



MINORITY FLOOR LEADER

JANUARY 2012

Representative Kymberly Pine

THE 2012 LEGISLATIVE SESSION HAS ARRIVED

Aloha!

It's an exciting time now that the 2012 legislative session is here and I am working on several issues that are important in our community for you.

With the recent closure of the Hawaii Medical Center in 'Ewa Beach, having another hospital and emergency room in the area is one of my top priorities. I'm also looking forward to continuing to do all I can to support small businesses, the economy and our future. A few of the projects coming up this year include the Second Annual Emergency Preparedness Fair, protecting Hawaii residents from cyber crime, and a community garden.

Other issues near and dear to my heart are education, child safety, elder abuse, child safety, veterans' rights and traffic mitigation. Please share your thoughts with me on what you would like to see happen in our state. Together we have accomplished some great things and we will continue to do so again this year.

I'd love to hear your thoughts on what you would like to see happen this legislative session. I am thrilled to be starting the New Year and I want to partner with you on the issues that you feel are vital. Please give my office a call at 586-9730 or email me at reppine@capitol.hawaii.gov with any questions or concerns.

Here's to a great 2012!



Kymberly Marcos Pine

Contact Information:

415 S. Beretania St.
Hawai'i State Capitol, Rm. 333

www.capitol.hawaii.gov

→House →Members →Pine

reppine@capitol.hawaii.gov

Phone: (808) 586-9730

Fax: (808) 586-9738

Committees:

Economic Revitalization
and Business
Housing
Health
Human Services
Hawaiian Affairs
Culture and the Arts



Scanning this QR code on your smart phone will take you directly to Rep. Pine's legislative website.

CLOSING OF HAWAII MEDICAL CENTER

The community is looking out for one another in this time of crisis with the closure of the Hawaii Medical Center. Other hospitals, the private sector, the State and the City are doing all it can to help the Leeward Coast to be sure it can assist those who need it. Additional ambulances, alternate facilities, are a few of the solutions for now.



HAWAII MEDICAL CENTER



NEW YEAR, NEW LAWS

Here's an update on some of the new laws that started on January 1, 2012:

State Laws

- The time period to file an application for an appeal with the Hawaii Supreme Court will be shortened from 90 days to 30 days after issuance of a decision by the Intermediate Court of Appeals. A 30-day extension may be allowed.
- First and second deputy sheriffs will become civil servants.
- Employers will be prohibited from discriminating against victims of domestic violence and required to make reasonable accommodations.
- Civil union law will go into effect, recognizing the legal relationship of a civil union and providing the same benefits as marriage to partners in a civil union.

- Courts will be allowed to permit certain anonymous legal filings to protect the privacy of the petitioner.
- Court surcharges will be raised to increase monies for the indigent legal assistance fund. Certain filings in circuit and appellate courts, currently \$25, will increase by \$25. Certain filings in district court, currently \$10, will increase by \$15.
- Additional training requirements will be necessary for those involved in selling life insurance. Those selling life insurance will not be allowed to market senior-specific products if they have not been properly certified and designated to do so.

Federal Laws

- Consumers will not be able to purchase the traditional 100-watt incandescent light bulb. Rather all light bulbs sold must be 30 percent more efficient than the traditional 100-watt bulb. This Energy Department rule started Jan. 1 and enforcement funds start later.

BOLSTERING THE COMMUNITY



Rep. Pine is a long-time supporter of job creation through the military for our local residents. The Navy is hiring 60 civilians for security guards. Applications are online at USAJOBS.gov. She also attended the 11th annual Hawaii Military Partnership Conference coordinated by the Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii.

SUPPORTING VETERAN BUSINESSES

Rep. Pine and her colleagues will introduce a bill to compel the State do at least three percent of its business with Hawaii-based veteran-owned businesses. Many veterans showed their support of the bill at a news conference on January 10.



LOOKING FORWARD TO A GREAT 2012!



Aloha! It's a New Year, a time for reflection and renewal. It's also a time for us all to reevaluate where we stand today and to begin new endeavors. Whether it is pledging to live more healthily, explore a different career, or spend more time with family, the New Year brings an opportunity to grow and evolve. What do you want for your own life and family in 2012? What would you like to see happen at the State Capitol and in your own neighborhood?

