



# SENATOR KAIULI' KAHELE

NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2017

Aloha!

We've just completed the 2017 Legislative Session and I want to take a moment to express my gratitude for the opportunity to serve our amazing community in the Hawai'i State Senate. With every bill considered and every decision made, our shared values guided me every step of the way.

The legislature passed a \$14.1 billion budget for Fiscal Year 2017-2018, which includes much needed funding for education, higher education, transportation and health care services to name a few. This newsletter highlights all grants and capital improvement projects the East Hawai'i delegation were able to secure for Hilo this session.

As we head into interim, I will continue to reach out to our East Hawai'i community through my **Saturday with your Senator** talk story sessions. I welcome your ideas and look forward to working with you to build a better future for Hawai'i.

Me ka ha'aha'a,

## East Hawai'i Grant-in-Aids

Friends of Palace Theater  
\$130,000

Hawai'i Island Community  
Development Corporation  
\$200,000

Island of Hawai'i YMCA  
\$698,000

Pacific Well Drilling  
and Pump Services  
\$605,000

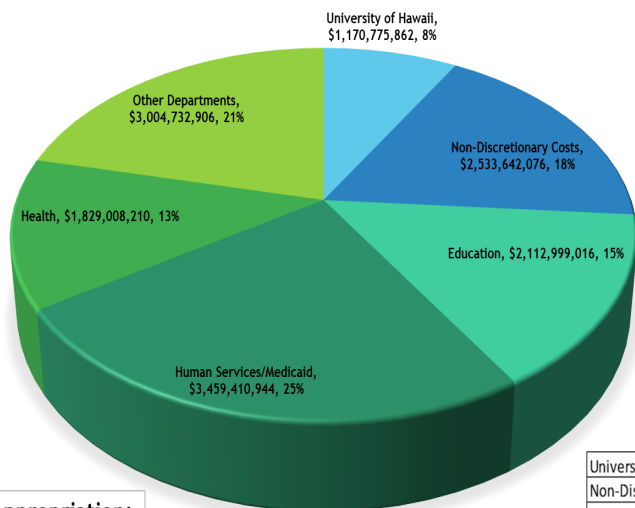
Hawai'i Community Economic  
Opportunity Council  
\$500,000

High Tech Youth Network  
\$150,000

Hospice of Hilo  
\$250,000

Going Home Hawai'i  
\$150,000

HB100 HD1 SD1 CD1, TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS, ALL FUNDS, FISCAL YEAR 2017-2018



Total Appropriation:  
\$14,110,569,014

University of Hawaii	\$1,170,775,862
Non-Discretionary Costs	\$2,533,642,076
Education	\$2,112,999,016
Human Services/Medicaid	\$3,459,410,944
Health	\$1,829,008,210
Other Departments	\$3,004,732,906

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# 2017 Legislative Session Highlights

*Homelessness, health care, education, environment, economy among areas addressed by State lawmakers.*

During the 29th Legislative Session, State lawmakers passed 230 bills that address the top concerns of residents statewide, ensure funding for the basic needs of our communities, and take steps to move the state forward towards being fiscally prepared and sustainable.

Many of the bills passed reflect the Senate's commitment to the Legislative Program set forth at the start of the 2017 session. The Legislative Program outlines the priority issues which embrace Hawaiian values and aim to improve the quality of life for the residents of Hawai'i. (The Senate Majority Legislative Program can be viewed on the Senate Majority website: [www.hawaiisenatemajority.com](http://www.hawaiisenatemajority.com).)

Here is a summary of some of the bills passed this legislative session. These bills have been sent to Governor David Ige who has the option of signing them into law, vetoing the bills or allowing them to become law without his signature.

To view the full text of the bills, go to the Legislative website: <http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/>

## STATE BUDGET

**HB100 HD1 SD1 CD1**: Appropriates \$14.1 billion in total operating funds for fiscal year 2018 and \$14.3 billion for fiscal year 2019. The budget includes \$3 billion for capital improvement projects statewide for the 2017-2019 fiscal biennium. Included in the budget is \$10 million for an EIS and master planning for a new Aloha Stadium, \$1 million for the 2017-2019 fiscal biennium to address Rat Lungworm disease, and \$3.7 million for the 2017-2019 fiscal biennium for the Hawai'i Promise Program, which helps qualified students pay for in-state tuition at local community colleges.

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

**HB627 HD2 SD2 CD1**: Authorizes establishment of a State Public-Private Partnership Coordinator position within the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism to manage public-private partnerships entered into by the State and associated contracts, proposals, and negotiations, except public-private partnerships entered into by Hawai'i Public Housing Authority.

