



State Representative

Andrew Takuya Garrett

District 22 (Mānoa/Tantalus/McCully-Mō'ili'ili)

January-February 2024 Newsletter

Dear Friends and Neighbors —

We are off and running at the Hawaii State Legislature! Thank you to everyone from the district who stopped by on Opening Day to wish us well during this legislative session. While there is no shortage of issues to address this session, our top priority must be supporting the continued recovery of Lahaina in the aftermath of the devastating wildfires.

The session moves at a very rapid pace, but we will do our best to keep the district updated with all the happenings here at the Capitol. If you are active on social media, please follow us on **Instagram at @repgarrett** or on **Facebook at Andrew Takuya Garrett** for the latest information.

During the course of this session, we would love to hear your opinions on any of the thousands of bills we'll be debating. While we likely won't agree 100% of the time, our office is committed to responding to your questions and inquiries in a timely manner.

With aloha,



(Above) Rep. Garrett and colleagues with Speaker Scott Saiki

(Below) Rep. Garrett delivers the invocation on Day 2 of the 2024 Legislature in honor of the survivors and families of victims of the August 8th Maui wildfires



(808) 586-8475



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Notable Bills introduced at the 2024 Legislature

Here are highlights of a few bills we have introduced for the 2024 session. For a complete listing, please visit the Hawaii Legislature's website at www.capitol.hawaii.gov.

HB2506: Capital Improvement Projects for the Benefit of the 22nd District

Mānoa Elementary School

\$3.2 million for communications system upgrades and security improvements.

Noelani Elementary School

\$2 million to construct covered walkways to portable buildings and conduct repairs to covered playcourt.

Hōkūlani Elementary School

\$115,000 to repair a leaking roof and repave parking lot and driveway and construct ADA compliance projects.

University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

\$335 million to replace Hale Noelani student apartments with two new towers.



Hale Noelani has been closed due to safety concerns since 2017. This has resulted in over 500 less beds for students, forcing them to compete with local residents for limited housing in communities near UH.

HB1907: Stream Maintenance

Appropriates funds for a two-year Mānoa Stream maintenance reimbursement pilot program under the Department of Land and Natural Resources.



Many homeowners along Mānoa Stream are unaware of their legal responsibility to maintain the stream abutting their property line.

HB1906: Making an Appropriation for the Department of Education to Promote Student Mental Health

Provides the DOE with funds to enhance its ability to address student mental health.

HB2509: Proposing an Amendment to Article VI, Section III of the Hawaii State Constitution to Increase the Mandatory Retirement Age for State Justices and Judges

Proposes a constitutional amendment to increase the mandatory retirement age for state justices and judges from 70 years to 75 years.



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Meet our Legislative Staff!



We are thrilled to introduce our staff for the 2024 legislative session!

From left to right, **Laura** is serving as our legislative aide and will handle community affairs.

Kaishu is our committee clerk and will be supporting our work with the House Labor and Government Operations Committee.

Melanie is our legislative office manager and keeps everything running smoothly.

Please call us at **(808) 586-8475** if we can ever be of assistance!

Legislative Calendar

January

- 1/17: Opening Day
- 1/22: Governor's State of the State Address
- 1/24: Bill Introduction Cutoff



February

- 2/15: First Lateral (bills in last committee)

March

- 3/1: First Decking (bills heard by all committees)
- 3/7: First Crossover (bills to other chamber)
- 3/21: Second Lateral

April

- 4/5: Second Decking
- 4/11: Second Crossover
- 4/26: Final Decking (fiscal bills)

May

- 5/2 Adjournment Sine Die

Pictures from Opening Day 2024



(L to R) Kalani Werner of United Public Workers, Deborah Zysman of Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks! and Suzy Vares-Lum of East-West Center



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Andrew Takuya Garrett**

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Rep. Garrett (and his four-legged intern) with friends from the district on Opening Day 2024



Frequently Called Numbers

We'd love to hear from you!
Mail: Rep. Andrew Takuya Garrett
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- * **Abandoned Vehicle Reporting** (808) 733-2530
- * **Board of Water Supply** (808) 748-5000
- * **Bulky Item Pickup** (808) 768-3200
- * **Crime Stoppers** (808) 955-8300
- * **Handi-Van** (808) 456-5555
- * **Hawaii Gas** (808) 526-0066
- * **Hawaiian Electric Company** (808) 548-7311
- * **Hawaiian Humane Society** (808) 356-2250
- * **Illegal Dumping Reporting** (808) 768-3203
- * **Pothole Hotline** (808) 768-7777
- * **Senior Citizen Info & Services** (808) 768-7700
- * **Sewer Line Issues** (808) 768-7272
- * **Street Light Maintenance** (808) 768-5300