STATE OF HAWAII
OFFICE OF ELECTIONS
802 LEHUA AVENUE
PEARL CITY, HAWAII 96782
www.hawaii.gov/elections

FACTSHEET
CALCULATING A MAJORITY
FOR THE CITY & COUNTY OF HONOLULU
SPECIAL ELECTIONS

For the City and County Honolulu Special Elections, a candidate must receive a majority of votes cast for the office to be elected. If no candidate receives a majority, a second special election is held in conjunction with the general election between the two candidates receiving the most votes. The candidate with the highest number of votes at this second special election is deemed elected.

To calculate a majority, add the votes for all of the candidates in the respective contest, divide that sum by two, and add one. *NOTE: "Blank votes" and "over votes" are not included in the calculation of a majority for the City Special Elections.*

This information is available in alternate formats. If you require special assistance (i.e. large print, taped materials, etc.) call the Office of Elections at (808) 453-VOTE(8683).

EXAMPLE:

Results of the First Special Election.	Candidate A ....300 Candidate B ....100 Candidate C ....150 Blank Votes ....101 Over Votes ....<u>159</u> Total (sum) 810
Step 1: Add the votes cast for each candidate.	Candidate A ....300 Candidate B ....100 Candidate C ....<u>150</u> Total (sum) 550
Step 2: Divide the sum of the votes cast by two.	550 ÷ 2 = 275
Step 3: Add one to the result from Step 2.	275 + 1 = 276 votes required
RESULT: **Candidate A wins the first Special Election by a majority of votes cast. The second Special Election will not be held.**	

CAUTION: *The percentage figures appearing in the Teamwork printout include "blank votes" and "over votes" which are not included in the calculation of a majority for the City Special Elections.*

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