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People First

A Newsletter from State Representative Ryan Yamane

37th District · Mililani · Waipi'o Gentry

2010 Session

Aloha Friends and Neighbors,

I hope you and your family are having a fun and safe summer! Thank you for giving me this opportunity to serve our community during this very difficult year. I'd like to share with you my legislative report.

At the start of this year's 2010 legislative session, the state faced a \$1.2 Billion shortfall. My focus this year was on the improvement of our state's economy; while preserving a health safety net and finding the resources that will stop educational furloughs to get our keiki back in school.

I am proud that we were able to support our families, while investing in projects that will spur revenue into our community, improving our school infrastructure and supporting our veterans and seniors. Over \$16 Million will be directed to Mililani and Waipio Gentry to support our schools and community's infrastructure.

As the Chair of the House Health Committee, my goal was to protect access to affordable quality health care in our state. Fortunately, our committee was successful in submitting to the Governor 31 pieces of legislation improving and expanding access to health care and protecting our keiki and kupuna.

My office continues to work closely with our schools, our military, our emergency responders, and our veterans. I remain committed to preparing our community and State in disaster preparedness by actively serving as a Hawaii Red Cross, Medical Reserves Corps and Civil Defense volunteer.

Thank you for honoring me with your continued support. I look forward to working with you to make our community a better place to live, play and grow our 'ohana. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at any time.

With my warmest aloha,

Ryan Yamane

Mahalo for your support!
Jen, Gavan(2), Daniel(5),
and Ryan Yamane.



Protecting Emergency Healthcare Workers from Violence

Representative Yamane's Innovative Legislation Becomes New Law

This year, I introduced House Bill 2439 to protect our health care workers in emergency rooms from assault and threats.

By protecting our emergency room personnel from violent acts we can ensure a safer environment for our health care workers and their patients during their greatest time of need.

The new law, **Act 146**, now protects physicians, physician's assistants, nurses, nurse practitioners, nurse anesthetists, respiratory therapists, laboratory technicians, radiology technicians, and social workers providing services in the emergency room of a hospital from violent acts so they can continue to focus on the care of our family and friends.

Supporting the Honolulu Fire Department

Representative Yamane is Honored for Fire Safety Advocacy

The Honolulu Fire Department recently recognized me for my continued support and deep respect for our firefighters.

Over the past four years, I strongly supported fire safety legislation to maintain the safety of our firefighters and our community, keiki, pets, and property.

One of the successful fire safety laws passed is the "Fire Safe Cigarette" Law which

requires cigarettes to be wrapped with special filter paper to extinguish a cigarette when left idle to deter many cigarette-related fires in homes and help save lives.



Honolulu Fire Chief Kenneth Silva and retired Battalion Chief Lloyd Rogers recognized Representative Yamane for his years of support assisting our firefighters and maintaining public safety.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 2010

In order to close the \$1.2 Billion shortfall, the legislature made about \$794 Million in General Fund budget cuts and lapses, included the Governor's tax refund delay of \$275 Million, passed about \$68 Million in new taxes or fee increases, took about \$78 Million from various special funds and \$185 Million in tax credit adjustments.

The Legislature was successful in not raising the General Excise Tax which would have affected every person and business in the state. We also did not increase personal income taxes on low and moderate-income families because we knew this would increase the burden on working families. In addition, we did not redirect the Transient Accommodations Tax from the Counties, which would have only resulted in increased property taxes for Hawaii's homeowners.

BUDGET SOLUTIONS

At right is a pie chart showing the percentages of these actions. Some of the major bills passed this session include:

Act 180-Legislature's State Budget: Added \$22 Million to the Department of Education to support teachers in their classrooms, restored \$3 Million for state libraries, added \$3 Million for Charter Schools, added \$64 Million to pay for Medicaid services, added \$1.3 Million to support our Judiciary and added approximately \$2 Million for community health centers.

EDUCATION

Act 143-Eliminating School Furlough Days. Appropriates \$67 Million from the Hawaii Hurricane Relief Fund for the purpose of ending teacher furlough days in our schools for 2011.

HB2376-Constitutional Amendment for Board of Education. Allows the voters to amend the Hawaii State Constitution by changing the Board of Education from an elected board to a board appointed by the Governor.

