

#### Legislative Newsletter-February 2016

# 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 Mai Ka Kou!



Welcome to the Opening of our 2016 Legislative Session. Serving as your State Representative has been a learning opportunity with its share of challenges and triumphs as every issue is a priority for myself and my colleagues, such as, Hawaiian homesteads, Education, Long Term Health Care, Renewable Energy, Food Safety and Homelessness just to name a few.

I want to encourage you, my constituents, to communicate with me. I have an open door policy and welcome you to contact me should you need assistance or have questions about issues that interest you. Together we can accomplish much!

Lynn

# Opening Day-January 20, 2016

Maui County Councilmember Riki Hokama, Rep. DeCoite and Lt. Governor Shan Tsutsui.





and Sharmen (Haiku).

Rep. DeCoite with her 10th grade teacher, Mr. Nakamura from Molokai.



Maui County Councilmember Bob Carroll and Rep. DeCoite





Members of the State House of Representatives stand as Congressman Mark Takai offers the Opening Day Invocation.



Rep. DeCoite with International Longshore and

Warehouse Union( ILWU) members/ HC&S

## Rep. DeCoite's 2016 Legislation

#### HB1765 RELATING TO CORAL.

<u>Coral Reefs; Sunscreen; Sunblock; Ocean; University of Hawaii; Report; Appropriation</u> Requires UH to conduct a study on the effects of sunscreen on Hawaii's coral reefs. Appropriates funds. **Committee Referral:** OMH, HED, FIN

#### HB1766 RELATING TO LIVESTOCK.

#### Theft of Livestock; Deer

Adds deer to the list of animals included in the theft of livestock offense.
Committee Referral: WAL, JUD Senate Companion: <u>SB2580</u>

#### HB1931 RELATING TO THE HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION ACT.

Hawaiian Home Lands; Transferees; Successors; Blood Quantum

Reduces the minimum Hawaiian blood quantum requirement of certain transferees and successors to lessees of Hawaiian home lands from onequarter to one thirty-second.

Committee Referral: OMH, JUD, FIN

#### **HB1932** RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS.

Department of Hawaiian Home Lands; Administrative and Operating Expenses; Appropriation Ensures the legislature fulfills its responsibility under article XII, section 1, of the state constitution by appropriating sufficient general funds for the administration and operating expenses of the department of Hawaiian home lands for fiscal year 2016–2017. **Committee Referral:** OMH, FIN **Senate Companion:** <u>SB3029</u>

#### **HB2582** RELATING TO FOOD SAFETY.

<u>Agricultural Food Safety Certification Program; FDA Food Safety Modernization Act; Appropriation</u> (\$) Requires the Department of Agriculture to develop and implement an Agricultural Food Safety Certification Program that concurrently complies with the FDA Food Safety Modernization Act as it applies to farmers and ranchers. Authorizes and appropriates funds for program staff. **Committee Referral:** AGR, CPC, FIN

#### **HB2583** RELATING TO EDUCATION.

Department of Education; Weighted Student Formula; Superintendent's Reserve

Requires principals to consult with teachers and school community councils when expending moneys provided to their schools. Requires the weighted student formula to include a superintendent's reserve to address needs at unique and remote schools. Grants the DOE discretion in allocating superintendent's reserve funds to specific schools; provided that the committee on weights shall recommend the amount of the reserve and criteria for use of the reserve.

Committee Referral: EDN, FIN

#### **HB2584** RELATING TO AGRICULTURE.

Agriculture; Food Sustainability; On-farm Mentoring; Appropriation (\$)

Establishes an on-farm mentoring program to teach and train farmers to utilize a whole farm system approach to agriculture. Appropriates funds as a grant for existing on-farm mentoring programs and a pilot on-farm mentoring program in Maui. **Committee Referral:** AGR, FIN

#### HB2585 RELATING TO JURY DUTY.

Breastfeeding; Jury Duty; Exemption

Exempts mothers who breastfeed or express breast milk from jury duty; provided that this exemption shall end when a mother is no longer breastfeeding or expressing breast milk.

Committee Referral: HUS, JUD

#### HB2586 RELATING TO NUTRIENT CYCLING.

<u>Appropriation; Agriculture; Nutrient Cycling Center Pilot Project</u> (\$) Makes an appropriation for a nutrient cycling center pilot project on Maui. Requires DOA to report on the efficacy of the pilot project. **Committee Referral:** AGR, FIN

#### **HB2653** RELATING TO CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE THIRTEENTH REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT.

CIP; 13th Representative District (\$)

Appropriates funds for capital improvement projects for the benefit of the 13th representative district. **Committee Referral:** FIN

#### **HB2654** RELATING TO THE MOLOKAI IRRIGATION SYSTEM WATER USERS ADVISORY BOARD.

#### Molokai Irrigation System Water Users Advisory Board

Authorizes Molokai irrigation system water users advisory board members to designate an agent, officer, or employee. Removes requirement that members be an active general excise tax licensee.

