

2017 Legislative Interim E-Newsletter



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Congratulations to the crew of the Hokule'a!!!

On their historic worldwide voyage.

http://khon2.com/2017/06/17/tens-of-thousands-gather-atmagic-island-to-welcome-hokulea-home/

http://www.hokulea.com/

Should an alternate road be built between Hilo and Puna?



Yes, Makai of Highway 130

Yes. Railroad Extension

Mauka of Highway 130

Other

No

410 Voters Responded:

*When asked where the alternate route should be built, approx. 225 were for Railroad extension. 1 comment: anywhere shipman agrees

*Beach Road extension was the second most popular choice with approximately 132 marks. 1 commented that this was the only government owned access and it was in the Puna plan in the 70's and '80's.

*161 respondents resided in Hawaiian Paradise Park of which 157 were in favor of an alternate route & only 6 chose a route Mauka of Hwy 130.





Highway 130 - Committee on Transportation

I have been in the Transportation Committee since 2014 to ensure that Puna's interests continue to be represented . I made it very clear that I would be weary of supporting highway projects in other districts unless I can be assured that these projects would not be given priority over highway 130 (which was a top priority with the Hawaii Dept of Trans in 2014).



Full sized pictures of the planned Highway 130 projects can be found on my legislative website: State Plan: <u>https://hidot.hawaii.gov/highways/files/2017/06/20170613-15-18-R10-</u> <i>Processed-FixOC20.pdf

Highway 130 Update

Lately, many have asked why it is not possible for the Hawaii DOT district office to schedule all improvement projects at the same time as a means of consolidating congestion into one period.

While this would be an ideal situation, combining/scheduling all improvement projects during the same time frame would not be viable in this, or any county.

While I have fought hard to secure funding for improvement projects, the state releases the money as it becomes available. With over 200 million+ dollars in funds secured for Puna improvement projects, the money cannot feasibly be released at once, which means that improvement projects, such as the Shower Drive traffic light installation, cannot commence in congruence with the widening project. This presents a difficult situation as deferring projects for the sake of coinciding with other projects will put the funding at risk of being taken by other projects. To put a project on hold



would jeopardize it's prioritization, which, is why it is in our best interest for the HDOT to commence with these projects as soon as the money is allocated in order to avoid further delay of much needed improvements. This year, it just so happens that the state was able to get funding released for various projects in Hawaii County. We understand that this has resulted in longer commute times and we empathize with the inconvenience that this has caused you. The HDOT respectfully requests your patience with the hope that you understand that this will ultimately benefit the long term interests of the Puna district.

June 2017

Congratulations to the Class of 2017!!!

"May you pursue your dreams with passion, integrity, and persistence"

2017 Pahoa, Kea'au, and HAAS Valedictorians:

Daecee A. Subia Juniper Ozbolt Micah Marshall Chayna Yoshida Ruby Kate Galapon Narizza Saladino Lily Leyva Jadelyn Fernando Leah Warren Maria Calso Jessica Andres Kyla Andres Anela Dalton



Congratulations to Edleen Joseph of Pahoa High School!!!

Edleen is a recipient of the Longs Drugs 2017 Educational Grant. This grant assists high school graduates with educational expenses in preparation for a career in business.



Kea'au High Graduate to Attend Columbia University Congratulations to Narizza Saladino for her acceptance to Columbia University! Narizza is the first Kea'au High School graduate to be accepted to an ivy league school.

Health Care Update:

This session, I co-introduced **HB552** which creates a working group to plan for and mitigate adverse effects of the potential repeal of the federal Affordable Care Act by Congress.

I also introduced **HCR62/HR31**, which would ask the Dept of Labor to study the feasibility of amending the definition of a "regular employee" under the Hawaii Pre-paid Health Care Act to include those who work for an <u>average</u> of at least 20 hours per week during a four week period. Unfortunately, this did not pass

**Recent Date from the Urban Institute:

86,000 fewer people in Hawaii would have health insurance in 2019 if the Affordable Care Act is repealed.

For Hawaii, a repeal of the Affordable Care Act would mean the loss of \$47,000,000 in federal marketplace spending in 2019

Hawaii would also lose \$306,000,000 in federal medicaid funding in 2019 and \$3,700,000,000 between 2019 and 2028.

