

FROM THE OFFICE OF

# SENATOR STANLEY CHANG

East Honolulu Community Newsletter

FEBRUARY 2017

Aloha friends and neighbors,

As we begin the 29th session of the state legislature, I am deeply humbled by the opportunity to serve the people of East Honolulu in the Hawaii State Senate.

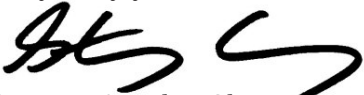
This year, for the first time in our state's history, and for the first time in the nation in more than 30 years, I serve in a legislative body with only one party. That's why it's more important than ever to ensure we represent everyone—by making a special effort to reach out to our constituents, by engaging as many different viewpoints as possible in the legislative process. This is my first pledge as a Senator, and my office has already begun, by mailing a constituent survey to the whole district to solicit feedback on policy and district-related matters.

With respect to policy, there should be no higher matter on the agenda than homelessness. Knocking on 16,000 doors throughout East Honolulu, this top issue for our district was made overwhelmingly clear. Even though East Honolulu may not be one of the traditional hotspots for homelessness, it affects our entire state and every member of our community. We will fight for tangible results in dealing with this issue. That includes an expansion of Housing First and other efforts to house people who need it and mobile clinics to diagnose and treat the homeless with medical issues. As vice chair of the Human Services Committee, this will be my top priority for the session.

I got into public service because I wanted to make a difference in the lives of the average individual like myself and my parents. My parents came to America from China. My father became a professor at the University of Hawaii, and my mother became a teacher at Kalani High School. They were able to put my brother and me through school and give us opportunities that would have been impossible in China. Today, those opportunities are becoming more and more difficult for today's young people. We must fight to ensure that Hawaii remains a great place for every generation—20, 50, 100 years from now.

I look forward to working with people across the spectrum to make our community a better place for us and for future generations. I believe that together we can accomplish great things.

Very truly yours,



Senator Stanley Chang



▶ CALL US

**586-8420**

▶ CONTACT US

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▶ HANDY PHONE NUMBERS

**Pothole Hotline**

768-7777

**Abandoned Vehicles**

733-2530

**Building Permit**

768-5555

**Trash Collection**

768-3200

**Street Light Repair**

768-5300

## IN THE COMMUNITY



### Planting Promise Garden Flowers for Alzheimer's Awareness

► On Jan. 31, 2017, Alzheimer's Advocacy Day, Sen. Chang joined the Alzheimer's Association of Hawaii in planting one of hundreds of purple, paper Promise Garden Flowers at the State Capitol.



### Sen. Chang shares advice and experiences with ASUH, the Student Government at UH Manoa.

► On Nov. 29, 2016, the Senator met with Associated Students of the University of Hawaii members to discuss legislative priorities and how students can get involved in the legislative process.



### Lunar New Year Dinner with the Hawaii Mainland Chinese Overseas Association

► On Jan. 29, 2017, Sen. Chang, along with Rep. Calvin Say and Councilmember Carol Fukunaga, presented certificates to the Hawaii Mainland Chinese Association at a Lunar New Year Function at Empress Restaurant.



### Sen. Chang and guests at Opening Day of the Legislature

► On Jan. 20, 2017, Senator Chang, along with fellow guests, opened the 2017 Legislative Session. This will be the 29th Legislature in our State's history.

# GET INVOLVED



## Filing to run for a seat is easy...

Become an active part of democracy and help strengthen our community. Help our neighborhoods run more smoothly! File to run for a seat on your Neighborhood Board.

- ▶ Apply online or by mail
- ▶ Online form is available at [www.honolulu.gov/nco](http://www.honolulu.gov/nco)
- ▶ Pick up a paper form at the **Neighborhood Commission Office at Kapalama Hale**
- ▶ Deadline to submit voter registration form: **February 17, 2017**
- ▶ Mailed forms must be post-marked by February 17 and received by **February 24, 2017**

### Still have questions?

Contact the Neighborhood Commission Office for assistance. Visit their website, or call the office at:

**(808) 768-3710**



A meeting of the Hawaii Kai Neighborhood Board. Get involved in your Neighborhood Board this year.

## Join Your Neighborhood Board in 2017

Oahu residents can now file to run for a seat on their neighborhood board by applying online at [www2.honolulu.gov/nbe](http://www2.honolulu.gov/nbe) or by completing and submitting a candidate registration form. Printed copies are available at the Neighborhood Commissions Office at Kapalama Hale, 925 Dillingham Boulevard Suite 160 and the Department of Customer Services Public Information Center at the Mission Memorial Building, at 550 South King Street.

Candidate is open to Oahu residents who will be at least 18 years of age by February 17, 2017. The deadline to apply as a candidate is Feb. 17, 2017. Mailed forms must be postmarked by the deadline date and received by February 24, 2017.

Voting begins on April 28, 2017, and ends on May 17, 2017. Elected board members serve a two year term, starting on July 1, 2017. Voters will elect 437 neighborhood board representatives to serve on 33 neighborhood boards.

Oahu Residents who have voted in the 2016 primary or general elections are automatically registered to vote in the 2017 Neighborhood Board Elections.

Other residents, including military personnel and family members, legal resident aliens, and students, who will be at least 18 years of age by February 17, 2017, may register to vote in the Neighborhood Board elections by submitting a neighborhood board voter registration form.

The mission of the Neighborhood Board System is to increase and assure effective citizen participation in the decisions of government. Oahu's Neighborhood Board System is the only government sponsored civic engagement system in the State of Hawaii. While they are advisory, board activities may include study and review of capital improvement projects and zoning concerns. They may also conduct educational programs on governmental decision making processes and establish community goals, objectives, and priorities.

More information about the election and neighborhood boards can be found on the NCO website at [www.honolulu.gov/nco](http://www.honolulu.gov/nco).

## LEGISLATIVE TRACKER



### What are your issues?

In January, we mailed you a questionnaire to survey our community on your top priorities this Legislative session. Please remember to fill out and return your survey as soon as possible. Sen. Chang will use your feedback to inform his decisions as your champion in the Senate.

If you have questions or would like to send feedback directly to our office, please call: **808-586-8420**



### Making the fight to end homelessness a priority this legislative session

After knocking on thousands of doors in 2016, Senator Chang has heard your concerns. That's why, this legislative session, we've made homelessness a top priority. As the Vice-Chair of Human Services in the Hawaii State Senate, Sen. Chang is uniquely positioned to help affect the change you seek. Here are a list of bills relating to homelessness that the Senator has introduced:

- ▶ **SB 158:** Requires Governor to establish puuhonua safe zones where homeless persons may reside.
- ▶ **SB 268:** Appropriates funds to the department of human services to study the impact and feasibility of creating an integrated database of certain information related to homeless individuals for providers of homeless services.
- ▶ **SB 271:** Makes appropriations to DHS, DOH, and DOT to assist with homelessness and housing issues.
- ▶ **SB 347:** Appropriates funds for establishing, staffing, and operating two mobile clinics to serve the homeless population.



### Follow-up on the Kalaniana'ole Water Main Break

On Feb. 6, Sen. Stanley Chang hosted a community town hall regarding the water main break on Kalaniana'ole Highway Jan. 21 – 25, which disrupted many of our daily commutes. The Board of Water Supply, Honolulu Police Department, City Department of Transportation Services, State Department of Transportation, and the City Department of Facility Maintenance have agreed to hear the concerns of our residents, so please send our office your concerns, solutions, and opinions on how to better handle a similar situation in the future.

Please contact our office at **808-586-8420** with your feedback.



From the Office of  
**Sen. Stanley Chang**

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