



Office of Representative Adrian Tam

September 2021

Safe Access O'ahu



Mayor Rick Blangiardi announced a new program called “Safe Access O’ahu” as part of our collective efforts to aggressively counteract the surge of COVID-19 cases in our community. This program was developed in collaboration with local business and restaurant leaders.

The Safe Access O’ahu program requires restaurants, bars, gyms, movie theaters, museums, arcades and other similar establishments, to ensure their employees are fully vaccinated against COVID-19 in order to operate. Customers will also have to provide proof they are fully vaccinated against COVID-19 in order to enter the business. The goal is to allow these businesses the ability to operate more safely and instill confidence in the general public. Children 12 years old and under are exempt. Safe Access Oahu will be in place as of September 13, 2021. For more information visit: <https://www.oneoahu.org/safe-access-oahu>

PFIZER VACCINE RECEIVES FULL FDA APPROVAL

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration approved the first COVID-19 vaccine. The vaccine has been known as the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine, and will now be marketed as Comirnaty (koe-mir'-na-tee), for the prevention of COVID-19 disease in individuals 16 years of age and older. The vaccine also continues to be available under emergency use authorization (EUA), including for individuals 12 through 15 years of age and for the administration of a third dose in certain immunocompromised individuals.



"With the Pfizer vaccine receiving the approval from the FDA, my hope is that more people will get their vaccine to help protect them and their community from COVID-19." - Rep. Adrian Tam

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COVID-19 Testing Locations

As COVID-19 cases surge statewide, getting tested is an important way to keep you and the people around you safe!

Testing centers are continually being added and the Dept. of Health recently rolled out a new program to expand free COVID-19 community testing.

Pre-register for this program at PreventCOVIDHI.com and continue to check the DOH website and other community resources for more information on no-cost and community testing sites.

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DISTRICT 22 IS NOW OVER 70.01% FULLY VACCINATED

According to the State Dept. of Health, District 22 (Waikiki-Ala Moana) is now over 70.01% fully vaccinated. District 22's boundaries cover the 96814 & 96815 zip-codes, both of which are now over 70.01% fully vaccinated.

If you would like to follow daily statistics from the DOH on Covid, you may do so at their Disease Outbreak Control Division Site.



District 22 Town Hall with HTA

Mark your calendars for **Friday, September 24, 5:30 pm!** My office will be hosting a virtual Town Hall meeting with Senator Sharon Moriwaki and invited guests John DeFries, President and CEO, and other representatives of Hawaii Tourism Authority to discuss tourism management in Hawaii. Many of you have written in with concerns about the growing number of visitors and the impact they are having on our resources and community, especially in light of the Covid 19 pandemic. Please join in on the discussion to make your voices heard. Email m.chang@capitol.hawaii.gov for more info or join on zoom here: [Click here](#)

Meeting ID: 833 9867 3727 Passcode: 759239



Renewing your Driver's License

If your expiration date is approaching or past, renew now to avoid the possibility of paying fees or having to start over the process for getting a driver's license, state ID card & learner's permit when the latest executive order ends Oct. 4, at 11:59 p.m. Take advantage of the extended hours at driver licensing centers, (7am to 5pm) , M-F, For more information, visit www.honolulu.gov/CSD.

To book an appointment, visit www.AlohaQ.org

Free Training for your Next Job



O'ahu residents who are struggling to find employment because of the COVID-19 pandemic can enroll in free job preparation classes at the University of Hawai'i Outreach and Community Colleges.

We want to build a more stable and equitable local economy utilizing the talents and determination of our community. This free training gives people on O'ahu an opportunity to learn new job skills or find a better career path. Mahalo to the University of Hawai'i for their partnership with the City to upgrade the skills of our workforce by making training available for in-demand jobs.

The O'ahu Back to Work initiative is sponsored by the City and of Honolulu using federal CARES Act funds. To enroll, visit www.oahubacktowork.com

Update: Eviction Moratorium

As you might have already read, the U.S. Supreme Court struck down the federal CDC eviction moratorium.

Therefore, the CDC Moratorium at this juncture is no longer in effect and all Hawaii renters will be subject to Act 57 that we passed earlier this year, which requires mandatory mediation before a landlord and tenant can proceed to any type of court action.

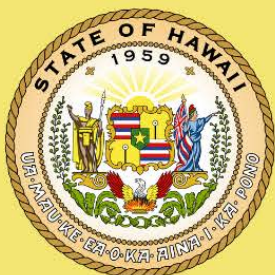
Mediation centers are emphasizing that anyone with back rent is encouraged to complete mediation sooner than later to try and develop a payment plan between landlords and tenants. To initiate mediation, landlords must give tenants 15 days to respond to a mediation notice and will have 15 days to complete a mediation. If landlords need a sample notice form that complies with Act 57, please direct them to www.repnakamura.com as forms are available that have been prepared by members of our working group.

After the mediation is completed and if for any reason an agreement cannot be reached, a landlord or tenant may proceed to court, but only if they meet the following criteria:

- 4+ month back rent starting on Aug 7, 2021
- 3+ month back on rent starting on Sep 6, 2021
- 2+ month back on rent starting on Nov 6, 2021
- 1+ month back on rent starting on Jan 6, 2021

An example of how this applies: if a landlord and tenant completes mediation now, but does not come to an agreement and a tenant is only 2 months behind on rent, they must wait for a court filing until Nov 6. They do not have to complete mediation again before heading to court, as long as their mediation was properly noticed. However, the legislation allows for a judge to order additional mediation if for some reason they believe it is necessary.

Applying for federal rental assistance also continues to be highly encouraged.



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