

REPRESENTATIVE HENRY AQUINO
COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER
DISTRICT 38: WAIPAHU



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Aloha Neighbors,

Kung Hee Fat Choy! 2016 marks my eighth year as a member of the State House of Representatives. As I mark this milestone, I am humbled and appreciative of your continued support and confidence.



During these past seven years, I strived to develop policies to help us recover from the economic downturn as well as sustain and advance the state through the recovery. We've come a long way since 2008 and have made positive strides; however, there is more work to be done.

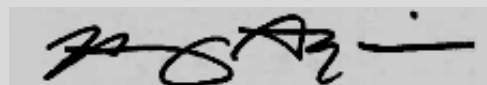
I will continue to advance transportation policies to address the state's need as the Chair of the House Committee on Transportation. Through my participation as a member of the House Committees on Public Safety, Labor & Public Employment, Higher Education and Education, I will collaborate with my col-leagues and support legislation to address issues impacting our community.

Waipahu has much to proud of with several Waipahu members making the news for their achievements in education and the arts. Congratulations to Waipahu High School teacher Michael Sana and Waipahu Elementary 4th grader Ruth Monticello.

May this year bring you good health and success. I look forward to working with you to ensure our community needs are addressed.

Please call 586-6520 or send an email at repaqui-no@capitol.hawaii.gov if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,





2016 Legislature Opening Day

The official start of the 2016 Legislature convened on January 20, 2016. The general public, government leaders, and business and community organizations joined state lawmakers for the ceremony.

Mahalo to the Waipahu constituents, businesses and community organizations who attended the session.

Top picture: Rep. Aquino and Waipahu district principals, vice-principals, and administrators

Picture to the right: ILWU members and Pacific Beach Hotel employees with Rep. Aquino



Access to the Legislature is a Click Away

The Hawaii State Legislature's website, capitol.hawaii.gov, is a great re-source to research and track the many bills being addressed by lawmakers. The website also enables individuals to submit testimony, receive hearing notifications and research existing Hawaii Revised Statutes. A directory of the legislators are also available along with a variety of other tools to help the public participate in the legislative process.



Jasmine Tanioka of Tanioka Seafood and Catering presented the invocation to start the second day of the House of Representative general session.



WAIPAHU NEWSMAKERS

Waipahu High School Science Teacher Honored with 2015-16 Milken Educator Award

Waipahu High School science teacher Michael Sana's path to his professional teaching career began during his own high school years with a promise to his mother as she battled cancer. She promised him that she would hang on until his graduation if he promised that he would someday finish college and make a difference in the lives of others. Both kept their promises.

Mr. Sana was presented the prestigious Milken Educator Award at a schoolwide assembly on January 29, 2016. Regarded as the "Oscar Award of Teaching," it honors outstanding excellence in education and comes with an unrestricted \$25,000 cash prize.



Mr. Sana's excellent work as Chair of the Waipahu High science department has helped to transform its science program into an ambitious college-ready platform that challenges students and boosts them towards college science careers.

(Pictured left to right) Representative Aquino, Councilmembers Elefante and Menor, WHS teacher Michael Sana and Representative Cullen.



Waipahu Elementary 4th Grader Regional Finalist

Doodle 4 Google National Art Contest
Theme: "What Makes Me....Me!"

Ruth Montecillo, a 4th grade student from Waipahu Elementary, is a Regional Finalist for this National Competition. **She is the ONLY finalist from Hawaii!** There are 53 state and territory selected winners who are chosen based on Artistic Merit, Creativity and Theme



Communication. The 2015 theme was "What makes me...me."

From **February 5, 2016 to February 22, 2016**, the public will vote for their favorite doodle from the 53 winners. These votes will help determine the five National Finalists. Then, a panel of Google employees will choose one of the National Finalist and announce the National Winner on March 28, 2016!

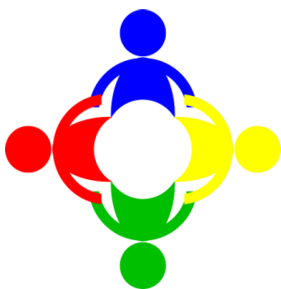
Please vote online by February 22 to the link below and support Ruth Montecillo!

http://www.google.com/doodle4google/vote.html?utm_source=ogb2&utm_medium=blog&utm_campaign=d4g15#d=2-4

Road and Rail Construction Updates Online

The Department of Transportation website, www.pmcontraflow.com, has information regarding Interstate Route H-1, PM Contraflow lane and Pearl City/Waimalu Viaduct Improvements, Phase 1. For rail construction updates, visit the HART website, www.HonoluluTransit.org, contains information regarding road closures or changes. Additional contact for HART includes phone 566-2299 or email: info@HonoluluTransit.org

State Health Planning & Development Agency Accepting Applications for Advisory Councils



The statewide Health Coordinating Council (SHCC) and the Subarea Health Planning Councils (SAC) are seeking new members. The governor appoints members to serve on the SHCC and the SAC. The appointees serve for four-year terms. Appointees may serve a maximum of two consecutive terms.

The SHCC is a twenty-one member panel which serves as an advisory council to SHPDA. Duties include reviewing CON (Condition of Need) applications, selecting CON review panel members, and preparing the HSFP. Duties of the SACs include reviewing CON applications and making recommendations related to health planning for the geographical subarea they serve. If you are interested in serving on the SHCC or SAC, please complete an application on the Governor's Boards and Commission website: <http://hawaii.gov/gov/about/boardscommissions.html>