



# Hawaii State Senator Bennette E. Misalucha

Pearl City | Momilani | Pearl Ridge | Aiea | Royal Summit |  
Aiea Heights | Newtown | Waimalu | Halawa | Pearl Harbor



## Aiea Neighborhood Board Legislative Report | April 2021

Dear Neighbors and Friends,

Aloha mai kakou.

As the legislative season continues at a brisk pace with deadlines upon deadlines, we are now less than three weeks away from the end of session. We hit many key milestones including bills having crossed over last month, which will now go through second crossover this Thursday. I have introduced 15 resolutions that tackle various issues, which you can see on page 2 of my report. Last week, the Senate passed the state budget bill, HB 200, which will now go to conference committee to work out any differences.

In March, we announced a call for nominations for the inaugural Aiea and Pearl City Community Heroes Award contest that generated many entries. The grassroots organization Kanu Hawaii has been busy reviewing each nomination. I cannot wait to share the news with you on who the winner for our Aiea community will be. It will be announced in conjunction with Volunteer Week Hawaii from April 18 to 24, 2021.

As this year's legislative session comes to a close, do not hesitate to contact me should you want to comment on issues or express concerns about your community. My office is always here for you.

Very Truly Yours,

Senator Bennette E. Misalucha  
District 16

## Calendar of Events

### April

- 12** Aiea Neighborhood Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- 15** Second Crossover (Bills)
- 19** Second Crossover (Resolutions)
- 22** Final Decking (Non-Fiscal Bills)
- 23** Final Decking (Fiscal Bills)
- 29** Legislature Adjournment

### May

- 10** Aiea Neighborhood Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- 31** Memorial Day Holiday

*We are here to help you...*

**Phone:** 808.586.6230

**Email:** [senmisalucha@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:senmisalucha@capitol.hawaii.gov)

**Website:** [www.capitol.hawaii.gov](http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov)

**Facebook:** Senator Bennette Misalucha

To receive regular newsletters, please  
subscribe by contacting  
[senmisalucha@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:senmisalucha@capitol.hawaii.gov)

## CAPITOL UPDATE

### Senate Resolutions *INTRODUCED* by Senator Misalucha

#### SCR66 / SR48

Condemning and denouncing all forms of anti-Asian sentiment and all acts of racism, xenophobia, intolerance, discrimination, hate crime, and hate speech against Asian Americans and Asian individuals in the United States

#### SCR67 / SR49

Recognizing October 4 through October 8, 2021 as digital inclusion week in the State of Hawaii

#### SCR68 / SR50

Requesting the Legislative Reference Bureau to conduct a study on ways to close the digital divide

#### SCR81 / SR61

Urging the Department of Education to include the teaching of financial literacy in the existing personal transition plan course requirement for each student

#### SCR82 / SR62

Requesting the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations and Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism to work together to establish a statewide green Jobs Corps program to support economic diversification, alleviate the unemployment impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, and assist the State in meeting its clean energy goals

#### SCR83 / SR63

Urging the department of education to use coronavirus aid, relief, and economic security act and coronavirus response and relief supplemental appropriations act monies to retain teachers and prevent furloughs

#### SCR84 / SR64

Requesting the Hawaii Technology Development Corporation and Leeward Community College to study the feasibility of establishing technology academy programs at Aiea High School and Pearl City High School

#### SCR95 / SR74

Requesting the Governor to convene a working group to develop recommendations for effective communications with limited English proficient persons and persons with disabilities before, during, and after emergencies and natural disasters

#### SCR96 / SR75

Requesting the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations to convene a working group to improve access to government services for immigrants and increase immigrant opportunities to make civic and economic contributions to the community

#### SCR218 / SR178

Urging the Governor's coordinator on homelessness to include a representative from a LGBTQ+-focused nonprofit organization in the membership of the Hawaii interagency council on homelessness to address the specific needs of LGBTQ+ youth across the State

