



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® *Hawai'i County*
Making Democracy Work!

HAWAI'I COUNTY VOTER, Summer 2019

P.O. Box 665, Hilo, HI 96721

P.O. Box 4478, Kona, HI 96745

Message phone 808.933.VOTE (808.933.8683)

Empowering Voters. Defending Democracy. The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

Dear Members: Please take the time to look through your newsletter and send me any suggestions you may have for the next issue. All submissions are welcome. Just e-mail them to me, Ruth Robison, Newsletter Editor, at rrobison@hawaii.edu Or send them to P.O. Box 665, Hilo, HI 96721

Contents:

- 1) President's Message
- 2) LWV Hawai'i County General Meeting 9/13/2019 Flyer & Agenda
- 3) 100 Year Celebration - Anniversary of the League of Women Voters: 2/14/2020
- 4) 2019 State Convention Highlights
- 5) LWVH Press Release on Passage of Voter Information Bill
- 6) Gay Pride Voter Registration in Hilo
- 7) Getting to Know our League Members: Lesley Patton
- 8) Web Site Development
- 9) Youth Voter Registration Project at HAAS
- 10) National Voter Registration Day
- 11) Hawai'i County Charter Commission Update, including proposed Charter Amendments for Hawai'i County by Joan Platz
- 12) More Voter Registration Activities (and photos) by the LWV of Hawai'i County!



Aloha Members! It's time to reconnect, network and enjoy a fabulous lunch provided by the Culinary Students at the Palamanui Campus at Hawaii Community College in Kailua Kona. This will be our next general meeting on 9/13/19. Tim Richards District #9 Hawaii County Council will be the speaker. **(Please read the flyer below and make a reservation).** We will also be unveiling our new Web site with a presentation at the meeting. We want a Web site more visually appealing and much easier to navigate. If we want to reach young people, we need to do it using technology and social media.

I want to thank all of you for your support and look forward to seeing you at one of our many League's activities.

Yours in League,

Rosemarie Muller, President LWV of Hawai'i County



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
of Hawai'i County
*Empowering Voters
and Defending
Democracy!*

Agriculture, Water, Energy: A Food Nexus

General Meeting Open to the Public

Please join the League of Women Voters of Hawai'i County and guest speaker Dr. Herbert M. "Tim" Richards, District 9 Hawai'i County Council Member, who will share a vision for utilizing our abundant potential for energy generation while increasing food self-reliance.



Dr. Herbert M. "Tim" Richards III was re-elected for a second term as District 9 Council Member on the 2018-2020 Hawai'i County Council, and serves as Chair of the Committee on Agriculture, Water, Energy and Environmental Management, and Vice Chair of the Committee on Finance.

Tim is a sixth generation kama'āina resident of Hawai'i and third generation to the Big Island. He was born and raised in North Kohala and grew up working on his family's owned and operated Kahua Ranch. After graduating from Hawai'i Preparatory Academy, Tim continued his education at Washington State University in Pullman, Washington, studying Animal Science and earning an Advanced Degree in Veterinary Medicine. He began work as a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine on his return home and continues to be engaged as a veterinarian in Waimea.

WHEN: Friday, September 13, 2019

Registration 9:30 AM

10:00 AM Business Meeting

11:00 AM Guest Speaker

Board Meeting to Follow Lunch

WHERE: Hawaii Community College Pāalamanui

Panini Classroom 126

73-4225 Ane Keohokalole Hwy, Kailua, HI 96740 PH 808-969-8800

Lunch \$15.00 Payable at the Door with

Check or Cash Lunch Options:

Japanese Menu: Chirashi Bowl, Miso Soup, Seared Tuna Takaki, Dessert, and a Beverage
Thai Menu: Appetizer, Salad, Shrimp Panang Curry, Dessert, and a Beverage.

