

# Legislative Newsletter-October/November 2019 Representative Lynn DeCoite

Hawaii House District 13: East Maui (Pa'ia, Haiku, Keanae, Nahiku, Hana, Kipahulu, Kaupo), Moloka'i, Lana'i, Kaho'olawe and Molokini

#### Aloha District 13 'Ohana-

Can you believe the start of the 2020 Legislative Session is just 2 months away? The interim has flown by and now it's time for us to gear up for the next round.

To help my staff and me prepare for this next session, I want to hear directly from you and your 'Ohana. Please take a few moments to fill out the "District 13 Constituent Survey" enclosed in this newsletter, so I can hear directly from you about which issues and topics you are concerned about. In addition, I want to get your feedback on some possible legislation that might be introduced and to hear if any of you have ideas for legislation as well.

I also want to make sure all of you are able to get the information you need when contacting my office or one of my colleagues about bills that you are interested in or concerned about. Please see the "Find Out...Fast" info sheet included in this newsletter to help you know where and how to access the information you are looking for. This info sheet is one of the many resources provided by the **Public Access Room (PAR)**.

If you aren't familiar with the PAR it is a division of the Legislative Reference Bureau, a non-partisan agency of the Hawaii State Legislature. PAR serves the citizens of Hawai'i by providing resources, facilities, services and equipment to enhance their ability to participate in the legislative process. Staff assistance is available in person, by telephone and by e-mail. They are a tremendous resource for all of us and they are always willing to help and answer the questions any of us (including myself) may have.

As always please feel free to contact my office if we can be of assistance to you on any state related matters or issues of concern. And when you see me out in the community please come up and introduce yourself—I am always honored to get to meet my constituents

Mahalo nui loa,

face to face.

Lyn DeCrite

Rep. Lynn DeCoite District 13

#### Are you on the "District 13 E-mail Update" List?

We send out weekly updates highlighting public events, legislative hearings, news and opportunities that directly affect District 13.

To sign up please call the office or send your email to decoite2@capitol.hawaii.gov



Rep. DeCoite and the friendly PAR staff Virginia and Keanu.

Rep. DeCoite talking to FFA students from across the state about Food Systems and Family Farming at the 2019 Agriculture Conference held at the Hawaii Convention Center. (Oct 15, 2019)





# Find Out...Fast!

"Who should I call when I don't know where to start, or if I don't know where to go next?"

## The Public Access Room (<u>par@capitol.hawaii.gov</u>)

We'll help you find what you're looking for. We're a local phone call away from all the islands! Here are the toll-free numbers:

> Hawaii (Big Island): Kauai: Lanai & Molokai: Maui: Oahu:

974-0400, ext. 7-0478 274-3141, ext. 7-0478 1-800-468-4644, ext. 7-0478 984-2400, ext. 7-0478 587-0478 (Out-of-State: 1-808-587-0478)

"Where's the one website I should run to for all sorts of fast information?"

The Hawaii State Legislature's website - capitol.hawaii.gov

From there, it's as simple as clicking on the links...

- Find your legislators enter your street name in the box in the upper right-hand corner
- Contact them about issues where you live (phone calls, letters, cards) hyperlinks to members from "Find Legislators" results (or click on "Legislators" button in center screen)
- Who's on which committee click on "Committees" button in center screen
- Find the bill that interests you use the "Bills/Committee Reports" search box on the left side of the screen; or, click on the "Reports and Lists" button in center screen and use the "Subject Search" feature at lower left
- Find out when it will have a hearing (during Legislative session) use the "Hearings" button in center screen (or sign up to receive hearing notices via email by clicking on "Hearing Notification" in center screen)
- Submit testimony (about a specific bill) click on "Submit Testimony" button in center screen
- Keep track of that bill click on "Measure Tracking" button in center screen
- What the law says about a topic use "Hawaii Revised Statutes" search box on the left side of the screen

"Where's the website to find more in-depth information?"

The Public Access Room's website – <u>lrbhawaii.org/par</u>

Click on "<u>Walk Through Session</u>" (<u>http://lrbhawaii.org/par/pub/pgwalkthru.pdf</u>) to learn more about how the legislative session unfolds; key deadlines and documents; and tips on how to participate effectively.

Go to the "Information Sheets" page for helpful handouts and "how to" guides.

# **District 13 Constituent Survey**

#### Survey for House District 13 constituents to help Rep. DeCoite plan for the 2020 Legislative Session.

2. What topics a	re most import	ant to you?	
Agricultu	-	Education	
e	nental Issues	Health Car	e
Housing		Jobs	
		2	
Technolo	gy	Water	
Technolo Other:		Water	
Technolo Other: 3. What topic (j	ust one) is MOS		
Technolo Other: 3. What topic (j	ust one) is MOS	T important to you?	
Technolo Other: 3. What topic (ji 4. Do you suppo Yes	ust one) is MOS ort the legalizati No	o <b>r important to you?</b> on of Marijuana? Unsure	es, e-cigs, and like products)?

Yes No

#### 7. What do you think the minimum wage should be?

\* Act 82, Session Laws of Hawaii (2014), the minimum wage for most employers increased to \$10.10 per hour beginning on Jan. 1, 2018. This is the fourth and final rise in the minimum wage since 2015: from \$7.25 to \$7.75 on Jan. 1, 2015, and to \$8.50 on Jan. 1, 2016, and \$9.25 on Jan. 1, 2017. Previously, the minimum wage had stayed the same for eight years (\$7.25 Jan. 1, 2007—Jan. 1, 2015)

Lower than \$10.10/hour	\$10.10/ hour (the current min wage)
\$12/hour	\$15/hour
\$17/hour	Other:

#### 8. Do you have an idea for a bill for the 2020 Legislative Session?

\*\* Keep in mind it needs to be a State issue (not County/Federal)



#### Office of Representative Lynn DeCoite

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<u>Neighbor Island Toll Free:</u> Maui-984-2400 ext. 6-6790 Lana'i & Moloka'i 1-800-468-4644

E-mail: repdecoite@capitol.hawaii.gov

🚹 RepDeCoite

## 4 Easy Ways To Submit Your District 13 Constituent Survey \*\*Please submit responses by <u>Monday, December 2, 2019</u>\*\*

#### 1. Mail:

**Representative Lynn DeCoite** Hawaii State Capitol 15 South Beretania Street, Room 441 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

- 2. Fax: (808) 586-6779
- 3. Email: decoite2@capitol.hawaii.gov
- 4. Online: Fill out survey online form on Rep. DeCoite's Legislative Website:

http://capitol.hawaii.gov/memberpage.aspx?member=decoite&year=2019

\*\* link to form will also be included in Rep. DeCoite's weekly "District 13 Email Update" starting Friday, November 1, 2019.\*\*

If you need any assistance or would like the survey emailed directly to you please call the office at (808)586-6790.