Community Update

State Representative Linda Ichiyama • Legislative Session • May 2012

Dear Neighbor,

It has been an honor to serve you for the past two years in the House of Representatives. I am pleased to share with you the accomplishments of the 26th Legislature.



The work of your Legislature and the people of Hawaii resulted in public policy that responds to our community's needs, including measures that stimulate economic recovery, promote the creation of jobs, protect our seniors and support alternative energy. This newsletter discusses many of the important bills that will affect you and your family.

As a member of the Committee on Finance, I worked with our area legislators to secure funds for the Moanalua Performing Arts Center, classroom renovations and parking improvements for our local schools.

Serving as the Vice Chair of the Transportation Committee, I was able to work on many issues close to home, including the appropriation of funds for our State highways, harbors and airports. I remain committed to working with you to make our community a better place to live. Please keep in touch with me about your concerns. I look forward to hearing from you in the future.

Sincerely,

Finda Ichiyama

Linda Ichiyama State Representative 31st District Moanalua, Salt Lake & Aliamanu

REP. ICHIYAMA SUPPORTING SENIORS

In Hawaii, we take pride in our kupuna. We are concerned for their well-being and recognize that with an increasing elderly population, the need for long-term care will undoubtedly grow. The Hawaii Long-Term Care Commission (LTCC) recently released their annual report that included recommendations regarding long-term care in Hawaii, including funding for the kupuna care program. Rep. Ichiyama co-sponsored legislation in the House to implement these recommendations. The following bills passed this session and are now awaiting the Governor's signature.



Rep. Ichiyama with Charter Members of the Salt Lake Seniors Club at their 25th anniversary lunch.

SB2320 Kupuna Care. SB2320 builds a statewide system of support for Hawaii's older adults and their family caregivers and provides essential home and community-based services for Hawaii's elderly population. It establishes the kupuna care program under law and appropriates \$4.9 million to support the needs of Hawaii's seniors.

SB2779 Aging and Disability Resource Centers. SB2779

appropriates \$1.4 million for aging and disability resource centers in each county. The centers are intended to streamline access to services for older adults, persons with disabilities and family caregivers.

Rep. Ichiyama will continue to work towards improving Hawaii's long-term care system as it is in everyone's best interest to make quality, accessible long-term care a priority.

Highlights of the 2012 Hawaii State Legislative Session

The economy is still the number one concern of Hawaii residents. The Legislature's priorities in 2012 included economic recovery, assisting new industry and job creation. For the first time in four years, the Legislature was not faced with a revenue shortfall in excess of a billion dollars. Lawmakers balanced the state budget without major revenue enhancements and supported programs and services vital to Hawaii's people.

HB2012 – THE STATE BUDGET BILL

In 2012, the Legislature passed a budget that responsibly supports the State's core functions, recognizing that while the economy is improving, normal levels are still years away.

The total appropriation for all operations is \$11.2 billion for fiscal year 2013.

The Legislature also helped to stimulate the economy by funding capital improvement projects by \$3.2 billion. In addition to giving priority to "shovel-ready" projects, the Legislature considered projects that addressed critical health and safety needs, reduced the current repair and maintenance backlog and provided jobs for unemployed and underemployed residents.

SPURRING ECONOMIC RECOVERY HB2526 and SB2236 Broadband Initiatives. HB2526 and SB2236



will prepare Hawaii to upgrade its broadband infrastructure. **HB2526** requires telecommunication and cable television providers to help map broadband service areas to assess current infrastructure. **SB2236** allows a private entity to use special purpose revenue bonds for the purpose of planning, permitting, designing, constructing, equipping and operating broadband infrastructure throughout the State.

IMPROVING HEALTH CARE

HB608 Kidney and Liver Transplant Facility. HB608

appropriates emergency funds to The Queen's Medical Center to perform kidney and liver transplants and to the National Kidney Foundation of Hawaii to maintain its chronic kidney disease management program. Organ transplant patients are now able to



Rep. Ichiyama and Rep. Johanson meet with the Moanalua High School ROTC squad after a performance at the State Capitol.



