerk of each  
25 county is requested to include a postage prepaid return envelope  
26 with each ballot mailed to an absentee voter, such that the  
27 mailed distribution and return of absentee ballots shall be at  
28 no cost to the voter; and  
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# S.C.R. NO. 14

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
2 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Clerk of each county  
3 of the State and the Chief Election Officer.  
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OFFERED BY: *Shiranne Chun Alland*