Are You Prepared for Hurricane Season?

With another active Hurricane season expected, experts advise doubling emergency supplies and reviewing some basic preparedness tips. To learn more about how you can prepare for Hurricane season, please visit:

https://www.ready.gov/hurricanes

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Hawaii Island Humane Society

Please visit: http://www.hihs.org/services/volunteer to learn more about volunteer opportunities with the Hawaii

Island Humane Society.

- Cat Socialization: Playing, brushing, giving treats
- **Dog Socialization**: Taking a dog in the park, bathing, basic obedience training
- General Help: Re-fill water bowls, laundry, help front desk staff
- **Special Event Support**: Help at one of our fundraising or mobile adoption events. Assist in marketing the event, support staff at the event or sit with adoptable animals.
- Photography: We use photos to promote adoptions on social media, our website and printed material. You don't have to be a professional photographer to help.

Have a special skill or talent? Let us know and we can customize a project for you or let you know when

you need your help.

The Pahoa Music & Art Walk will be taking place from 5pm - 10pm every second Saturday the children of the second on Main street in Pahoa. Pahoa

Music & Art This event will feature local artists, live music, and lots of fun!! For more information about Second Saturdays Art & Music Walk or how you can help Pahoa, email LaulimaPahoa@gmail.com.

Puna Hongwanji Bon Dance 2017

Puna Hongwanii 16-492 Old Volcano Rd, Keaau, HI 96749 Friday: June 30th & Saturday July 1st, 2017 at 6:00 pm

Pahoa YBA Kaikan Pahoa Village Rd, Pāhoa, HI 96778 Saturday, August 26, 2017

Kahuku Guided Hikes 2017

Throughout the month of June, Hawaii Volcanoes National Park Kahuku Unit will be offering free guided hikes throughout the month of June.

Some dates include:

Nature and Culture, An Un-severable relationship: June 24th, 9:30am-11:30am

Palm Trail: June 25th, 9:30am-12:30pm

For more information, please visit the Hawaii Volcanoes National Park Kahuku Unit website: http://www.nps.gov/havo/planyourvisit/kahuku-hikes.htm Please be advised that sturdy footwear, water, raingear, sun protection, and a snack are recommended for certain hikes. Difficulty level may vary between hikes. Please see website for details of guided hikes, or call (808) 985-6000 for more visitor info.





June 2017



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Rat Lungworm Disease

To reduce your chances of infection, THOROUGHLY wash all produce before consumption and discard anything that shows signs of snail slime, feces, and/ or feeding. If you are preparing food for cooking, any suspect products should be boiled for at least 3-5 minutes or frozen for at least 24 hours.





Filming a Rat Lungworm public service announcement with Senator Kai Kahele.



For more information on Rat Lungworm disease please visit: <u>http://</u><u>manoa.hawaii.edu/ctahr/farmfoodsafety/</u>rat-lungworm/

If you have a community event that you want featured in my newsletter/e-newsletter e-mail us at j.honda@capitol.hawaii.gov. No guarantee that it will be included; however, we will do our best.

Thank you for subscribing to my E-Newsletter! This allows me to send out more information about what's going on here at the State Legislature. If you know anyone who would be interested in receiving the E-Newsletter please have them contact my office at: <u>b.iwasaki@capitol.hawaii.gov</u>		Please FOLLOW my Twitter and Instagram! https://twitter.com/repjoydistrict4 https://www.instagram.com/ repjoysanbuenaventura/	
Be sure to LIKE my page!	E-mail Address: repsanbuenaventura@capitol.hawaii.gov		
https://www.facebook.com/repjoydistrict4	Visit my capitol website for updates on bills and other legislative activities: http://capitol.hawaii.gov/memberpage.aspx?member=Sanbuenaventura&year=2017		
Vice Chair: Judiciary			
Committee Member: Housing and Transportation			
Contact Information:			
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 302, 415 South Beretania Street, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813			
Telephone: (808)586-6530			
Neighbor Island Access dial 974-4000 then extension 66530#, after the recording.			