We accomplished a great deal working together last year. Our community came together to get prepared for natural and man-made disasters by organizing the largest preparedness event in state history. We championed veterans' rights to respect and honor their service. And especially in this tough economic time, I was proud to support legislation to create jobs, help small business owners and employees and decrease the exorbitant cost of living in Hawaii. In addition to improving our hurting economy, I have many plans for 2012.

Many residents have expressed the importance of protecting the people and businesses of Hawaii from the growing threat of crimes committed via the Internet. We learned last year that our laws have not kept pace with the adeptness of criminals in this arena.

To address those concerns, we must work to strengthen computer fraud laws to make them as strong as identity theft statutes, increase penalties for unauthorized computer access use, require local and out-of-state internet service providers to comply with Hawaii law enforcement and explore the idea of licensing web designers.

The New Year will also bring many exciting things for the Leeward Coast. The Ewa Emergency Preparedness Committee is continuing plans to engage and prepare our community for natural and manmade disasters this September with the 2nd Annual Emergency Preparedness Fair. I'll continue to partner with schools to ensure that our keiki and their families are well prepared for emergency situations. I'm also enthusiastic to start a community garden project, because as you know, local gardening and farming stimulate our economy, provide jobs for our neighbors and improve the health and well being of our families.

As always, I promise to listen intently to your needs and partner with you to make our community an

even better place to live, both on the Leeward Coast and by representing you in the Legislature.

Please continue to send in your suggestions and ideas because those are what improve life for people close to home and across the state.

Mahalo nui loa for all of the work you did for the Leeward Coast in 2011. I very much look forward to working with you in the New Year.

STATE FUNDS STATUS

Gov. Abercrombie's budget allocated \$16.4 million from the state's fiscal 2013 budget for the completion of 'Ewa Makai Middle School.

Meanwhile, Gov. Abercrombie presented his budget to the public stating that no new taxes would be needed this year due to the expected 14.5 percent increase in state revenues predicted. The Council on Revenues has a lower prediction of 11.5 percent. Abercrombie's budget director says they still do not need to cut spending or add new taxes. Rep. Pine and her colleagues will be looking for ways to ensure that the state remains fiscally responsible. Contact Rep. Pine with your suggestions at 586-9730.

“REP. PINE’S INBOX”



Representative Pine’s office receives many phone calls, emails and letters on a daily basis from constituents with questions and concerns about things happening in the community and State Capitol.

To make communicating even easier and more effective, we recently launched “Rep. Pine’s Inbox”, a video series in which Rep. Pine responds to your questions and concerns via email each week.

If you have a question for Rep. Pine or a concern about something in the district, please contact our office. If you are not yet on our mailing list, you can join by calling at 586-9730 or by emailing a request to reppine@capitol.hawaii.gov.

VOLUNTEERS AND INTERNS

We are looking for students, retirees, political science majors, and anyone else interested in volunteering for the Office of State Representative Kymberly Pine. If one prefers to stay in the district, duties such as assisting the Representative at community events and meetings are also appreciated. For Boy Scout and Girl Scout volunteers, earning points by collating and prepping monthly newsletters can be coordinated with staff and done in the district or at the Capitol.

Rep. Pine will continue to execute surveys with residents by email and mail on a regular basis. Assistance from volunteers, whether it be for just a few hours a month or by the week, helps residents stay informed on issues and may offer the Representative direction on votes to be cast.

If you or someone you know is interested in volunteering or interning at Rep. Pine’s office or in her district, please call our office at 586-9730, email reppine@capitol.hawaii.gov or visit Room 333 at the State Capitol. Mahalo!

JOIN REPRESENTATIVE PINE’S EMAIL LIST AND STAY CONNECTED

Throughout the year, Rep. Pine generates surveys to poll the sentiments of her district. To participate in surveys, email a request to be added to the list at:

RepPine@capitol.hawaii.gov

Once you are on the list, you will receive updates on community and legislative events and notices from various state and city departments to help residents navigate through construction zones and other issues of importance. For monthly newsletters, links to videos and messages posting important announcements, visit:

**www.capitol.hawaii.gov
→House →Representatives →Pine.**