
A BILL FOR AN ACT

To amend section 605 of title 9 of the Code of the Federated States of Micronesia (Annotated), for the purpose of establishing a required special polling place in or near Hilo, Hawaii; Maui, Hawaii; and Portland, Oregon, and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS OF THE FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA:

1 Section 1. Section 605 of Title 9 of the Code of the
2 Federated States of Micronesia (Annotated), is hereby amended
3 to read as follows:

4 "Section 605. Voting absentee ballot at a special
5 Polling Place.

6 (1) Registered Voters who are absent from their
7 State of registration on Election Day may cast their
8 votes at a special Polling Place.

9 (2) Not less than 60 days prior to a general
10 election, or 45 days prior to a special election, the
11 National Election Director shall designate the
12 locations of the special Polling Places, provided
13 that, there shall be one special Polling Place in
14 Guam, ~~[and]~~ one special Polling Place in Honolulu,
15 one special Polling Place in Hilo, Hawaii, one
16 special Polling Place in Maui, Hawaii, and one
17 special polling place in Portland, Oregon and that
18 these shall be the only special Polling Places

1 located outside the Federated States of Micronesia.

2 (3) Requests to vote absentee ballot at a special
3 Polling Place must be in writing, using the forms
4 required by the rules and regulations promulgated
5 pursuant to this title, and received by the national
6 election commissioner of the State of registration
7 not less than 30 days prior to a general election or
8 20 days before a special election; provided however,
9 no written request shall be required if in a previous
10 National Election the absentee voter submitted a
11 request in which he or she indicated his or her
12 desire to vote at the same special Polling Place in
13 future National Elections until such time as the
14 voter provides written notification to the national
15 election commissioner that he or she wishes to resume
16 voting at his or her regular Polling Place.
17 Provided, further, that a voter with a valid Voter
18 Identification Card may vote at any special Polling
19 Place designated for his or her Congressional
20 Election District without submitting a written
21 request.

22 (4) The national election commissioner, or his or
23 her designee, shall review all special Polling Place
24 requests for a particular Congressional Election
25 District, and shall request that the National

1 Election Director place on a special Polling Place
2 Signature List for that Congressional Election
3 District all the information contained on the
4 National Voter Register for those absentee voters who
5 submitted valid and timely requests. No later than
6 six days before a National Election, the national
7 election commissioners shall post at the National
8 Election Office in their State the special Polling
9 Place Signature List for each special Polling Place
10 in their State.

11 (5) The National Election Director, or his or her
12 designee, shall review all requests to vote at a
13 special Polling Place outside the Federated States of
14 Micronesia, and shall place on a special Polling
15 Place signature list for that special Polling Place
16 all the information contained on the National Voter
17 Register for those absentee voters who submitted
18 valid and timely requests. No later than 14 days
19 before a National Election, the National Election
20 Director, or his or her designee, shall post the
21 special Polling Place Signature Lists for Guam ~~[and]~~,
22 Honolulu, Hilo, Hawaii, Maui, Hawaii, and Portland,
23 Oregon in a publicly accessible place in each
24 respective location to be set out in the regulations
25 promulgated pursuant to this title.

(6) The National Election Director, or his or her designee, shall strike out or delete the entry of an absentee voter included on a special Polling Place Signature list from the Signature List for that voter's regular Polling Place. The absentee voter shall not be allowed to cast a ballot at his or her regular Polling Place on Election Day.

(7) Notwithstanding any other provision of this title, the special Polling Places located outside the Federated States of Micronesia shall remain open between 7:00 a.m. and 9:30 p.m. on election day."

Section 2. This act shall become law upon approval by the President of the Federated States of Micronesia or upon its becoming law without such approval.

Date: 11/19/24

Introduced by: /s/ Victor V. Gouland
Victor V. Gouland

1