

# SENATOR GLENN WAKAI

KALIHI, MAPUNAPUNA, AIRPORT, SALT LAKE, ALIAMANU, FOSTER VILLAGE, HICKAM, PEARL HARBOR, AND PORTIONS OF AIEA AND PEARL CITY

September 2025 Report



## FRESH, FAST, AND FLYING

In a bold move that promises to reshape Hawai'i's agricultural future, Maui Gold Pineapple Company forged a groundbreaking partnership with Amazon Air to airship its famed pineapples to the U.S. mainland—faster, fresher, and more cost-effectively than ever before.

This innovative shipping deal was initiated by Senator Wakai. After discovering that Amazon's cargo planes often returned empty after delivering goods to Hawai'i, Wakai boldly asked, "What do they take back to the mainland?" Their reply: "Nothing." Undeterred, "I approached Amazon saying, 'nothing is unacceptable—let's fill them with locally made products,'" Sen. Wakai recalled.

Months of planning with stakeholders—including the Department of Agriculture, Maui Gold, the Hawai'i Farm Bureau, and Amazon—culminated in a formal agreement to move forward with air shipments.

amazon



"This is a really big game changer for us," said John White, CEO of Maui Gold. He envisions this model supporting other Hawai'i-made products—such as ukuleles, aloha shirts, and local baked goods—in breaking into mainland markets.

"It's more than just what comes out of the ground... this model can help Hawaii manufacturing diversify away from tourism," said Sen. Wakai.

## Community Kokua



Volunteers at Salt Lake Elementary School on Monday

As Hurricane Kiko approached the Hawaiian Islands, the Food Bank of Hawaii partnered with Salt Lake Elementary School to serve as a key distribution point for daily rations.

On Monday afternoon, nearly 50 volunteers came together at the school to provide essential food supplies to the Salt Lake community. In total, eight pallets each containing 48 boxes of rations, were distributed.

The effort came together swiftly, with the school managing to communicate with its entire student body and families within just 24 hours of receiving the request.

The Food Bank of Hawaii emphasizes the importance of disaster preparedness, encouraging all residents to ensure their families have the necessary supplies ready in the event of an emergency. For more information on how you can plan accordingly, click [here](#).

## Radford Complex Rampaging into Japan

Soon three schools in the complex will have a formalized sister school relationships with Sakai, just 30 minutes north of Tokyo. 37 Japanese students visited Āliamanu middle and Makalapa elementary schools two years weeks ago.

Sen Wakai is currently in Japan with Āliamanu elementary school administrators to get them involved.

"In five years, we have been able to take dozens of local kids to get a global experience," says Sen. Wakai. "I never stop driving to enhance educational experiences for our keiki."



A few of the 12 Japanese students visiting Āliamanu Middle School on Aug. 28