Please RSVP with Lunch Option by September 2, 2019 using

Message phone: (808) 933-8683; email

rcmuller27@hotmail.com, or (631) 294-0021



League of Women Voters of Hawai'i County
Friday, September 13, 2019
Hawai'i Community College Palamanui
Panini Classroom 126
73-4225 Ane Keohokalole Hwy, Kailua, HI 96740 PH 808-969-8800

AGENDA

Call to Order by Roll Call Sign-in Rosemarie Muller

Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting on January 12, 2019 Joan Platz

Reports of Officers

Treasurer	Sue Irvine
Membership	Diane Herrera State
Convention	Donna Oba

Standing Committees

Charter Commission	Joan Platz
Website Presentation	Michelle Mitsumori

Announcements

Vote by Mail
National Voter Registration Day

Adjournment

Guest Speaker: Dr. Herbert M. "Tim" Richards, District 9 Hawai'i County Council Member

CALENDAR

September 24, 2019	National Voter Registration Day
November 2, 2019	State Board Meeting
November 8, 2019	General Meeting: Hawai'i Community College in Hilo, Representative Chris Todd
	House District 2, Hawai'i State Legislature
January 11, 2020	Program Planning Meeting
January 20, 2020	MLK Parade - Statewide 100 Year Celebration - LWV
February 14, 2020	100 Year Anniversary of the LWV
April 4, 2020	Annual Meeting

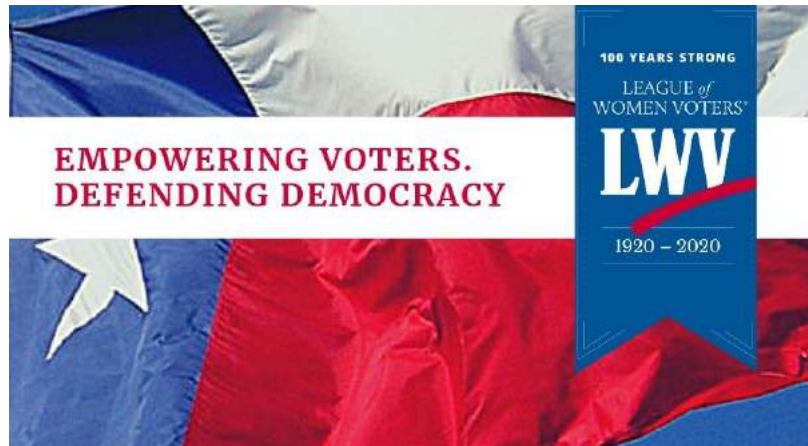
100 Year Celebration

by Rosemarie Muller

The League of Women Voters is entering a transformational journey to begin its second century. Nearly 100 years ago, women decided after their decades old fight for full suffrage that in order to be the best possible voters, they needed to be the most informed voters.

Our Hawaii County League will be making plans to celebrate the anniversary of LWV (2/14/20) as well as the 100 year anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment.

Let's Celebrate!



2019 State Convention Highlights

by Donna Oba, LWV of the State of Hawai'i Vice President

When you join the League of Women Voters, you become a member “at every level of League.” What does that mean?

A U.S. citizen has representation at every level of government -- local, state and national, and so do League members, that is a League member has a voice in League governance at every level.

At the Hawaii State League, representatives from all local leagues meet every two years to adopt a budget and program, elect the state board, and conduct other business as set forth in the LWV Hawaii bylaws.

On May 18 at Hale Koa in Honolulu, nine delegates from Honolulu, five from Hawaii County, the State Board, candidates for the state board, and guests convened to do just that.

LWVHC was well represented at the convention. Delegates were Nina Eejima, Helen Hemmes (also Bylaws Committee chair), Sue Irvine (Nominating Committee Chair), Sheryl Rawson and Ruth Robison. Margaret Drake took minutes.



State President Erica Johnson thanked the board which included HC members Brad Clark, Sue Dursin, Rosemarie Muller (as LWVHC President) and Donna Oba (State Treasurer).

The 2019-2021 adopted program will focus on Voter Education, Healthcare, Equality of Opportunity, and an update to the Gambling position. Doug Meller, co-chair of the 2017-2019 Legislative Committee, presented the committee's accomplishments and future hopes in a report, "Because Democracy is not a Spectator Sport." (E-copy available.)

