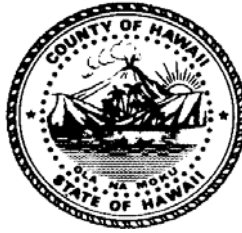


KENNETH G. GOODENOW
County Clerk



RODNEY OSHIRO
Deputy County Clerk

County of Hawai'i
Office of the County Clerk
25 Aupuni Street
Hilo, Hawai'i 96720
Telephone: (808) 961-8255
Facsimile: (808) 961-8912

August 12, 2010

Honorable Edmund Haitsuka and Members of the
County of Hawai'i Charter Commission
c/o Hawai'i County Council
25 Aupuni Street
Hilo, Hawai'i 96720

Dear Chairman Haitsuka and Commission Members:

RE: Comments Regarding Proposed Ballot Language Summary for CA-12

Thank you for this opportunity to comment. The August 10, 2010 Memorandum from Education Ad Hoc Committee Chair Jarman proposes the following summary for CA-12:

The public can request a change (amendment) to the county charter by petition. If enough registered voters ask (petition) for the change, the proposed amendment will be put to a vote in the next general election.

This proposal would lower the number of signatures required to put an amendment to a vote. Presently, 20% of all registered voters in the county must sign the petition. This proposal would change the number to 20% of the total votes cast in the last general election.

This amendment would require petition signers to give the last four digits of their social security number and the day and month of their birth, along with residence address and signature. Furthermore, the county will have more time – 30 days instead of 20 -- to verify signatures.

After reviewing transcripts of the June 25, 2010 meeting, it is my understanding that CA-12 Draft 3 was amended by replacing "valid votes cast" with "total ballots cast". I therefore recommend that "total votes cast" be substituted with "total ballots cast" in the

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third sentence of the second paragraph of the proposed summary. Also, I believe the second sentence of the second paragraph is not entirely correct, as the current signature requirement is 20% of the total number of persons who registered to vote in the last general election, not those currently registered to vote.

If I can provide further information or assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me at 961-8271.

Yours, very truly,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'K. Goodenow', with a stylized flourish at the end.

KENNETH G. GOODENOW