



REPRESENTATIVE HENRY AQUINO

WAIPAHU COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

District 38



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May 2014

Aloha Neighbors,

May 1, Adjournment Sine Die, marked the close of the Twenty-Seventh Legislature. I am deeply grateful and honored to represent the Waipahu community as I complete my third term (6 years) serving as your representative in the Hawaii State House of Representatives.

This legislative session was challenging but inspiring. In addition to continuing my role as Chair of the House Committee on Public Safety, I also took on additional responsibilities as Majority Policy Leader.

A significant achievement as Majority Policy Leader was partnering with Democratic members in the House and Senate and crafting the 2014 Majority Package bills that address our kupuna (seniors) and the environment. All Majority Package bills were approved by the Legislature.

After months of hearings, debate, and deliberations, the Legislature approved bills addressing quality of life, the environment, education, the economy, public safety, and the State's fiscal responsibility. I've highlighted a few bills in this newsletter and will include additional bills of interest in my End of Session report.

While good work has been done, there is always more we can do to move Hawaii forward. Please keep in touch with me about your concerns by sending me an email at repaquino@capitol.hawaii.gov or call me at 586-6520. Your feedback and comments are much appreciated.

Sincerely,

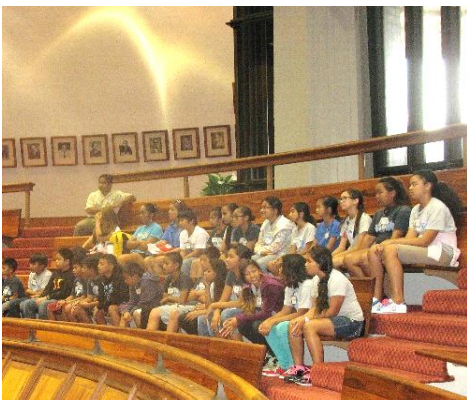
MAY 1, ADJOURNMENT SINE DIE



Members of the House of Representatives during the general floor session held on the last day of the 27th Legislature (2014).

WAIPAHU ELEMENTARY SCHOOL VISITS THE STATE CAPITOL

Representative Aquino shared his experiences of being a legislator with students from Waipahu Elementary School during their visit to the State Capitol in May.



LIFESMARTS NATIONALS 2014 ORLANDO, FLORIDA

Congratulations to Waipahu High School's LifeSmarts team who, as State Champions, represented Hawaii in the 2014 LifeSmarts Nationals held in Orlando, Florida. The WHS team won the State Champions in March and represented Hawaii in the Nationals competition in April. ***Congratulations WHS team members Roel Ibanez, Max Saludares, Jr., Mark Abucay, Marc Ramirez, Cia Dela Cruz and Teacher/Coach Cindy Takara!*** (Photos on right by HISecurities.com.)

LIFESMARTS NATIONALS 2014 WAIPAHU HIGH'S LIFESMARTS TEAM



(L to R) Cia Dela Cruz, Mark Abucay, Max Saludares, Jr., Roel Ibanez and Marc Ramirez



(L to R) Marc Ramirez, Roel Ibanez, Max Saludares, Jr., Mark Abucay, Cia Dela Cruz.



(L to R) Cia Dela Cruz, Marc Ramirez, Max Saludares, Jr., (Timon), Mark Abucay, Roel Ibanez, Cindy Takara (teacher/coach)

2014 BILL HIGHLIGHTS

The 27th Hawaii State Legislature ended on May 1. Legislators concluded almost three months of conducting hearings and debating various legislative issues. At the end of this legislative session, legislators were able to approve bills that address a wide range of issues, including raising the minimum wage, requiring mandatory kindergarten, and helping our seniors to name a few.



Rep. Aquino alongside other Conference Committee members

EMPLOYMENT AND WORKING FAMILIES:

SB2609 SD1 HD2 CD1 RELATING TO MINIMUM WAGE.

Increases minimum wage rate to \$7.75 per hour beginning on 1/1/15, \$8.50 per hour beginning on 1/1/16, \$9.25 per hour beginning on 1/1/17, and \$10.10 per hour beginning on 1/1/18. Increases the tip credit to 50 cents per hour beginning on 1/1/15, and 75 cents per hour beginning on 1/1/16; provided that beginning 1/1/15, the combined amount the employee receives in wages and tips is at least \$7 more than the applicable minimum wage.



