

COMMUNITY UPDATE

2025 Legislative Update

January 2025



Representative Cory Chun
House District 35

Vice Chair, House Committee
on Consumer Protection &
Commerce

Member, House Committee on
Health

Member, House Committee on
Human Services &
Homelessness

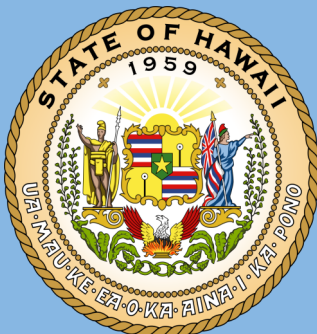
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Aloha Friends and Neighbors,

January 15th marked the opening day of the 2025 legislative session and the start of the 33rd legislative biennium. I am excited to start my second term as your State Representative with new responsibilities as well as continuing to build on work already started.

I continue to be focused on my work as part of the Legislative Kūpuna Caucus but will have brand new committee assignments, as a member on House Committee on Health (HLT) and the House Committee on Human Services & Homelessness (HSH) as well as the Vice Chair of the House Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce (CPC).

Mahalo for filling out the district survey. The top issues selected by our community are: 1. Property Crime (3.75 average), 2. Government Transparency and Ethics (3.58 average), 3. and 4. Traffic and Illegal Fireworks (3.57 average for both), and 5. Public Health (3.12 average). See more about these issues in the community section.

Please call my office, (808) 586-6170, or send an email to: rep-chun@capitol.hawaii.gov to provide your suggestion or if you have any questions or concerns.

Mahalo,

Important Legislative Dates

January 15: Opening Day	January 21: State of the State
March 6: First Crossover	April 10: Second Crossover
April 24: Final Decking	May 2: Adjournment Sine Die

For a complete list of legislative deadlines and more information on what it all means, please visit the Legislative Reference Bureau's Public Access Room website: <https://lrb.hawaii.gov/par/>





Senator Elefante, Senator Aquino, Representative Takayama, and Representative Chun all came together to give children from Pearl City’s The Children’s House a tour of the State’s Capitol. 3rd, 4th and 5th graders went to the Senate Chambers, House conference rooms, and other places across the Capitol.



Organizer, Liz Gill-Ryan, joined Representatives Chun, Kapela, Garrett, Poepoe, Iwamoto, Perruso, Tarnas, Matayoshi, Marten, and La Chica who all came out in support of Say No to Tobacco Pledge Day to keep tobacco products away from children.

Community Legislative Priorities

Representative Chun is prioritizing crime and public safety by strengthening penalties for crimes committed against our kūpuna. He is also supporting ways to improve rehabilitation services to prevent repeat offenses.

The Office of Elections and The Campaign Spending Commission both introduced bill packages through the House Speaker and Senate President, that Representative Chun will support to improve transparency and ethics in government.

Representative Chun is already working directly with the Department of Transportation on several traffic related issues but is also looking into regulations on e-bikes and expansions to already existing traffic light camera programs.

Fireworks enforcement has been a top priority for Representative Chun and it will remain a key focus as the Legislature responds to the incidents from this past New Year’s Day tragedy. Along with supporting other initiatives, he introduced a bill to authorize law enforcement to use drones in enforcing existing fireworks regulations.

Finally, Representative Chun’s healthcare advocacy background continues influence his policy priorities. His ongoing collaboration with various organizations has resulted in proposals to improve telephonic telehealth services and supporting mandatory coverage for biomarker testing as well as cancer screenings and dementia evaluations.

In addition to these top community priorities, Representative Chun is also working on many other issues, including several measures that came as suggestions directly from community members. He values your input and welcomes your ideas and suggestions.

2025 Kupuna Caucus Priorities

Representative Chun continues as a member of the State Legislature’s Kūpuna Caucus, one of the legislature’s most active and well regarded caucuses. He spent the last several months working with other caucus members to formalize a bill package, which was voted on and finalized in December. The priorities they settled on are:

- **Caregiver Tax Credit** — Establish a tax credit for nonpaid family caregivers.
- **Funding for Medicaid In-Home Services** — With matching federal funds, increase the ability for kupuna to age in place.
- **Housing** — Extend the State Rent Supplemental Program for kūpuna to June 30, 2028.
- **SNAP Benefits** — Restore SNAP benefits to levels provided in 2023.
- **Expanded Outreach** — Increase access to help with enrolling in programs that can offset medical and prescription drug costs such as premiums, deductibles, copayments, coinsurance, or lifetime late enrollment penalties.



Representative Chun met with several Hawai'i REALTORS to discuss their legislative priorities, which include initiatives to address the concerns that many have with the rising costs of condominium and homeowner insurance.



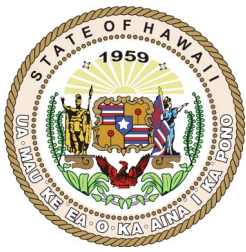
(Top) Representative Chun and Flora from The Waipahu Aloha Clubhouse, who visited during Opening Day.



(Left) Senator Aquino, Representative Chun, and Waipahu High School students participating in an Elevating Student Voices event at the State Capitol.

Representatives Matayoshi, Belatti, and Chun were among several legislators who participated in Hawai'i Public Health Institute's Youth Council's Policy and Testimony Writing Workshop. They shared insights into the legislative process, providing insight to this youth-led training event.





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Representative Chun and other House members toured several Hawaiian Electric power plants and substations while on a site visit to better understand their field operations and infrastructure.

Representative Chun participated in the January sign-waving event hosted by the Waialeale Community Association's Community Traffic Awareness Partnership with the Honolulu Police Department, promoting safe driving in the area.

