



# COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

FROM THE OFFICE OF REPRESENTATIVE JO JORDAN  
HOUSE DISTRICT 45 · WAIANAE, MAKAHA, MAKUA · 2012 SESSION

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## Aloha Neighbors,

The 2012 legislative session recently closed, and in this newsletter, I highlight the Top Accomplishments of the 2012 Legislature including measures appropriating funds for the Leeward Coast to increase emergency medical services and ambulance services, to conduct a feasibility study on the extension of the zipper lane westward, and to conduct a flood study on Makaha Valley.

Since the economy is still the number one concern of Hawaii residents, the legislature's priorities in 2012 included economic recovery, assisting new industry and job creation. The state budget, which is highlighted to the right, responsibly supports the state's priorities, recognizing that while the economy is improving, normal levels are still years away.

I'm also happy to report that the state budget included over \$24 million in new projects to improve our community referenced in the bottom right table. The funding for improvements along Farrington Highway is aimed at relieving congestion and improving safety. Additionally, the funds for the Puhawai Culvert Replacement is expected to address flooding that has burdened our community for several years and follows funding appropriated last year.

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

Mahalo,

Jo Jordan,  
District 45 Representative

## The State Budget

The legislature passed the supplemental budget to support the State's core functions, including programs that provide services for those most in need; make strategic investments in people and programs that encourage economic growth and lower future costs; and support long-term planning and accountability efforts to fundamentally change the character and delivery of government services. The 2012 budget highlights include the following:

Technology Initiatives	\$10.3 million in general funds and \$15 million in CIP for various projects.
Weighted Student Formula	Added \$14 million for the weighted student formula for in-classroom expenditures.
Food Services Program	Eased the Board of Education approved increase in school lunch prices to an average of 40 cents per meal, down from the proposed 80 cents, to ensure families have time to adjust to price increases.
Student Transportation	Added \$25 million for student transportation costs.
Adult Education Program	Added \$3.3 million to maintain Hawaii's adult education program.
Charter Schools	Added \$432,302 based on a per pupil value of \$5,920.61.
Health Care Payments	Added \$22,880,786 to fund Medicaid capitation payments, maintaining critical access to health care for those in need.
Rental Housing Services	Added 19 positions to address staffing shortages. Electricians, carpenters, plumbers, housing specialists will help get closed units repaired and back on line, available to waitlisted applicants.
Temporary Assistance	Added \$18 million for TANF, ensuring critical community services continue in work support and positive youth services programs.
Tobacco Prevention	Added 1.5 positions and \$452,477 to provide Food and Drug Administration tobacco enforcement and drug abuse treatment and programs aimed at reducing drug use.
Family Court	Added \$267,684 to fund previously established positions to address significant backlogs at the first circuit family court.
Watershed Initiative	Added \$2,500,000 in special funds to launch the Watershed Initiative, a program which increases the protection of priority watersheds.
Justice Reinvestment	Approved the transfer of \$3,362,759 in general funds from Non-State Facilities to various Public Safety programs, Judiciary and Counties for the Justice Reinvestment Initiative with the goal of bringing all prisoners home from out of state.
Multi-Skilled Worker	Added \$1.6 million for a program that cross trains the work force, so they will be able to respond more efficiently to maintenance issues on state highways.
UH West Oahu	Added \$26,438,828 for the continued construction of Kapolei campus and \$3,372,042 for a bookstore, dining and catering, and parking lot management at the new Kapolei campus.
Na Pua Noeau Program	Added 18 positions and \$700,000 for the Na Pua Noeau Program.

I also wanted to note the inclusion of the following capital improvement projects:

Construction for improvements along Farrington Hwy for alternative congestion relief and/or safety improvements along Farrington Hwy between Honokai Hale and Hakimo Rd.	\$7.5 million
Construction for replacement of a pre-stressed tee-beam bridge on Farrington Hwy in the vicinity of Maili.	\$11 million
Construction to upgrade and expand emergency services building for the Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center.	\$2 million
Plans and Design for an Academy of Creative Media Facility to be located on the campus of University of Hawaii - West Oahu.	\$900,000
Plans and Design for the Allied Health Building at the University of Hawaii - West Oahu.	\$995,000
Design and Construction for the Puhawai Culvert Replacement. This funding is in addition to the \$2 million appropriated last year for Lualualei Flats/Puhawai Stream.	\$2 million

# 2012 LEGISLATIVE HIGHLIGHTS

## Top Accomplishments of the 2012 Legislature

### Leeward Coast

#### Emergency Medical Care, HB1953

Appropriates \$1 million to increase the on-call availability of emergency medical services and ambulance services on the Leeward Coast of Oahu.

#### Zipper Lane Extension Feasibility Study, HB2684

Appropriates \$200,000 to conduct a feasibility study on the extension of the zipper lane westward from Waipahu toward Kapolei, west of the Kunia on-ramp.

#### Makaha Valley Flood Study, HB2883

Appropriates \$500,000 to conduct a flood study on Makaha Valley.

### Education

#### Early Learning, SB2545

Appropriates \$300,000 to establish the executive office on early learning to help the State meet its goal of providing a viable early learning system for the keiki of Hawaii.

#### Charter Schools, SB2115

Establishes a new chapter governing charter schools based on the recommendations of the Charter School Governance, Accountability, and Authority Task Force that creates a solid governance structure for Hawaii's charter school system with clear lines of authority and accountability to foster improved student outcomes.

