

# CAPITOL NEWS

District 39: Village Park, Royal Kunia, Waipahu, Makakilo, West Loch, Ewa, Honouliuli



Representative Ty J.K. Cullen

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## **Committee Membership**

#### Chair

- Legislative Management Vice Chair:
  - Finance

**Committee Member:** 

- Housing
- Transportation

#### **Staying Connected**



Or like my Facebook page: www.facebook.com/ Rep.Ty.JK.Cullen Aloha Friends and Neighbors,

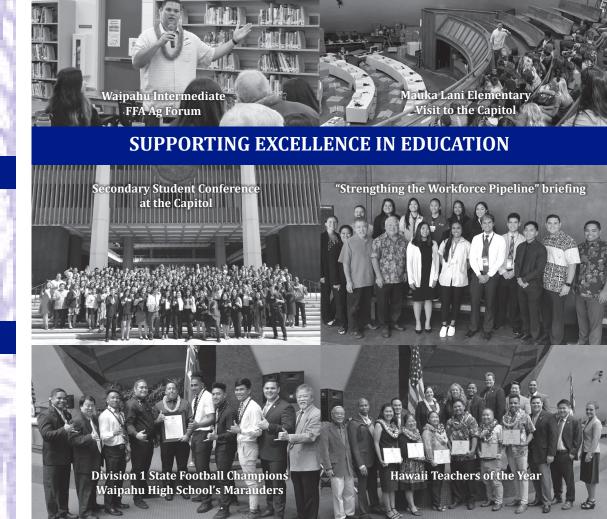
Thank you very much for the privilege to serve you as your State Representative of District 39. I am honored and grateful for the opportunity to represent you at the State Capitol and look forward to continue working with you to better our community and state.

I believe that the measures adopted last legislative session and shared within this newsletter will address community concerns, continue to improve our economy, and provide a solid foundation for fiscal growth. We have also made strategic investments in our long-range infrastructure that will add to our quality of life and sustain a more prosperous future for our Hawaii.

As always, I am extremely thankful for the opportunity to serve you and our community. If you ever need assistance or have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at (808) 586-8490 or repcullen@capitol.hawaii.gov.

With Warmest Aloha,





# **LIVING WAGE CAREERS**

As the economic impact of the creative industries continues to grow to more than \$500 million a year in our state, even more excitement will soon be added to this industry as we invest in our students' futures in Leeward Oahu.

The Ewa plain once cultivated 'ilima and sugarcane, but we are now cultivating the talent of our students through our expanding educational opportunities. This is emphasized in the area of creative media through a partnership between Waipahu High School and the University of Hawai'i-West O'ahu.

Waipahu High School is the state's model for the Early College Program with more than 600 students participating this year. The State Legislature funded more than \$2 million to the Department of Education for the program, which allows high school students to take skills-based college courses and earn college credit while simultaneously fulfilling their high school requirements. This provides students with a seamless transition from secondary to post-secondary education.

What makes 2020 so exciting is that our high school students can choose to move right into UH West Oʻahu's new Bachelor of Arts in Creative Media program. The degree program embraces new media through video, animation, video games, social media platforms, apps, and virtual and augmented reality, and offers concentrations in communications and new media technologies, design and media, game design and development, and general creative media.

Under construction right now is the new Creative Media Facility at UHWO, funded by a \$33.2 million investment by the State Legislature to cultivate our talented students. The building will have more than 40,000 square feet of production space. I am so excited because this is the right time and the right place for our high school students to take advantage of the Early Education Program, the new Creative Media Program, and find careers in an industry that pays a living wage. I cannot wait to see where we are in five or ten years from now. This is not only a dream come true for many students but also a path toward a growing, diversified economy for the state.

The state is also working on a plan for a new commercial film studio to be located at the UHWO. The UH System is working with our Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism to expand the film industry near the college using a public partnership project that contributes to the economy and will provide more jobs in our community.



#### CARING FOR OUR COMMUNITY



# CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS (CIP) IMPORTANT TO OUR DISTRICT

House District 39 was very fortunate to benefit from a total of \$558,522,000 in appropriations from the Legislature in the 2019 budget for our schools, roads, and other infrastructure projects, including those highlighted below. I will work diligently to get these monies released and projects completed.

#### UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII/DISTRICT SCHOOLS \$55,365,000

- University of Hawaii, Manoa Athletic Department Renovations and Clarence T.C. Ching Athletics Complex Field .......\$2,000,000

- August Ahrens Elementary School Construction to Replace Building I Carpet; ......\$250,000

- University of Hawaii Cancer Center Design, Construction, & Equipment for the Hawaii Early Phase Cancer Clinical Trials Facility at the University of Hawaii Cancer Center Annex .......\$6,500,000

#### ROAD/TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENTS \$162,200,000

- Kunia East-Bound On-Ramp ......\$100,000,000
- Highway Lighting Replacement at Various Locations ...\$30,800,000
  - Highway Planning Statewide ......\$31,400,000

# RELEASE OF INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENT FUNDS Getting the Work Done

Through my persistent work over the past year with neighboring Representatives, the Governor's Office, and State Departments, we were able to release Capital Improvement Project funding totaling \$23,153,245

- $\bullet \qquad \text{Waipahu Elementary School } -- \text{ Design for Expansion, Renovation, \& Improvement for the Cafeteria/Kitchen} \\ -- \text{ $275,000}$
- $\bullet \qquad \text{Special Olympics Hawaii} \ -- \text{Construction for Phase 2 of the Special Olympics Hawaii's Sports \& Fitness Complex in Kapolei \dots \$300,000$
- Campbell High School Provide a New Classroom Building . . . . . . \$200,000
- Kapolei Middle School Provide for the Reroofing of Buildings A, G, and H . . . . . . . . . \$212,000
- Kapolei Middle School Provide New Bus Lanes & Drop Off Zones and Parking Stalls . . . . . . . . \$83,622
- Waiahole Water System Fund Improvements to the Waiahole Water System in Kunia . . . . \$4,000,000
- ......\$13,000,000
- $\bullet \quad \text{Kaleiopuu Elementary School} \\ -- \text{Construction for Buildings C \& D Covered Walkway} \\ -- \dots \\ \$468,\!740$



#### **Building For Our Future**

As we continue to work on the school infrastructure needs in our district, we funded and broke ground on the new \$17 million 8-classroom building at Honowai Elementary School.

Construction continues on the brand new East Kapolei Middle School. The 18-acre campus is designed for an enrollment of 1,050 students in sixth to eighth grades. The Legislature has awarded \$115.5 million for three phases of campus construction.





# REPRESENTATIVE TY J.K. CULLEN

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#### Representative Ty J.K. Cullen

Chair:

• Legislative Management

Vice Chair:

• Finance

Committee Member:

- Housing
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# **Staying Connected**



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# 2020 ALL MAIL VOTING

For the first time, all of Hawaii's registered voters will vote by mail during the November 2020 election. Ballots packages will be automatically mailed to all registered voters at least 18 days before the primary election (August 8, 2020) and general election (November 3, 2020). If a registered voter does not receive the ballot package, the voter must contact the City Clerk's Office at (808) 768-3800.

Voters have 10 business days before the elections to cast their ballots and should mail their ballots back at least 3 days before primary and general election days to ensure that they are received timely by the City Clerk's Office.

There will be eight Voter Service Centers (VSC) statewide to receive personal delivery of mail-in ballots, accommodate voters with special needs, offer same-day registration, permit in-person voting, and provide other election services.

For more information, visit the State Office of Elections at elections.hawaii.gov.

Voting is your right and your responsibility as an American citizen. Make your voice heard and vote!

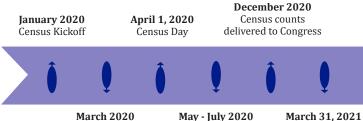
### **CENSUS COUNT 2020**

Census Day is April 1st, 2020! By April 1st, you should receive an invitation in the mail to participate in the 2020 census.

It is important for everyone to take part in this because it determines federal funding for the State of Hawaii.

You will have three options for a response: online, by mail, or by phone.

For more information, you can visit the census website at: <u>census.hawaii.gov</u>, or contact the Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism at 808-586-2355.



March 2020
Public begins
receiving information
on how to respond

May - July 2020 Census takers begin visiting homes that haven't responded March 31, 2021 Redistricting counts sent to the states