

NEIGHBORHOOD COMMUNITY UPDATE

December 2025



Representative Cory Chun
House District 35

**Chair, House Committee
on Agriculture & Food
Systems**

**Member, House Committee on
Energy & Environmental
Protection**

**Member, House Committee on
Consumer Protection &
Commerce**

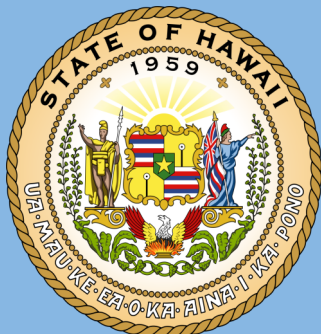
**HAWAII STATE CAPITOL
415 S. BERETANIA STREET
ROOM 406
HONOLULU, HI 96813**

OFFICE: 586-6170

FAX: 586-6171

EMAIL:

repchun@capitol.hawaii.gov



Happy New Year, Neighbors,

Thank you for the continued opportunity to serve as your District 35 State Representative. It remains an honor and a privilege, and I look forward to representing our community as we head into the 2026 legislative session in January.

As the new Chair of the House Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems I am reviewing legislative proposals, reflecting on the survey data many of you shared last year, and considering new ideas that could strengthen our community.

Please take some time to review some of the highlights on how I have stayed active in our community and gotten up to speed on our State's agriculture needs ahead of my new responsibilities.

Your suggestions remain invaluable, and I welcome any additional thoughts you may have as we finalize our priorities. Please let me know your thoughts and any questions or concerns you may have by calling my office, (808) 586-6170, or send an email to: repchun@capitol.hawaii.gov.

Mahalo,

Mānana Neighborhood Security Watch — A Safer Mānana



The Neighborhood Security Watch (NSW) is a community partnership with the Honolulu Police Department (HPD) that brings residents together to help prevent crime and improve safety. Monthly meetings, which often include neighborhood walk-arounds, help build a stronger sense of community while providing opportunities to learn about crime concerns and great ways to keep homes safe.

The Mānana NSW is an active and growing security watch team that is looking to expand its membership. Representative Chun participates when he can because watchful neighbors working together is a simple and effective way to reduce property crime.

If you are interested in becoming a part of their effort to keep Mānana safe, please email manana.watch@gmail.com.



Representative Chun was invited to speak with students in Waipahu's Hawai'i Technology Academy's two Participation in Democracy sections, taught by Victoria Twombly. The students prepared their own questions as part of an ongoing project. Despite overlapping conversations, this ultimately fostered two unique and engaging discussions about civic involvement, the legislative process, and even potential solutions to issues our state faces.



As a Pearl City area Representative, Representative Chun was invited to speak with Highlands Elementary 6th graders. They were divided into several groups, each with a unique service project. With his position as the new Chair Agriculture & Food Systems, he spoke with a group working on the subject of invasive species and another group working on the subject of food sustainability.



(Right) After 36 years with the Department of Education (HDOE) and 20 years as principal of Mānana Elementary School, Bryan Loo is retiring. Representative Chun had the privilege of honoring Principal Loo during Mānana Elementary's Magical Holiday event.

(Left) Waikele Elementary School similarly recognized its Principal, Sheldon Oshio, for his retirement following 30 years with HDOE and 15 years as Waikele Elementary's principal. Rep. Chun was joined by Senator Lamosao and other special guests in congratulating Principal Oshio.

Agriculture & Food Systems Highlights

In his new role as the Chair of the House Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems (AGR), Representative Chun has spent his legislative interim preparing for this new responsibility. Within the purview of the committee, there was a particular focus on farmers and their farms, biosecurity, and agriculture and education.

Rep. Chun learned about the farming industry and got to know farmers on Oahu, Maui, and Hawai'i Island through various farmer hosted events and visits to farming facilities.

Biosecurity has become one of the leading agricultural concerns facing our state in recent years. Rep. Chun coordinated with the Hawai'i Invasive Species Council (HISC) to see firsthand the impacts of the effects dangerous plants, animals, and organisms have on our unique environment and food systems.

Separately, Rep. Chun also worked with Senator Gabbard, Chair of the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Energy (AEN) and arranged an informational briefing to provide updates from the Department of Agriculture and Biosecurity (HDAB) regarding efforts to strengthen the State's biosecurity infrastructure in response to invasive species threats.

Finally, agriculture and education are closely connected in shaping Hawai'i's future. The Department of Education has been working on a project to establish centralized kitchens to better incorporate farm-to-school into our K through 12 schools. Rep. Chun joined a site visit to learn how centralized kitchen models can better connect our students to fresh and locally grown food.

The University of Hawai'i's (UH) College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resilience (CTAHR) helps train our next generation of agriculture producers as well as conducting vital agricultural and biosecurity research. Rep. Chun plans to continue supporting CTAHR and the UH Systems efforts to grow our agricultural workforce.



Rep Chun viewing a corn crop on farm land in Kunia where there is still local corn and soy production.



(Left) AEN Chair Gabbard and Rep. Chun at a Food System Resilience & Disaster Preparedness Summit.

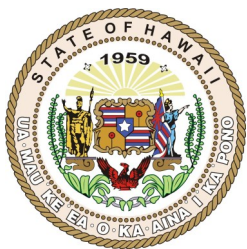
(Right) Rep Chun at a Maui agriculture festival with farmers and their produce.



(Top) Rep. Chun and members of AGR participated in a site visit to Hilo hosted by HISC (Bottom) Rep Chun at a Maui agriculture festival with farmers and their produce. Chair Gabbard, Rep. Chun, and AGR Vice Chair Kusch listening to HDAB officials explain their progress on improving the State's biosecurity.



CTAHR Dean Grewal, House Higher Education Chair Garrett, and Rep. Chun at CTAHR's Maui campus, looking at their agriculture facilities.



Representative Cory M. Chun

Hawaii State House of Representatives

415 S. Beretania Street, Room 406

Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

(808) 586-6170

repchun@capitol.hawaii.gov



Representative Chun continues to show his support of the EnhanceFitness program, which is a partnership between the State Department of Health's Healthy Aging Partnership, the YMCA, and Pearl City Community Church. PCCC hosts two sessions of EnhanceFitness three days a week and held a Christmas recap celebration. (Left) Representative Chun (centered) with PCCC staff (in blue), and other special guests, Joseph Peunete, Gary Simon (Hawai'i Fall Prevention Alliance), Caroline Cadirao (State Executive Office on Aging), Derrick Ariyoshi (City and County of Honolulu Elderly Affairs Division), and YMCA representatives. (Right) PCCC's Church Moderator, Dominic Inocelda and Representative Chun.

The EnhanceFitness program is nationally recognized exercise program developed with evidence based research to help older adults address fall prevention and enhance overall fitness. This public/private partnership is an important piece in addressing our State's rising health care costs because for every dollar invested in EnhanceFitness, there is estimated \$1.80 in saving to healthcare costs.