



COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

FROM THE OFFICE OF REPRESENTATIVE JO JORDAN
HOUSE DISTRICT 44 · WAIANAE, MAKAHA, MAKUA, MAILI · 2013 SESSION

(808) 586-8460 · REPJORDAN@CAPITOL.HAWAII.GOV · WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/REPJORDAN

Aloha Neighbors,

The 2013 legislative session recently closed and the purpose of this newsletter is to inform you about funding included in the State Budget and some of the important measures that have become law or are poised to become law.



While this newsletter is focused on the legislative session, I was asked to briefly discuss the Makaha Bridge replacement project. The legislature included \$1.7 million for construction in the 2011-2013 biennium budget. This project is deemed top priority at both the State and Federal levels because the existing 1930 timber bridges are structurally deficient and considered a health and safety concern. Nevertheless, the DOT is planning some traffic calming measures for the area in the near future. Additionally, I testified in support of adding the proposed Farrington Highway Realignment Feasibility Study to the Draft FYs 2014-2015 Overall Work Program (OWP) to the Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization (OMPO) Policy Committee. I encourage you to also register your support.

It is my honor to continue to serve you. Feel free to contact me if I can be of assistance.

Mahalo,

Jo Jordan,
District 44 Representative

Community Benefits from Over \$50 Million in New Projects

The State Budget includes over \$3 billion in funding for capital improvement projects (CIP). Highlights of the CIP budget for the biennium include over \$454 million in appropriations for the DOE to address school improvements, upgrades, and renovations and over \$233 million to UH to address the needs of campus facilities statewide. The Legislature has also demonstrated its commitment to transportation projects by appropriating, for fiscal biennium 2013-2015, over \$1.2 billion for the DOT, including nearly \$300 million for state highways on every island. Other CIP highlights include:

- **\$600,000 in FY14** for miscellaneous improvements to the Waianae Agricultural Park.
- **\$15 million** for construction for a PM Contraflow lane on Interstate Route H-1 from the vicinity of Radford Drive to the vicinity of Waikele.
- **\$500,000** for construction to upgrade and expand the emergency services building for the Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center.
- **\$20 million in each year of the biennium** for plans, design and construction for various Hawaiian Homestead projects and improvements statewide, pursuant to the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act, Public Law 107-73, 107th Congress.
- **\$500,000 in FY13** for plans and design and **\$4.5 million in FY14** for construction for a new Administration Building for Waianae Elementary School.
- **\$500,000 in FY14** for plans and design to connect two existing Searider Productions Media Buildings SP and T at Waianae High School.
- **\$1.5 million** to replace existing wooden bleachers with aluminum bleachers at Waianae High School.
- **\$11.8 million** for design and construction for the Allied Health Building at UH West Oahu.
- **\$2 million in FY14** for design and construction for a Native Hawaiian Center for Excellence at Leeward Community College.

THE STATE BUDGET

The Legislature approved the State Budget, appropriating \$6 billion in general funds and \$11.8 billion in all other means of financing for FY13 and \$6.1 billion in general funds and \$12 billion in all additional financing means for FY14. In order to build a solid financial base, the Legislature carefully scrutinized the State Budget and decided to include an addition of \$160 million into the Hurricane Relief Fund and \$50 million into the Rainy Day Fund. The State Budget also includes appropriations of \$217 million in the next biennium to begin payments toward the State's unfunded liability and will continue to allocate funds every year ending in an allocation of \$500 million in FY2019 and continue at that level for future fiscal years. Other funding highlights include:

Agriculture

- **Added \$750,000 for the New Farmer Loan Program in FY14.** This funding will enhance opportunities for new farmers.

Education

- **Added \$12.9 million for the Weighted Student Formula.** This funding will go directly to classrooms to support educational activities.
- **Added \$8.2 million in FY14 for a pilot program relating to Common Core Instructional Materials.** This is the DOE's initiative to give every child from grades 3-12 either a tablet or laptop to enhance their educational experience.
- **Added \$1 million in FY14 for Common Core Standards Assessment in Hawaiian.** This funding creates a Hawaiian language Common Core Standards test.
- **Added \$700,000 in FY14 for library books and materials.** Includes funding for physical and e-books.

Energy and Environmental Protection

- **Added 8 positions and \$1.3 million for quality management and monitoring of environmental resources.** These positions support programs for water quality monitoring, greenhouse gas emissions, air pollution control, federal and state clean water regulations, solid waste permitting and monitoring.

