

## BERTRAND KOBAYASHI STATE REPRESENTATIVE

DISTRICT 19 – DIAMOND HEAD, KAHALA, KAIMUKI, KAPAHULU



State Capitol • 415 S. Beretania Street, Room 403 • Honolulu, HI 96813

Aloha Neighbors,

The Hawaii State Legislature adjourned this year on Thursday, May 5, 2016. This session I continued to serve as Vice-Chair of the House Human Services Committee and was also a member of the Health, Housing, and Finance Committees.

I want to share with you the accomplishments of the 2016 State Legislature. Please review the included highlights of the 2016 Legislative Session and brief descriptions of some significant measures that passed.

Being accessible and responsive to you remains my top priority. Please know that I recognize the privilege to serve my community to the best of my ability.

If I can be of any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me at 586-6310 or repkobayashi@capitol.hawaii.gov.

Mahalo nui loa,

Best Kgodi

Representative Bertrand Kobayashi

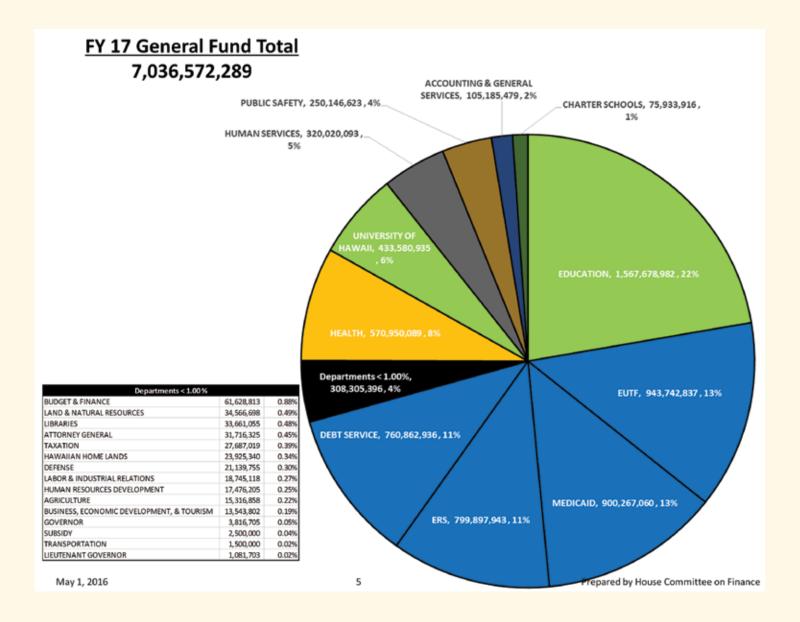
District 19 Diamond Head, Kahala, Kaimuki, Kapahulu Liholiho Elementary School students (Rep. Kobayashi's alma mater), pay a visit to the representative at the State Capitol.



Representative Kobayashi stands with 2016 University of Hawaii — Manoa, Department of Political Science intern, Jessi Cadorna.



Representative Kobayashi confers with representatives Creagan and Morikawa on the House floor.



### HB1700 The State Budget Bill

The state budget bill appropriates funds for the operating and capital improvement costs of the Executive Branch for the supplemental year of the current biennium and will go to Governor David Ige for his signature.

The bill appropriates approximately \$13.7 billion in general funds for FY2017, including more than \$1.1 billion for capital improvement projects (CIP) funded by general obligation bonds and approximately \$2.5 billion for CIP funded by all other means of financing.

In crafting the budget, lawmakers provided funds for affordable housing, the state Department of Hawaiian Home Lands, Wahiawa General Hospital, Hawaii State Hospital, and to pay down unfunded liabilities for state retiree post-employment benefits.

Governor Ige will have 45 days after the end of the legislative session to consider which bills become law. (The computation of the 45 day period excludes Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays. In this instance, three state designated holidays — Memorial Day, Kamehameha Day, and Independence Day day period.) The 45th day after adjournment (May 5, 2016) is Tuesday, July 12, 2016. The Governor's 10 day notification of intent to veto is Monday, June 27, 2016.



#### **BIG WINNERS OF 2016 LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

- 1) \$100 million for DOE school air conditioning, heat abatement, and energy efficiency
- 2) \$150 million "rainy" day emergency fund
- 3) \$12 million for homeless services
- 4) \$91 million for affordable rental housing
- 5) \$160 million for new mental health building at Kaneohe State Hospital
- 6) \$82 million for pre-payment for health insurance unfunded obligation

#### OTHER WINNERS OF THE 2016 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

<u>SB2833 SD2 HD2 CD1</u>, which increases funding for affordable rental housing development by making the State Low-Income Housing Tax Credit more valuable. Reduces state tax credit period from 10 to five years.

