

Aloha Friends and Neighbors,

Happy New Year to you and your 'ohana!

I am deeply honored to have been re-elected to represent our community at the Hawai'i State Legislature. Your trust and support inspire me to work tirelessly for the betterment of our district and state. Serving as your senator is both a privilege and a responsibility, and I embrace it with heartfelt gratitude and unwavering dedication.

As we begin this new session, I am excited to take on a new leadership role as Chair of the Senate Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs (PSM) and to join the Ways and Means (WAM) Committee as a member. I will also continue serving as Vice Chair of the Water and Land (WTL) Committee and as a member of the Transportation and Culture and the Arts (TCA) Committee. Additionally, I joined the the Kūpuna Caucus and remain an active member of the Filipino Caucus. These roles enable me to focus on key issues that matter most to our community.



Meet Senate District 16's Legislative Team!

Pictured, from left to right, are: Office Manager Janice Salcedo, Legislative Aide Faith Quintua, Committee Clerk Taylor Sayles, and Senator Brandon Elefante.

Together, we are here to serve our community and welcome your thoughts and concerns.

UPCOMING EVENT



Opening Day

The 2025 Legislative Session begins on Wednesday, January 15, at the State Capitol. Floor Session for the Senate Chamber begins at 10:00 a.m.

Floor Session 10:00 am

Join us in Senator Elefante's office, Room 217, to connect and share your thoughts and concerns as we kick off the new biennium.

Hawai'i State Capitol

415 South Beretania St, Honolulu, HI 96813



IN THE COMMUNITY.



'Aiea High School Homecoming 2024

Returning to his alma mater, 'Aiea High School, for their long-awaited homecoming game, Senator Elefante reflected on his commitment and the community supporting student-athletes and the arts. Recent funding included \$7 million for a new athletic track and field.

Pictured are Sen. Elefante, AHS Principal Wayne Guevara, and School Community Council President Richard Mizusawa.

Pearl City Elementary Visits Capitol

Pearl City Elementary School students were welcomed to the Capitol and given a firsthand look at government and the legislative process from Senator Elefante. It was a meaningful opportunity to inspire the next generation of leaders.



Pictured are Senator Elefante and Pearl City Elementary students.



Ready Keiki Initiative: Alvah Scott Elementary

Participating in the Ready Keiki Initiative, Senator Elefante joined Lieutenant Governor Sylvia Luke to distribute backpacks to preschoolers, celebrating the opening of a new classroom.

Pictured are Sen. Elefante, Principal William Olk, Vice Principal Ashley Finklin, Lieutenant Governor Sylvia Luke, and Alvah Scott Elementary students.

RESOURCE AT THE CAPITOL -

Public Access Room (PAR)

The Public Access Room (PAR) at the Hawai'i State Capitol offers free resources and expert guidance to help the public engage with the legislative process, providing workspace, training, and materials in a non-partisan setting. PAR is accessible in person, online, and by phone! Call: (808) 587-0478 Email: par@capitol.hawaii.gov Website: Irb.hawaii.gov/par

Visit: State Capitol Room 401 Hours: M-F 8am – 5pm

Note: The capitol entrances are open from 7am – 5pm; an ID is required for entry

SINCE SUMMER

NEWSLETTER January 2025



Pictured are Sen. Troy Hashimoto and Senator Elefante, alongside advocates of the Daniel K. Akaka State Veterans Home.

Daniel K. Akaka State Veterans Home

A visit to the Daniel K. Akaka State Veterans Home allowed Senator Elefante to observe dedication the and collaboration behind this vital state-of-the-art facility. The home will provide specialized care for veterans, including rehabilitation, skilled nursing, and memory care services. It's set to open in the first quarter of this year.



Ways Pictured with and Means Chai Donovan Dela Cruz, WAM Committee and Members. staff from the State Department of Human Services, and Department of Transportation.

Maui Site Visits

Senator Elefante participated in site visits on Maui, including Kahului Airport to discuss the Pu'uhonua O Nēnē Temporary Homeless Shelter, as well as Laʻi Ola and La'ikū Ка Temporary Housing facilities in Lāhainā. These visits focused on addressing housing and community support initiatives.

HELPFUL CONTACTS

City & County Departments & Agencies

- **Emergency** 911
- Non-Emergency Dial 911 & say "non-emergency" Abandoned Vehicle Reporting (808) 768-2530 Complaints (City-Related) (808) 768-4381 City Refuse & Recycling Services (808) 768-3200 Graffiti Hotline (HPD) (808) 723-3475 or 911 HART Hotline (808) 566-2299 Pothole Hotline (808) 768-7777 **Satellite City Halls Information** (808) 768-4325
- Senior Citizen Information (808) 768-7700 **Sewer Line Problem** (808) 768-7272 **Street Line Markings** (808) 768-3638
- Traffic Signal Malfunction (808) 768-8387 Honolulu City Council honolulucitycouncil.org City & County of Honolulu honolulu.gov

Honolulu 311

Honolulu 311 is the official mobile app and online platform for the City & County of Honolulu, Hawai'i. It offers a free and user-friendly platform for reporting issues like potholes, broken streetlights, cracked sidewalks, illegal dumping, and vandalized signs.

Smartphone App: Honolulu 311 Website: honoluluhi.citysourced.com



Pictured are Department of Aauatic Resources' Hawai'i Coral Restoration Nursery Staff and Sen. Elefante.

Coral Restoration Nursery

A visit to the Coral Restoration Nursery at the Department of Aquatic Resources highlighted innovative efforts to restore coral reefs and protect Hawai'i's marine ecosystems.

Aloha United Way 211

211 Community Resource Specialists assist with food, housing, utilities, SNAP presubstance screening, mental abuse, health, transportation, domestic violence, legal and financial aid, ăs well as support and care programs for k<u>ēiki</u> and kūpuna.

Call: 211 Text: (877) 275-6569 Chat: auw211.org

State Departments & Agencies

Attorney General (808) 586-1500 Child Support Enforcement (808) 692-7060 Commerce & Consumer Affairs (808) 587-3222 **Department of Defense** (808) 733-4246 Department of Education (808) 784-6200 **Department of Health** (808) 586-4400 Department of Taxation(808) 587-4242 **Department of Transportation**(808) 587-2150 Hawai'i State Ombudsman (808) 587-0770 Human Services (808) 586-4997 Information Practices (808) 586-1400 Labor & Industrial Relations (808) 586-8844 Legal Aid Society of Hawai'i (808) 536-4302 Long Term Care Ombudsman (808) 586-7268 Office of Hawaiian Affairs OHA (808) 594-1835 Hawaiian Homelands DHHL (808) 620-9500



Pictured are Rep. Vice Speaker Linda Ichivama Sen. Elefante, Major General Stephen F. Logar and his spouse, Darcie.

Transfer of Authority Ceremony

The Transfer of Authority ceremony for Hawai'i the National Guard honored outgoing TAG Major General Kenneth S. Hara with over 40 years of service and welcomed new TAG Major General Stephen F. Logan. The TAG oversees 5,600 Army and Air National Guard servicemembers.

Hawai'i CARES 988

Hawai'i CARES 988 connects individuals to behavioral health services through a coordinated and responsive system of care for crisis intervention, substance use treatment and recovery, and mental health concerns.

Call/Text: 988 Chat: hicares.hawaii.gov