- **Added \$355,000 in FY14 for the Hawaii Refinery Task Force** to be used to assess the economic situation of the pending closure of the Tesoro petroleum refinery in Leeward Oahu, and the potential closure of the neighboring Chevron refinery.

Higher Education

- **Added 10 positions and \$3 million in each year of the biennium** to support growth at UH West Oahu.
- **Added 9 positions and \$3 million over the biennium** for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Initiatives.

Health

- **Added \$1.4 million each year for Aging and Disability Resource Centers.**
- **Added \$1 million for the Hawaii Health Information Exchange contract** to support affordable health care statewide.
- **Added 1 position and \$95,000 in the Children and Youth Services section to re-establish the Violence Prevention Coordinator position,** which is responsible for statewide Domestic Violence program planning.
- **Added \$3.75 million each year for community health centers purchase of service contracts.** This funding supports comprehensive primary care and emergency health care services for uninsured/underinsured individuals.

Human Services

- **Added over \$3 million for various social service programs.**
- **Added \$750,000 in FY14 to expand the Housing First program to the Leeward coast of Oahu.** This helps transition chronically homeless into affordable housing situations.
- **Added 5 Counselors and nearly \$875,000 over the biennium for the Office of Veteran Services.**

Transportation

- **Added \$161,886,000 over the biennium to highways division** for special repairs and maintenance of roads statewide.

TOP ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE 2013 LEGISLATURE

State Funds

Efficient Allocation of Public Funds, HB504 SD1

Amends criteria to be used in establishing and evaluating new special or revolving funds as recommended by the Auditor in response to a resolution I introduced in 2011.

Economic Development/Jobs

HI Growth Initiative, HB858 CD1

Appropriates \$6 million to the HSDC for the HI Growth Initiative, an investment program to support high-growth entrepreneurial companies in the State.

Employment and Training Fund, HB927 (Act 25)

Strengthens the use of the Employment and Training Fund to assist local small businesses through training programs.

Education

School Readiness, SB1093 CD1

Establishes the preschool open doors program as the statewide school readiness program in order to more adequately prepare Hawaii's children for success in school as part of the State's early learning system.

School Transportation, SB1082 CD1

Deletes statutory language for contracting transportation for school children in order to improve service delivery and contain rising costs.

Social Impact Bonds, HCR119 SD1

Requesting a study on the feasibility of using social impact bonds to fund early learning programs.

Housing

Hawaii Public Housing Authority, HB514 SD1

Establishes the state income tax and obligations exemption for public housing agencies among the laws governing the Hawaii Public Housing Authority.

Housing Loan and Mortgage Program, SB1025 CD1

Updates the Hula Mae Single Family Mortgage Loan Program to allow broader program participation by potential homeowners and add down payment and other cost assistance as a program feature.



Rep. Jordan pictured with the Governor, legislators, DHS staff, and others for the signing of the Asset Limit bill, HB868 into law as referenced below.

Health

Remote Dispensing Pharmacies, HB652 CD1

Prohibits remote dispensing pharmacies from operating in the State, except the two existing remote dispensing pharmacies operated by the Waianae Comprehensive in Nanakuli and Waianae until June 1, 2014.

Hawaii Home Visiting Program, HB908 CD1

Appropriates \$3 million to establish the Hawaii Home Visiting Program, a statewide hospital-based early identification and home visiting system.

Human Services

Asset Limit, HB868 (Act 18)

Eliminates the asset limit for the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Program. This bill is the result of a resolution I introduced last year.

Affordable Care Act, HB1207 CD1

Requires DHS to report on the State's compliance with the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010 as it relates to medicaid program integrity.

Care Homes, HB529 SD2

Requires care home operators to hold a sufficient amount of liability insurance and automobile liability insurance.

REPRESENTATIVE JO JORDAN
415 S. BERETANIA ST., ROOM 323
HONOLULU, HI 96813

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WAIANAE HIGH'S SEARIDER DIGITAL TEAM

State House Congratulates Waianae High School's Searider Digital Team

The State House of Representatives recognized Waianae High School's Searider Digital Team for receiving the Apple Distinguished Program Designation, which is reserved for programs that are recognized centers of educational excellence and leadership. The selection of Waianae High School's Searider Digital Team highlights its successes in enhancing and extending teaching and learning with thoughtful, innovative implementations of technology.



Above: Rep. Jordan pictured with Waianae High School staff and students who were honored by the State House during the legislative session.

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Official Website

<http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/>
click on "Legislators"
click on "Jordan"



Contact Information

repjordan@capitol.hawaii.gov
repjordan@gmail.com
(808) 586-8460

YouTube

<http://youtube.com/repjordan>

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