

Community Update

State Representative Linda Ichiyama • Spring 2014

Aloha
Neighbors,

Thank you for
the honor of
serving you
in the State
House of
Representatives.



As the
Legislature reaches the midpoint
of the 2014 Session, I would like
to offer you these "Mid-Session
Highlights" as a guide to the
key bills passed by the House of
Representatives and now being
considered by the Senate.

We continue to discuss ways to
improve these measures and fully
address the diverse issues that are
important to the people of our
State. I encourage you to share
your thoughts with me about
proposed legislation and any other
issues that are of concern to you.
Please feel free to send me an
e-mail at repichiyama@capitol.hawaii.gov or call my office at
586-6220.

I hope these highlights are
informative and useful. I look
forward to hearing from you as we
continue our work this session.

Mahalo nui loa,

Linda Ichiyama

Representative Linda Ichiyama
State Representative
32nd District
Moanalua, Salt Lake & Aliamanu

Raising the Minimum Wage HB2580, HD1

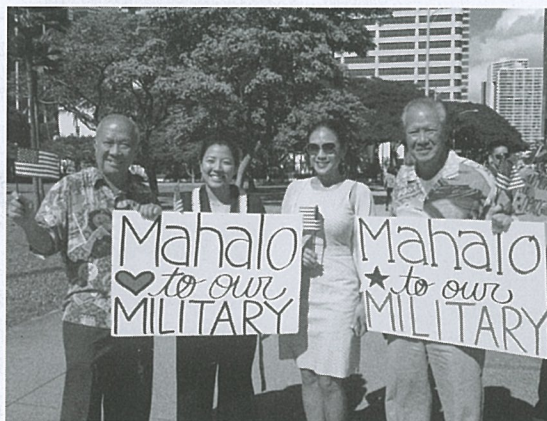
For the last seven years, the minimum wage in Hawaii has remained at \$7.25 per hour, while Hawaii continues to have the highest cost of living in the nation. **HB2580, HD1** increases the minimum wage to further Hawaii's economic recovery and help to lift the State's working poor out of poverty. The proposed increases are as follows: \$7.75 per hour beginning January 1, 2015; \$8.50 per hour beginning January 1, 2016; \$9.25 per hour beginning January 1, 2017; \$10.00 per hour beginning January 1, 2018.

Preventing Invasive Species HB1716

The Legislature finds that the invasion of Hawaii by insects, disease-bearing organisms, snakes, weeds and other pests is the single greatest threat to our economy, natural environment and the health and lifestyle of Hawaii's people. **HB1716** provides funding for the Hawaii Invasive Species Council for invasive species prevention, control, outreach and planning.

Supporting our Kupuna HB1715, HD1 & HB1713

As investment fraud schemes become more sophisticated, we need better tools and programs to fight elder fraud. **HB1715, HD1** addresses this need and appropriates funds for educational outreach to increase financial literacy and help prevent fraud against our kupuna. In addition, to support better long-term care for seniors, **HB1713** appropriates general funds to provide ongoing financial support for healthy aging programs, awareness campaigns and senior services.



Rep. Ichiyama, Speaker Emeritus Calvin Say, Sherry Menor-McNamara (President) and Rep. Gregg Takayama participated in the Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii's sign waving to show appreciation for our military.



Rep. Ichiyama reads to Moanalua Elementary School 4th graders in celebration of Read Across America.

Addressing Homelessness HB1841, HD1

Homelessness continues to be one of the state's primary challenges. **HB1841, HD1** establishes the Hale Kokua Program to provide rent subsidies and other incentives to property owners willing to set aside rooms or separate dwelling units for families or individuals who are employed but homeless.

Hawaii Community Development Authority HB1866, HD2

Although development is important for our economy, we need to make sure it is done responsibly. **HB1866, HD2** will address the current community development concerns in Kakaako, including a new selection process for HCDA board members, further development of guidance policies and legislative oversight of fiscal actions.

R.E.A.C.H. Afterschool Program HB1756, HD1

The R.E.A.C.H. afterschool program provides much needed quality programs for academic enrichment, arts and culture, and athletics in public middle and intermediate schools to keep Hawaii's youth engaged and excited about learning.

Car-sharing in Hawaii HB1894, HD2

Car sharing can significantly reduce vehicle miles traveled, oil imports, greenhouse gas emissions, and household transportation costs for Hawaii residents.



