

Senator Michelle Kidani Thirtieth Hawaii State Legislature

*(D) Senate District 18 - Serving Mililani Town, Waipio Gentry, Waikele, Village Park & Royal Kunia
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Senate Vice President



Aloha Friends and Neighbors,

I wish you peace and prosperity after the warmth of the holiday season and hope that your new year is off to a wonderful start! January is a time of perseverance as we begin 2019 with renewed energy and focus towards positive change, and this month has proven that true.

We began the year strong with the official opening of the Hawaii Legislative Session and welcomed our governing body together in the name of community. It is with sincere aloha for our island home and residents that I will carry with me as we work together to cultivate a bright future for generations to come.

OPENING DAY



Lawmakers, lobbyists and activists gathered for the opening of the 2019 Hawaii Legislative Session on January 16. The occasion is marked by the unique cultural practices and presentations from pule and oli to hula to musical performances, as well as the sharing of ono food and the decade-long tradition of poi pounding.

Senator Kidani had the honor of introducing Miss Aloha Hula 2018, Shalia Kamakaokalani of Halau Na Lei Kaumaka O Uka and Grammy-nominated Hawaiian music trio Na Hoa who offered their talents before senate guests in the House chamber. It was a day of celebration and demonstrated the true power of the collective thanks to our passionate local community. We are grateful to all who gathered to share their causes and offer well wishes as we continue working to shape the bright future for Hawaii.

Chair:
Committee on
Education

Vice Chair:
Committee on
Higher Education

Member:
Committee on
Ways and Means

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OPENING DAY PHOTOS



Students and community members offer hula at the Hawaii State Capitol for the opening of the Legislative Session; Senator Kidani's staff (from left: Trent Sewell, Danicia Honda, Scott Fuji, Senator Michelle Kidani, Marie Richardson, Jade Snow & Kay Watanabe)



From left: Introducing Miss Aloha Hula 2018, Shalia Kamakaokalani; former staff Park Kaleiwahia, Asst. Senate Sgt. at Arms; 2019 Grammy-nominated Hawaiian music trio Nā Hoa (from left: Hale Seabury, Ikaika Blackburn & Keoni Souza)

WAIPAHU HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR TO REPRESENT HAWAII IN SENATE YOUTH PROGRAM

Congratulations to Waipahu High School senior Emily Jane Maluyo who was one of two students selected to represent Hawaii in the United States Senate Youth Program! Maluyo will join Senator Brian Schatz and Senator Mazie Hirono in the nation's capitol during the 57th annual USSYP Washington Week to participate in the 104 national student delegation and will also receive a \$10,000 college scholarship. Maluyo serves as Student Council class treasurer, National Honor Society secretary and volunteers at the Queen's Medical Center and other health organizations. She plans to attend medical school and return home to give back to the community and help others.



WAIPAHU AREA COMMUNITY PROFILE DATA ANALYSIS

The University of Hawaii Center on the Family partnered with the YMCA of Honolulu to conduct an island-wide analysis of 11 communities in comparison to Honolulu in the categories of Family and Social Environment, Economic Well-Being, Education, Health and Community. Data was provided to assist the YMCA in strategic planning to improve the conditions of the community for residents. Of the 11 communities ranked, Waipahu averaged a 5.6, 1 being most preferred and 11 being the least preferred condition.

Total Area: 13.2 sq mi
Residential Area (RA): 3.8 sq mi
Total Population: 61,184
Density: 15,946 pop./sq mi (RA)
Median Age: 38.1

Total Households: 14,588
1+ Residents Related to Householder: 81.6%
Median Single Family Home Value: \$665,000
Average Size of Household: 4.4 persons
Dominant Race: Filipino 47.5%

DELTA KAPPA GAMMA PANEL DISCUSSION



Current and retired female educators of Delta Kappa Gamma gathered on January 7 at Moanalua High School. The national sorority Hawaii chapter held a panel discussion including Senator Kidani, Representative Justin Woodson and deputy superintendent Phyllis Unebasami. The discussion gave insight into the teachers educational experience with school funding, recruitment and retention as well as ways in which the organization could continue to empower Hawaiis teachers to improve the environment for students both in and out of the classroom.

TEACH FOR AMERICA TALK STORY

On January 8, 2019 Senator Kidani hosted a powerful Talk Story session with a group of Teach for America staff and Hawaii state public and charter school K-12 DOE teachers. The gathering gave legislators an opportunity to communicate directly with teachers about their successes and struggles in the public education system. Teachers shared their journeys into the field of education and what drew them to teaching and educating our youth.



WAIPAHU HIGH SCHOOL AT THE CAPITOL

Waipahu High School staff and students presented powerful projects in partnership with the Department of Labor Industrial Relations at the legislative briefing on January 14. With the support of Elaine Young, Carol Kanayama and Jay Ishibashi, both students and teachers shared their insights regarding topics such as expanding the pipeline for the healthcare industry, motivating and inspiring students in STEM opportunities, increasing the workforce pipelines in agriculture and how to strengthen all workforce pipelines for the future.



CREATIVE MEDIA FACILITY GROUNDBREAKING

Initiated and spearheaded for several years by Senator Kidani, educators and elected officials gathered at UH West O'ahu Kapolei campus on January 11 to commemorate the groundbreaking for the upcoming Creative Media Facility. Completion on the \$33.3 million, two-story building is anticipated by June 2020 for the Creative Media department, the fastest-growing program in the UH system. The program will support students in the creative economy, including video game design and development, interactive design, motion and visual graphics, transmedia film, television production and new media.



CONGRATS WAIPAHU HIGH SCHOOL! 2018 ALL HAWAII FOOTBALL OPEN DIVISION HONORS



Offensive Player of the Year:

Waipahu Running Back Alfred Failauga

Failauga rushed for 1,163 yards and 10 scores to reach the 100 yard mark 7 times in the season's final 6 games, leading the Waipahu Marauders to win top honors with it's first ever state championship for Waipahu High School.



Defensive Player of the Year:

Waipahu Defensive Back Deacon Kapea

Kapea filled in as RB, earning 279 yards and 6 touchdowns as an exemplary safety. His defensive instincts were demonstrated after 10 rushing touchdowns with interceptions, leading the Marauders to ultimate victory.



Coch of the Year:

Bryson Carvalho
Bryson Carvalho's dedication to his players was evident in their focus throughout the season. Despite team challenges, he remained steadfast and guided the Marauders to an impressive turn around, winning the league title or the first time in school history.



First Team Offense:
OL Savior Iaulualo



First Team Offense:
RL Alfred Failauga



First Team Defense:
DL Kealii Barrett



First Team Defense:
LB Fiva Tulafale



First Team Defense:
DB Zondre Benjamin
Tuiulemotu



First Team Defense:
DB Deacon Kapea

Second Team Offense:

WR Matthew Fiesta & OL Tonga Kaufusi

Second Team Defense:

DL Abraham Montero

Specialists:

RET Branson Jay Reyes, Waipahu

HONORABLE MENTION:

QB Cody Marques, R Branson Jay Reyes,
R Saxon Tote, OL Tima Ata, DL Gambino
Devoux, LB Zachary Camanse, LB Luke
Reyes, DB Tarynce Antolin, K Brycen Amorozo
& P Tarynce Antolin