



REPRESENTATIVE
DeeMORIKAWA
 District 16 * Niihau, Lehua, Koloa, Waimea



Hawaii State Capitol
 415 S. Bertetania Street • Room 442
 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Office: (808) 586-6280 Toll Free: 274-3141, ext. 66280
 Email: repmorikawa@capitol.hawaii.gov

In 2004, Representatives Scott K. Saiki and Sylvia J. Luke were part of leadership team who wanted to change the way things had always been done. They believed that their generation and those that followed deserved a strong and effective Legislature that would truly work for the public's interest.

Today, as Speaker of the House and Finance Committee Chair, they are doing just that. It took many years for them to assemble a group of legislators who recognized that they were, above all, elected to serve the general public, and that it wasn't too late to bring about real reform. I want to share some of their thoughts that were reported in the Honolulu Star-Bulletin on December 31, 2006.

- Increase ethical standards. The House needs to prevent self-dealing, which results in bad legislation and policy decisions. We must set higher standards and learn to enforce them – even against our colleagues.
- Approve immediate tax relief for working people. Programs such as the earned income tax credit can provide more than \$20 million annual tax relief for thousands of working families in Hawai'i. The federal government and 20 other states already have adopted the EITC, Hawai'i should provide this and other tax relief to our residents.
- Pass an aggressive renewable energy agenda. In recent years, the House has watered down bold proposals to reduce our reliance on oil. We can no longer afford to do this.

We must set a comprehensive plan to reduce our dependence on oil and its effect on other facets of our economy. We cannot continue to prolong action if we are to become more self-sufficient.

Today, I am proud to be a part of this legislative leadership team, serving as the Majority Floor Leader. I can see clearly where we are going and the work that still needs to be done. There is no way that we can ever please everyone, but I want to ensure you that our decisions and the policy we develop are in the public's interest.

I am also very proud of the work we have accomplished this session under this new leadership team, I am proud to be your Representative, and I am especially proud of the people of Kaua'i. You give me the strength, the courage and the motivation to do this job to the best of my ability.

This newsletter gives you a summary of the many legislative accomplishments for District 16, for our island, and for our State. Thank you all for the encouragement and support you always give me.

Mahalo,



2018 SESSION RECAP

At the beginning of the 2018 Legislative Session, leadership in the House of Representatives said their top priorities included funding for affordable housing and homeless support. The House today fulfilled that mandate and approved bills covering a wide range of issues including disaster relief, domestic violence, family leave, and the environment. Following the disastrous flooding on Kaua'i and in Waimanalo and East O'ahu, the Legislature moved quickly to provide an immediate infusion of cash that need not wait for a damage assessment. A total of \$125 million will be provided to support those stricken communities.

One of the toughest issues facing lawmakers this session was providing affordable housing. The Legislature approved a comprehensive plan to provide \$570 million to develop 25,000 rental units by the year 2030 for working and low-income families having trouble affording and finding a place to live.

To take serious steps in addressing Hawai'i's homeless crisis, the Legislature is providing \$50 million to create solutions that are both flexible and forward thinking. About \$37.4 million will be used to develop 'Ohana Zones statewide and provide much needed medical services for the homeless population. An additional \$15 million is in the state budget to provide services to the homeless.

Lawmakers made history again and passed the first measure in the nation to ban the pesticide chlorpyrifos and to restrict the use of certain pesticides within 100 feet of schools.

Another landmark bill passed this session was the Our Care, Our Choice Act. This measure allows qualified patients with a medically confirmed terminal illness with less than six months to live to determine their own medical care at the end of the lives. Several other states have similar laws, but Hawai'i's bill provides the most rigorous safeguards of any state.



The Leadership of the House of Representatives – Left to Right: House Speaker Scott K. Saiki, Vice Speaker Mark M. Nakashima, Majority Leader Della Au Belatti, and Majority Floor Leader Dee Morikawa.



Always a pleasure to see the Kaua'i Developmental Disabilities group doing advocacy work at the State Capitol on their annual legislative visit!

The State Budget – HB 1900, HD1, SD2 CD1

Each year, the Legislature is tasked with working on the State Budget. It is a very difficult task to undertake, as each state department requires funding to carry out their operations and responsibilities. In addition, infrastructure maintenance to schools, public facilities, highways and new housing developments are major issues that the state budget must address. My commitment to working toward a better quality of life for the residents on Kaua'i has always remained in the forefront of my duties as a legislator. Below are Capital Improvement Projects (CIPs) approved by the 2018 Legislature highlighting the 16th District only.

District 16 Capital Improvement Projects approved by the 2018 Legislature

- Kekaha Ditch Irrigation System Modification** **FY18-19 \$3,600,000**
Plans, design, construction, and equipment for modification to the Kekaha Ditch Irrigation System.
- Waimea River Mouth Sand Relocation** **FY18-19 \$1,000,000**
Construction for clearing the Waimea River Mouth; ground and site improvements.
- Kikiaola Small Boat Harbor** **FY18-19 \$2,000,000**
Design and construction for ground and site improvements.
- Waimea Canyon Middle School** **FY18-19 \$1,100,000**
Design and construction for Building R, air conditioning and photovoltaic panels/battery storage wall for makerspace project; ground and site improvements; equipment and appurtenances.
- Waimea High School - Library Renovation, Technology Center, FY18-19 \$500,000**
- Multi Media and Multi-Purpose Library Facility Upgrade**
Construction and equipment for upgrades to the library renovation, technology center, multi-media and multi-purpose library facility upgrade.