#### Concussion Awareness Program, HB2273

Requires the Department of Education and the Hawaii High School Athletic Association to develop a concussion awareness program to provide guidelines for public and private schools.

### Health & Human Services

#### Kidney and Liver Transplants, HB608

Appropriates \$1.8 million, subject to dollar-for-dollar private matching funds, to be expended by the Department of Health for grants to The Queen's Medical Center to perform kidney and liver transplants and to National Kidney Foundation of Hawaii to maintain its chronic kidney disease management program.

#### Cancer Treatment, HB1964

Limits out-of-pocket costs for cancer treatment under health insurance plans.



Governor Abercrombie signs HB2096, a bill I co-sponsored, allowing local businesses to save hundreds of dollars per employee annually in Unemployment Insurance tax contributions making the difference between staying in business or not, allowing companies to hire additional employees, and preventing businesses from laying off current employees.

#### Pelvic Examinations Informed Consent, HB2232

Addresses the circumstances under which pelvic examinations may be performed by certain health care providers and medical students on anesthetized or unconscious female patients.

#### Childhood Obesity Prevention Task Force, SB2778

Establishes a childhood obesity prevention task force to develop and recommend legislation related to the prevention of childhood obesity.

#### Aging and Disability Resource Centers, SB2779

Appropriates \$1.4 million for the Executive Office on Aging of the Department of Health to administer and establish a statewide aging and disability resource center with sites in each county.

### Housing

#### Public Housing Development, HB1398

Authorizes Hawaii Public Housing Authority to develop public housing projects under a partnership or development agreement with a private party in order to encourage the expedient development of additional public housing in the State and provide a boost to the local economy.

#### Prohibition of Controlled Substance Promotion in Public Housing, SB2650

Extends prohibition of promoting a controlled substance in, on, or near schools, school vehicles, or public parks to include public housing projects and complexes.

# 2012 LEGISLATIVE HIGHLIGHTS



The House adopted a resolution recognizing the accomplishments and celebrating the 40th Anniversary of Title IX, the Patsy T. Mink Equal Opportunity in Education Act.

## **Clean and Sober Home and Halfway House Task Force, SB2536**

Establishes a temporary clean and sober home and halfway house task force to balance the needs and concerns of the communities in which clean and sober homes and halfway homes are established with the needs of individuals requiring the support of such facilities.

## **Traffic Safety**

### **Highway Safety, HB1666**

Promotes greater street and highway safety by increasing the grade of the criminal penalty of certain negligent homicide and injury offenses involving pedestrians, cyclists, and others who legally use the public right of way without being in a motor vehicle.

### **Emergency Vehicle Move Over, HB2030**

Requires motorists to "move over" when passing a stationary emergency vehicle on a highway and requires a driver to slow down to a reasonable and prudent speed that is safe under the circumstances when an emergency road situation exists ahead of the driver.

### **Safe Routes to School Program, HB2626**

Permanently establishes the safe routes to school program within the Department of Transportation to enhance traffic safety around Hawaii's schools and enable and encourage children to walk and bicycle to school.

## **Public Safety**

### **Automated Victim Notification System, HB2226**

Codifies the Statewide Automated Victim Information and Notification System, which provides victims of crime and concerned individuals with current and accurate information on the status of specific offenders and criminal proceedings.

### **Cyberbullying, HB2295**

Assists in combating cyberbullying and preventing the emotional harm caused by the dissemination of personal information of an individual.

### **Domestic Abuse Order, SB223**

Requires a police officer to order a person to have no contact with a family or household member for a twenty-four hour period, or longer if the incident occurs on the weekend, when a police officer has reasonable grounds to believe that there is probably danger of further physical abuse or harm to the family or household member and requires a police officer to seize firearms and ammunition in such cases.

## **Land and Natural Resources**

### **Ocean Resources, HB2682**

Authorizes the Department of Land and Natural Resources to regulate the commercial use of state waters and marine resources.

### **Electric guns, HB2681**

Requires no later than June 30, 2018, that the Conservation and Resources Enforcement Program of the Department of Land and Natural Resources meet law enforcement accreditation or recognition standards of the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. in the use of electric guns.



Governor Abercrombie and Office of Hawaiian Affairs Chair Colette Machado testify before the House Committees on Water, Land, & Ocean Resources and Hawaiian Affairs on SB2783, conveying Kakaako Makai lands to OHA.

## **Hawaiian Affairs**

### **Office of Hawaiian Affairs, SB2783**

Conveys Kakaako Makai lands to the Office of Hawaiian Affairs and resolves all disputes and controversies relating to OHA's portion of income and proceeds from the public trust lands for the period November 7, 1978 through June 30, 2012.

### **Native Hawaiian Cultural Practices, HB2848**

Requires the Department of Public Safety to plan for a model wellness center that employs native Hawaiian cultural practices on state land.

## LEIHOKU ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



### **Leihoku Elementary School Students Visit the State Capitol**

Ninety 5th graders and ten chaperones from Leihoku Elementary School toured the State Capitol in a field trip to learn about state government. Students visited with me in the House gallery, where they had an opportunity to ask questions. They also shared their future goals of going to colleges both here and in other states including Oregon and Michigan and specifically mentioned schools like UCLA, Yale and UH Manoa. As for careers, the students mentioned becoming doctors, police officers, and many other exciting professions. It was an informative and inspiring visit.

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