

FROM THE OFFICE OF  
**SENATOR STANLEY CHANG**  
East Honolulu Community Newsletter

February 2019



## Senator Chang's **TOP BILLS IN 2019**

### **ALOHA HOMES**

**SB 1 and SB 400:** Establishes the ALOHA homes program to develop low-cost homes for sale (99 year leases) to Hawai'i residents on state-owned and county-owned land near rail stations of the Honolulu rail transit system. These homes will be available only to Hawai'i residents who are owner-occupants and own no other real property, but there will be no first time home buyer requirement and no income restrictions. The State will keep 75 percent of all profits from all future resales.

### **AUTOMATIC HOUSING SAVINGS ACCOUNTS**

**SB 1310:** Requires employers to offer automatic, opt-out payroll deduction contributions to housing savings accounts, to be administered by a board.

### **CRIME: ADVERTISING ILLEGAL VACATION RENTALS**

**SB 354:** Makes advertising, including online advertising, any transient accommodation or resort timeshare vacation interest, plan, or unit without the proper registration identification number and proper local contact information a misdemeanor. Increases fines for advertisers of entire homes and multiple properties.

#### ► **CALL US**

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#### ► **EMAIL US**

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#### ► **HANDY CONTACTS**

**State Pothole Hotline**  
808-586-7852

**City Pothole Hotline**  
808-768-7777

**State Homelessness**  
[gov.homelessness@hawaii.gov](mailto:gov.homelessness@hawaii.gov)  
808-586-0193

**City Homelessness**  
[complaints@honolulu.gov](mailto:complaints@honolulu.gov)  
808-768-4381

**Abandoned Vehicles**  
808-733-2530

**Building Permits**  
808-768-8000

**Trash Collection**  
808-768-3200

**Street Light Repair**  
808-768-5300

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## IN THE COMMUNITY



### OPENING DAY

January 16, 2019 ◀ Opening Day of the 30<sup>th</sup> Legislature of the State of Hawai'i. Here is Governor David Ige with Senator Chang and his legislative staff.



### OUR 1<sup>ST</sup> RENEWABLE NATURAL GAS FACILITY

December 12, 2018 ▲ Senator Chang attended the dedication ceremony for Hawai'i's first renewable natural gas facility. This was a joint project by the City and County of Honolulu and Hawai'i Gas.



### UH WEST O'AHU'S FILM SCHOOL

January 11, 2019 ◀ Senator Chang with Chris Lee at UH West O'ahu. Chris Lee has been fighting for a film school for UH for over a decade, and UH West O'ahu just broke ground for America's only film school with an attached film studio. Congratulations to all those who have supported this incredible effort.



### KAIMUKI MIDDLE SCHOOL

November 30, 2018 ◀ Senator Chang took tough questions from very well informed 8<sup>th</sup> graders representing Kaimuki Middle School at the Hawai'i State Capitol.



The Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs Insurance Division has released its [annual sample premium comparison guides](#) for motor vehicle, homeowners, condominium, and renters insurance. The compilations of sample base premiums can be used as a general reference to compare rates and identify other insurance companies. The guides help consumers research and explore options and ensure greater competition in the marketplace.

["Reviewing insurance policies annually could help consumers better understand their coverages and](#)

[avoid unexpected expenses.](#) Utilizing these premium comparison guides can help consumers shop and compare to make [the right insurance decisions](#) for their situation and needs," said [Insurance Commissioner Colin Hayashida](#). "While costs are important, consumers should also feel comfortable with their insurer and consider other factors such as financial ratings, stability, insurance product offerings, customer service, and claims processing procedures."

The sample premium comparison guides are available online at [cca.hawaii.gov/ins/resources](http://cca.hawaii.gov/ins/resources).

