

A person can register by:

- Mail -- Complete and mail in a voter registration form. These forms are found at all Satellite City Hall locations, public libraries, U.S. post offices, and other state service agencies.
- In person -- You can go down to the City or County Clerk's office to complete a registration form.
- Through the Department of Motor Vehicles -- On a new license or renewal application, there is a section that allows people to register to vote.

You can vote by absentee ballot or by going down to the polling center on Election Day. To request an absentee ballot by mail you need to complete an application for absentee voter ballot. Applications are available at all Satellite City Halls, U.S. Post Offices, public libraries, and Office of the City/County Clerks. Many state agencies also have the applications as well as HDRC.

### Why is voting important?

By being a person with a disability, or having a close relationship with one, it is easy to understand the hardships that the person is faced with. The voting process is an avenue in which people with disabilities can be heard. If every single person with a disability voted, the candidates running for public office might realize that the community of people with disabilities can sway an election. Voting is power. Candidates will do their best for people that can elect or re-elect them into office. By participating in the election process, you can be a voice for people with disabilities. So get involved, understand the issues, and vote!

Remember, these candidates will become public officials. This means that they work for you! Without your vote they cannot be elected into office. So get involved, understand the issues, and vote!

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**1132 Bishop Street, Suite 2102  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813**

**Phone (v/tty) - (808) 949-2922**

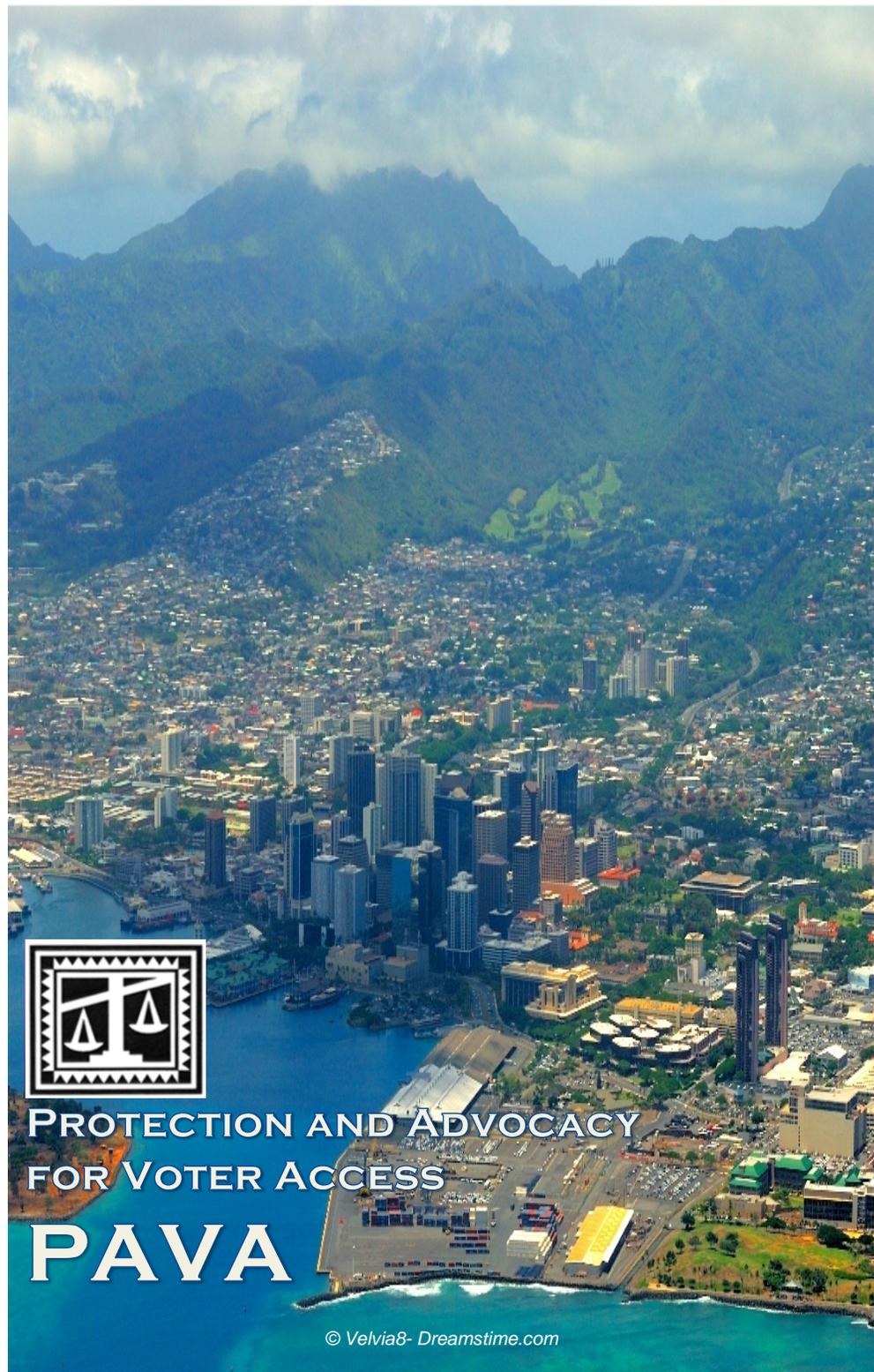
**Statewide Toll-Free(v/tty) - 1-800-882-1057**

