



Hawaii State Senator Bennette E. Misalucha

Pearl City | Momilani | Pearl Ridge | Aiea | Royal Summit |
Aiea Heights | Newtown | Waimalu | Halawa | Pearl Harbor



Report to the Pearl City Neighborhood Board No. 21 May 2021

Dear Neighbor,

The Legislature concluded its work on April 29, 2021, otherwise known as *Adjournment Sine Die*. After months of hearings, deadlines, and decision-making, there were 265 bills passed and 266 resolutions adopted this session. These measures take strong action on key priorities for our state, including healthcare, education, restructuring government and economic recovery. For more information, see my Capitol Update on page 2.

On May 13, our office partnered with area legislators and the local office of the U.S. Small Business Administration to put on an informational meeting on the Restaurant Revitalization Fund (RRF) Grant. This was a collaborative effort that aimed to outreach to restaurant owners in our district, especially those with language barriers, who may not have otherwise applied and taken advantage of the program. Mahalo to all those who helped to put this on, which I know has made a huge difference in the lives of many we serve.

Thank you to those who stayed engaged throughout the legislative process, and I hope to continue having these conversations with you all during the interim. If you already have ideas of legislation I can introduce for the 2022 Legislative Session, or have any community concerns I can help to address, please do not hesitate to contact my office. Mahalo for the opportunity to serve you.

Very Truly Yours,

Senator Bennette E. Misalucha
District 16

Calendar of Events

May 2021

- 13** Informational Meeting on the Restaurant Revitalization Grant, 2:30pm
- 24** Pearl City Neighborhood Board Meeting, 7:00pm
- 31** Memorial Day Holiday

June 2021

- 11** King Kamehameha Day Holiday

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CAPITOL UPDATES

Legislature Passes Key Bills During 2021 Legislative Session

Out of thousands of bills introduced, [265 passed the Legislature](#) and have been enrolled to the Governor. Below is a list of some of the most significant measures from this year:

[HB200 HD1 SD1 CD1](#)— Appropriates funds for the operating and capital improvement budget of the Executive Branch for fiscal years 2021-2022 and 2022-2023.

[HB613 HD2 SD2 CD2](#)— Allocates monies received by the state from the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER Fund) and the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) to areas where local schools are lacking the most.

[SB932 SD2 HD1 CD1](#)— Establishes the clean energy and energy efficiency revolving loan fund. Authorizes moneys in the green infrastructure special fund to be used to finance the option to purchase solar energy systems and other clean energy equipment, including the purchase or lease of electric vehicles.

[HB1191 HD2 SD1 CD1](#)— Establishes the broadband infrastructure grant program to award grants to applicants to extend deployment of infrastructure used to provide broadband service to unserved and underserved areas of the State. Establishes the Hawaii broadband and digital equity office within the department of business, economic development, and tourism.

[SB159 SD1 HD1 CD1](#)— Makes an application for voter registration part of all state identification card and driver's license applications. Requires updating of names and addresses of qualified applicants who are already registered to vote unless the applicant declines.

Legislation Introduced by Senator Misalucha Passes the Legislature

Senator Misalucha introduced 15 bills, 15 resolutions, and signed over 300 other pieces of legislation during the 2021 Legislative Session. Below is a list of the measures that she introduced that passed the Legislature.

[SB1421 SD2 HD2 CD1](#)— Creates a dual use technology task force within the department of business, economic development, and tourism to explore how dual use technology can be used to promote economic recovery and diversify the State's economy. Requires the task force to submit reports to the legislature prior to the regular sessions of 2023 and 2025.

[SCR66 SD1 HD1](#)— CONDEMNING AND DENOUNCING ALL FORMS OF ANTI-ASIAN SENTIMENT AND ALL ACTS OF RACISM, XENOPHOBIA, INTOLERANCE, DISCRIMINATION, HATE CRIME, AND HATE SPEECH AGAINST ASIAN AMERICANS AND ASIAN INDIVIDUALS IN THE UNITED STATES AND REQUESTING THE HAWAII CIVIL RIGHTS COMMISSION TO ANALYZE AND REPORT ON ANTI-ASIAN SENTIMENT AND ACTS IN THE STATE.

[SCR219 HD1](#)— URGING THE BROADBAND HUI TO INCLUDE A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE ON AGING AS A MEMBER OF THE HUI TO REPRESENT THE NEEDS OF KUPUNA WITH REGARD TO DIGITAL LITERACY, BROADBAND ACCESS, AND COMPUTER EQUIPMENT.

[SCR220 SD1](#)— RECOGNIZING THE SEVENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES.

COMMUNITY UPDATES

Congratulations, Class of 2021 Chargers!



On May 15, 2021, Senator Misalucha attended Pearl City High School’s Graduation Ceremony at Aloha Stadium. She was joined by area legislators and special guests who waved and congratulated the graduating seniors as they exited the stadium after receiving their high school diploma. Although it was not how they envisioned it, they finished the year strong and more resilient than ever. Congratulations to the Class of 2021 Chargers, and good luck in all of your future endeavors!

On May 12, 2021, Senator Misalucha attended Pearl City High School’s Ohana Night, where this year’s scholarship recipients, honor graduates, valedictorians, and the Charger of the Year were announced and recognized. Over \$4 million in scholarships were awarded to this year’s class, which also has a total of 38 valedictorians. Congratulations to Remy Kubota, the 2021 Charger of the Year, and to all those who were recognized for your academic and scholastic accomplishments!



Informational Meeting on the Restaurant Revitalization Fund (RRF) Grant

On May 13, 2021, Senator Misalucha along with other area legislators collaborated with the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) - Hawai’i Pacific Islands District Office to hold an informational meeting on the Restaurant Revitalization Fund (RRF) Grant. Many restaurant owners from the community and throughout the state joined them virtually or in-person at ‘Aiea Elementary School. Mahalo to all who partnered with us, helped with outreach to restaurant owners, and are assisting them with their applications. This has and will continue to make a difference in the lives of many.