Amendments to the state bylaws were approved and a fifty-cent increase in the state per-member-payments (PMPs from \$11.50 to \$12.50 was approved. PMPs are the dues local leagues pay to the state league to support state's activities such as the Legislative Committee and travel to board meetings.

Newly elected officers are (local league in parentheses): President Piilani Kaopuiki (HNL), Vice President Donna Oba (HC), Secretary Margaret Drake (HC), and Treasurer Barbara Service (HNL).

Four elected directors are Karen Ah Mai (HC), Brad Clark (HC), Rosemary Crave (HNL) and Susan Dursin (HC). The Nominating Committee is Brad Clark (HC), Sue Irvine (chair, HC) and Robin Loomis (HNL). Joy Marshall became the first of up to four directors appointed by the board at the board meeting following the convention.



As you can see, Hawaii County will continue to be well represented.

The highlight of the event was keynote speaker State Rep. Chris Lee (District 51 - Waimanalo to Kailua), chair of the Judiciary Committee and former chair of the Energy and Environmental Protection Committee. He was the first millennial in the House when he was elected in 2008. Rep. Lee is known for his work on climate change, expanding Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument, and equal rights. As Judiciary Committee chair, he helped steward the Vote by Mail bill and other election-related bills supported by League. A stroke in 2011 at age 30 changed his life and convinced him that “our time here is short and we can’t wait for others to solve our problems.” So he began tackling even the most difficult issues.



If you are interested in “tackling even the most difficult issues” and joining the state board or becoming a Hawaii County delegate in May 2021, please contact me (doaba5627@gmail.com) or Sue Irvine (susan.r002@gmail.com).



HAWAII PASSES NEW VOTER INFORMATION BILL PRESS RELEASE July 10, 2019

**By Piilani Kaopuiki
President, League of Women Voters of Hawaii
808-946-4936**

(Honolulu, HI)— All Americans seek reliable, truthful election information. Hawaii has passed a new law that provides a good example. SB1058 requires the Attorney General to prepare a statement in English and Hawaiian for each proposed constitutional amendment in language that is clear and that indicates the purpose,

limitations, and effects of the proposed amendment. The measure also requires the state Office of Elections and county clerks to make the statement available to the public.

Hawaii League of Women Voters President Piilani Kaopuiki noted: “For too long, voters have struggled with trying to understand the legal vocabulary used in the wording of our amendments. We do appreciate the necessity of wording the ballot using this vocabulary, but a plain translation is required for voters! People benefit from clear communication of all proposed changes to our founding constitution. We thank all who have helped to support the public interest in Hawaii through this measure.”

The League of Women Voters of Hawaii is a non-partisan political organization that encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy. For information, visit League of Women Voters of Hawaii.

Gay Pride Voter Registration in Hilo by Brad Clark



Saturday, June 29 was Gay Pride Day in Hilo. For the first time the League of Women Voters of Hawai'i County set up a voter registration table at the Pride Festival. The festival was held next to Mo`oheau bandstand after the Pride Parade.

A crowd of several hundred people attended the festival. League volunteers received many thanks for our presence at the event. Volunteers registered seventeen new voters at the festival and answered many questions regarding elections.

Many thanks go out to League volunteers Brad Clark, Ron Pusateri, Margaret Drake, Kit Afable, and Joan and Matt Platz for their help with the event. A special thanks goes to non-league member Bob Gibbens of Hilo for his help registering voters with us. (Pictured L to R are Brad, Kit & Bob.)

Getting to Know our League Members: Lesley Patton by Margaret Drake

Our new member Lesley Patton of Kapa`au was recruited by Donna Oba. Lesley has a fascinating history and career path.



She was born Lesley J. Sterling in Lexington, Kentucky in 1944 and therefore does not claim to be a Baby Boomer as WWII was not yet over. In 1980, she changed to her mother's maiden name in order to honor her mother and pass the lineage on to her own twin daughters. Lesley's brother had passed when she was eight years old. She was the eldest of her siblings.

