



STATE REPRESENTATIVE

SHARON E. HAR

SERVING THE 42ND REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT OF
KAPOLEI AND MAKAKILO

HAWAII STATE CAPITOL - 415 S. BERETANIA STREET, RM. 418 - HONOLULU, HI 96813
PHONE: 586-8500 - EMAIL: REPHAR@CAPITOL.HAWAII.GOV



Aloha Friends,

I hope you and your families are well and that your summer is getting off to a great start. As many of you are aware, the 2015 Legislative Session came to a close on May 7th. To conclude the session, I would like to take the opportunity to report to you the events of the 2015 Legislature and how District 42 (Kapolei and Makakilo) was affected.

As a member of the Finance Committee from 2007-2012, I am proud to announce there are many improvements in the pipeline which are now coming to fruition and that will improve our quality of life. For example, I secured funding for Ho'okele Elementary School which will open its doors on July 29, 2015. Planning and design are also underway for East Kapolei Middle and East Kapolei High School. Lastly, planning and construction of two additional buildings (the Allied Health/Administration Building and a Science, Technology and Creative Media Building) at our University of Hawai'i – West O'ahu (UHWO) campus are in the works as the campus progresses toward final build out.

When I was first elected to represent Kapolei and Makakilo, I knew the mission assigned would not be easy. That said, I continue to maintain that government must be held accountable to the people. The services offered by government should be done both efficiently and effectively, and the scope of government should be limited only to its core functions: (1) health & human services, (2) education, and (3) public safety. It has been both an honor and privilege serving as your state representative. Thank you for allowing me to be your voice in government. Please do not hesitate to contact me if there is any way I can assist you.

Malama pono,



Left: Rep. Har with Hawaii Foodbank volunteers collecting food in Kapolei to ensure that no family goes hungry. Bottom: On February 10, 2015, Kapolei Middle School students participating in the SkillsUSA competition at the Hawai'i Convention Center visited the State Capitol and met with Reps. Har and Cullen.



2015 Community Survey Results

Mahalo to everyone who took the time to fill out the community survey I distributed in January, asking what you felt were the best uses of your taxpayer dollars. The results of the survey serve to guide me in best representing the interests of all District 42 residents.

The results were tabulated and *Transportation Infrastructure* was our district's top choice. To that end, I am proud to announce that our community received \$7 million for construction to improve both the Makakilo and Pala'ila'i Interchanges and also to expand the existing Kapolei Interchange.

Details of the state budget, including \$136 million allocated for capital improvement projects for our district, can be found on pages 3 and 4.

Highest Priority

- Transportation Infrastructure
- Public Schools
- Public Safety/Emergency Management
- Replenishing the Hurricane Relief Fund
- Agriculture
- Environmental Protection
- Public Employee Contracts
- Public Hospitals
- Hawai'i Health Connector
- The UH Athletic Department

Lowest Priority

2015 Legislative Highlights

Below are a few bills that passed during the 2015 Legislative session of which I would like to make you aware. For a complete list of bills that were passed this session and await the Governor's signature, please visit: <http://tinyurl.com/RepHar2015Bills>.

Veterans' Exemption – State Vehicle Registration Fee (HB1153): As you may recall, in 2007, I introduced HB2605 which provided for our National Guardsmen and women, an exemption for one vehicle of the State vehicle weight tax. This bill became law as Act 141. Since then, I have introduced similar bills for our veterans. I am proud that the 2015 Legislature passed HB1153, which exempts qualifying totally and permanently disabled veterans from paying the state motor vehicle registration fee. Thank you to our veterans and our men and women serving in the military for all of your sacrifices.

Relating to Public Schools - Multi-track Schools (SB1345): There are only four multi-track schools in the State of Hawaii, with two of them located in Kapolei, although Kapolei Elementary will become a single-track school when Ho'okele Elementary opens. Multi-track school schedules have caused many problems for families. SB1345 requires the Department of Education to develop a transition plan to end multi-track schedules in public schools and report the plan to the Legislature.

Farm to School Program (SB376): As an ardent supporter of local farming, I supported SB376 which improves public health and our agricultural economy through the support of school gardens, health and nutritional education, and the procurement of locally grown food for our schools.

Unfair and Deceptive Practices; Free Trial Offers; Automatic Renewals (SB464): As a senior member of the House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce, I vigorously support bills that will protect Hawaii's residents from unscrupulous business practices. To that end, I supported SB464, which protects consumers who purchase products through automatic renewal agreements by requiring affirmative consent of a consumer before charging a consumer for automatic renewal agreements.

Medical Marijuana Dispensaries (HB321): HB321 establishes a regulated statewide dispensary system for medical marijuana allowing for 16 dispensaries statewide. While I did not support this bill because there were many flaws, I was forced to be a constant voice of reason against my more liberal colleagues in the Legislature. Previous versions of this bill permitted as much as 50 dispensaries statewide instead of the 16 in the final draft. Additionally, early versions would have allowed marijuana dispensaries to set up shop next door to private schools (Island Pacific Academy) and preschools (like Seagull Schools and Cole Academy).



