



State Representative **BERTRAND KOBAYASHI**

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DISTRICT 19 • Diamond Head, Kahala, Kaimuki, Kapahulu



January 2014

Happy New Year!

Aloha and Happy New Year to you and yours. May the New Year bring peace, joy, hope, and new opportunities to you and your family.

I look forward to the 27th State Legislature opening on Wednesday, January 15, 2014 at the State Capitol. The opening ceremonies in the House Chambers will begin at 10:00 a.m. and the gallery will be open to the public at approximately 9:45 a.m.

It is an honor and a privilege to serve you, and I want to personally thank you for your continued support. Furthermore, I would be honored to personally meet and share views or ideas that may be of interest to you for the 2014 legislative session. Please feel free to contact me or my staff at 586-6310 or repkobayashi@capitol.hawaii.gov if you have any questions or if I can be of any assistance to you. Always remember that the doors of my office are always open to you.



Mahalo nui loa,

Representative Bertrand Kobayashi
District 19
Diamond Head, Kahala, Kaimuki, Kapahulu

Fort Ruger Pathway and Bryan Clay Exercise Park



The Department of Land and Natural Resources announced the opening of the new Fort Ruger Pathway and the Bryan Clay Exercise Park on the slope of Diamond Head State Monument. The project is a collaboration between the Division of State Parks and the community.

The Fort Ruger Pathway is a 1-mile long, 12-foot wide, multi-purpose paved path on the outer slopes of Diamond Head Crater. The route alongside Diamond Head Road provides a safe route for pedestrians, joggers, and those accessing the crater. The pathway is named for the U.S. Army's Fort Ruger that existed within and around the crater from 1906 to the 1950s.

The Bryan Clay Exercise Park was constructed by the Diamond Head State Monument Foundation with a contribution to the community from Clark Hatch. The exercise equipment provides an opportunity to exercise outdoors and promotes physical fitness. This facility honors Bryan Clay, world champion decathlon athlete from Hawaii.



Kalani High School 2013 State Boys Soccer Champions



Liholiho Elementary School Capitol visit



Kaimuki High School Student Reporter Kerwinn Mendoza



Liane Miwa, Ed Thompson and Joni Ekimura

Meet the 2014 Staff of Representative Kobayashi

Please feel free to contact Ed, Liane, or Joni at 586-6310 or e-mail at repkobayashi@capitol.hawaii.gov if they can be of assistance to you.



Governor Submits Supplemental Budget to the 2014 State Legislature

The Hawaii State government has a greatly improved fiscal position with a \$1.1 billion turnaround over three years. Governor Abercrombie aims to gradually build budget reserves of 10% of general fund revenues with a proposed 5.6% target for fiscal year 2015.

The following are some of the other budget provisions highlighted by the Governor:

Support for Seniors

- More than \$4.5 million requested for programs that support older residents, of which \$4.2 million is proposed for the Kupuna Care program and \$427,937 for Adult Disability Resource Centers

Investments in Hawaii's Children

- More than \$5.4 million additional for early learning and development initiatives. Approximately \$4.4 million of that would aid the Executive Office on Early Learning in working with the Hawaii Department of Education (DOE) to establish prekindergarten classes on DOE campuses, and \$1 million would fund Family-Child Interaction Learning (FCIL) programs for family engagement for four-year-olds.
- \$2.5 million more proposed for Preschool Open Doors. The new voluntary program administered by the state Department of Human Services enhances access to school readiness services for 4-year-old children, with priority extended to underserved or at-risk keiki and those who are not eligible to attend public school kindergarten in the school year they turn 5 because their birth date occurs after the kindergarten eligibility date.

Environmental Preservation

- An additional \$40 million for conservation purposes at Turtle Bay, as proposed by the Turtle Bay working group. The working group was established by Senate Concurrent Resolution (SCR164) during the 2013 legislative session and tasked with developing a conservation action plan to explore and identify conservation alternatives for the undeveloped portions of the Turtle Bay property and surrounding lands with conservation or historic value.

Other Investments

- \$1.5 million requested for the Housing First program to assist the most vulnerable of Hawaii's homeless.
- Ten positions and \$1 million to expand Healthcare Transformation initiatives.
- Restoration of eight positions and an additional \$188,269 for the Hawaii Department of Agriculture for the department's pesticides program.
- \$3.1 million for Lt. Governor Shan Tsutsui's R.E.A.C.H. Initiative for afterschool programs for middle and intermediate afterschool programs.
- Approximately \$33.5 million to the University of Hawaii, whose Board of Regents committed a portion of such funds to issuance of revenue bonds for addressing much needed repair and maintenance projects. This amount represents collectively bargained salaries for the University of Hawaii Professional Assembly salaries. But, instead of paying for the salaries out of the tuition special fund, which only affects tuition rates, the funds will free up resources so that the tuition fund remains stable and assists UH's repair and maintenance \$400 million backlog.



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RECOGNIZING DISTRICT 19 SCHOOLS



Waikiki Elementary School Named 2013 National Blue Ribbon School — Waikiki Elementary School was named one of 286 schools nationally recognized under the National Blue Ribbon Schools Program. The prestigious award honors public and private elementary, middle and high schools where students perform at very high levels or where significant improvements are being made in students' levels of achievement.

Liholiho Elementary Awarded \$75,000 for Highest Performance — The Hawaii Department of Education rewarded Liholiho Elementary with \$75,000 as part of the state's new Strive HI Performance System. Strive HI, the state's redesigned school accountability and performance system, measures key success indicators and provides rewards to "Recognition" schools — those demonstrating the highest progress toward raising student achievement, graduation rates, and closing the achievement gap. Award funds support initiatives to sustain success such as professional development, investments in technology, musical instruments, science lab and equipment, among other improvement strategies.

Kaimuki Middle Vice-Principal CeliaAnn Main-Anakalea named Hawaii's MetLife/National Association of Secondary School Principal of the Year — Kaimuki Middle Vice Principal CeliaAnn Main-Anakalea was selected as one of three Hawaii school administrators named as Hawaii's MetLife/National Association of Secondary School Principals of the Year. Winners are selected based on excellence in the areas of professional growth, collaborative leadership, advancements in curriculum, instruction and assessment, and personalization of learning. Main Anakalea has been with Kaimuki Middle for seven years and has worked in Hawaii's education system for twenty years.

Waikiki Elementary Teacher Matthew Lawrence Named Hawaii's 2014 Teacher of the Year — Hawaii's 2014 State Teacher of the Year is a 12-year veteran educator who inspires his students through creative hands-on projects. Lawrence was selected from among 11,000 educators within the State Department of Education and was among seven District Teachers of the Year recognized. A National Board Certified Teacher, Lawrence earned a bachelor's degree in Elementary Education with Middle School Endorsement from the University of Illinois, and a master's degree in Education Psychology from the University of Hawaii at Manoa.