## EDUCATION

**SB423 SD1 HD1 CD1**: Prohibits denying a student a meal for failure to pay within the first 21 days of the first semester of a school year while the student's application for free

or reduced lunch is being processed or during the 7 days after the student's meal fund account balance is zero or negative.

## ENVIRONMENT

**SB559 SD1 HD2 CD1**: Requires the State to expand strategies and mechanisms to reduce greenhouse gas emissions statewide in alignment with the principles and goals adopted in the Paris Agreement.

## AGRICULTURE

**HB1325 HD1 SD1 CD1**: Also known as the *Clift Tsuji Act*, honoring the legacy of Hilo's long time legislator. Requires the Department of Agriculture to establish and report to the Legislature on parameters and construction requirements for biosecurity facilities that provide for and ensure the safety of agricultural and food commodities. Makes appropriations for the biosecurity program, including projects for import replacements of high-risk crops, quarantine treatment options and improvements, pest management programs, and public and agriculture industry education programs.

## COMMUNITY

**HB451 HD1 SD2 CD1**: Reduces the minimum Hawaiian blood quantum requirement of certain successors to lessees of Hawaiian home lands from one-quarter to one thirty-second.

## CONSUMER PROTECTION/LABOR

**HB213 HD1 SD1 CD1**: Permits an employee to use family leave in order to care for the employee's sibling with a serious health condition. Specifies notice and certification requirements for when family leave is taken to care for an employee's child, spouse, reciprocal beneficiary, sibling, or parent.

## HEALTH

**HB607 HD1 SD2 CD1**: Authorizes the Executive Office on Aging to establish the Kūpuna Caregivers Program to assist community members in obtaining care for elders while remaining in the workforce.

## HIGHER EDUCATION

**HB916 HD1 SD2 CD1**: Makes an appropriation for the health care provider loan repayment program administered through the John A. Burns School of Medicine.

## HOUSING

**SB1244 SD2 HD2 CD1**: Authorizes qualified nonprofit housing trusts to repurchase affordable units developed with government assistance when a government entity waives its first right of refusal to repurchase the unit. Authorizes counties to waive a first right of refusal to repurchase a privately-developed affordable housing unit built pursuant to a unilateral agreement or similar instrument.

# Senate District 1 Receives \$81 Million

These capital improvement projects are vital to improving schools and facilities, address aging infrastructure, and establishing safety measures for our island. Listed below are some of the major CIPs in the district.

EDUCATION		
•	<b>Hilo High School:</b> Plans and designs to upgrade the track and field; and plans and designs to renovate Building B, including the Auditorium.	\$ 3,650,000
•	<b>Hilo Intermediate School:</b> Design and construction for a new or renovated Boys' and Girls' Locker Room.	\$ 950,000
•	<b>Waiākeawaena Elementary School:</b> Plans, design, construction and equipment to renovate, expand or build a new cafeteria and Administration Building.	\$ 2,500,000
•	<b>University of Hawai'i at Hilo:</b> Plans, design, construction and equipment for energy efficient air conditioning improvements for Hale 'Alahonua.	\$ 3,000,000
•	<b>Hawai'i Community College:</b> Plans, design, construction and equipment for re-roofing of facility 8843; and plans, design, construction and equipment for ground work and site improvements.	\$ 1,150,000
STATE FACILITIES		
•	<b>Hilo International Airport:</b> Design and construction for the reconstruction of aircraft aprons; design and construction to the Arcade Building; construction of a new roof and facility painting; construction for terminal improvements.	\$ 19,200,000
•	<b>Keaukaha near Hilo International Airport:</b> Construction for noise attenuation of residential dwellings.	\$ 2,600,000
•	<b>4 Mile Creek Bridge:</b> Construction to replace current one-lane bridge between Hilo and Puna.	\$ 13,000,000
•	<b>Wailuku Bridge:</b> Land acquisition and design for rehabilitation or replacement.	\$ 800,000
•	<b>Hawai'i Community Correctional Center:</b> Construction of a new medium Security Housing Unit.	\$ 13,210,000
HEALTH		
•	<b>Hilo Counseling Center and Keawe Health Center:</b> Design and construction for re-roofing and other improvements.	\$ 4,500,000
•	<b>Hilo Medical Center:</b> Plans, designs, construction and equipment of a Telehealth Unit.	\$ 2,000,000
COMMUNITY		
•	<b>Hawaiian Home Lands Lot Development:</b> Plans, design, and construction for development of Kaumana Subdivision Lot Rehabilitation.	\$ 500,000



Hilo Medical Center



Waiākeawaena Elementary School



UH-Hilo Hale 'Alahonua Housing



# Legislative Session in Pictures