Lesley's mother, who refused to be called Mom, was the person most instrumental in developing her values. She had only a high school education, nonetheless, she was smart. When her husband abandoned his family she took minimum wage jobs to raise her children. She made sure her children went to college, all three of them on scholarships. Though Lesley's mother probably did not think of herself as a feminist, that is the model she provided for her children. She was a Christian Scientist, and a fervent believer in democracy. When Lesley was twelve years old, her mother began working for a North Carolina lawyer who later became a state senator. Lesley and her siblings worked on his campaigns and as pages in the state senate which was an early introduction to politics. This instilled an interest in government and a feeling of civic responsibility to be politically active.

Lesley's formal education started in a small, rural, segregated school in Wake County, North Carolina. At 9th grade she transferred to the Raleigh City Schools in order to be allowed to study Latin. She graduated from high school in 1962. Integration of North Carolina schools occurred a year or two after Lesley graduated from high school. With scholarships to Duke University, she graduated in 1966 with a bachelor's degree in philosophy.

She married another Duke graduate and followed him to New York City where he pursued a writing career on Madison Avenue, while Lesley started out as an executive secretary on Wall Street. When she 'slammed into the glass ceiling' there she looked for jobs within walking distance of their apartment. She bagged groceries, managed a small fabric shop, and opened her own shop called The Industrial Counterrevolution, Inc. selling only locally crafted handmade goods. Then her husband decided to follow friends to California and Lesley followed him. Once there, they realized their marriage wasn't working; so, after working for a temp agency in San Francisco and experiencing earthquakes and a wildfire in Carmel Valley, Lesley decided to move back to wet green stable grounded North Carolina.

For ten years she worked at 'odd jobs': 'barning tobacco', stocking shelves, shipping books for a bookstore, live modeling for a drawing class at NC State University; and, selling her crafts. She kept her income low enough to avoid paying taxes, as she did not want to support the War in Viet Nam. Eventually, in order to achieve her goal of buying a small place in the North Carolina Mountains, she went to trucking school and got her second favorite job, driving a tractor trailer. But instead of buying the property in the mountains, she had twin girls, moved to Hawaii when

they were 13 months old, and worked to support the girls while home schooling them. She sold homemade breads, pies and milk from her cow, wrote the North Kohala community news column for the *Tribune-Herald*, cleaned houses, did yard work, created and ran a gallery for all local artists, did part-time office work, rented her back apartment, helped start a community newspaper, and sold her crafts at the farmers' market.

When she started caring for foster children (twenty-three over a fifteen year span), her energy went completely to nurturing them and she adopted two of them. When they were grown and out on their own, she retired and returned to her craftwork. The various jobs she took, allowed her to focus on her family. She considers them her greatest accomplishment.

Molding her values, besides her strong and determined mother, were the Civil Rights Movement, the Anti-Viet Nam War Movement, the Women's Movement and the deaths of John Kennedy, Martin Luther King, and Robert Kennedy. The cataclysm of the 1968 Democratic Convention and associated riots triggered her to years of work to help reform the Democratic Party. These as well as the end of her marriage, were the strong influences in shaping Lesley's life.

She first joined the League of Women Voters at the national level because she was unable to find a local branch. She met Donna Oba in the local thrift shop in 2018 and immediately signed on. Lesley has helped with voter registration and 2018 Candidate Forums. This year she helped with the Waikoloa Vote Count.

Other organizations that pique Lesley's interest and support are; ACLU, NAACP, NOW, Feminist Majority, NARAL, National Museum for the American Indian, People for the American Way, Habitat for Humanity, Planned Parenthood, Native American Rights Fund, Amnesty International and Southern Poverty Law Center, illustrating her values and concerns.

While she cautiously views the future with hope, she wonders if the new generations are up to the challenge of turning our current social climate around to regain the achievements of the 1960s and 1970s.

Because civics is no longer taught in many schools, she hopes the League of Women Voters can work to fill this educational gap as well as striking down barriers to voting.

