February 2013



# **Community Update**

Representative Linda Ichiyama House District 32: Moanalua, Salt Lake, Aliamanu Room 327 • Phone # 586-6220



## Aloha Friends and Neighbors,

Thank you for allowing me to continue to serve you in the State House of Representatives. This session I will serve as vice-chair of the Transportation and Higher Education committees, as well as a member of the Education, Labor and Public Employment, and Public Safety committees.

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We opened our 2013 legislative session on Wednesday, January 16th at the State Capitol. It was an exciting start to this year's session and I am grateful to have been able to share this experience with many of you.

After another busy start to the legislative session, all bills have been introduced and are now being heard within the House and the Senate. You can track bills, read and submit testimony on the Capitol website at www.capitol.hawaii.gov.

As we continue through the session, I welcome your thoughts and suggestions. If you would like to discuss issues, community concerns, or if there is any way I can be of assistance to you, please feel free to contact me at my office at 586-6220.

Sincerely,

Finderlingama



Rep. Ichiyama celebrates Opening Day with her sister, Katie and her mother, Carole.



Members of the ILWU came by to congratulate Rep. Ichiyama.

# **Current Legislation**

Bills Introduced by Rep. Ichiyama:

#### HB571

After-school programs are an effective way to keep children engaged in positive learning activities. This bill promotes public-private partnerships by allowing businesses that volunteer time and resources for afterschool programs (like robotics) to take a tax credit for their expenses. This will provide an incentive for local business to give back to our public schools and help students to be exposed to new subjects and ideas.

#### HB1201

According to the Hawaii Long-Term Care Commission, only a minority of Americans will ever have private long-term care insurance. This bill is to help create a more balanced delivery system for long-term care for all who require it, regardless of their financial need. We will establish a task force to build on prior long-term care legislation and determine if there is public support for a public longterm care insurance program for all residents.



# Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP)

Empowering Seniors to Prevent Healthcare Fraud

SMP Hawaii Provides information on how to detect, prevent, and report Medicare fraud, abuse, and waste.

# Know Your Rights!



Who can you trust? Who can you ask? Check with your SMP Volunteer.

Protecting your personal information is the best line of defense against healthcare fraud and abuse. However, even when you do everything right, there is a chance that you could be a target of healthcare fraud.

If you would like more information or you have a complaint about a Medicare Advantage plan or insurance agent, contact SMP Hawaii at:

586-7281(Oahu) or toll-free 1-800-296-9422 (neighbor islands). Website: <u>www.smphawaii.org</u>



hawai`i public access room

#### Capitol News: Updated Info on the Legislature

Updated information sheets can be found on the Public Access Room's (PAR) website (<u>http://hawaii.gov/lrb/par/legfyi.html</u>). There are new legislators and like us, many have moved offices. You will also find revised floor maps, seating charts, and tons of other information.

Need an introduction on how things unfold during session? Check out PAR's "A Participant's Guide: Walk through Session". This is a very useful tool to those who want to develop a deeper understanding of the legislative process.

## 2013 Opening Day



As Vice Chair of the Transportation Committee, Rep. Ichiyama looks forward to working with State Director of Transportation, Glenn Okimoto. Rep. Ichiyama shares her excitement of this upcoming session with the 'Olelo Community Media team.



## The 2013 Tax Season is here!

Need help filing your taxes?



If you make **less than \$51,000** annually, you may be eligible for **free** tax help!

Three of the many sites that provide **free tax assistance services** to low-to-moderate income workers (by appointment only):

Alu Like, Inc. 485 Keawe Street Tuesday & Wednesday 4:30-6:30pm (last appt. 6pm) Call (808) 548-1012 (between 8am-1pm ONLY) Start: 1/22-End: 4/10

Honolulu Community Action Program (Central District Service Center) 99-102 Kalaloa Street Tuesday & Thursday 9:00am–Noon Call (808) 488-6834

Call (808) 488-6834 Start: 2/01-End: 4/05

Hawaii Schools Federal Credit Union 233 Vineyard Street Monday–Friday 9:00am-5:00pm Call (808) 791-6224 Start: 2/01-End: 4/12

For more information regarding other tax assistance locations, eligibility, required materials, and answers to FAQs, visit: http://www.hawaiitaxhelp.org/learn/

## **Community Meeting Schedule**

Moanalua Gardens Community Association - 7:00pm Tuesday, March 5, 2013 at Moanalua Middle School, Rm B1 or B2

Moanalua Valley Community Association - 7:00pm Wednesday, March 13, 2013 at Moanalua Valley Golf Clubhouse

Neighborhood Board # 18 (Salt Lake/Aliamanu/Foster Village) - 7:00pm Thursday, March 14, 2013 at Oahu Veterans Center