

DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES
ANNUAL REPORT ON GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

January 2022

Program ID/Title: AGS 879/Office of Elections

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I. Goal

To provide secure, accessible, and convenient election services to all citizens statewide.

II. Objectives and Policies

To maximize voter participation in the electoral process by developing policies and procedures that encourages registration and turnout.

A. Direct and coordinate election services statewide and assist counties with county elections.

1. Provide election services statewide.
2. Prepare, procure, and control inventory of election ballots for state and concurrently conducted county elections statewide.
3. Provide secure, accessible, and convenient voting services to all eligible voters statewide.
4. Process, tabulate, and distribute election results statewide.
5. Provide computer support services (hardware and software applications) for elections (state and county) and related agencies.
6. Provide logistical and warehousing support for elections (state and county) and related agencies.

B. Provide voter registration services to qualified citizens.

1. Maximize voter registration statewide.
2. Equalize voter registration between districts statewide.

The Office of Elections coordinates its activities to maximize and equalize voter registration in close participation with the Offices of the City/County Clerks.

- C. Provide public education with respect to voter registration and information.

Election information must be made more available to the public. We foresee continued utilization of the Internet and print and electronic media to provide voter education and candidate information.

- D. Maintain data relating to registered voters, elections, apportionment, and districting.

We strive to increase accessibility of information by making statistical data readily available to the general public. We will continue to post election reports, results, and other pertinent information on our office Internet website.

- E. Serve as secretary and furnish all necessary technical services to the Reapportionment Commission.

The Reapportionment Commission convened in 2021. The Office of Elections is responsible for providing administrative and technical support to the Reapportionment Commission. The office has worked with the Department of Census Bureau to ensure records are maintained and updated for the reapportionment.

- F. Provide staff support to the Elections Commission

The Office of Elections shall provide staff support to the Elections Commission as requested. The duties of the Elections Commission are to hold public hearings, investigate and hold hearings for receiving evidence of any violations and complaints, adopt rules pursuant to chapter 91, employ a full-time chief election officer, and advise the chief election officer relating to elections.

- G. Provide staff support to the Board of Registration

We shall continue to provide staff support to the Board of Registration. The purpose of the Board is to hear and decide appeals that arise from a voter challenge or from an appeal of a clerk's decision regarding voter registration.

- H. Provide support to the special needs advisory committee

Act 213, SLH 2021 established a special needs advisory committee to ensure equal and independent access to voter registration, casting of ballots, and all other Office of Elections services.

I. Conduct elections in compliance with all federal and state laws.

This includes, but not limited to, the Help America Vote Act (HAVA), Voting Rights Act (VRA), National Voter Registration Act (NVRA), Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA), Voting Accessibility for the Elderly and Handicapped Act, and American with Disabilities Act (ADA).

III. Action Plan with Timetable

A. Past Year Accomplishments (FY2021)

1. Voter Education. The Office of Elections implemented a voter education and awareness campaign for the transition to elections by mail and promoting the 2020 Elections.
2. Implemented Act 136 2019. We worked collaboratively with the Offices of the City/County Clerk to conduct Hawaii's first statewide vote by mail elections in 2020. All registered voters were automatically mailed a ballot beginning with the 2020 Primary Election.
3. 2021 Reapportionment Commission. The 2021 Reapportionment Commission formed in April 2021 for the purposes of redrawing the congressional and legislative electoral district boundaries.

B. One-Year (FY2022)

1. To have completed the implementation of automatic voter registration.
2. To have provided support to the Reapportionment Commission as they complete their task of redrawing the congressional and legislative electoral districts.
3. To have conducted re-precincting based on the redistricting conducted by the Reapportionment Commission in 2021
4. To have conducted candidate filing for interested individuals to appear on the 2022 Election ballots.
5. To reserve facilities for counting center operations and training to conduct the 2022 Elections.

6. To recruit volunteers to serve as counting center officials, official observers, and election information service specialists for the 2022 Elections.

C. Two-Year (as of June 30, 2023)

1. To have implemented a new voting and vote counting system.
2. To have promoted a voter education and awareness campaign for 2022 Elections.
3. To have conducted payroll for the volunteers who serve as counting center officials, official observers, and election information service specialist during the 2022 Elections.

D. Five Years (as of June 30, 2026)

1. To have conducted and reviewed and evaluated the 2024 Elections.
2. To have assessed and implemented new procedures for the 2026 Elections.
3. To have maintained and monitored Statewide Voter Registration System.

IV. Performance Measures

A. Customer Satisfaction Measure

The number of complaints and challenges we receive, on or following each election. This data is important to determine how effectively voters have been informed of their rights and responsibilities and how effectively we have served their communities.

B. Program Standard Measure

The number of people who continue to register to vote and cast their vote on Election Day.

C. Cost Effectiveness Measure

No effective measurement of benefit is available except for feedback from voters and expenditures not exceeding budget amount.