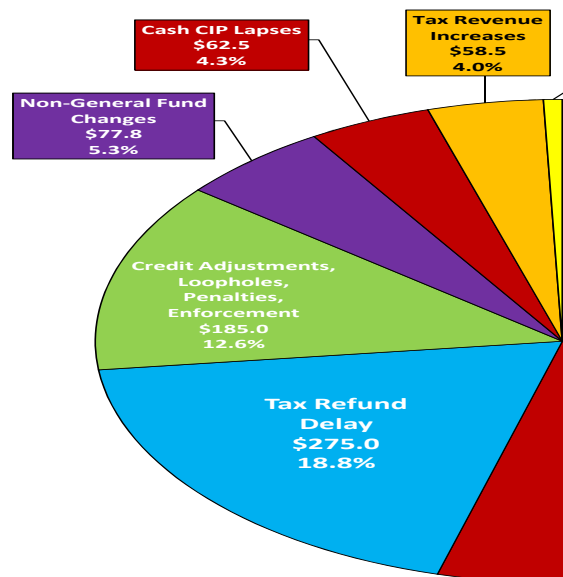
Act 167-Establishing Minimum Instructional Hours. Requires that our schools be open no less than 185 days a year and included increases in instructional, professional development and other non-instructional days. This will include 915 student instructional hours for elementary grades, and 990 student instructional hours for secondary school (middle school and high school) grades. Phases in greater instructional hours for future years.

ENVIRONMENT AND AGRICULTURE

Act 160-Preserving Beach Access. Preserves public access to Hawaii's beaches by requiring Department of Land and Natural Resources to maintain beach transit corridors and prohibiting any obstruction of the access by vegetation by property owners.

Act 128-Eradicating Invasive Species. Increased fines and penalties for the intentional spreading or introducing of invasive species that cause harm to Hawaii's natural environment, economy, and quality of life. This measure is designed to protect the beauty of our state and fight the introduction of harmful pests in our backyards.

Act 173-Agriculture Inspection and Biosecurity. Strengthens our state's law regarding pest inspection, plant quarantine, eradication of invasive species, and biosecurity.



Unless specified, please note that all estimates are cumulative over the two fiscal years beginning July 1, 2009 and ending June 30, 2011. These estimates are subject to change as new information becomes available.

PUBLIC PROTECTION

Act 136-Fireworks Nuisance Abatement. Addresses the illegal importation, sale, and transfer of fireworks to our state. It will also establish stricter laws and consequences for illegal firework activities.

Act 170-Fireworks Task Force, County Authority. Establishes an illegal fireworks task force to investigate the importation of illegal fireworks and explosives in our community. Allows counties to enact ordinances regulating fireworks that are more stringent than current state laws.

Act 99-Strengthening Graffiti Laws. Requires a person convicted of criminal property damage by graffiti to remove the



Providing aid and disaster relief to a flooded Filipino village after 4 typhoons hit the Philippines in the fall of 2009.



Sign waving with Mililani Uka Principal Heather Wilhelm, Student Council Advisor Norma Tansey, and Uka student Martina Segura to promote the Mililani Uka Community Garage Sale.



Recognizing National Milken Award recipient, Mililani High School teacher, Lisa Tsuruda, for her dedication to teaching our community's youth.

2009 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Fee Revenue
Increases
\$9.5
0.6%

\$1.2 billion
shortfall between
July 1, 2009 and
June 30, 2011

General Fund
Budget Cuts &
Lapses
\$794.4
54.3%

\$1.4 billion
in solutions

graffiti within 30 days of sentencing. In addition, the person must perform community service removing graffiti from within 100 yards of the site of the offense.

EMPLOYMENT

Act 2-Unemployment Insurance

Benefits. This pro-business initiative significantly lowers the cost of unemployment insurance for businesses. Sets new employer contribution rates while maintaining maximum unemployment benefits.

Act 68-Local Jobs for Construction

Procurement. Requires at least 80% of workers on state and county construction procurement projects to be Hawaii residents to give our workers a chance to get jobs and support their families