Committee Referral: AGR/WAL, JUD

#### **HB2655** RELATING TO EDUCATION.

Weighted Student Formula; Exception; Remote Schools; Hana High and Elementary School Requires remote schools to be allocated funds using categorical allotments, rather than through the weighted student formula. Defines a remote

school as any public school that is a high school located at least a one-hour drive away from the next nearest high school or a high school located on the island of Lana'i, Moloka'i, or Ni'ihau. Specifies minimum number of teachers for Hana high and elementary school. **Committee Referral:** EDN, FIN **Senate Companion:** SB2571

#### HB2656 RELATING TO EDUCATION.

Weighted Student Formula; Remote Schools; Public Schools; Funding

Requires remote schools to be allocated funds using categorical allotments, rather than through the weighted student formula. Defines a remote school as any public school that is a high school located at least a one-hour drive away from the next nearest high school or a high school located on the island of Lanai, Molokai, or Niihau.

Committee Referral: EDN, FIN

Senate Companion: SB2573

#### **HB2657** RELATING TO AGRICULTURE.

Food Safety Loans; Maui County Revolving Loan Program (\$)

Provides loans from the Maui County Revolving Loan Program to Molokai farmers and ranchers to reimburse costs of mandated food safety compliance audits and other related costs. Appropriates moneys to the Maui office of economic development to review and approve applications for the loan program.

Committee Referral: AGR/EDB, FIN

### How To Track A Bill – It's As Easy As 1, 2, 3!

1. Register/Sign-in at http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov (Hawaii State Legislature's website)

\*Registering with the Legislature's website will allow you to create personalized bill tracking lists, submit testimony without the need to re-enter required information, and receive hearing notice notifications by e-mail. You can sign in any-time on the website to check, update, and edit your account.

**2. Track a Measure.** To track a specific bill, click on the "Measure Tracking" button at the center of the website. You can then create a list, or many lists, of the bill(s) you want to track.

**3. Receive Hearing Notices**. To receive notifications for when a specific bill and /or committee scheduled for a hearing click on the "Hearing Notification" button in the middle of the page. You can then add the measures and/or committees you wish to receive notices for.



Hawaii Cattlemen's Day at the Capitol! Rep. Onishi, Ken Miranda (Kaonoulu Ranch), Janet Ashman (Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation), Jacob Tavares (HC&S), Greg Friel (Haleakala Ranch), Rep. DeCoite and William Jacintho

### District 13 at the Capitol

Aunty Winnie Basques from Lana'i and Rep. DeCoite at the Ahu Moku Pa'ina at the State Capitol.





**Moloka'i Homesteaders** in town for the Governor's "State of the State" Address. Members from the Ho'olehua, Kalamaula, Kapa'akea Homestead Associations and the Moloka'i Homestead Farmers Alliance.

#### Office of Representative Lynn DeCoite



#### Hawaii State Capitol 415 South Beretania Street, Room 405 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

#### Office of Representative Lynn DeCoite

Hawaii State Capitol Office 415 South Beretania Street, Room 405 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 (808) 586-6790 Neighbor Island Toll Free: Maui-984-2400 ext. 6-6790 Lana'i & Moloka'i 1-800-468-4644

#### Web & Social Media Connections

E-mail: repdecoite@capitol.hawaii.gov

f Rep-Lynn-DeCoite 💽 @RepDeCoite

Legislative Website: http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/memberpage.aspx?member=decoite&year=2016

#### Sign Up for District 13 E-mail Updates

If you would like to be added to the "District 13 E-mail Update" list please call the office at (808) 586-6790 or send your email to <u>decoite2@capitol.hawaii.gov</u> with "District 13 E-mail List" in the subject line.

#### Rep. DeCoite's Committee Assignments

- Committee on Finance (FIN)
- Agriculture (AGR)
- Economic Development & Business (EDB)
- Tourism (TOU)
- Veterans, Military, & International Affairs, & Culture and the Arts (VMI).

#### Do you Know about the Public Access Room at the State Capitol?

In 1990, the Hawaii State Legislature established the **Public Access Room (PAR)** to provide the public with necessary resources for <u>participation in the legislative process</u>. It's the first stop for Hawaii's citizens when working with the Legislature – whether from home, office or at the Capitol.

PAR is deeply non-partisan. They maintain our objectivity in order to serve the needs of those who use our facilities and services. There is never a fee for services.

#### Contact PAR:

4th floor of the State Capitol– **Room 401** Toll-free Phone Numbers: Maui (808)984-2400 x 7-0478 Molokai & Lanai: (800) 468-4644 x 7-0478 E-mail par@capitol.hawaii.gov http://hawaii.gov/lrb/par

#### PAR Resources:

- Office resources
- Workspace
- Computers (with Internet Access)
- Reference materials
- Expert Staff Assistance

Office Hours Hours during Regular Session (January – April): 8 a.m. – 7 p.m., Monday – Friday