SENATOR DONOVAN M. DELA CRUZ 415 S. BERETANIA STREET, ROOM 202 HONOLULU, HI 96813





## HAWAI'I STATE SENATE - DISTRICT 22

Mililani Mauka Wahiawā Whitmore Village Waipi'o Acres Wheeler Poamoho

## **DISTRICT PROJECTS IN THE 2016 BUDGET**

- \$55,000 for Whitmore Economic Development Group to develop an Ag Innovation Incubator in the Whitmore Agribusiness Tech Park
- \$700,000 for Wahiawā Center for Community Health to renovate the Wahiawā Medical Building and provide medical services to low-income residents
- \$1.1M for plans of a High Technology Workforce Development Center in Central O'ahu to train and re-train students and adults
- \$1.35M for plans, design, and construction for a Whitmore Project Master Plan at the Whitmore Agribusiness Tech Park
- \$2M for plans, design, and construction for access to parking lot and ADA pedestrian access ramp at Mililani High School
- \$2.5M to provide emergency financial assistance to Wahiawā General Hospital
- \$2.6M for design of replacement of the Upper Stream Poamoho Bridge on Kamehameha Highway
- \$11.5 for plans, design, and construction of a fifteen classroom building at Mililani Middle School to transition to a single-track calendar
- \$13M for upgrades and improvements to the Galbraith Irrigation System to provide irrigation for farmers in Central O'ahu
- \$17M for land acquisition and construction to rehabilitate and/or replace the Kipapa Stream Bridge on Kamehameha Highway
- \$31.5M to purchase and preserve 900 acres of agricultural land in Central O'ahu providing more local farmers with long-term leases and moving Hawai'i towards food sustainability



Sugarland Farms, a tenant of the Whitmore Project, has prepped and begun to plant their first crops.



I met with stakeholders to develop a plan for the First Responders Technology Campus and Cybersecurity Data Center in Mililani Technology Park. This facility will consolidate state and city first responders and create jobs in Central O'ahu.



The State Senate honoring Hawai'i Teachers of the Year. Mililani Middle School teacher Lynn Yoshioka was recognized as the Teacher of the Year for Central District.



The State Senate adjourns sine die for the 2016 legislative session.

## FISCAL YEAR 2016-2017 ALL FUNDS = \$13,702,289,565



- 4. Health
   \$1,702,786,444
   12%

   5. University of Hawai'i
   \$1,123,058,394
   8%

   6. Transportation
   \$970,496,250
   7%

   7. Health Premium Payments\*
   \$943,742,837
   7%

   8. Retirement Benefits\*
   \$803,897,943
   6%
- 9. Debt Service\* \$760,862,936 \*Debt services, retirement benefits & bea

\*Debt services, retirement benefits, & health premium payments are budgeted under the Dept. of Budget & Finance.

6%



An honorary certificate was presented to the Associated Students of Mililani High School for receiving the National Gold Council of Excellence Award.



Mililani Mauka Elementary held a ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate the completion of its newly covered walkway.



It was an honor to attend the Hawai'i Army National Guard (HIARNG) Change of Command Ceremony where Brigadier General Keith Tamashiro was welcomed as the new commander.



Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means learn about ongoing efforts to revitalize agriculture in Central Oahu through the Whitmore Project.



The Mililani Middle School Community Meeting provided a venue to inform the community on the benefits of transitioning to a single-track calendar.



I participated in the Military Affairs Council's Annual Meeting and Partnership Conference to facilitate greater dialogue between our government, private sector, and military leadership to ensure state and federal support for our military communities.



state budget.



Members of the Senate Ways and Means Committee | joined Department of Education Superintendent | It was important to take my Senate colleagues on the regional job creation by precisely aligning curriculum revitalize agriculture in Central O'ahu. with career pathways.



come together before they begin to deliberate on the Kathryn Matayoshi on Bytemarks Café to discuss Whitmore Project to learn about ongoing efforts to

HEALTH: Earlier this year. Wahiawā General Hospital (WGH) announced that it was in danger of closing its doors and ending all operations if it did not receive emergency financial assistance. Servicing over 20,000 residents and visitors per year, WGH is the largest private job center and the only major medical facility that provides emergency medical services to Central O'ahu and North Shore communities. Recognizing the importance of preserving WGH, the Legislature included \$2.5 million in general funds for the hospital to continue operations for the next fiscal year while it develops a sustainable plan for the future. I would like to thank the community for showing their overwhelming support to save Wahiawā General Hospital.

AGRICULTURE: Working with my colleagues, we secured \$31.5 million to purchase 900 acres of agriculture land between Central O'ahu and the North Shore. Since 2012, Dole Food Company Inc. listed for sale over 15,000 acres of agriculture and conservation land that have been inactive since the downsizing of their pineapple production. The continuing role of the State in acquiring agriculture land moves us closer to a sustainable future in agriculture and decreases Hawai'i's dependence on imported foods. In addition, bringing farming production back onto these fallow lands will create jobs in our community. I remain committed to a shift towards food independence through the acquisition of land and the creation of job opportunities for our local residents.

MULTI-TRACK: Continuing on the progress to transition Mililani Middle School to a single-track calendar, the Legislature appropriated \$1.5 million for planning and design and another \$10 million for the construction of a fifteen-classroom building. I will continue to work with both the principal and staff at Mililani Middle School and the Department of Education to make this important transition to singletrack for the benefit of our students.

EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT: Another initiative that I have been working on are career pathways for our high school students, specifically cybersecurity. I have been working with the Department of Education, Leilehua Complex, University of Hawai'i, Office of Naval Research, and the National Security Agency/Central Security Services, Hawai'i (NSA/CSS) to develop a cybersecurity curriculum for the Leilehua Complex. The NSA employs about 3,000 people here in the state, and they are experiencing a shortage of skilled workers to fill cybersecurity positions in their agency. To address this problem, working with the Leilehua Complex, we are creating a cybersecurity pathway so students can learn the proper skills and technology prior to college. We are also working with NSA/ CSS to provide our students paid internships. In addition, the Legislature provided \$1.1 million for the planning of the High Technology Workforce Development Center in Central O'ahu. This center will provide the workspace and environment for students and adults to train or re-train so they can find a job here in the community. I will continue to propose and support options that bring jobs back to our community, jobs for our children so they can live, learn, work, and play in the community they call home.



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