



Representative Jackson D. Sayama

February 2024 Community Report

District 21—St. Louis Heights, Pālolo Valley, Maunalani Heights, Wilhelmina Rise, Kaimukī

Ready to Serve You

Wishing you and your family a Happy New Year! I am honored to continue representing our community in the State House, and my staff and I stand ready to serve you.

This year, the Legislature will prioritize providing the people of Maui with resources and flexibility for community rebuilding. We will also invest in strengthening Hawai'i's land management programs to prevent future catastrophes.



Office Staff: (L-R) Ashley Yoshikawa (Committee Clerk), Evelyn Hee (Office Manager), T. Kimokeo Barrus (Legislative Aide), Kai Okazaki (Intern).

This Session, I will introduce legislation to stabilize Hawai'i's condominium insurance market and enhance emergency response systems. As Vice Chair for the Consumer Protection and Commerce Committee, I am working on increasing the availability and reducing the cost of hurricane insurance. I will also address Hawai'i's health care worker shortage with a Nurse Licensure Compact. I encourage you to submit testimony and reach out to me on legislation that interests you. I look forward to working with you to better our community and State.

Mahalo,



UPCOMING NEIGHBORHOOD BOARDS

Feb 8th	Diamond Head, St. Louis Heights, Kapahulu Neighborhood Board Meeting 6:00 pm, Ala Wai Clubhouse 2nd Floor
Feb 14th	Pālolo Neighborhood Board Meeting 7:00 pm, Pālolo Elementary School and online via Webex
Feb 21st	Kaimukī Neighborhood Board Meeting 6:30 pm, Kaimukī Public Library Meeting Room and online via Zoom

New Office Location & Refreshed Website

Please visit our new office at Room 406 and visit the State's new and refreshed Legislative Website at www.capitol.hawaii.gov. Find information about pending legislation, hearings, submit testimony and more.



Looking Back at 2023

Rehabilitating Pālolo's Azama Park

I worked with Councilmember Calvin Say, volunteers from the Honolulu Chinese Jaycees, the Democratic Party of Hawai'i, and Kalani High to clean up "Azama Park" in Pālolo Valley. After working through the morning, we filled 27 trash bags of green waste. I will continue to work with community organizations to restore the park, so the community can enjoy the beautiful park Carol Azama left her neighborhood.



Rep. Sayama with volunteers cleaning up large debris and trimming overgrowth at Azama Park.



Rep. Sayama with Rep. Kobayashi and members of the Fukuoka Prefectural Assembly.

Japan Sister State Delegation

To encourage economic partnership and reaffirm Hawai'i's commitment, Rep. Sayama traveled with Rep. Kobayashi to Fukuoka, Japan. This delegation coincides with Fukuoka's annual Hawai'i Festival, which celebrates and highlights Hawai'i's culture, arts, and food. During this visit, Rep. Sayama met with Fukuoka's Governor, Prefectural Assembly, Ukiha Mayor, and leaders in the Hawai'i-Fukuoka relationship. Fukuoka generously donated about \$14,000 towards Maui's rebuilding efforts.

Wildfire Interim Working Groups

In light of the tragic wildfires on Maui, Rep. Sayama joined the House Wildfire Prevention Working Group. The working group published its recommendations to strengthen Hawai'i's disaster response and wildfire prevention. In the district, Rep. Sayama is working with community groups to mitigate wildfire risks and held a townhall to discuss past wildfires of Wa'ahila Ridge. This session, his priority will be the repair of emergency sirens that are inoperable in Pālolo and Kaimukī.



Rep. Sayama joined Lt. Governor Luke, Rep. Kila, and Majority Leader Nakamura to discuss the Wildfire Prevention Working Group's report.

Bills and Resolutions for 2024

Here are some legislative proposals I'm working on in the 2024 Legislation Session.

Pharmacy Workforce Development

To develop workforce development initiatives for local pharmacists, this bill will establish a special fund for the University of Hawai'i's School of Pharmacy. Similar funds have proven effective for UH's medical and nursing schools in their efforts to attract and retain local talent for these specialties.

Mandatory Moped Insurance

To increase safety and coverage for moped drivers, this bill will eliminate mopeds' exemption from Hawai'i's mandatory minimum insurance requirement. Eliminating this exemption will require moped drivers to carry insurance. This will ensure moped drivers have the same protections as other drivers if they are involved in a traffic accident.



Rep. Sayama meeting with Kaimukī residents to discuss firebreaks and future projects at Mau'umae Community Park.

Drunk Driving Prevention

Despite efforts from the Legislature to eliminate drunk driving, Hawai'i continues to see high traffic fatalities involving DUIs. As a safety measure, drivers can install an ignition interlock device that prevents inebriated drivers from getting on the road. Current state law limits ignition interlock devices to a single product approved by the Department of Transportation. This bill will remove that limitation and allow consumers to select from multiple products, which increases accessibility to ignition interlock devices and improves safety in our communities.

Condominium Reserve Requirements

State law currently allows condominium associations to self-regulate through by-laws governing procedures. To ensure adequate funds for major repairs, associations should allocate a portion of revenues into a reserve fund. Despite good industry practices, some associations neglect this, resulting in deteriorating infrastructure and higher insurance premiums. This bill will require condominiums to set aside 10 percent of annual revenue to its reserve fund.

Feral Chicken Removal

Following the recommendations of a State and City and County of Honolulu Working Group, this bill would appropriate money to the City and County to implement a feral chicken removal service. This will address concerns from neighbors regarding noise, health hazards, and threats to native species.

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COME VISIT US AT THE HAWAI'I STATE CAPITOL!

You may have heard of new protocols regarding security while visiting the State Capitol, which were implemented to improve safety for staff and our visitors. To help make the journey to the Capitol as seamless as possible, here are some tips on what to expect:

- There are 23 parking spaces and three EV charging stations reserved for the public on the basement level, accessible via Miller St. The cost to park is \$2 per hour for the first two hours, and \$4 for every hour thereafter.
- Additional parking can be found at 'Iolani Palace, as well as at "Lot V" (Vineyard Garage on Punchbowl Street), "Lot G" (Kalanimoku Building on S. Beretania and Punchbowl Street), and "Lot L" (Kinau Hale/Department of Health on Punchbowl Street).
- Please allow sufficient time for security screening at all public entrances. Be prepared to show your state-issued ID and to have your bags inspected.