We are “blessed,” as they say in the South, to have Lesley Patton join our ranks.

LWV Hawai'i County Website Development by Michele Mitsumori

A key outreach and communication tool is our LWV Hawai'i County website. Since May, our website team -- Susan Irvine, Donna Oba and Michele Mitsumori -- have been developing a new site through the MyLO website system. Building on the previous website, the Hawai'i County site will include announcements of events such as meetings and forums and action

alerts, member resources such as the annual meeting workbook and newsletters, and voting and election links and resources. New features will include online dues payment and donations, and online event registration and membership forms. A site prototype will be introduced for feedback at the September annual meeting, and the first version of the new site will be launched in time for the 2020 elections.

.....

Youth Voter Registration Project at HAAS by Rosemarie Muller



Three of our members, Kit Afable, Margaret Drake and Michele Mitsumori participated in the 2019 Tropical Living Festival at the Hawaii Academy of Arts and Sciences (HAAS) in Pahoehoe. This was in part of our Youth Voter Registration Project. They provided voter registration and educational services to the approximately 375 people who attended the festival between 10am-1:30pm. They received 10 completed applications and have our 11 forms to attendees who

expressed interest in registering online or by mail.

Students were informed of voting rights such as registration at age 16, election day registration, absentee voting and early voting.

On Wednesday 4/17, Kit and Michele will visit two HAAS high school classes to discuss voter registration and education.

Mahalo Kit, Margaret and Michele

.....

National Voter Registration Day September 24, 2019

by Rosemarie Muller

National Voter Registration Day (NVRD) is a holiday celebrating our "Democracy". It was first observed in 2012 and has been growing in popularity every year since. Held on the 4th Tuesday of September, NVRD will take place on 9/24/19. We are planning on having a Voter Registration table at the HILO Public Library on the 24th from 11am-3pm. We are still researching other sites across the island. Always looking for volunteers to help with this event. Thanks to Sue Dursin, we know from the Hawaii County Elections Office that "our ID number, anywhere in this county, is H176. (That's a one.) "





LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
of Hawai'i County
Empowering Voters and Defending Democracy



Hawai'i County Charter Commission Update July 29, 2019

by Joan Platz

First, some background information: The Hawai'i County Charter Commission, chaired by Douglass Shipman Adams (pictured left), has been meeting monthly since July 2018, and has recommended twenty-one charter amendments, which voters will consider on the November 3, 2020 ballot.

The Hawai'i County Charter, Article 15 Section 15-3 *Mandatory Charter Review*, and Chapter 50 of the *Hawai'i Revised Statutes* require that a Charter Commission be appointed by the mayor every ten years to review the Hawai'i County Charter, and submit a report with any proposed amendments to the Hawai'i County Council within a year.

Mayor Harry Kim appointed the members of the 2018-2020 Hawai'i County Charter Commission, with the approval of the Hawai'i County Council, in June 2018. The members are Douglass Shipman Adams, chair; Jennifer Zelko-Schlueter, vice-chair; William C. Bergin; Michelle Galimba; Paul K. Hamano; Kevin D. Hopkins; Bobby Jean Leithead Todd; Sarah K. Rice; Christopher John Imiloa Roehrig; Marcie A. K. Saquing; and Donna Mae Springer.

The Commission is required to identify proposed charter amendments; prepare the language of the charter amendments and the ballot language; and hold at least one public hearing on the proposed amendments in each of the geographical areas of Puna, Ka'ū, Kona, Kohala, Hāmākua, and Hilo. Public hearings were held in March and April 2019 on the proposed amendments.

Once approved by the Charter Commission, the proposed amendments must be submitted to the Hawai'i County Council for review by June 26, 2019. County Council can accept the proposed charter amendments, or offer alternative amendments, but cannot change the proposed charter amendments.

The Charter Commission can accept or reject the alternative amendment(s) proposed by County Council. The Commission must send its decision back to County Council, which also has the option to accept or reject the Commission's recommendations, or recall the alternative amendment(s).