HB2400 SD1 CD1 RELATING TO TEMPORARY DISABILITY BENEFITS.

Organ donations save lives but can temporarily disable donors, who are not covered by existing temporary disability benefits law. This measure provides temporary disability benefits to employees who suffer disabilities as a result of donating organs.

EDUCATION:

SB2768 SD2 HD2 CD1, ACT 076, RELATING TO KINDERGARTEN. The purpose of this Act is to enhance the educational achievement of Hawaii's youth by making kindergarten attendance mandatory for children who will be at least five years of age on July 31 of the school year, unless otherwise exempt.



SENIOR:

HB2053 HD1 SD1 CD1 RELATING TO AGING. Falls are the leading cause of fatal injuries and injury-related hospitalizations among Hawaii's elderly. Fall prevention is critical for the safety and well-being of the elderly. This bill establishes a Fall Prevention and Early Detection Coordinator within the Emergency Medical Services and Injury Prevention System Branch of the Department of Health to coordinate the provision of public and private fall prevention and early detection services for the elderly.

SB2346 SD1 HD2 CD1 RELATING TO AGING.

Appropriates general funds to the Department of Health for community-based services and programs for older persons. Requires the Department of Health Executive Office on Aging to conduct a public education and awareness campaign on long-term care and appropriates funds for this purpose.

PUBLIC SAFETY:

HB1664 HD1, ACT 11, RELATING TO FIRE PROTECTION FOR FIREWORKS.

Rep. Aquino co-introduced this bill which requires that permanent and temporary fireworks storage buildings or structures and buildings or facilities where redistribution activities are performed comply with currently adopted county building or fire codes or latest edition of nationally recognized standards.



Rep. Aquino presiding over a Conference Committee meeting

HB2003 HD1 SD1 CD1 RELATING TO CYBER SECURITY. This bill establishes the Hawaii cyber security, economic, education, and infrastructure security coordinator to assist with the development of methods to improve the State's cyber security and cyber resiliency.



**MILITARY:
HB2071 HD1 RELATING TO GOLD STAR FAMILY DAY.**

To honor, support and cherish the families of those United States Armed Forces members who have bravely sacrificed their lives for their country, this measure establishes the last Sunday in September as "Gold Star Family Day" in Hawaii.



HOW TO PREVENT INVESTMENT FRAUD

Investment fraud is a practice in the stock or commodities markets that has investors to make purchases or sale decisions based on false information. Here are 10 tips from the Hawaii Department of Commerce & Consumer Affairs on how to protect your money.



1. Check the registration and background of the individual selling the investment by contacting the DCCA – Securities Compliance Branch at 586-2722. It's fast and easy. Anyone selling a security must be registered. Remember no registration, no sale.
2. Develop a personal financial plan that meets your needs. Be sure that recommendations you receive are consistent with your financial needs and investment objectives.

3. Beware of promises that promote high or unrealistic returns in a short period of time.
4. Diversify everything – Your assets, money managers, accounts and financial institutions. Spreading your money around will limit your exposure to financial problems. Don't put all your eggs in one basket.
5. Beware of investments promoting no downside or risk. All investments have some degree of risk.
6. Do your homework – Ask questions and do your research about the investments, those selling the investments, and get clear and direct answer before you invest. Don't rely on reputation or word of mouth alone.
7. Beware of vague or over complicated explanations of how the business runs and how money is made. If you don't understand how it works, do not buy it.
8. Understand the cost – Ask about the risks, obligations and cost of any investments before investing. Ask about commissions, sales charges, maintenance or service charges, transaction or redemption fees and penalties associated with the investment.
9. Access to your investments – Understand how to access your funds in a timely manner and receive information about any restrictions or limitations on access.
10. Report investment fraud and/or securities violations by contacting the DCCA – Securities Enforcement Branch at 586-2740. Their office can investigate the matter and your call may help prevent others from being victimized.

**CONGRATULATIONS
WAIPAHU HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES**

Waipahu High School's graduation ceremony will be held on May 27, 2014 at the Neal Blaisdell Arena.



WHS Senior Kaylah Viloria