2009-2011 DISTRICT 37 CIP APPROPRIATIONS

H-2 Freeway Street Lighting <i>Repairs the street lights Northbound and Southbound of the H-2 Freeway from Wahiawa to Waipahu</i>	\$3,000,000
Kanoelani Elementary School, Waipio Gentry <i>Bell system replacement, restoration of restrooms, reroofing throughout campus</i>	\$240,900
Mililani Uka Elementary School <i>Construction to stabilize an undeveloped eroding slope adjacent to the school facility; Kindergarten Playground resurfacing; Cafeteria Stage Reconfiguration</i>	\$711,000
Mililani Waena Elementary School <i>Design and construction of parking lot expansion; Ventilation improvements to the pod-classrooms and installation of solar fans</i>	\$250,000
Kipapa Elementary School <i>Design and construction of a parking lot with a student drop-off area</i>	\$500,000
Highlands Intermediate School <i>Asbestos Removal in Chorus Classroom</i>	\$480,000
Mililani Middle School <i>Design and construction of covered play courts</i>	\$2,500,000
Pearl City High School <i>Campus-wide electrical upgrade and network improvements</i>	\$150,000
Mililani High School <i>Resurfacing of school parking lot and driveways</i>	\$312,000
Mililani High School <i>Design and Construction for football field/soccer field synthetic turf and improvement to sports stadium</i>	\$2,500,000
Mililani Kamehameha Highway Sidewalk Development <i>Design and construction of two sidewalks along the East and West Sides of Kamehameha Highway from Meheula Parkway to Lanikunaha Avenue</i>	\$2,500,000
Emergency Medical Services Ambulance Facility <i>Design and construction of an ambulance facility to shelter the 2007 Mililani-Waipio EMS Ambulance</i>	\$3,850,000
University of Hawaii-West Oahu <i>Infrastructure development and construction of new UH West Oahu facilities</i>	\$48,000,000
Total CIP Funding to District 37: (excluding UH West Oahu funding)	\$16,993,000



Meeting with Hawaii Catholic Charities CEO Mr. Jerry Raukhorst, and National Catholic Charities President Fr. Larry Snyder to support statewide community service projects.



Co-Sponsoring Kanoelani Elementary School's community recycling project.



Recognizing Pearl Highlands Science teacher, Ms. Kathy Lin, for receiving the Leeward Oahu Teacher of the Year Award in the House Chamber.

Promoting Hawaii Veterans in Washington DC

Representative Yamane Meets U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs Under Secretary Tammy Duckworth

I recently met with Department of Veterans Affairs Under Secretary and Iraq War veteran, Tammy Duckworth, to discuss issues pertinent to Hawaii veterans and Active Duty families in Hawaii.

A McKinley High School and University of Hawaii at Manoa alumnus, Ms. Duckworth received a certificate from me on behalf of the Hawaii State Legislature commending her as “a part of our state’s citizenry for her service as a voice of the American people, our devoted servicemen and women of the American armed forces, and the steadfast veterans of our state and country who dedicated and sacrificed their lives for our freedoms” the certificate read.

I plan to continue to work with and support veteran agencies and groups, war veterans, and Active Duty families in our community.



Presenting Under Secretary Tammy Duckworth with a Certificate from the Hawaii State Legislature for her dedication and service to our country and state.

Advocating for New Health Care Laws in Hawaii

Representative Yamane Pushes Legislation to Support all People in Hawaii

I am proud to announce that as the Chair of the Health Committee, our committee advocated for key legislation that will improve your quality of life:

Encouraging Colorectal Cancer Screening (Act 157). Protects our loved ones by mandating health insurance coverage for colorectal cancer screening. Requires health insurance providers in Hawaii to provide information about the risks of undiagnosed colorectal cancer and to encourage consultation with their physician about screening options.

Supporting Sanitation and Vector Control Inspectors (Act 176). Improves the health and sanitation conditions of Hawaii’s food establishments by reducing rodent and salmonella outbreaks. The law will provide funds to be used to increase

sanitation programs and the hiring of sanitation inspectors to better protect our community.

Licensing Respiratory Therapists (Act 178). Protects the health and safety by establishing a licensure program and standards for respiratory therapists in Hawaii. This license for respiratory therapists will ensure the safety and quality of care for people suffering from lung and breathing ailments.

Funding Hospitals (Act 203). Appropriates \$12.3 Million in state funds in order to receive \$15 Million in federal funds and helps fund all of our hospitals and community health clinics statewide.

Protecting Social Services through the Rainy Day Fund (Act 191). Appro-

propriates \$23 Million from the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund, known as the Rainy Day Fund, to maintain critical educational, seniors, mental health, and sexual abuse treatment programs.

Tightening Legal Loopholes to Support Veterans (Act 75)

Upholding the Honor of the Hawaii Veteran’s License Plate

Working with the State Office of Veterans Services; together, we closed a loophole to enforce that only veterans discharged honorably or under general conditions be able to apply for the esteemed Hawaii Veterans License Plate.

The veteran’s license plate is a public declaration of service associated with the honor of serving one’s state and country. Acts such as murder, sabotage, rape, and/or espionage resulting in a dishonorable discharge should not be associated with the noteworthy veteran’s license plate. People discharged dishonorably should not hold the pride in owning this honorary license plate.



Visiting a vaccine laboratory and investigating the development of public vaccines.



Rallying with Kupuna at the Capitol for funding for senior programs.