## GOLD COAST SEAWALL



For several months now our office has been in contact with several resident associations within our East Honolulu community regarding what I believe to be a critical issue regarding the future of our homes. -

The **Gold Coast Community Association** consists of several residents and representatives for an area of condominiums and cooperative apartments located near the Diamond Head end of Kalakaua Avenue. For several years this dedicated group of concerned citizens have fought to have a Seawall (stretching from 2943 Kalakaua to 3019 Kalakaua) repaired by the State for the safety and well-being of the many, who use it to safely access the beaches below.

Following a State of Hawai'i Supreme Court Decision issued in August of 2017, the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) has decided against approval of funds to repair the Seawall. Instead DLNR has elected to recognize ownership and responsibility of only "the top of the seawall" rejecting any responsibility for the structures beneath. This position by our State Government has allowed for additional erosion of the Seawall structure exacerbating already dangerous conditions.

Having spoken with leadership at DLNR regarding this issue, I believe their position to be erroneous. While I respect the opinions and viewpoints of the department, the safety of the public and our land structures must be upheld. At the January meeting of the Diamond Head / Saint Louis Neighborhood Board #5, I committed to introducing legislative measures to condemn the Seawall in question, allowing for procurement by the State. It is my hope that through these actions DLNR will recognize the significant risks to our shoreline safety posed by government inaction.

For further information regarding this important community issue, please feel free to contact Robert Gentry a member of the Gold Coast Neighborhood Association at (808) 923-4060. If you have any thoughts or ideas that may assist in a resolution of this matter, my office is also available to assist. I look forward to hearing from you.

Mahalo,



Senator Stanley P. Chang

# SENATOR CHANG'S TOP BILLS

## CRIME: LYING TO DPP INSPECTORS

SB 747: Adds knowingly making a false statement to a county inspector a crime within the offense of unsworn falsification to authorities.

## CRIME: WEBSITES CHARGING FOR ILLEGAL VACATION RENTAL ADVERTISEMENTS

SB 716: Makes it a misdemeanor for a hosting platform to collect a fee for booking services regarding transient vacation rentals that are not lawfully certified, registered, or permitted under applicable county ordinance.

## MANDATORY HAND RECOUNTS OF CLOSE ELECTIONS

SB 359: Requires a mandatory manual recount of election ballots in any election for any office when the margin of victory is equal to or less than one-half of one percent of the ballots cast.

## AUTOMATIC VOTER REGISTRATION

SB 116: Requires that any person who is eligible to vote and applies for a new or renewed motor vehicle driver's license, provisional license, or instruction permit, or a new, renewed, or duplicate civil identification card be automatically registered to vote unless the applicant affirmatively declines to be registered to vote.

## STYROFOAM BAN

SB 11: Prohibits the sale of polystyrene foam containers and serving of prepared foods using polystyrene foam containers statewide.

Happy Year of the Pig!



## PRIORITIZE MAINTENANCE OF WATER MAINS UNDER HEAVILY TRAFFICKED ROADWAYS

SB 360: Requires public water or sewer utilities to consider the disruption to transportation as a criterion in planning future maintenance.

## GOLD COAST SEAWALL CONDEMNATION

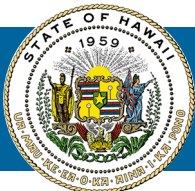
SB 5: Requires the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) to acquire by eminent domain the seawall and the real property underneath the seawall that is located on or near the seaward boundaries of property between 2943 Kalākaua Avenue and 3019 Kalākaua Avenue. Appropriates funds for the just compensation of taking, and the repair and maintenance of the entire seawall and the real property under the seawall.

## FREE REEF-SAFE SUNSCREEN DISPENSERS AT HANA'UMA BAY AND IN WAIKIKI

SB 353: Requires DLNR to establish a two-year pilot program to install sunscreen dispensers at Hanauma Bay and Waikiki beaches to provide sunscreens without oxybenzone or octinoxate to visitors and educate visitors on the harmful effects of oxybenzone and octinoxate on the marine environment. Appropriates funds for the pilot program.



Sharing ideas at our Kailua policy retreat on December 16, 2018



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