MARCH 2023

Representative Scott K. Saiki

Neighorhood Board Report

Update: Traffic Safety Improvements in Our Community

The incident involving the McKinley High School student at the Kapi'olani-Kamake'e Street intersection was tragic and further reinforced the need to improve our roads to protect pedestrians and responsible drivers. Rep. Saiki has been working closely with the State Department of Transportation and the City Department of Transportation Services to make the following safety improvements:

- 1. Speed humps have been installed on both sides of Kapi'olani Blvd.
- 2. Red-light safety cameras have been installed and started issuing warnings on March 22.
- 3. The State DoT is working on the designs for the raised crosswalk on Pensacola St. between King St. and Kapi'olani Blvd.





Legislative Update

The Legislature is halfway through the regular session. This session we are taking on many challenges including homelessness, affordable housing, and protecting Hawaii's natural resources. The session is scheduled to adjourn on May 4. At that time, I will provide you with a further update. In the meantime, please contact me if you have any questions.

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Five Key Majority Package Bills

HB954 HD2 Relating to Taxation

"HB 954 focuses on our struggling families who work hard every day to make ends meet. Lowering the cost of living for local families has always been a priority of mine and this measure does exactly that. By reducing the tax burden to low- to moderate-income taxpayers, this measure provides financial relief to Hawai'i's working families." - *Representative Daniel Holt*

HB953 HD1 Relating to the Dept. of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR)

"Hawai'i residents have long been frustrated by overcrowded parks, commercial operators utilizing state resources without proper permitting, and a lack of funding for our precious natural resources. With the creation of this centralized reservation and fee system we can ensure that the needs of local people are the first priority, while also generating sufficient revenue to protect and improve these public lands. It is the first of many steps towards a more responsible and sustainable Hawai'i." - *Representative Sean Quinlan*

HB951 HD1 Relating to Housing

"Affordable housing remains a very important issue for the House and the budget reflects an initial \$75 million infusion into the Dwelling Unit Revolving Fund and administered by the Hawai'i Housing and Finance Development Corporation, which can be used for infrastructure investments and a wide range of housing related projects. The budget also includes an initial infusion of \$75 million into the Rental Housing Revolving Fund which will also be further discussed through HB 951, a majority package bill, which crossed over to the Senate." - *Representative Troy Hashimoto*

HB949 HD2 Relating to Renewable Energy

"HB 949 will bring equity to Hawai'i's renewable energy transition, making rooftop solar and storage systems attainable for more households. Hawai'i's ALICE families stand to benefit the most from the long-term savings and lower bills associated with renewable energy systems, and this bill will open up new pathways to make this financially possible for all of Hawai'i's working families. The house draft of the budget includes \$300 million to capitalize this program, which will make it self-sustaining for many years to come." - *Representative Nicole Lowen*

HB948 HD2 Relating to Child and Adolescent Mental Health

"The child and adolescent crisis mobile outreach teams on O'ahu and a neighbor island will promote safety for children where they are – in their homes, schools, and community settings – by responding immediately when a crisis arises, and also continuing to provide stabilization for 8 weeks. The ongoing care will help children and caregivers to develop new coping skills and to connect with higher-level services if needed. This program will allow more children to stay in their homes, rather than be transferred to age-appropriate acute psychiatric hospital beds or other out-of-home placements which are in short supply and are very costly." – *Representative Lisa Marten*