So wonderful to see these hardworking Kaua'i gentlemen visit the office – Left to Right: HGEA Kaua'i Division Chief Gerald Ako, Kaua'i Lifeguard Association President Dr. Monty Downs, and County of Kaua'i's Operation Lifeguard Chief Kalani Vierra.

Waimea High School - New Gymnasium and Sports Facilities FY18-19
\$2,000,000
 Plans and design for a new gymnasium and sports facilities improvements

Other notable Kaua'i CIP's approved in HB 1900, HD1 SD2, CD1 for the Island of Kaua'i

Guardrail and Shoulder Improvements on State Highways FY 18-19
\$2,500,000
 Construction for installing and/or upgrading of guardrails, end terminals, transitions, bridge railings, bridge endposts, and crash attenuators, and reconstructing and paving of shoulders.

Radio Repeater and Base Station Communication Upgrades FY 18-19
\$250,000
 Equipment for upgrade of three (3) radio repeaters and DOFAW'S Baseyard Communications Base Station.

2018 Grant-In-Aid Approved Requests

Grant-In-Aid (GIA) as defined in §42F-101 of the Hawai'i Revised Statutes means "an award of state funds by the legislature, by an appropriation to a specified recipient, to support the activities of the recipient and permit the community to benefit from those activities." Below are GIA's that were awarded to organizations for the benefit of District 16 and all Kaua'i's communities.

Friends of King Kaumuali'i **\$220,000**
 Completion & installation of a life size statue of King Kaumuali'i at P 'ula'ula/ Russian Fort, Waimea, Kaua'i.

The Storybook Theatre of Hawai'i **\$50,000**
 Preserve the historic Sun Ke Heong building through necessary repairs to enable Storybook Theatre to continue producing high quality children's programming in a building that is safe and inviting.

Kaua'i Philippine Cultural Center **\$500,000**
 Plans, land, design construction, and equipment for the center.

Kaua'i Habitat for Humanity, Inc. **\$150,000**
 Construction for affordable housing for low-income families on Kaua'i.

Kaua'i Economic Opportunity **\$500,000**
 Funding for existing KEO services.

Kaua'i Planning & Action Alliance, Inc. **\$100,000**
 Funding for the Keiki to Career Initiative.



Photograph opportunity with my colleagues on Opening Day of the 29th Legislature – Left to Right: Judiciary Chair Scott Nishimoto, Majority Leader Della Au Belatti, Representative Nadine Nakamura, Representative Bert Kobayashi, and Representative Richard Onishi.

2018 Session Highlights – Bills Introduced by Rep. Morikawa

The measures below provide a snapshot of bills that have passed the legislature. In order for a bill to pass out of the Legislature, it must be approved by both the Senate and the House. While numerous bills have passed, the measures introduced listed below are consistent with issues I have been advocating and what I believe is important to my district, all of Kaua'i, and everyone in this state. If you are interested in learning more about the many other bills that have passed this session, please feel free to contact my office.

HB 1971 HD2 SD1 – Relating to the Issuance of Special Purpose Revenue Bonds to Kunoa Cattle Company, LLC (Rep. Morikawa as First-Primary Introducer)

Authorizes the issuance of special purpose revenue bonds to assist Kunoa Cattle Company, LLC, to fund the construction of a multi-species livestock farm, expansion of the slaughter and processing infrastructure, development of distribution assets and agritourism services, and expansion of renewable energy assets.

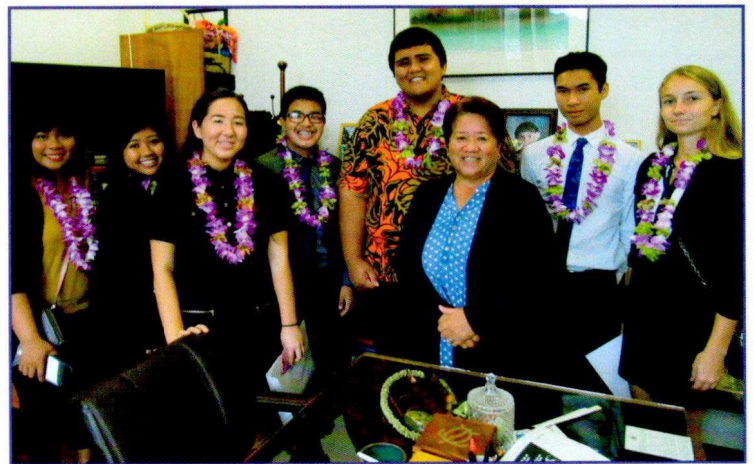
HB 2133 HD1 SD1 – Relating to Police Departments (Rep. Morikawa as First Primary Introducer)

Specifies that citizen administrative complaints against a police officer that involve allegations of domestic abuse by the police officer against a family or household member shall not be required to be filed as a notarized or sworn written statement.