Rep. Ichiyama with her Uncle Henry Lee of the Military Order of the Purple Heart, Chapter 483 at Military and Veterans' Day at the Capitol.



Rep. Ichiyama discusses the benefits of the "Gar-Ball" with 4th graders at the Moanalua Elementary School Invention Convention.

HB1894, HD2 facilitates car-sharing programs in Hawaii by creating a new tax designation specifically for car-sharing programs.

Early Childhood Education HB2276, HD1

HB2276, HD1 establishes a statewide early childhood education program to help build a solid educational foundation for our keiki. The program involves public-private partnerships to enable the State to make the best use of available resources in the public and private sectors so that all of Hawaii's children can benefit.

Hawaii Health Connector HB2529, HD3

In 2011 the State created the Hawaii Health Connector, an online health insurance marketplace, to comply with federal law. **HB2529, HD3** improves the transparency and accountability of the Connector by revising the membership of the Board of Directors, creating stakeholder advisory groups, establishing legislative oversight and providing temporary funding through a sustainability fee to support the operations of the Connector.

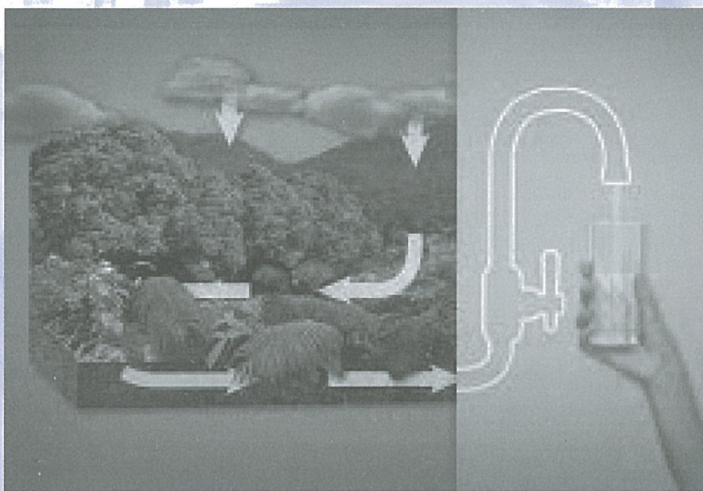
Veterans' Cemeteries HB1564, HD1

By properly maintaining the statewide network of veterans' cemeteries we can continue to honor the memory and the sacrifices made by the men and women of the Armed Forces of the United States. **HB1564, HD1** requires counties to obtain approval from the Office of Veterans' Services prior to any action that may negatively impact the State's ability to fulfill its financial obligation to establish and maintain veterans' cemeteries.

Community Focus:

Where Does My Water Come From?

With the recent fuel leak and lead detection in Red Hill and Pearl Harbor, the vulnerability of our water supply has been brought to the community's attention. Many constituents have inquired about the safety of the water in our area. Results from groundwater tests have shown the water is safe to drink. The Board of Water Supply, the State Department of Health, the Navy and the Environmental Protection Agency are working together to find solutions to ensure the continuous quality and safety of our drinking water.



Why Is Watershed Conservation Important?

Understanding where our water comes from gives us a better appreciation of our most valuable natural resource. The process begins when trade winds move across our islands bringing vital rain to the mountains. Then our forested watersheds collect and absorb that rain and it passes down into underground aquifers, such as Moanalua and Pearl Harbor, where it provides water for our communities.

For thousands of years Hawaii's remote location has been ideal for maintaining the delicate balance of our ecosystems. However, through the years, the introduction of non-native plants and animals have put this balance at risk. Invasive species are threatening the health of our native forests and watersheds.

