2019 Legislative Session Newsletter

State Representative — 16th District Ni'ihau, Lehua, Koloa, Waimea

Aloha.

I am honored, humbled, and thankful to be allowed to represent you for the next two years. As we begin our 9th year together, let me brief you on some of the important proposals for 2019. I will continue to serve as the House Majority Floor leader and will participate as a member in the Judiciary committee.

This year, the House budget process is the most exciting concept ever tried in the legislature. We have already passed a "skinny" base budget and respective committee chairs now will closely scrutinize major state programs that are seeking Rep. Daynette "Dee" funding. This method will keep a close watch on taxpayer money, be much more transparent, and allow for greater public input.

My priorities for District 16 are highlighted in this newsletter, and we will let you know how the bills fare at the end of session. Important projects which cannot be funded this year, will continue to be pursued next year.

I have received many inquiries and reports of problems from residents, which makes me pleased to know that you feel our assistance is readily available. Some resolutions do not happen immediately, but we always communicate issues with respective departments or agencies.

Please continue to be vigilant, because you are my eyes and ears throughout our communities. I look forward to another productive and successful legislative session and hope you will continue to share your comments and concerns.

Mahalo.

Contact me:

Morikawa

Majority Floor Leader

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Dee's House Committees:

- Judiciary, Member
- Legislative Management, Member



Mayor Derek Kawakami, Council Chair Arryl Kaneshiro and Naomi Fransisco on Opening Day

A visit from Na Keiki from 'Eleu- Native Hawaiian Early Childhood Consortium



16th District CIP Highlights and Other Funding Requests

<u>HB 1336</u> was introduced as the CIP bill for Districts 14, 15 and 16. The funding requests for District 16 are listed below. We must be mindful that there are 75 total legislators, all with the same goal in mind to have CIP projects approved for their own districts. The legislative process is a difficult journey, and we are hopeful that these projects for District 16 can be addressed. Other fiscal bills introduced by Rep. Morikawa are also listed.

- Kekaha Elementary School: Various repair and maintenance projects (\$2,050,000)
- Russian Fort Elizabeth State Historical Park: Comfort station repairs; service road repair and repaving, pathway repairs, interpretive display repairs (\$800,000)
- Awa'Awapuhi Trail Parking Lot Extension: Design, Planning, Land Acquisition and Construction (\$650,000)
- Salt Pond Facility Improvements: Repairs and Upgrades to Current Facilities (\$500,000)
- Hanapepe Stadium: Construction upgrades for ticket booth, food booth and comfort stations (\$1,500,000)
- Spouting Horn, Poipu: Facilities Upgrades and Improvements (\$500,000)
- Polihale State Park: Various improvements to the roadways, pavilions, sewer systems and comfort stations (\$2,000,000)
- Koke'e/Waimea Canyon State Park Complex, Pu'u Hinahina Lookout CCC Camp and Baseyard: Various complex improvements (\$4,500,000)
- Knudsen Park, Koloa, Kaua'i: Resurfacing of basketball and tennis courts (\$400,000)
- Waimea High School Tennis Courts: Resurfacing, nets, fencing, wind screens; lighting upgrade to existing lights and design and construction for new lighting (\$1,000,000)

HB 1413 RELATING TO THE ISSUANCE OF SPECIAL PURPOSE REVENUE BONDS TO ASSIST E OLA MAU NA LEO O KEKAHA.

Authorizes the issuance of special purpose revenue bonds (SPRB) to assist E Ola Mau Na Leo O Kekaha with the acquisition, remediation, and development of the old Kekaha Sugar Mill in Kekaha, Kaua'i, Hawai'i.

<u>HB 1535</u> RELATING TO CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE KUNOA CATTLE COMPANY. Kunoa Cattle Company; Department of Agriculture; Capital Improvement Project. Appropriates \$400,000 for a capital improvement project for Kunoa Cattle Company.



Other Measures Introduced By Representative Morikawa (First Primary Introducer)

HB 1085 RELATING TO THE DEPOSIT BEVERAGE CONTAINER PROGRAM.

Authorizes each county to manage the deposit beverage container program within its jurisdiction. Authorizes each county to retain any corresponding excess funds. Requires deposit beverage distributor reports to include county specific data.

HB 252 RELATING TO SPEECH PATHOLOGY.

Establishes a provisional license for speech pathologists. Takes effect on 10/01/19.

HB 230 RELATING TO RAPID OHIA DEATH.

Appropriates funds to the Department of Land and Natural Resources for containment and prevention of the spread of pathogens causing rapid ohia death in Kaua'i county, including funds to be used in collaboration with the Research Corporation of the University of Hawai'i and the Kaua'i Invasive Species Council.

For more information on many other bills introduced by Representative Morikawa, please feel free to email Mark A. Mararagan at maragan@capitol.hawaii.gov



Rep. Dee Morikawa's 2019 Session Staff - Left to right:

Mark A. Mararagan—Office Manager, Megan Mararagan—Legislative Aide,
Lori Tobara—Legislative Aide, Alvin Takahashi—Legislative Aide



It was great to see Kaua'i ILWU members visiting on Opening day!