Above: The 2nd Annual After-Tax Shred Day would not have been possible without the support of the Kapolei High School National Honor Society and Shred-It Hawaii.

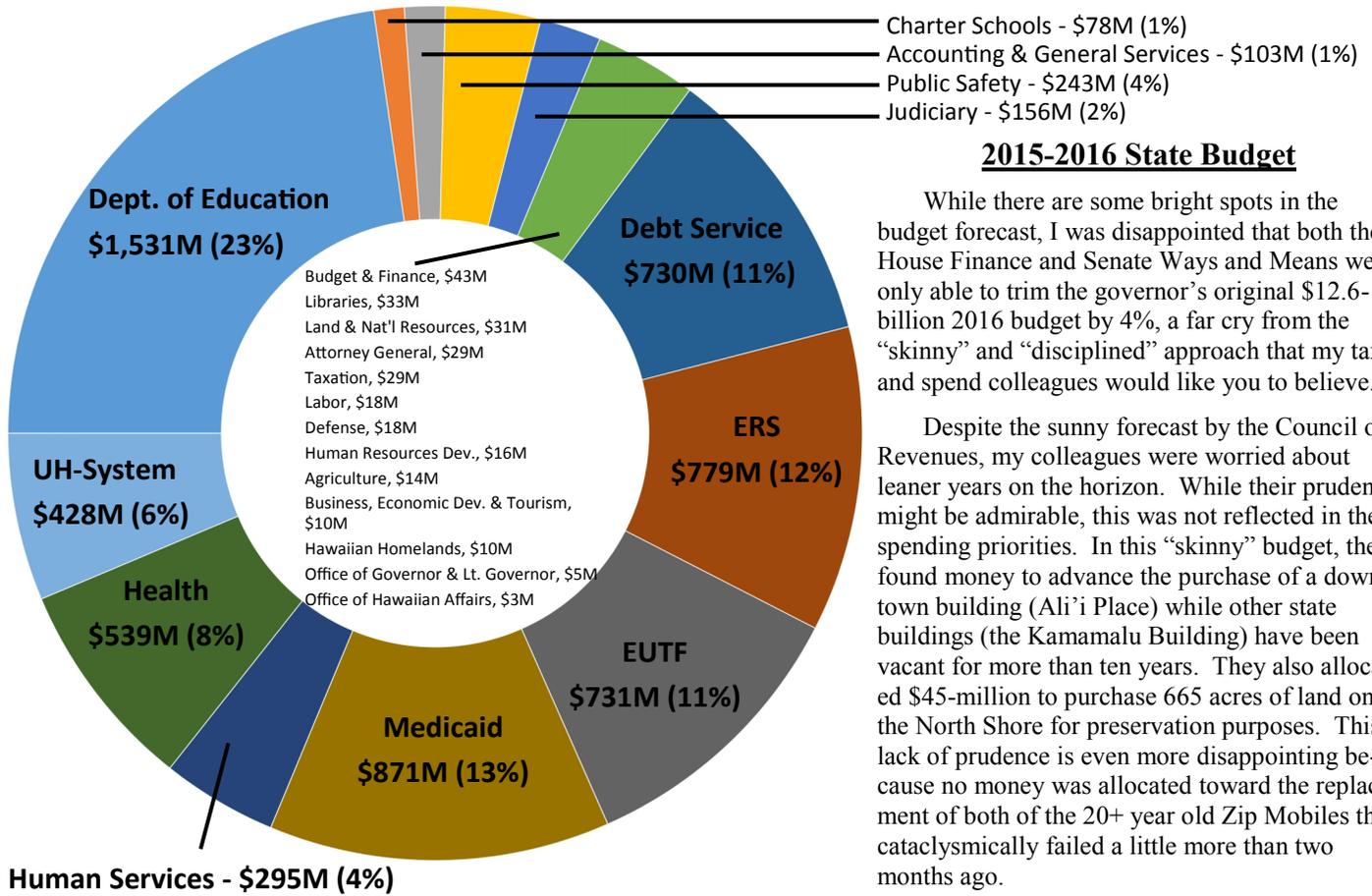
Kapolei After-Tax Shred Day a Success

For the second year in a row, I partnered with Shred-It Hawaii on April 25, 2015, to offer free document shredding services to residents of Kapolei and Makakilo. Identity theft remains at an all-time high which makes it even more important for people to protect themselves from becoming victims. Protection begins with simple measures such as shredding old documents.

More than 200 people dropped off over 2-1/2 tons of junk mail, old receipts, credit card statements, and confidential documents to ensure they would not become future victims of identity theft.



Left: Rep. Har was joined on opening day of the 2015 Legislature by friends and Makakilo residents (from left to right) Auntie Paulette Akim, Uncle Louis and Auntie Barbara Souza, and Auntie Jessica and Uncle Carmelo Santiago. Right: On April 16, Rep. Har offered congratulatory remarks from the Legislature at the grand opening of Tokai University located at the UH West Oahu campus



While there are some bright spots in the budget forecast, I was disappointed that both the House Finance and Senate Ways and Means were only able to trim the governor’s original \$12.6-billion 2016 budget by 4%, a far cry from the “skinny” and “disciplined” approach that my tax and spend colleagues would like you to believe.

