

PUBLIC ACCESS ROOM
A division of the Legislative Reference Bureau

NEWSLETTER

Hawaii State Capitol ♦ 415 South Beretania Street ♦ Room 401 ♦ Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Phone: (808) 587-0478 ♦ Fax: (808) 587-0793 ♦ Website: http://hawaii.gov/lrb/par

CONTACT US!

Public Access Room (PAR)

Phone.....(808) 587-0478
Fax.....(808) 587-0793
TTY.....(808) 587-0749
Email.....par@capitol.hawaii.gov

Neighbor Islands (Toll Free): Use these numbers, and then enter extension 7-0478 followed by the # sign.

Hawai'i.....974-4000 Kaua'i.....274-3141
Maui.....984-2400 Moloka'i/Lana'i...(800) 468-4644
Note: Fax from neighbor islands using these numbers with ext. 7-0793.



Work the Vote

"Every vote counts and so does your help!"

We all know we can do our part as citizens by voting or helping someone campaign (or running for office!) but there's another way you can help – and it's fun! Help the Office of Elections conduct our upcoming primary and general elections.

Whether it's working at a polling place or transporting ballots, help is needed.

You can volunteer for the Primary Election, Saturday, August 11th, and/or the General Election on Tuesday, November 6th.

For each election, approximately 3,600 volunteers are needed to operate the polling places, staff delivery and collection teams, and serve as control center operators.

You actually don't even have to be old enough to vote to help out –

Minimum qualifications

- Be at least 16 years of age on or before June 30, 2012
• Be a registered or pre registered voter in the State of Hawaii
• Be able to read and write English.

2012 Legislative Timetable

Governor's Deadlines

June

25th Notice of Intent to veto deadline (35th day after adjournment sine die)

July

10th Veto deadline (45th day after adjournment sine die)

Elections

August

11th 2012 Primary Election

November

6th 2012 General Election

2013

January

16th Opening Day of 2013 Regular Legislative Session

In this Issue

Work the Vote ..... page 1
Website: Find Lists of Acts and Vetoes..... 3
Deadlines: Post-Session..... 4
PAR Hours and Quotes from the File ..... 4

(continued on page 2)

# Work the Vote

(continued from page 1)

*Volunteering for elections is a great way to serve your community, take an active role in democracy, and become part of the team working to make the election process easy and accessible to everyone.*

There are some caveats, of course. You cannot volunteer if you are candidate yourself, or the parent, spouse, reciprocal beneficiary, child or sibling of someone who is. More information is available on the [Office of Elections website \(www.hawaii.gov/elections\)](http://www.hawaii.gov/elections).

Volunteers are needed for a variety of positions.

[Precinct Officials](#) are most in demand. Help at your local polling place to ensure a smooth and fair election. You will assist voters with normal and special voting procedures, help to secure ballots, process election documents, and monitor the precinct counter.

There's also a need for Counting Center Officials; they inspect and prepare ballots before tabulations, process and tabulate voted ballots, and conduct post-election audits. Delivery & Collection Team Officials are needed too. They deliver ballots and sensitive election materials to the polling places on election morning and collect all voted ballots and all sensitive election materials after the polls have closed on Election Day.

Elections also require Control Center Operators, who respond to telephone inquiries and requests from polling places using a computer-based call center system. And then there are Facility Officials, who set up election equipment at polling places on election eves, provide access to polling places on Election Day, and disassemble and store the election equipment after the polls close on Election Day.

Whatever volunteer position you find yourself in, rest assured that you'll be trained. That's a requirement.

Did we mention that you also get paid? The pay and hours vary depending on your position. Are you part of a group that needs to do fundraising? Your entire group could work the elections and pool your election pay! Ask the contacts below for more information.

What could be better? You learn about the electoral process. You connect with others. You help democracy function. Help work the vote this year!