Rep. Ichiyama and Rep. Johanson meet with Aliamanu Elementary School students to explain the legislative process and answer their questions.



Rep. Ichiyama speaks to students at the Moanalua Middle School Career Fair.



Rep. Ichiyama listens to constituent concerns at the Moanalua Town Hall Meeting.

remain near their support networks and receive efficient and timely care. **HB608** was signed into law on February 4, 2012.

EDUCATING OUR KEIKI SB2545 Early Learning. SB2545

establishes the executive office on early learning and the early learning advisory board. The executive office, with the advice of the board, will plan for the implementation of the keiki first steps program in the 2014-15 school year to support critical early learning.

SAFER TRANSPORTATION HB2030 Highway Safety. HB2030

requires motorists to vacate the lane



Rep. Ichiyama and Patti Inoue at the Salt Lake Elementary Fun Fair.

directly next to a stationary emergency vehicle or to reduce driving speed when passing a stationary emergency vehicle with its visual signals activated. This bill is dedicated to the memory of Officers Garret Davis and Eric Fontes of the Honolulu Police Department.

HB2626 Safe Routes to School

Program. HB2626 establishes a safe routes to school program special fund and will make going to school safer for our keiki. A surcharge of \$25 for speeding violations in a school zone and a \$10 surcharge on other traffic violations will be used to fund the safe routes to school program.

PROMOTING LABOR AND BUSINESS

SB2220 Boiler and Elevator Safety. SB2220 will address the current backlog of elevator safety inspections. It creates a boiler and elevator special fund for fees from inspections, to hire more inspectors and improve the efficiency of boiler and elevator inspections.

SUPPORTING OUR TROOPS

HB2409 Military Consumer Protection. HB2409 authorizes the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs to enforce existing federal laws protecting military members and their families from predatory lending. Our service members and their families may be particularly vulnerable to unscrupulous lenders. Multiple overseas deployments and coping with a spouse's prolonged absence from home can lead to a great deal of emotional and financial stress.

HB2258 Military Training, Professional and Vocational Licensing. HB2258 allows

professional and vocational licensing authorities to accept military training, education and service towards licensing requirements. This will help many of our returning veterans to gain skilled employment and boost our economy.



Legislators help turn trash into cash for student programs at the Moanalua Middle and Elementary School Aloha Aina Day.



State Representative LINDA ICHIYAMA Moanalua, Salt Lake & Aliamanu

State Capitol 415 S. Beretania Street, Room 426 Honolulu, HI 96813 Phone: (808) 586-6220 Fax: (808) 586-6221 repichiyama@capitol.hawaii.gov Presorted Standard US Postage PAID Honolulu, HI Permit No. 169



DISTRICT 31 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

The following projects have been approved by the Legislature and are in the State budget for fiscal year 2012 and 2013:

ALIAMANU ELEMENTARY SCHOOL		
Reroof Building B	\$	155,000
ALIAMANU MIDDLE SCHOOL		
Replace blackboards, install walkway and fence and replace connecting walkway	\$	308,000
MOANALUA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL		
Design and construction for parking safety improvements, including additional		
parking and new drop-off lane	\$	330,000
Reroof Building K.	\$	130,000
MOANALUA MIDDLE SCHOOL		
Replace Building I kitchen drainline and waterline and reroof Building I	\$	444,000
MOANALUA HIGH SCHOOL		
Supplementary funding for the first phase of construction of the Performing Arts	+	
Center which includes a new bandroom	\$	600,000
Resurface school driveway, replace gym bleachers, replace exhaust fans, install generator		
in pump house, install water valves campus wide and reroof Building N	\$	904,000
SALT LAKE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL		
Interior renovation of classrooms including central air-conditioning,		
electrical upgrades, equipment and video and data connectivity.		2,000,000
Reroof and repair Building A	\$	301,000
MOANALUA GARDENS FOUNDATION		
Site improvements for Kamananui Valley Road	\$	610,000
The Governor released \$34.2 million for education, health services and communications projects.	Of	these funds,
the following amount was budgeted for Salt Lake Elementary School:	•	
Construction of a new portable classroom	\$	365,000