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Na keiki are the future of Hawai'i and their visits to the State Capitol exemplify the care, compassion, and responsibilities they must undertake for the building of their futures. It is heartwarming to see their engagement with political issues and their visits to the State Capitol are a great starting point to learn advocacy.



Session Highlights continued

HR 60 - REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE TO ESTABLISH A KAUA'I INVASIVE SPECIES TASK FORCE TO STUDY THE ISSUES OF INVASIVE ANIMALS IN KAUA'I (Rep. Morikawa as First-Primary Introducer)
HB 2748 HD2 SD2 CD1 - Relating to Housing (Rep. Morikawa as Primary Introducer)

Provides a total of \$570 million which will generate more than 25,000 affordable units by the year 2030. This will fulfill the goal of 22,500 affordable rental housing units set by the Legislature in 2016 via Act 127, Session Laws of Hawai'i 2016.

HB 2081 HD1 SD2 CD1 - Relating to the Rose-Ringed Parakeet (Rep. Morikawa as Primary Introducer)

Appropriates funds to the Department of Land and Natural Resources to provide assistance and supplemental funding to the National Wildlife Research Center of the U.S. Department of Agriculture to conduct pilot field studies to evaluate control tools, develop a control plan, and support other efforts to reduce the rose-ringed parakeet population on Kaua'i.

HB 2410 HD1 SD1 - Relating to Intoxicating Liquor (Rep. Morikawa as Primary Introducer)

Permits brewpub and small craft producer pub licensees to allow minors, who are accompanied by a parent or legal guardian of legal drinking age, on the licensee's premises.

HB 1602 HD2 SD1 CD1 - Relating to Opioids (Rep. Morikawa as Primary Introducer)

Requires the inclusion of a label warning of the risks of addiction and death on the packaging of any opioid drug dispensed by a health care professional or pharmacist.

HB 1614 HD1 SD1 CD1 - Relating to Automatic Restraining Orders (Rep. Morikawa as Primary Introducer)

Automatically imposes a restraining order upon parties filing for annulment, divorce, or separation to preserve the financial assets of the parties and their dependents and maintain the current island of residence and school of enrollment of a minor child of the parties.

HB 2131 HD1 SD2 CD1 - Relating to Sexual Assault (Rep. Morikawa as Primary Introducer)

Creates a Hawai'i Sexual Assault Response and Training Program to address the manner in which sexual assault evidence collection kits are processed and tracked, and to ensure that victims of sexual assault are informed of their rights under the law. Requires annual reports by the Attorney General to the President of the Senate and Speaker of the House. Appropriates funds.

HB 2507 HD2 SD1 - Relating to Preschools (Rep. Morikawa as Primary Introducer)

Makes housekeeping amendments to remove preschools from the Superintendent's scope of authority and to clarify that the Executive Office on Early Learning Director may authorize preschool personnel access to a student's immunization registry information. Requires the DOE to administer special education and Title I funded programs at the prekindergarten level.

Other Notable Bills

HB 2097 HD1 SD2 CD1 - Relating to Lifeguards

Requires the Attorney General to defend any civil action or proceeding against a county and any person employed by the county to provide lifeguard services at a designated state beach park under an agreement between the State and the county. Appropriates funds to the Department of Land and Natural Resources to contract with the counties for county lifeguard services at designated state beach parks under an agreement between the State and a county.



Representative
Dee Morikawa
Hawaii State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Room 442
Honolulu, HI 96813

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CONTACT US

Office: (808) 586-6280 Toll Free: 274-3141, ext. 66280
E-mail: repmorikawa@capitol.hawaii.gov
Mail: Hawaii State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street, Room 442
Honolulu, HI 96813

HB 2442 HD2 SD2 CD1 - Relating to Abandoned Vehicles

Requires the counties to take into custody any abandoned vehicle on a public road within ten business days. Amends the conditions that constitute a derelict vehicle. Allows, rather than requires, that abandoned vehicles be disposed of by public auction.

HB 1401 HD1 SD1 CD1 - Relating to Elections

Requires a pilot program for the 2020 primary and general elections in any county with a population of less than 100,000 (County of Kaua'i) to be conducted by mail. Establishes a voter service center to provide certain election services. Allows for additional places of deposit for personal delivery of mail-in ballots.

SB 2401 SD2 HD1 CD1 - Relating to Homelessness

Establishes the Ohana Zones Pilot Program, the Emergency Department Homelessness Assessment Pilot Program, and the Medical Respite Pilot Program. Makes appropriations. Under this bill, the governor's administration would be tasked with directing agencies to design, construct and service six centers — three on Oahu and one each on Maui, Kauai and the Big Island. The administration must also identify the public land that would be suitable for the zones.

SB 2087 SD2 HD2 CD1 - Relating to Emergency Rescue Devices

Amends Hawai'i's Good Samaritan Law to provide civil liability exemption for persons who in good faith, without remuneration or expectation of remuneration, attempt to rescue a person with a rescue tube and for owners and operators of any premises, property, or facility that is adjacent to navigable waters, where rescue tubes are located.