Find out more by visiting the Office of Elections website: [www.hawaii.gov/elections](http://www.hawaii.gov/elections). To volunteer, click on "[Sign-up to Become an Election Day Official](#)." For more information on any of the positions, click on "[Volunteers](#)" to read job descriptions. Questions? On Oahu, contact Office of Elections at 453-VOTE (453-8683). On Neighbor Islands, contact the County Clerk's office: County of Hawaii 961-8277, County of Maui 270-7749, County of Kauai 241-4800. (Residents of Molokai call 800/272-0026 and residents of Lanai use 800/272-0098.)

## **Website: Find Lists of Acts and Vetoes**

Where to turn to find what's passed the Legislature and awaiting Governor's action?

How about what's made it into the law books and what's been vetoed?

Legislature's Website: [www.capitol.hawaii.gov](http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov)

Go to the ever-popular "[Reports and Lists](#)" icon on the Legislature's homepage.



To find out what has successfully made it through the Legislature, scroll down to find "Measures Passed the Legislature."

### **Measures Passed the Legislature**

#### **[Bills Passed](#)**

Bills that have been approved in final form by both houses and have been enrolled and sent to the Governor for approval.

#### **[Constitutional Amendment Bills that Passed in Final Form](#)**

Constitutional Amendment bills that passed the Legislature in final form.

#### **[Resolutions Adopted](#)**

House and Senate resolutions and concurrent resolutions that have been adopted.

To find out what's been acted upon by the Governor, scroll down to the bottom section, "Governor's Actions on Legislation."

### **Governor's Actions on Legislation**

#### **[List of Acts](#)**

Bills which have passed both houses of the Legislature and have been enrolled, certified, signed by the Governor (or if not signed by the Governor, passes the required time period of time without veto), or passed over the Governor's veto, and published.

#### **[Notice of Veto](#)**

Proclamations giving notice of Governor's plan to return bills with objections.

#### **[List of Vetoed Measures](#)**

Bills passed by the Legislature that have been rejected by the Governor.

#### **[List of Veto Overrides](#)**

Bills that were vetoed by the Governor but overridden by the Legislature to become law.

Just click any of the links listed above to bring up a report showing the measures, their description and status, and other information.

Need help navigating the website? PAR is happy to help. Call 587-0478 or email [par@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:par@capitol.hawaii.gov).

## *Get to Know Your Deadlines:* **Post-Session**

If a bill was enrolled to the Governor before the last 10 days of session, you already know its fate, because it had to be acted upon before the end of session. But if the bill was enrolled to the Governor in the last 10 days of session, there may still be some waiting to do.

### **Notice of Intent to Veto Deadline**

If the Governor has any intention of vetoing a bill, he must inform the Legislature of his intent by the 35<sup>th</sup> day after adjournment *sine die*. This year, that's **June 25<sup>th</sup>**. If a bill appears on this list, it does not necessarily mean that it will be vetoed, only that it *may* be vetoed. If a bill does not appear on this list, you can pretty much count on it becoming law – either through the Governor's signature or without signature by the 45<sup>th</sup> day after adjournment.

### **Veto Deadline**

The Governor has until **July 10<sup>th</sup>** this year – the 45<sup>th</sup> day after adjournment *sine die* – to veto bills that were on his intent to veto list. If he chooses not to veto it, it becomes law without his signature. Any bill not signed or vetoed by this date becomes law without the Governor's signature.

### **Special Session**

If a bill is vetoed, there's still a chance for it to become law. The Legislature has until 12 noon on the 45<sup>th</sup> day (again, **July 10<sup>th</sup>** this year) to convene in Special Session to override a veto. To successfully override a veto, 2/3 of the members of each chamber must vote in favor of the veto override. If the override fails in either chamber, the veto stands and the bill does not become law.

### **Regular Session of the 27<sup>th</sup> Legislature**

The third Wednesday in January – **January 16, 2013** – will mark the start of the next Regular Session of the Hawaii State Legislature.

## **We're open year-round!**

**Use your office (PAR, Room 401) at the Capitol – computers, expert staff, and more**

During Interim (May 4 – January 15), the Public Access Room is open during the following hours:

**Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.**

*Quotes from the File . . .*

"Prediction is very difficult, especially about the future."

- Niels Bohr

"When we do the best that we can, we never know what miracle is wrought in our life,  
or in the life of another."

- Helen Keller