If County Council opts to keep its alternative amendment(s), the amendment(s) would be included on the November 3, 2020 General Election ballot along with the Charter Commission's proposed amendment(s). Voters must approve the charter amendments before they can go into effect.

Current Update: The Charter Commission approved a report about its activities, findings, and recommendations on June 21, 2019, and forwarded its report to Hawai'i County Council on June 26, 2019.

According to the report, the Charter Commission held 12 regular meetings and two recessed meetings, one special meeting, and six public hearings over the past year, and received hundreds of written and oral testimony from the public.

The Commission found that the County Charter "continues to serve its role well as the organizational infrastructure for County government." (2018-2020 Charter Commission Report page 3.)

The Commission considered 31 proposed charter amendments, but on June 21, 2019 approved 21 charter amendments for voter consideration at the General Election on November 3, 2020.

According to the Commission's report, these amendments "are meant to structure the County to handle near to mid-term conditions, as well as strengthen the consistency of Charter provisions." (2018-2020 Charter Commission Report page 3.)

The Hawai'i County Council, Aaron Chung chair, met on July 24, 2019 and approved Resolution 216-19, a proposal to submit an alternative amendment in place of proposed Charter Amendment (CA) 18 Draft 2 regarding the Public Access, Open Space, and Natural Resources Preservation Maintenance Fund (PONC Fund). It is the only alternative Charter amendment proposed by Hawai'i County Council.

Councilwomen Maile David and Karen Eoff sponsored the alternative amendment, which adds language that would allow an officer, board member, or employee to receive compensation from a stewardship grant for specific duties, such as labor, educational workshops, or maintenance work, when those activities are included and approved as part of the stewardship agreement. The remainder of CA-18 is unchanged, including a provision that still prohibits an officer, board member, or employee of a nonprofit stewardship organization from receiving a salary.

Resolution 216-19 further explains that officers, board members, and employees of stewardship programs should be recognized and compensated for performing specific and approved duties in order to promote public safety and sustain quality PONC stewardship programs.

The Charter Commission now has until August 26, 2019 to accept or reject the Council's alternative amendment, and already has a scheduled meeting on August 8, 2019. If the Charter Commission accepts the alternative amendment, the Commission will proceed to draft ballot language and take other actions to present the proposed charter amendments to voters on the November 3, 2020 General Election ballot.

If the Charter Commission rejects the Council's alternative amendment, the County Council has until September 5, 2019 to recall it. If it is not recalled, the alternative amendment will appear on the November 2020 ballot along with the Charter Commission's proposed amendment CA-18 Draft 2.

The following is a list of the proposed charter amendments and the County Council's alternative amendment. The full text of the proposed charter amendments is included in the Charter Commission Report, which is available at <http://records.hawaiicounty.gov/weblink/1/doc/100575/Page1.aspx>

Proposed Charter Amendments for Hawai'i County

CA-1 Draft 3 Comm. 13 Amends Sections 3-2; 3-17; 5-2.2; 6-9.3; 6-10.5; 7-2.2; 7-3.2; 7-4.5; 8-2; 13-28: Replaces confusing language in several sections of the charter to clarify that members of the county council or other commissions shall be a resident elected (or selected) from that district.

CA-2 Draft 2 Comm. 14.1 Amends Section 3-7 Council Meeting Locations: Provides that Council holds an equal number of meetings in East and West Hawai'i.

CA-4 Draft 2 Comm. 18 Amends Section 6-8.3 Department of Research and Development duties and functions: Requires the Department of Research and Development to research and coordinate county policies and actions regarding long-term, complex problems that involve a coordinated response from multiple county departments and agencies; federal agencies; state agencies; and non-governmental agencies and entities. The proposal would also delete a section from the 1960s related to federal grants programs.

CA-5 Comm. 19 Amends Section 3-18 Legislative Auditor: The Legislative Auditor proposed this amendment to change the name of the Office of Legislative Auditor to the Office of the County Auditor.