**Fax - (808) 949-2928**

**E-mail - [info@hawaiiidisabilityrights.org](mailto:info@hawaiiidisabilityrights.org)**

**Website - [www.hawaiiidisabilityrights.org](http://www.hawaiiidisabilityrights.org)**

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May 2018



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# HAWAII DISABILITY RIGHTS CENTER

The sole mission of the Hawaii Disability Rights Center is to protect and promote the human, civil and legal rights of individuals with disabilities, as established in the constitutions and laws of the State of Hawaii and the United States, through the provision of information and advocacy.

HDRC, formerly known as the Protection and Advocacy Agency of Hawaii, is a private non-profit public interest organization established in 1977. It is Hawaii's Protection and Advocacy System for People with Disabilities, as authorized in federal and state law and designated by the Governor. It is funded by the federal and state governments and private sources, to fulfill its mandate.

## Protection and Advocacy for Voter Access (PAVA)

The Hawaii Disability Rights Center participates in Help American Vote Act (HAVA). HAVA was written into law in 2002 and authorizes payments and grants to all states to improve the election process. Our specific program is called the Protection and Advocacy for Voter Access (PAVA). Under this program the Hawaii Disability Rights Center is committed to ensure full participation in the electoral process for individuals with disabilities including; registering to vote, casting a vote, and accessing polling places.

### As a person with a disability, you should:

- Have access to the polling site within your precinct; including path of travel, entrances, exits and voting areas;
- Be provided with information about the accessibility of polling places and the use of new voting technology;
- Be able to bring someone with you to assist in casting a vote. This person can be anyone except an employer, agent, or union representative.
- Be able cast a vote with both independence and privacy.

### What To Do On Election Day

- For your arrival, plan accordingly. Know whether you are going to drive & park, be dropped off, walk, or catch public transportation such as the Bus or Handi-Van.

- Know where your polling station is located and what time the polling center is open. Some locations are new and some have been changed. Make sure you know where the location is to avoid confusion. Contact the Office of Elections at (808) 453-VOTE (8683)
- Make sure to bring a picture ID (Driver's License, State ID, etc.)
- If you have special needs ask for the tool kit. The Office of Elections will provide one tool kit at each precinct that will contain aids (such as a ruler, magnifying glass, etc.). The tool kit may have something that could assist you in voting.
- If you have a particular special need please call ahead. Do not assume that the polling center will be equipped with whatever you need. Contact the Office of Elections at (808) 453-VOTE (8683)
- Ask the precinct workers for assistance if needed. Remember, they are trained to deal with accessibility issues.
- Try to plan ahead. The polling center will be equipped with assistive devices to vote, but not for other special needs. Also remember that not all polling locations have bathrooms or are required to have accessible ones. Please plan accordingly.
- Make a difference! Voting is an important part of democracy and freedom.

### If you come across:

- An inaccessible polling place;
- Untrained poll workers;
- Lack of an electronic voting machine;
- Any other accessibility issue;

Call the Hawaii Disability Rights Center and make a complaint.

### We Need People to Help In the Voting Process

There are ways to get involved and also make some extra money. The best way to help out is to become a precinct worker. By being present at the polling station, you can assist and teach others how to assist people with disabilities. It also encourages people with disabilities to know that you are there to help. Just remember that precinct workers need to go through a mandatory training. And if you do become a precinct worker you will be compensated. Lead by example and become a precinct official. Call the Office of Elections at (808) 453-VOTE (8683) for more information or to sign up.

### In order to vote you need to be registered!

**How to register:** You must be a citizen of the USA, a legal resident of Hawaii, and at least 18 years old (by the day of election)

**Pre-registration:** Hawaii laws allow U.S. citizens to pre-register at the age of 16, but you must be 18 by Election Day to vote.