

SENATOR

**DONNA
MERCADO
KIM**



PROUDLY SERVING DISTRICT 14

KAPALAMA · 'ĀLEWA · KALIHI · KALIHI VALLEY · FT. SHAFTER · MOANALUA GARDENS & VALLEY · RED HILL

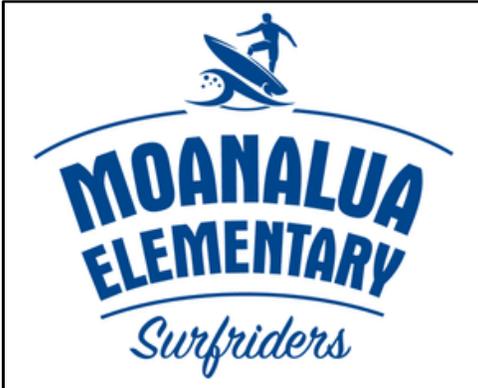
MOANALUA GARDENS COMMUNITY REPORT

Aloha Neighbors & Friends!

On January 15th, the thirty-third legislature convened. I am proud to serve District 14 and will continue to be a proponent of our many needs. I express my gratitude for your continued civic engagement and positive impact of individual and community initiatives on our state and government. My committee assignments will remain the same.

- Chair of Higher Education Committee
- Vice Chair of Education Committee
- Member of Ways and Means Committee
- Member of Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism Committee

Mahalo,



Funds Released to Moanalua Elementary School

Senator Kim and Representative Aiu worked together to secure funding for Moanalua Elementary School's multipurpose innovation center last Legislative biennium. Mahalo Governor Green for releasing \$3,147,000 for the construction and implementation of it. This will provide a space designed to facilitate a variety of innovative activities. The center enables students to explore their innovation needs, from brainstorming ideas to bringing projects to life.

Senator Kim's Bill Introduction

SB 1542 - Relating to Age Verification App Developers and App Stores

Requires app store providers to determine the age category for each of their users in the State and verify their age, provide a mechanism for parents to block minors from downloading unsuitable apps; and obtain parental consent before allowing a minor to use their app store to download and purchase apps.

SB 1544 - Relating to Wireless Communication Devices in Schools

Requires each public school to implement a policy to prohibit students from using cellular phones and other wireless communication devices during school hours, subject to exceptions for education, health, and emergencies.

SB 1545 - Relating to Nepotism

Repeals language in the State's Code of Ethics that exempts the Legislative Branch from prohibitions against nepotism in public employment.



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February 4, 2025

Community Events and Updates

Winter 2025 Community Bulletin Survey

Thank you to those who have filled out my community bulletin survey!

Your feedback on the critical issues facing our community is invaluable as I prepare for the legislative session. I review each response carefully to ensure that your perspectives help shape the approach I take in addressing the needs of our community. If you have not filled out the survey yet, you can do so by scanning the QR code.

The survey results will be reported in my Spring/Summer edition of the community bulletin. This will provide insight into how others in the community feel about certain issues. Should you have any additional feedback, feel free to contact my staff or me at our office at (808) 587-7200.

Scan the QR code to submit your survey online!



AARP Tax-Aide 2025



When: February 26, 2025

Where: Salt Lake-Moanalua Public Library

Contact: 808 831-6831

AARP Tax Certified Volunteers will be available on site to provide this season's tax services, free of charge, by appointment only from 9:00am to 12:00pm on Wednesdays:

- February 26th
- March 5th
- March 12th

For more information or to schedule your appointment, please call 805-222-0024 on Fridays Feb 7; 14; 21 from 9:00-12:00

Support your Local Library

Over the past year, I've used my community report to highlight and promote local library events. As a legislator with a strong focus on education, I recognize that libraries provide essential resources for both students and the broader community.

Libraries are much more than just a place for books; they are vibrant hubs for community engagement. From hosting bonsai shows to offering space for meetup groups, libraries foster connections and bring people together in meaningful ways.



February 4, 2025