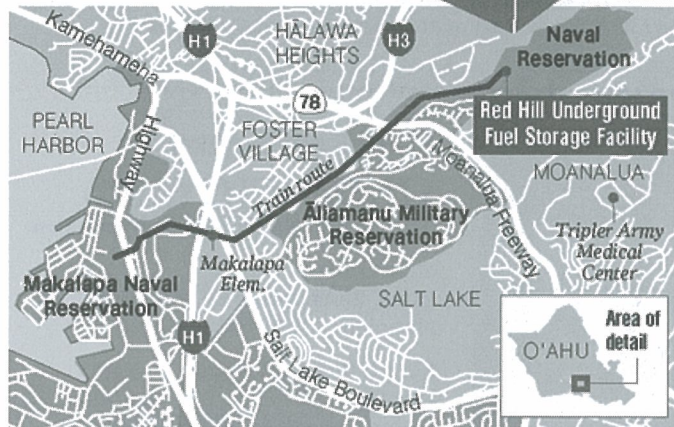
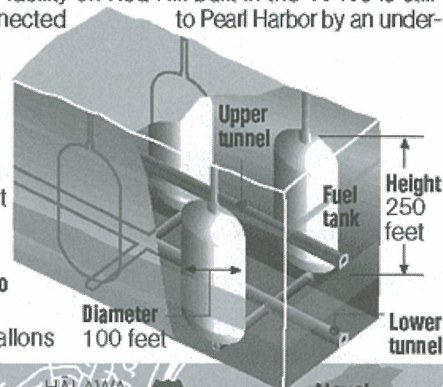
Feral animals like pigs and deer destroy forest vegetation by leaving the ground bare and soils exposed. Without vegetation, rainwater simply runs off without absorbing into the ground and into our

WORLD WAR II-ERA ENGINEERING MARVEL

The underground fuel facility on Red Hill built in the 1940s is still in use today. It is connected to Pearl Harbor by an underground electric train.

STORAGE FACILITY at a glance

Fuel tanks: 20
Depth from surface to top of tank: 110 to 175 feet
Length of tunnels: 7.13 miles
Miles from Pearl Harbor to facility: About 3 miles
Capacity: 252 million gallons



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aquifers. Invasive plants often take over native forests, thereby reducing the efficiency of the forest to catch rainwater. The Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) is actively working to preserve our watersheds, including the area of the Ko'olau rainforest that directly feeds the Moanalua aquifer.

For more information, please visit DLNR's watershed website at:

<http://dlnr.hawaii.gov/ecosystems/wpp/learn/>.

Please join us for refreshments

Town Hall Meeting

Tuesday - April 15, 2014

7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

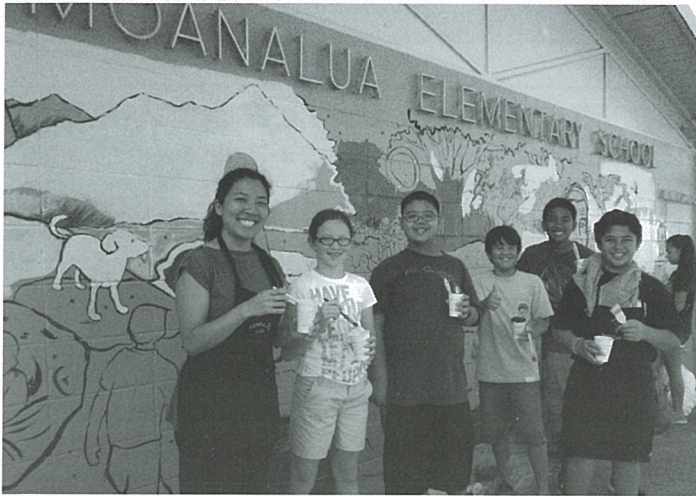
Moanalua Elementary School Cafeteria

with

Representative Linda Ichiyama

Representative Aaron Johanson

Senator Donna Mercado Kim



Rep. Ichiyama helps paint a mural with 6th graders to commemorate the 130th Anniversary of Moanalua Elementary School.



Rep. Ichiyama listens to a Moanalua Middle School student present his homework as part of the Common Core digital curriculum.



State Representative
LINDA ICHIYAMA
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DISTRICT 32 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT REQUESTS

The following projects were requested for the fiscal year 2015 budget.

SALT LAKE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
 Design, construction, and equipment for the renovation of portable P-2 and a restroom facility
 Total Project Cost: **\$400,000**

Interior renovation of classrooms, central air-conditioning, electrical upgrades, and equipment
 Total Project Cost: **\$1,400,000**

MOANALUA MIDDLE SCHOOL
 Air-conditioning expansion in buildings B & F
 Total Project Cost: **\$1,200,000**

New media technology center
 Total Project Cost: **\$5,000,000**

MOANALUA HIGH SCHOOL
 Construction for Performing Arts Center Phase II
 Total Project Cost: **\$29,000,000**

ALIAMANU ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
 Expansion of the library building
 Total Project Cost: **\$5,000,000**

Expansion of the administration building
 Total Project Cost: **\$3,500,000**