CA-6 Comm. 20 Amends Sections 7-2.3 and 7-4.3 Discipline/removal processes for police/fire chiefs: Adds a provision that would allow the Police Commission to discipline the Police Chief and Deputy Police Chief, and the Fire Commission to discipline the Fire Chief. Currently the commissions can remove their chiefs, but the charter says nothing about disciplining them. Corporate Counsel supports this proposal.

CA-8 Draft 2 Comm. 23 Amends Section 3-2 Composition and Terms County Council: Changes the terms of Council members from two years to four years and term limits to two consecutive four-year terms, and includes a proposal to enable the transition from the current term system to the proposed system.

CA-9 Draft 3 Comm. 24 Amends Section 10-15 Public Access, Open Space, and Natural Resources Preservation Fund (PONC): Provides that funds from the PONC Fund can be used to pay salary, wages, and benefits for staff dedicated to administering Sections 10-15 and 10-16 - PONC Fund. The Commission found that the current charter language "...does not adequately support an adaptable and responsive administration of the fund."

CA-12 Comm. 28 Amends Section 3-7 Council Members: Adds disciplinary measures for County Council members who behave in a disorderly or contemptuous manner at council meetings, or, when a council member fails to attend three or more regular meetings of the council without being excused by the council chair.

CA-14 Comm. 31.1 Amends Sections 6-4.3 and 6-4.4 Director of Technology: Updates language for the Qualifications and the Powers, Duties and Functions of the Director of Information Technology. The director of Information Technology recommended this amendment to facilitate carrying out the duties of the position.

CA-15 Comm. 32.1 Amends Section 6-4.4 Powers, Duties and Functions of the Director of Information Technology: Exempts the information technology systems of the Office of the Prosecuting Attorney and the Police Department from oversight by the Department of Information Technology. Those departments, due to the law enforcement functions of those systems, currently operate a different technology system, although the Department of Information Technology has had oversight in the past. This proposal was recommended by the Prosecuting Attorney and supported by the Department of Information Technology.

CA-17 Comm. No. 34.2 Creates a New Section under Article X (Financial Procedures) "Disaster and Emergency Fund": While the County Charter currently has a fund for emergencies Section 10-8, the Commission found that it was inadequate. This charter amendment establishes a *Disaster and Emergency Fund* in the Charter funded by a minimum of one per cent of the annual certified real estate tax revenues; state and federal grants; funds from the federal emergency management agency; private sources; and other sources of revenue.

The fund, which will include at least \$20 million, will be used only for the following purposes in the event of a natural or human-caused disaster or emergency: repair of County facilities and infrastructure; cleaning of County property; providing for immediate response to deal with public health and safety risks; matching federal, state or private grants in-aid to restore public property; paying for County operational expenses in certain circumstances; acquiring property to mitigate potential disasters or emergencies; and administrative expenses. The Director of Finance would administer the fund.

CA-18 Draft 2 Comm. No. 35 Amends Article X Section 10-16, Public Access, Open Space, Natural Resources Preservation Maintenance Fund: This proposal transfers administrative duties of the PONC Fund from the Department of Parks and Recreation to the Department of Finance; adds permissible uses of the fund; and refines the procedures by which stewardship grants are applied for and processed, to include requiring a detailed business plan and returning unexpended funds to the maintenance fund within 30 days of the final report.

Alternative CA-18 Proposed by Hawai'i County Council. This proposed amendment has not been acted upon by the Charter Commission, which is scheduled to meet on August 8, 2019.

Amends 10-16(h)(6) Public Access, Open Space, and Natural Resources Preservation Maintenance Fund: This proposal is recommended by County Council as an alternative amendment, and only changes the original Charter Commission amendment (CA-18) at Section 10-16(h)(6) by adding language that would allow an officer, board member, or employee to receive compensation from a stewardship grant for specific duties, such as labor, educational workshops, or maintenance work, when those activities are included and approved as part of the stewardship agreement. The remainder of CA-18 is unchanged, including a provision that still prohibits an officer, board member, or employee of a nonprofit stewardship organization from receiving a salary.

