

SENATOR DONNA MERCADO KIM

PROUDLY SERVING
DISTRICT 14

KAPALAMA • 'ALEWA • KALIHI VALLEY • FT. SHAFTER • RED HILL • MOANALUA GARDENS & VALLEY
PORTIONS OF HALAWA & 'AIEA



SENATE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON COVID-19 ASSESSES TESTING CAPACITY AND PROCEDURES

On Wednesday, September 30, 2020 Senator Kim and her colleagues on the Special Committee on COVID-19 performed a site visit of three local laboratories with the purpose of learning more about the testing capacity, policies, and procedures used among each of the labs.



Members of the Committee were able to receive informational tours of Oahu's primary laboratory facilities of the Department of Health's Laboratory Division in Pearl City, Clinical Laboratories of Hawaii in Aiea, and Diagnostic Laboratory Services also in Aiea. The committee discussed the current and future testing capacity of each facility, as well as where the state should invest in additional infrastructure and resources.



The site visits took place with the State's pre-travel testing program start date coming up on October 15 and concerns with testing and processing results within Hawaii.

SENATE CONFIRMS JUDICIAL APPOINTMENTS TO THE INTERMEDIATE COURT OF APPEALS AND TO THE FIRST CIRCUIT

This month, the Senate in their first special session of 2020 confirmed the judicial appointments of First Circuit Court Judge Karen Nakasone to the Intermediate Court of Appeals (ICA); Karin Holma, Tracy Fukui, Bryant Zane and Andrew Park to the District Court of the First Circuit; and Courtney Naso, Elizabeth Paek-Harris and Thomas Haia to the District Family Court of the First Circuit.



As a member on the Judiciary Committee, Senator Kim participated in the hearings.

SENATE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON COVID-19 OBSERVES SAFE TRAVELS PROCESS

Members of the Senate Special Committee on COVID-19 visited the Daniel K. Inouye International Airport last month to observe the state's new online Safe Travels form process. Senator Kim, along with her members, experienced the thermal screening cameras that are mounted just above the doors to the jet bridge between the aircraft and the terminal so travelers can be scanned without having to stop. A video image and an accompanying thermal image are monitored on a video tablet by National Guard personnel.

This tour was timely given Governor Ige's announced that same afternoon that the State of Hawaii's pre-travel testing program could commence on October 15, 2020, giving travelers arriving from out of state an alternative to the 14-day mandatory self-quarantine.

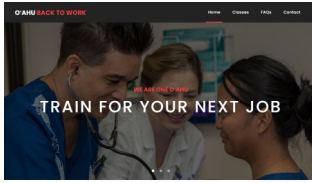


The site visit ended with a briefing from the Attorney General's office on their quarantine enforcement and certification procedures.



OAHU BACK TO WORK INITIATIVE

In an effort to fill the growing employment gap on O'ahu, the University of Hawai'i Community Colleges will be offering free job skills courses this fall. The initiative, O'ahu Back to Work, is a partnership of the City and County of Honolulu and the University of Hawai'i.



O'ahu Back to Work is a short-term employment training program that runs from October 5, 2020–December 18, 2020. Instructors at seven University of Hawai'i Community College campuses and the Manoa Outreach College will be providing more than 70 courses to O'ahu participants. The courses will be provided virtually, with a few exceptions for select classes meeting Honolulu. The courses fall under these career fields: Business, Health, Industrial Engineering, Technology, Natural Resources, Public and Human Services, and Trades.

The goal of the program is to provide 2,000 O'ahu participants with short term training for jobs that are currently available or will be available in the near future. The courses offered will focus on the skills that employers in each of these sectors indicated are most needed. This training should give participants the tools they need to succeed in our changing and challenging economy.

Eligible participants must be O'ahu adults whose employment was disrupted by COVID-19 impacts such as reduced hours, furloughs, or job loss.

To learn more, view available courses, and sign up visit OahuBacktoWork.com.

FREE GRAB-AND-GO MEALS PROGRAM LAUNCHING AT 203 PUBLIC SCHOOLS THIS FALL

The Hawaii State Department of Education (HIDOE) Grab-and-Go school meals program will be returning for the fall semester at 203 public schools beginning on Monday, Oct. 12, through Friday, Dec. 18, to provide free meals to children ages 18 and younger. The meals are available to children regardless of whether or not they are enrolled at the distribution site, are public school students, or are eligible for the free or reduced-price lunch program.

Unlike during the summer, meal distribution will be at lunchtime only. Please contact your school for meal serving times.

Pick-ups will include one lunch for that day and one breakfast for the following, day per child. Distribution will be available Monday through Friday, excluding holidays and designated school breaks, at drive-thru lines at the campuses listed below and walk-up lines where possible. Dine-in options will not be offered.

Meals may be picked up without children present but parents and guardians must provide one of the following verification documents:

- ⇒ Official letter or email from school listing child(ren) enrolled.
- ⇒ Recent student report card(s).
- ⇒ Attendance record(s) from parent portals of school websites.
- ⇒ Birth certificate(s) of child(ren).
- ⇒ Student ID card(s).
- ⇒ Driver's permit(s)/license(s) for high school students.
- ⇒ State-issued identification for the child.

Social distancing is required and masks must be worn at all times. There will be no personal interaction between serving staff and the community. All meals will be placed in to-go containers. Families are encouraged to visit their nearest participating school and to not visit multiple locations to ensure schools can produce the appropriate number of meals each day. Parents may contact the school of their choice for more details. Meals at other schools not listed for the Grab-and-Go program will be distributed on normal schedules and pricing rates.

For prescribed meal modifications, send an email to specialdiets@k12.hi.us or call (808) 784-5500. To view a complete list of schools participating in the program visit DOE's website at <http://www.hawaiipublicschools.org/Pages/Home.aspx>.

GENERAL ELECTION BALLOTS

Due to anticipated mail delays, the Elections Office started mailing ballots out to voters on Monday, October 5. You should receive your ballot by October 16. Voters are advised to put their completed and signed ballots in the mail by October 27 or drop them off at the special elections drop box. Call the City Clerk at 768-3800 with questions.



While the deadline to register to vote has passed, you can still visit a voter service center starting October 20 for same day voter registration and in person voting.

Below are some key dates to keep in mind:

Ballots Mailed:
October 5 & 6

Ballots Received By: October 16, 2020

Contact your County Elections Division if you have not received your ballot by this date.

Ballots Returned: October 27, 2020

Last day to return your voted ballot by mail. After this date, voters must return their ballot to a place of deposit (ballot drop box).

Voter Service Centers

October 20 - November 2, 8:00am - 4:30pm

November 3, 7:00am - 7:00pm

Voter service centers offer accessible voting, same day voter registration, and in person voting.

CIP FUNDS RELEASED FOR AIEA SCHOOLS



Aiea High School - \$600,000

Project: Building A - Construction for slope remediation
Estimated Completion Date: August 2021



Webling Elementary School - \$1,500,000

Project: Design and construction to expand and renovate the administration/library building
Estimated Completion Date: March 2023

2020 FALL COMMUNITY BULLETIN



Please look out for Senator Kim's fall community bulletin in the mail starting this week. In it you will find our usual articles, including Senator Kim on the Hot Seat, Community Survey, as well as a 2020 recap of community events and pictures. If you need a copy, feel free to contact the office at 808-587-7200 and we will gladly send you one.



Hawaii State Capitol, Room 218
145 S. Beretania St. Honolulu, HI 96813

Phone: (808) 587-7200
Fax: (808) 587-7205

Email: senkim@capitol.hawaii.gov
Website: www.capitol.hawaii.gov