

2017 Legislative Update



State Representative Gregg Takayama • District 34 • Pearl City • Waimalu • Pacific Palisades



Aloha Neighbors:

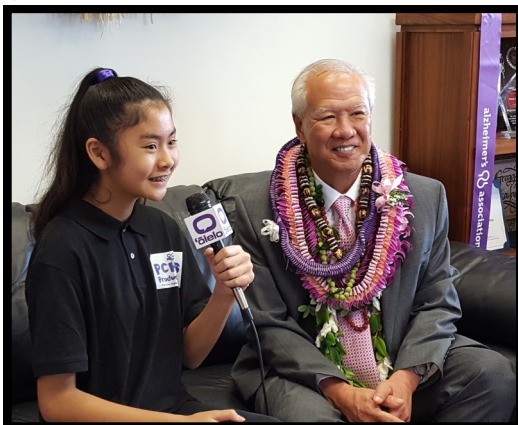
The 2017 Legislature opened for business on January 18th and I am looking forward to a very busy and productive session.

As Chair of the House Committee on Public Safety, I intend to support the safety of our communities and improve inmate rehabilitation in our correctional facilities.

As Co-chair of the Kupuna Caucus, I am leading efforts to enable seniors to age in their homes with the help of State-sponsored services and provide assistance to their family caregivers.

This newsletter describes bills I am introducing in these and other areas. I welcome your suggestions and input on any issues facing Hawaii.

Mahalo,



▲ Olelo Reporter, **Kira Yoda**, 6th Grader at Pearl City Highlands Elementary School, interviews Representative Takayama.



▲ Governor Ige visits Rep. Takayama on Opening Day at the State Capitol. Pictured Rep. Takayama, Governor David Ige, Matthew Ige, and wife Linda Chu Takayama.

Putting People First

Measures to Assist Seniors

- ◆ **HB608:** Supports full funding of \$9 million per year for the state's Kupuna Care program, which provides support services such as delivered meals and transportation to help disabled elders age in place.
- ◆ **HB609:** Funds permanent full-time positions at the University of Hawaii Center on Aging for an associate professor and associate specialist.
- ◆ **HB610:** Appropriates \$150,000 to the Office of the Long-Term Care Ombudsman for staff to monitor older adult care facilities in the counties of Hawaii, Kauai, and Maui.
- ◆ **HB615:** Seeks \$550,000 for the Healthy Aging Partnership Program, which provides fitness classes and helps chronic disease self-management.
- ◆ **HB611:** Provides \$80,000 for appointment of a state coordinator for Alzheimer's disease and related dementia services.



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MEASURES TO ASSIST SENIORS (cont.)

- ◆ **HB612:** Supports full funding of \$3.1 million to operate each county's Aging and Disability Resource Center, which is a one-stop referral center for persons seeking support programs and services.
- ◆ **HB607:** Establishes the Kupuna Caregivers program (Kupuna Care Plus) to assist community members who are providing elder care to remain in the workforce by providing \$70 per day for adult day care, nursing or other services.
- ◆ **HB613:** Requires health insurance policies and contracts to provide coverage for the cost of hearing aids.
- ◆ **HB614:** Appropriates \$95,000 for a fall prevention and early detection coordinator to promote information that helps reduce serious falls by elderly persons.
- ◆ **HB616:** Appropriate \$25,386 to create a program specialist position to oversee the foster grandparent program and senior companion programs in Maui County.



▲ Rep. Takayama pictured with Naomi & Erik Takai.

SEVERAL MEASURES INTRODUCED BY REP. TAKAYAMA WOULD DIRECTLY BENEFIT PEARL CITY RESIDENTS

Sunset Memorial Cemetery. Directs the State Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs (DCCA) to develop a plan for the management of Sunset Memorial Cemetery, provides liability waivers to cemetery volunteers, and allows the DCCA to tap into the Cemetery's \$200,000 trust fund for repairs and maintenance.

HB148: Zipper Lane Use. Allows single-occupant vehicles to use the Zipper Lane for a \$1 fee. This would maximize use of the Zipper Lane, alleviate traffic congestion on other freeway lanes, and raise funds for the State Highway Fund.

HB 463: State Identification Cards. Current law limits issuance of State ID cards to driver license offices only. This means the closest ID offices for Pearl City residents are in Kapolei or Kalihi. Allows all Oahu Satellite City Halls – including the one at Pearlridge Mall - to issue State ID cards.



▲ AARP visits Rep. Takayama on Opening Day. Pictured Esther Ueda, Gerold Kawano, Rep. Takayama, and Ronald Kawano.