



State Senator

BRANDON ELEFANTE

Representing Senate District 16 - 'Aiea, Hālawā, and Pearl City

Connecting Communities • Protecting Our Planet • Supporting Strong Schools

MAR 2024



\$4 MILLION IN CIP'S RELEASED FOR NAKASONE CENTER

Aloha Friends and Neighbors, We have reached the halfway point of the 2024 Legislative Session and I am excited to report that five of my bills have passed out of the Senate and have crossed over to the House for consideration.

I am also elated that Governor Green has released \$4M in CIP funds for the Nakasone Performing Arts Center. The Center has long been a prominent jewel of our community and will be able to continue hosting the best musicians and performers that Hawai'i has to offer for our entertainment and enjoyment.

As always, I remain open to your feedback on any way that I may address the issues that mean the most to you.

Brandon

Working in collaboration with Rep. Takayama and our Pearl City elected officials we were able to secure and get the release of **\$4M in Capital Improvement Project funding** for the electrical lighting improvements at the Michael D. Nakasone Performing Arts Center at Pearl City HS. The Performing Arts Center has been a focal point for the community in featuring some of the most talented performers in Hawai'i and the world since 1995.



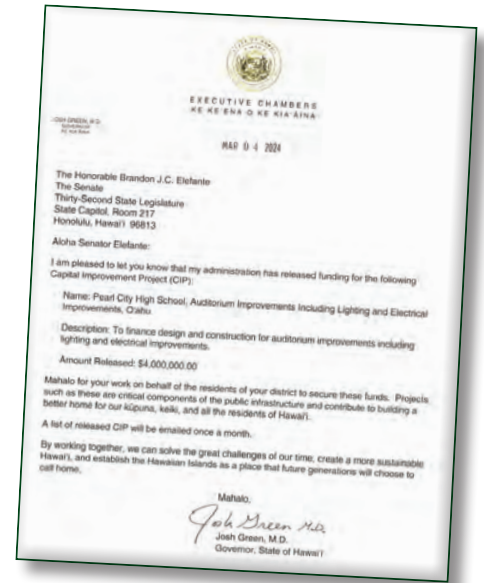
One of the incredible student orchestras that have performed at the Nakasone Performing Arts Center. Photo by Elden T. Seta

SB849 SD2 RELATING TO SOCIAL SERVICES.

Amends the state supplemental payment ceiling for domiciliary care paid to recipients who are eligible for federal supplementary security income or public assistance, or both. Amends the monthly needs allowance for individuals residing in foster homes, care homes, domiciliary homes, and other long-term care facilities.

SB2305 SD2 RELATING TO MISSING PERSONS.

Establishes a Silver Alert Program within the Department of Law Enforcement to help locate and safeguard missing persons who are sixty-five years of age or older, cognitively impaired, or developmentally disabled.



SB2945 SD2 RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION.

Establishes a Task Force to conduct a statewide study on the accessibility of ignition interlock devices and any national best practices.

SB2308 SD1 - RELATING TO SPEEDING SB2443 SD2 - RELATING TO HIGHWAY SAFETY.

Both of these two measures that seek to protect pedestrians in school zones by addressing speeding motorists, passed Third Reading in the Senate. Both bills were introduced by Senator Brandon J.C. Elefante (District 16, 'Aiea, 'Aiea Heights, Hālawā, Pearlridge, Newtown, Royal Summit, Waimalu, Waiau, Momilani, Pacific Palisades, and Pearl City) in response to growing concerns from his community that excessive speeding in school zones has gotten out of hand.

I would like to thank Rep. Ichiyama for her perseverance and dedication to making this legislation come to fruition.

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BILLS PASSED OUT OF THE SENATE continued...

These measures give us another tool to keep our keiki safer and make our roads and neighborhoods increasingly more pedestrian friendly. It is incumbent upon us to ensure that speed limits are adhered to and enforced.

"Highway safety is not just engineering, you need education and enforcement to encourage everyone to do their part in making our system safer," said Hawai'i Department of Transportation Director Ed Sniffen. "A well-thought out automated speed enforcement system could improve safety by supporting fair enforcement that emphasizes reduction in dangerous behaviors. We've already seen crashes decrease by twenty percent at our Red-Light Safety Camera locations and we appreciate Senator Elefante's leadership in seeking to apply a similar program to address speeding."

SB 2443 would establish the Automated Speed Enforcement Systems Program for up to ten school zones. Automated speed enforcement programs can be powerful tools to reduce motor vehicle crashes and



fatalities, using cameras, vehicle sensors, and speed measuring devices to identify and record vehicles going above the speed limit.

"The safety of all users on the road is a major priority for HDOT," said Sniffen.

"I sincerely thank Senator Elefante and the other legislators that introduced SB2308 to create a stronger deterrent for drivers speeding in our school zones. We know that vehicle speed is the major factor in survivability for those involved in crashes and we support this measure to get people to think twice about how they drive especially when there are keiki around."

SB 2308 would establish additional fines and penalties for convictions of speeding in a school zone.

According to the DOT, speeding has always been one of the top contributing factors in motor vehicle fatalities for the past decade, and in 2023, speeding was a major contributing factor in half of the motor vehicle fatalities in Hawai'i. Senate Bill 2443 and Senate Bill 2308 now moves to the Hawai'i House of Representatives.

Senator Brandon Elefante
Hawaii State Senate
District 16

Member of the following
Senate Committees

Public Safety - Military Affairs - Vice Chair
Water and Land - Vice Chair
Judiciary
Transportation / Culture and the Arts

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SENATOR ON THE MOVE...



Clockwise from top...Senator Elefante speaking at the Advocacy Day Press Conference at the Capitol on March 7th.



Pearl City resident, Deputy Director of Health, Valerie M. Kato visiting with Senator Elefante.



Students from Wai'au Elementary School learn about the legislative process from Senator Elefante on Career Day.

Senator Elefante taking time to visit the many exhibitors during the Manufacturing Day at the State Capitol.

Promise Award recipient Andrew Jackson (center) flanked by Representatives Gregg Takayama and Cory Chun, and Senators Brandon Elefante and Henry Aquino.