<u>SB2566 SD1 HD1 CD1</u>, which provides capital for the development of affordable rental housing by transferring excess monies from the rental assistance revolving fund to the rental housing revolving fund.

<u>SB2384 SD1 HD1 CD1</u>, which requires the Department of Health to conduct unannounced visits and inspections, including inspections for relicensing and recertification, for certain state-licensed or state-certified care facilities, and unannounced inspections for license renewals for medical marijuana production centers and dispensaries.

<u>HB2252 HD1 SD2 CD1</u>, which requires hospitals to adopt and maintain written discharge policies consistent with recent updates to federal regulations to support families by enabling patients in in-patient hospitals to designate a caregiver prior to discharge from the facility, and allow the patient and the patient's caregiver to participate in the discharge planning.

<u>HB1689 HD2 SD2 CD1</u>, which establishes an organic foods production tax credit, making Hawaii one of the first state in the nation to do so, applicable to taxable years beginning after 12/31/2016. Sunsets 12/31/2021.

<u>SB2659 SD2 HD1 CD1</u>, which establishes an Industrial Hemp Pilot Program to allow the cultivation of industrial hemp and distribution of its seed in Hawaii through limited activities by licensee-agents of the Board of Agriculture for purposes of agricultural or academic research.

<u>HB2049 HD2 SD2 CD1</u>, which establishes the roads commission to make recommendations on the ownership of private roads. Adds roads, alleys, streets, ways, lanes, bikeways, and bridges to the list of public highways or public trails that can be dedicated or condemned.

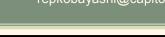
<u>HB1736 HD1 SD2</u>, which renames the Kona International Airport at Keahole as the Ellison Onizuka Kona International Airport at Keahole.

SB2987 SD2 HD2 CD1, which extends the annual \$103 million allocation of Transient Accommodations Tax (TAT) revenues to the counties for fiscal year 2016-2017.



Representative Bertrand Kobayashi House of Representatives State of Hawaii 415 S. Beretania Street Room 403 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Contact Bert at : Phone: 586-6310 repkobayashi@capitol.hawaii.gov





#### **Zika Virus**

Zika is a disease caused by the Zika virus, which is spread to people primarily by Aedes species mosquitos (the same mosquitos that spread chikungunya and dengue fever). In some cases it can also be transmitted through blood transfusions, through sexual contact, or from a pregnant mother to her baby. Only about 1 in 5 people infected with Zika virus are symptomatic, with the most common symptoms being rash, joint pain and red eyes (conjunctivitis). Other common symptoms include muscle pain and headaches. The symptoms are usually mild and last for approximately several days to a week. There is no specific treatment for Zika, and there is no vaccine currently available. Before 2015, outbreaks of Zika were reported in areas of Africa, Southeast Asia, and the Pacific Islands. In 2015, outbreaks of Zika in Brazil and other countries in that region were reported and are currently ongoing. Outbreaks have also been reported in the Pacific Islands. To date, there have been no cases of locally-acquired Zika infections in Hawaii.

# Funding for District 19 Improvement Projects (Fiscal Biennium 2017)

Kapiolani Community College\$ 1  Design, construct the Kokio building; Construct the Naio building roof	,400,000
Kaimuki High School\$	750.000
Replace auditorium seating; air conditioning for classrooms in Buildings A & J; ground & site improvements; equipment and appurtenances	
Waikiki Elementary School	250,000
Concrete Repairs	
Hawaii Film Studio, Diamond Head\$	800,000
Various site improvements	
Diamond Head Health Center\$ 4	1,366,000
Improvements to include water damage, paved and landscaped areas, and air conditioning system	
Fort Ruger Site Facility Improvements\$ 1	,200,000
Improvements to retrofit buildings to resist hurricane force winds, air conditioning,	
new emergency generator, and associated improvements, Dept. of Defense	
Diamond Head Crater Tunnel Repair	838,000
Repairs to existing cement shot-crete finish adjacent to mule tunnels and vehicle tunnel entrances,	
Dept. of Defense	
Birkhimer Emergency Operating Center (EOC),	1,282,000
Roads and Parking Lots, Diamond Head	
Phase III of infrastructure improvements to the tunnel and support. Roads and parking lots improvements	
Total \$10	0,836,000