

Dear Neighbor,

The Legislature adjourned on May 5. Thanks to unanticipated revenue, the Legislature was able to prioritize long-standing needs: housing, homelessness, preschool, tax relief, child welfare, mental health, and the environment.

It was also great to work with residents and our neighborhood schools on their priorities including the Queen-Waimanu Street crosswalk, Kolowalu dog park, Kakaako-Ala Moana neighborhood security watch, the McKinley High athletic field, the Lunalilo Elementary School band room, and the Central Middle security fence.

I want to thank all of you who have contacted me during the past few months. Your input made a difference and improved our legislation.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact my office at (808) 586-6100.

Sincerely,

BCME. Om

Rep. Scott K. Saiki

# Join the KAKAAKO - ALA MOANA NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

A great way to meet your neighbors, exercise your pets, and keep our community safe!

#### WHERE: Blaisdell Concert Hall

WHEN: 2nd & 4th Thursdays at 5:30PM

REGISTER: <u>forms.gle/BcUs3J1cYFsviYLz6</u>



MAY 2022

# 2022 LEGISLATIVE HIGHLIGHTS



The 2002 Legislature passed bills that provide real solutions for real people:

**SB 514** provides a **\$300 per person tax rebate** for people earning less than \$100,000 and couples earning less than \$200,000.

HB 2510 raises the state minimum wage to \$12/hr on October 1, with gradual increases to \$14/hr in 2024, \$16/hr in 2016 and \$18/hr in 2028 and makes the Earned Income Tax Credit permanent and refundable.

HB 2511 appropriates \$600 million to provide housing for native Hawaiians on the DHHL waiting list.

**HB 2512** appropriates \$15 million to extend the Ohana Zones program to provide temporary shelter, permanent transition housing, and services to **assist our homeless populations** off of the streets.

**SB 3048** appropriates \$300 million for the Rental Housing Revolving Fund to **develop rental housing** for workings individuals and families with incomes below 100 percent of the Hawaii median income.

**HB 2024** establishes the Mauna Kea Stewardship and Oversight Authority to **protect Mauna Kea** for future generations and foster a mutual stewardship paradigm in which ecology, the environment, natural resources, cultural practices, education, and science are in balance and synergy.

**SB 3041** provides \$328 million to settle the **Kalima v. State of Hawaii** case about the HHL waitlist.

HB 2233 provides rental assistance up to \$500/month for families in the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program.

**HB 2000** provides \$200 million to **expand prekindergarten facilities**.

### PROTECTING STUDENT JOURNALISM



On May 23, 2022, House Bill 1848 was signed into law by the Governor. This legislation will protect high school and university student journalists from unwarranted censorship.

Thank you and congratulations to the McKinley student journalists who advocated for the adoption of this important law.

#### CELBRATING THE CLASS OF 2022



As we approach the end of the 2021-2022 academic year, congratulations to all of the 2022 graduates from McKinley High School, Princess Ruth Keelikolani Middle School, Washington Middle School, and Prince William C. Lunalilo Elementary School.

Best wishes for continued success in all of your future endeavors.

# **STAY CONNECTED**



Sign up for Rep. Saiki's digital newsletter to stay connected with current events in the district and at the Capitol.

Sign-up link: <u>eepurl.com/g-qpGj</u>