Representative Cory Chun

Mid-Session Community Update

March 2025

Representative Cory Chun House District 35

<u>Vice Chair</u> House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce

<u>Member</u> House Committee on Health

<u>Member</u> House Committee on Human Services & Homelessness

<u>Co-Convener</u> Legislative Kupuna Caucus

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OFFICE: 586-6170 FAX: 586-6171 EMAIL: repchun@capitol.hawaii.gov Aloha Neighbors,

The legislative session has just passed its half-way mark and this month my newsletter will be highlighting some of the bills relating to your highest concerns that have made it to the "crossover" deadline, where House and Senate bills are sent over for the opposite chamber.

I would like to thank everyone who complete and returned the survey of priorities that I sent out in December as your opinions have helped me as I made votes on the House Floor.

I am still getting some back, even now, and although the bill introduction period has passed, I would still encourage you to send it back if you still have it or otherwise reach out and let me know your thoughts on whatever bills you're hearing about.

My staff and I can be reached at (808) 586-6170 or via email at repchun@capitol.hawaii.gov. We look forward to hearing from you.

Mahalo,

Capital Improvement Projects for District 35 Governor Green recently released funding for projects in the 2024-2025 budget that will help our community:

\$2,100,000	walpio Point Access Road multi-modal safety improvements
\$1,000,000	Waipahu High School for campus wide security fencing and
	gates including new work and repair, refurbishment, and reno- vation
550,000	Manana Elementary School for installation of new windows for the library and administration building

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House Measures that Made it through First Cross-Over

District Priorities

Campaign Contributions (HB371):

Expands the prohibition on campaign contributions by state and county contractors to also include state and county grantees, their officers, and their immediate family members, preventing contributions to candidates, candidate committees, or noncandidate committees.

Fireworks (HB550):

Establishes a definition for unmanned aerial vehicles, or drones and helps law enforcement to use recordings from these devices to establish probable cause when investigating fireworks violations on public property.

Firework Enforcement (HB806)

Appropriates money to the Department of Law Enforcement to conduct sting operations to enforce fireworks law.

Transportation (HB958):

Establishes regulations on electric bicycles and high-speed electric devices by setting usage restrictions, requiring labeling and signage, establishing age limits, and strengthening helmet rules. It also updates traffic laws to include electric micro-mobility devices.

Feral Animals (HB1389):

Expands the feral chicken program and establishes a statewide educational campaign to provide the public with information regarding feral animals.

Kūpuna Caucus and other Health Related Bills

Peer-to-Peer Support Program (HB237):

Develops and appropriates money for a program to keep parents and children together by providing family health services to parents and caregivers of children up to age five.

Cognitive Assessments (HB700)

Allows for healthcare provides to administer a short cogitative assessment to improve the detection and treatment of Alzheimer's disease by testing for early onset dementia.

Caregiver Tax Credit (HB701):

Allows one eligible caregiver per household to collect caregiver tax credit for up to five years.

Kupuna Housing (HB703)

Continues the state rent supplemental program which provides support for kupuna on fixed incomes to secure affordable housing.

Medicaid and Medicare (HB705):

Develops a pilot "medi-medi" program which will assist in streamlining the application and eligibility process for various low-income subsidy programs. These low-income subsidy programs include Medicare and Medicaid programs that assist the underserved population.

Health Care Workforce Development (HB714): Appropriates funds to support education training programs to expand the health care workforce. Programs include health care certificate programs and classroom renovations for high school education trainings.



After passing the House's version of the budget, Representatives Garrett, Poepoe, Kahaloa, Miyake, Yamashita, Kila, Kitagawa, Takenouchi, Lamosao, and Chun took a moment to enjoy the accomplishment. Representative Yamashita serves as the Chair of the Finance committee, with Representatives Kitagawa and Takenouchi also having committee leadership roles.

House Budget Highlights

House Bill 300 is this year's state budget bill for the 2026 fiscal year. It allocates about \$20 billion of projected revenue from all state sources, including Federal appropriations. While the legislature is still working to understand what financial impacts may come from new federal policies, the budget does include \$10.67 billion in state general funds. One important highlight is \$3,720,000 in capital improvement money for improvements to Kamehameha Highway between Pearl City and into Mililani. Our office receives many concerns regarding the road conditions along that stretch of road. Other improvements that help our community, as determined by the House Version of the budget include:

- \$1,850,000 for Waipahu High School Softball Field Ground and site Improvements
- \$50,000 for Waipahu Intermediate Cafeteria Heat Abatement
- \$100,000 for Waipahu Intermediate general repairs for water main
- \$4,400,000 for critical facility wastewater system improvements to resolve ongoing sewage backups, accommodate increased flow capacity, and install modern monitoring systems to enhance operational efficiency and reliability at Waiawa Correctional Facility

We will be continuing to monitor the budget while the Senate takes its turn to consider their version.



Coconut Rhinoceros Beetles are an invasive species that is invading Waipahu and Pearl City communities. As a part of Agriculture Day at the state capitol, Rep Chun met with members of Coconut Rhinoceros Beetle Response, a grant-funded organization through the University of Hawai'i.



The Hawai'i State Developmental Disabilities Council (DD Council) had a legislative day at the state capitol where Representative Chun and other legislators were able to meet with selfadvocates who were participating in the event.



Best Buddies in Hawai'i offers Friendship and Leadership Development programs throughout the state, including one at Pearl City High School. Representative Chun met with several advocates in regards to their request for State Grant-in-Aid funding.

Representative Cory M. Chun



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Representative Chun, Pearl City Community Church (PCCC) Moderator, Dominic Inocelda, and Senator Wakai were among those who celebrated Pearl City Community Church's 70th Anniversary. Since 1955, PCCC has been an important community anchor for Pearl City and they continue to be a vital gathering place for both church goers and non-church goers a like. Programs like EnhanceFitness and activities such as ukulele classes and Tai Chi, show that PCCC does its part for everyone in the community.

The Waipahu Intermediate School 5th grade classes visited to the State Capitol as a field trip. (Left) Lieutenant Governor (LG) Luke, Representatives Lamosao and Chun spoke with them in the LG's 5th floor conference Room. Later, the students met (right) Senator Aquino, House Vice Speaker Ichiyama, and Senator Wakai in the Senate Chambers.