Despite the sunny forecast by the Council on Revenues, my colleagues were worried about leaner years on the horizon. While their prudence might be admirable, this was not reflected in their spending priorities. In this “skinny” budget, they found money to advance the purchase of a downtown building (Ali’i Place) while other state buildings (the Kamamalu Building) have been vacant for more than ten years. They also allocated \$45-million to purchase 665 acres of land on the North Shore for preservation purposes. This lack of prudence is even more disappointing because no money was allocated toward the replacement of both of the 20+ year old Zip Mobiles that cataclysmically failed a little more than two months ago.

The chart above shows how money from the general fund has been allocated amongst various state agencies in the budget bill that was just passed, and includes money allocated for state employee salaries and benefits as well as money necessary to meet our obligations toward debt service.

Rep. Har Hosts 2nd Annual Keiki Wellness Day

As your state representative, the wellness of our keiki holds a special place in my heart. Wellness is a broad, all-encompassing topic that goes beyond just nutrition or basic health, but overall well-being. A child can be medically healthy, but he or she is not well if they are being bullied or unnecessarily exposed to dangers in the home. While we all have the best of intentions for our



Above: Rep. Har with volunteers from the Queen’s Medical Injury Prevention Unit.

keiki, being the absolute best parent is often difficult due to time limitations, or the disparate location of available resources.

Having all of the resources available to parents and families right here in Kapolei makes sense as West Oahu has the highest demographic of children. As our event was so successful last year, we moved to a larger venue on the Kapolei High School football field. In addition, we partnered with E Ola Pono Ma Kapolei (Coalition for Drug Free Hawaii) with their Pono Fun Run, and Kapolei High and Middle Schools. At our second annual event, over 35 vendors provided resourceful information to parents and families. For example, keiki from Kapolei and Makakilo were fitted with free protective helmets by the Queen’s Medical Injury Prevention Unit to protect against traumatic brain injuries. Also, hundreds of keiki received identification cards in the event they are missing or kidnapped. Children were given free dental screenings, free sunglasses, and were taught proper nutrition and even fire safety.

The sense of community spirit and initiative in Kapolei and Makakilo is an exceptional source of pride for me as your state representative – so it was an honor for my staff and me to organize this event. Kapolei Keiki Wellness Day would not have been possible without the generosity of our partners: Kapolei High School, Meadow Gold Dairies, Service Printers, Hawaiian Electric Co., McDonald’s of Hawaii, the Honolulu Star-Advertiser and our 35 other participant stakeholders.



Above: Rep Har attends a site visit with Principal Laureen Dunn and project manager Damon Gray of Kapolei's newest LEED certified school serving grades Pre-K through 5.

Ho'okele Elementary School to Open on July 29

As a former member of the House Finance Committee, I am proud to have secured funding for our newest elementary school, Ho'okele Elementary, which will open on July 29, 2015. Ho'okele is a 21st century school and the name conveys the idea of navigating 21st-century learning. As a result of Ho'okele opening, Kapolei Elementary will no longer be a multi-track school but will move to a single-track schedule permanently.



Bottom left: Rep. Har presented a certificate of recognition to friend and Makakilo resident Doris Dudley as the founder of the Leeward Musical Festival. **Top Right:** On January 30, 2015, Rep. Har joined preschool keiki at Kama'aina Kids in Kalaeloa to share her love of reading. **Bottom right:** On March 13, 2015, Rep. Har participated in the blessing and grand opening of Kahiwelo Park in Makakilo with (from left to right) Kahu Kordell Kekoa, Mayor Caldwell (center), and representatives from D.R. Horton, who donated the land that the park sits on.



\$136 Million in Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) for the 42nd District	FY 2016	FY 2017
Kapolei Community Development Corporation - Construction of the Kapolei Community Development Corporation Heritage Center Multi-Purpose Facility.	\$500,000	
Rental Housing Trust Fund Infusion - Construction to provide an infusion of funds to finance additional affordable rental housing.	\$40,000,000	
Kapolei Middle School - Planning and design for new bus lanes and drop off zones, ground and site improvements.	\$1,800,000	
Kapolei Middle School - Planning and design for additional parking.	\$100,000	
Makakilo Elementary School - Planning, design and construction for compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).	\$1,045,000	
Rockfall and Flood Mitigation - Planning, design and construction for rockfall and flood mitigation.	\$3,000,000	\$3,000,000
Watershed Initiative - Design and construction for Watershed Initiative funding support for watershed protection, management and administration.	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000
Fuel Pier Facility Improvements - Kalaeloa Barbers Point Harbor - Planning, design and construction for a new fuel pier facility and other related improvements.	\$4,000,000	\$50,000,000
H-1 Freeway - Construction to improve the Makakilo and Pala'ila'i interchanges, and construct a new interchange (Kapolei Interchange).	\$7,000,000	
University of Hawai'i - West O'ahu - Administration and Allied Health Facility - Design, construction and equipment for the Allied Health and Administration Building.	\$24,000,000	