



**STATE OF HAWAII  
OFFICE OF ELECTIONS**

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

**SCOTT T. NAGO**  
CHIEF ELECTION OFFICER

**TESTIMONY OF THE  
CHIEF ELECTION OFFICER, OFFICE OF ELECTIONS  
TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY  
ON HOUSE BILL NO. 134, HD 1  
RELATING TO ELECTIONS**

**March 11, 2025**

Chair Rhoads and members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary, thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of House Bill No. 134, HD 1. This bill requires the Chief Election Officer to provide a system for the electronic filing of nomination papers.

Our office looks forward to developing a system for the electronic filing of nomination papers. However, since the bill provides for candidates to be able to pay their filing fee online, we would ask that this measure clarify that election officials may charge a processing fee in connection with an online payment.

Our initial estimate is that the development of the necessary software would cost approximately \$150,000. However, we would note that this does not include any hardware or security cost which could only be accurately determined as part of the software development process.

Additionally, we would ask that the eventual effective date be established as January 1, 2028, to ensure we have sufficient time to be able to procure, test, and train candidates on the use of the system. Given the security and resource requirements involved, we do not believe it is feasible to develop and implement a system prior to the start of candidate filing on February 2, 2026, for the upcoming 2026 Elections.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of House Bill No. 134, HD 1.



## TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB134 HD1, RELATING TO ELECTIONS

### SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

March 11, 2025

Aloha Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Judiciary Committee:

The Democratic Party of Hawai'i **SUPPORTS** HB134 HD1, RELATING TO ELECTIONS. Pursuant to the Platform of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i, the Party supports full transparency in all government functions and endorses policies that protect the integrity of our electoral process.

Updating the process that candidates for public office must complete in order to be placed on the ballot by including the option to electronically submit nomination papers will ensure that more of our community members have the ability to participate in our electoral process as candidates, thereby enhancing the accessibility and inclusivity of our democracy.

Mahalo nui loa for the opportunity to testify in Support of HB134 HD1, RELATING TO ELECTIONS. Should you have any questions or require further information, please contact the Democratic Party of Hawai'i at [legislation@hawaiidemocrats.org](mailto:legislation@hawaiidemocrats.org).

**HB-134-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/9/2025 6:43:50 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/11/2025 9:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Brett Kulbis	Individual	Oppose	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Chair Rhoads and Committee Members,

I OPPOSE HB-134.

I stand by my written testimony of February 25, 2025.

Brett Kulbis