

## Hawaii State Senate

District 22

Serving Mililani Mauka, Wahiawa, Whitmore Village, Waipi'o Acres, Wheeler, part of Poamoho—and the State of Hawai'i

November 2014

Donovan M. Dela Cruz Hawai'i State Senator

Chair, Committee on Government Operations

**Member,** Committees on Ways and Means; Economic Development and Technology; Education; Transportation

You can view Senator Dela Cruz's senate website at www.capitol.hawaii.gov. If you would like to receive our monthly newsletters and quarterly updates via email, we suggest that you email us your request via the Senate website.

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Email: sendelacruz@capitol.hawaii.gov "KEEP HAWAII'S HEROES" CAMPAIGN

The "Keep Hawaii's Heroes" campaign is gathering support to try to avoid a massive cut in the workforce at Schofield Barracks and Fort Shafter. As part of its 2020 force structure realignment, the Army is considering eliminating 19,800 soldiers and civilians from both bases (Schofield Barracks - 16,606 and Fort Shafter - 3,786).

In addition to the workers, Hawaii would lose more than 30,000 family members. The total is about 5% of Honolulu's total population - severely impacting the communities of Wahiawa, Mililani, Haleiwa and Waialua.

If those losses were to happen, an Army study says Hawaii's economy would lose more than **\$1.35 BILLION**, as well as a loss of **\$9.2 MILLION** in sales tax receipts.

The goal of the campaign is to gather more than 40,000 signatures by Jan. 20, 2015 and to have as many supporters possible at the Army's listening sessions in Hawaii scheduled for January 27, 2015 at Hale Koa Hotel.

Hawaii's soldiers are always there to help in time of need. It's now our turn to return the favor.

To sign the online petition, go to keephawaiisheroes.org.





## **PROJECT AWARDS...**

Kaala Elementary School: \$49,300 for electrical improvements.

Iliahi Elementary School: \$79,700 to replace sliding doors.

Wahiawa Elementary School: \$116,700 for miscellaneous repairs and maintenance.

Work to begin soon on these projects, if it hasn't already started.

## John S. Martinez Leadership Scholarship: Now Accepting Applications!

The National Hispanic Caucus of State Legislators (NHCSL) is now accepting applications for the John S. Martinez Leadership Scholarship!

NHCSL will award scholarships to a total of eleven (11) Hispanic public high school students that reside in the district of a Hispanic State Legislator.

Isis Usborne, a valedictorian from the MHS Class of 2014, was one of just eleven students from across the U.S. selected to receive this college scholarship award from the National Hispanic Caucus of State Legislatures (NHCSL).

Each student will receive a one-time \$3,000.00 grant to use toward their higher education and will be recognized in their community for their excellent academic achievements.

"The John S. Martinez Scholarship is a great opportunity for NHCSL to celebrate the accomplishments of Latino students and their outstanding work at school. It is important to encourage our students to excel in their academics and recognize them when they succeed. At the same time, this scholarship helps them to offset the ever-increasing cost of college tuition." expressed NHCSL President, Hon. Eduardo Bhatia.

This scholarship is in honor of the late John S. Martinez, a Hispanic leader who served as a member of the Connecticut House of Representatives and a Former President of NHCSL. Comcast NBCUniversal has made this initiative possible through a generous grant which has allowed NHCSL to continue its effort in "Closing the Achievement Gap" for Hispanic students.

I highly encourage qualified students to log on to <u>www.nhcsl.org</u> to submit an application. **The deadline for applica-tion is Friday, January 9, 2015.** 



Senator speaking at the Oahu Agricultural Foundation Forum on the Whitmore Project.



Senator speaking at the Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation Conference on the Whitmore Project.