CA-20 Draft 2 Comm. No. 37 Amends Section 15-3, Mandatory Charter Reviews: This proposal clarifies the Charter review procedures by aligning the Commission's Charter review timeline and process with Chapter 50 HRS. The Mayor would appoint the Commission in January of the Charter review year, rather than July, and the Commission would issue its report to County Council within a year of its appointment. This timeline would allow for the completion of the Commission's review and development of ballot language in time for the next November general election following the Charter review year.

CA-21 Comm. No. 38 Amends Section 11-5 subsection (c) relating to Initiative and Referendum Petition Forms: This is a housekeeping provision that replaces the word "appeal" with "repeal" as a correction of terms.

CA-22 Draft 2 Comm. No. 39 Amends Section 12-1.3 Signatures-Recall of an Elected Official: Removes the requirement that a signer of a petition proposing an initiative, a referendum, or a recall of an elected County official include the last four digits of his or her social security number. The County Elections Program Administrator recommended this amendment. Voters are no longer required to provide a social security number when registering to vote, making this requirement obsolete.

CA-23 Comm. No. 40 Amends Section 6-5.2, Appointment and Removal - Corporation Counsel: Requires that an attorney must be licensed to practice law for at least five years and have at least three years of experience in an administrative capacity before being eligible for appointment as the Corporation Counsel. The Corporate Counsel recommended this amendment.

CA-24 Comm. No. 41 Amends Sections 7-4.2 through 7-4.4 and Section 7-4.6, The Powers, Duties, and Functions of the Fire Chief and the Fire Commission: This proposal would add water safety as a core function of the Fire Department; provide for additional minimum qualification requirements for Fire Chief selection, and clarify Fire Commission powers, duties, and functions. The Fire Chief and Fire Commission recommended these changes.

CA-25 Comm. No. 42 Amends Section 6-7.5 and repeals Section 6-7.6, The Duties and Functions of the Windward and Leeward Planning Commissions: The Windward and Leeward Planning Commissions recommended these changes, which include deleting language used to transition from a single planning commission to two planning commissions: the Leeward Planning Commission and the Windward Planning Commission. The commissions recommended these changes.

CA-28 Comm. No. 45 Amends Section 13-4 Boards and Commissions, and Section 15-3 Mandatory Charter Reviews: Removes language in two sections that requires that no more than a bare majority of members of these boards and commission shall belong to the same political party. The commission found that this provision is obsolete with the advent of non-partisan elections for elected County offices, and made it difficult to recruit members for boards and commissions.

CA-29 Draft 2 Comm. No. 47 Amends Section Article X Section 10-6 Capital Budget and Capital Program: This proposal would add language to the capital budget section of financial procedures that require that capital improvement priorities be based on criteria aligned with the County general plan, County community development plan, emergency expenditures, and other pertinent functional plans.

CA-30 Comm. No. 48 Amends Article XIV Section 1405 Board of Ethics: The proposal would remove transitional language to stagger terms; clarify that members serve five-year terms; clarify that the board adopt rules and procedures having the force and effect of law; and authorize the board to impose civil fines for violations of the code of ethics, as prescribed by ordinance.

Sources:

2018-2020 Hawaii County Charter Commission Report to Hawaii County Council

June 14, 2019

<http://records.hawaiicounty.gov/weblink/1/doc/100575/Page1.aspx>

2018-2020 Hawaii County Charter Commission Timeline

June 13, 2019

<http://records.hawaiicounty.gov/weblink/1/doc/100571/Page1.aspx>

Hawaii County Council Resolution 216-19

<http://records.co.hawaii.hi.us/weblink/DocView.aspx?dbid=0&id=982458&cr=1>

**More Voter Registration Activities by
the League of Women Voters of Hawai'i County!**



Kit Afable and Erica Johnson 1/19/2019 Hilo Women's March



Linda Arlington and Nina Eejima 1/19/2019 Kona Women's March



Sue Dursin, Kit Atable and Nina Eejima 3/15/2019 Palamanui Youth Voter Outreach



Nina Eejima, Linda Arlington and Donna Oba 4/29/2019 Kealakehe Youth Voter Outreach