#### SCR219 / SR179

Urging the executive office on aging to form a working group and develop a plan for outreach to kupuna to remediate a lack of digital literacy, broadband access, and computer equipment

#### SCR220 / SR180

Recognizing the seventy-fifth anniversary of diplomatic relations between the United States and the Philippines

#### SCR221 / SR181

Urging the city and county of Honolulu to adopt a streamlined permitting process like Hoala Loko Ia for the restoration, repair, maintenance, and reconstruction of traditional Hawaiian fishpond systems under its jurisdiction

#### SCR222/SR182

Urging the Legislative Reference Bureau to conduct a study on the best practices for telework and alternative work schedules, including policies, guidelines, standards, and procedures, to be adopted and implemented by government executive agencies, businesses, and nonprofit organizations in Hawaii

#### SCR223 / SR183

Requesting the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism to conduct a study to examine the use and effects of transaction medium equity, which includes electronic transactions and cash transactions, on consumers and businesses in the State of Hawaii

## COMMUNITY UPDATE

### COVID-19 Update



The Department of Health has announced that individuals 50 or older are now eligible for the COVID-19 vaccination and will be able to make an appointment starting Monday, April 12, 2021. Every person 16 and up will be eligible for vaccination beginning Monday, April 19, 2021. DOH is urging eligible individuals to make an appointment at their earliest convenience. Visit <https://hawaiiCOVID19.com/>. Walgreens pharmacy is now taking appointments for individuals wanting the COVID-19 vaccination. Call your local Walgreens or 1-800-WALGREENS (1-800- 925-4733).

### UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

The Department of Labor and Industrial Relations has started instituting an appointment system for claimants to communicate with unemployment staff via video conference or telephone. The appointment system went into effect on April 5, 2021 to allow claimants to schedule an appointment beginning April 20, 2021. Appointments will be available every Tuesday and Thursday. The initial pilot will focus on Oahu with plans to expand to the Neighbor Islands. Claimants can now request appointments via online at <https://labor.hawaii.gov/ui/>.

### HEALTH INSURANCE MARKETPLACE COVERAGE EXTENDED

Hawaii residents are encouraged to take advantage of new savings for health insurance through the American Rescue Plan after President Biden announced the extension of a Special Enrollment Period (SEP) for Marketplace coverage until August 15. Visit [www.Healthcare.gov](http://www.Healthcare.gov) to sign up for a health insurance plan.

### RELIEF FOR ENTERTAINMENT VENUES

The "Shuttered Venues Operators Grant" program designed to provide some economic relief funds for small business, especially those in the Live Entertainment Venues impacted by the effects of COVID-19, can apply by visiting [www.svograntportal.sba.gov](http://www.svograntportal.sba.gov).

### FINANCIAL LITERACY MONTH

The State Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs (DCCA), Office of the Securities Commissioner is hosting an interactive educational campaign throughout April to celebrate financial literacy month. Some of the activities include *Kapuna Fraud Prevention Week* from April 19 to 23, 2021. There's also *Fraud Bingo* to teach kupuna fraud prevention with this game in which you can request for free materials to play it. There's also a live virtual presentation of "How to Spot a Con Artist" to be held on April 23.

Contact [gakapo@dcca.hawaii.gov](mailto:gakapo@dcca.hawaii.gov) to request Fraud Bingo or for more details .



COMMUNITY UPDATE

Spring Cleaning in Aiea



Aiea Recreation Center

Mahalo to the many volunteers who picked up debris and cleared overgrown grass at the **Aiea Gateway** on April 3, 2021. From Dwight, Dean, Paul, Kennard, Mary, Jason, Cordy, Loretto, Renee, Dexter, Brian T., James R., James, Peggy O. of Cyber Lions and Prexy Brian.

Community volunteers also cleaned up near Aiea Recreation Center . A big thanks for making our community beautiful - Brian T., Maddie, Brian N., Jason, Sam, Kennard, Dwight, Dexter, Dennis, Mary, Loretto, and Wayne. Mahalo!