



# Representative Jackson D. Sayama

## January 2022 Community Report

District 20—St. Louis Heights, Palolo Valley, Maunalani Heights, Wilhelmina Rise, Kaimuki



## Ready to Serve You

*Happy New Year!*

*On behalf of my office, I'd like to wish you and your family a Happy and Healthy New Year. This new year, my staff and I stand ready once again to serve you and our community. Last year, we helped families with their unemployment claims, secured over half a million funds for district schools, and supported COVID vaccination/testing clinics.*



*Rep. Sayama with Office Staff: (L-R) Sheena Mae Briones (Legislative Aide), Evelyn Hee (Office Manager), Kaishu Tamura (Committee Clerk).*

*As I continue to talk with constituents about their concerns, I will introduce legislation addressing issues such as freshwater security, catalytic converter theft, and illegal firework imports. In addition, as Vice Chair of the Labor and Tourism Committee I will work on how Hawaii can increase the minimum wage in an equitable and economically responsible manner. I encourage you to submit testimony and reach out to me on legislation that interests you. I look forward to working with you to better our community and State. Mahalo.*

### Next Neighborhood Board

Feb 08th	<b>Diamond Head, St. Louis Heights, Kapahulu Neighborhood Board Meeting</b> 6:30 pm, Via WebEx
Feb 09th	<b>Palolo Neighborhood Board Meeting,</b> 7:00 pm, Via WebEx
Feb 16th	<b>Kaimuki Neighborhood Board Meeting,</b> 9:00 pm, Via WebEx

### COVID-19 Testing/ Vaccination



#### WHEN:

January 29th  
09:00AM— 1:00 PM

#### WHERE:

Kaimuki District Park  
(3251 Waiālae Ave)

PHONE: (808) 586-6900

EMAIL: [repsayama@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:repsayama@capitol.hawaii.gov)

WEBSITE: [repjacksonsayama.com](http://repjacksonsayama.com)

# Looking Back at 2021

## Fighting the Pandemic

With continued surges in the COVID-19 virus, my office worked with community organizations and the Department of Health to host a vaccination and testing clinic. The event was a great success with over 370 people from the community coming to get vaccinated and tested. **We will host another vaccination and testing event of January 29th (Saturday) at Kaimuki Community Park if you missed our first.**



Rep. Sayama with health care providers from Project Vision that helped administer tests and vaccines.



Rep. Sayama making calls to the state's unemployment office for a constituent's application.

## Helping Local Families

As many families struggled with unemployment during the pandemic, my office assisted 78 families in receiving unemployment benefits. We also helped to address dozens of incidents in the community; cases like abandoned vehicles, potholes, vehicle break-ins, and illegal dumping. No matter how big or small, we are ready to address your concerns.

## Supporting Our Schools

As our teachers and students pushed through the difficulties of the pandemic, Rep. Sayama worked to provide them with safe, secure and updated facilities. With the help of fellow legislators and school principals, I helped secure over half a million for school improvement and repair. Throughout the Session, I will continue to meet with teachers to better understand how he can support our teachers as they support our children.



Discussing Ali'iolani School's future repairs and investments with Principal Timothy Hosoda.

# Bills and Resolutions for 2022

Here are some legislation that I will introduce this legislative session:

## Catalytic Converter Theft

As catalytic converter thefts continue, I have worked with HPD and the Department of Prosecuting Attorney to strengthen my previous bill. This new bill will place strict regulations on businesses and individuals selling catalytic converters and increased penalties on bad actors.

## After School Programs

After school programs are important enrichment opportunities for students and allow parents to balance employment. As a member of the Keiki Caucus, I am introducing this bill that would increase investments and expand access to after school programs by over \$6 million.



Rep. Sayama with Alan Nakamura and Majority Leader Belatti discussing catalytic converter theft.

## Illegal Fireworks

Despite the City's 10 year old restriction on fireworks, we continue to see illegal fireworks covering our communities. While I appreciate the cultural tradition, I believe there needs to be measures that honor the concerns voiced by many pet-owners, veterans, and homeowners. Rather than place further restrictions or throw money at the problem, Rep. Sayama is introducing two resolutions to better understand how these illegal materials are making their way into Hawaii and where these illegal activities are focused. One resolution will request an audit of Hawaii's port inspection process, while the other will request HPD to update their CrimeMapping to identify illegal firework activity.

## Interscholastic Surfing

In 2020, Palolo resident, Carissa Moore, won gold in the Tokyo Olympics Women's Surfing. Her accomplishment is a reminder of surfing's deep roots in Hawaii's culture and people. Despite its significance, surfing is rarely seen in interscholastic athletics. This Session, Rep. Sayama is working with Carissa Moore to introduce a bill that will promote surfing in Hawaii's schools.

Contact  
**Representative  
Jackson D. Sayama**

**Phone:**  
**(808) 586-6900**

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

**Website:**  
**[www.repjacksonsayama](http://www.repjacksonsayama)**

## Capitol is Closed, But We Are Open for Business



Due to increased COVID-19 cases across the state, the Hawaii State Capitol is closed to the public. While I may not be able to see you in person, please feel free to contact me through phone or email.

Committees will continue to accept remote oral and written testimony, so please go to [www.capitol.hawaii.gov](http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov) and voice your concerns or support on legislation. Your testimony will help me understand how bills would affect you and our district.

If you need help submitting testimony, check out this short video (<https://youtu.be/8L4PwY2Zc5M>) or contact my office.