

2019 Legislative Updates– Bill Highlights

Kupuna Care

RELATING TO THE KUPUNA CAREGIVERS PROGRAM

SB1025 SD1 HD2 requires the Executive Office on Aging (EOA) to develop and implement a plan to **maximize the number of Kupuna Caregivers Program (Program) participants**. It also authorizes EOA to adopt administrative rules to implement and administer the program and changes the program funding allocation cap. Lastly, the bill includes coordination or case management under the scope of services qualified caregivers can receive program funding for. This bill appropriates funds.

RELATING TO THE HEALTHY AGING PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

HB468 HD1 SD2 appropriates funds for the **healthy aging partnership program** to further the program's role in improving the health and well-being of Hawaii's kupuna.

Homelessness

RELATING TO HOMELESSNESS

HB257 HD2 SD1 CD1 authorizes the use of private lands for the Ohana Zones Pilot Program. Another useful aspect of this bill is that it **provides additional time for the implementation of the Ohana Zones Pilot Program and extends the Emergency Department Homelessness Assessment Pilot Program and the Medical Respite Pilot Program**. This bill appropriates funds.

Economic Development

RELATING TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

SB33 SD3 HD2 CD1 indicates a **support for business** by specifically supporting the film industry in Hawai'i by increasing the annual rolling cap for the Motion Picture, Digital Media, and Film Production Income Tax Credit. **The film industry has demonstrated a mindfulness of our cultural norms while also providing high paying jobs for our community members.**

Healthcare

RELATING TO HEALTH

HB1273 HD1 SD1 CD1 creates the Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Medicaid Waiver Administrative Claiming Special Fund to capture federal moneys resulting from DOH's participation in the SSA §1915(c) waiver program. **It requires DOH and DHS to work with stakeholders to develop and distribute information about accessing Medicaid services for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.**

RELATING TO AN EARNED INCOME DISREGARD PROGRAM

SB330 SD1 HD1 CD1 requires the Department of Human Services to implement an earned income disregard program as an intermediate step to implementing a medicaid buy-in program. This bill requires reports to the legislature.

2019 Legislative Updates– Interim

Affordable Housing Delegation in Singapore

Although the Legislature has initiated the process of addressing affordable housing, **much more needs to be done**. In early May, Representative Woodson joined the Affordable Housing Delegation in Singapore to meet with various governmental agencies to see how 90% of their citizens own affordable housing in their country. The quick take away is this: **there were some directly applicable characteristics that have the potential of lowering the overall costs of construction, which in return could lower the sale or lease prices for much needed affordable housing**. Information taken back from the delegation is currenting being analyzed for viability through several mediums. This will be a long process that Representative Woodson will be engaged in. No tax dollars from Representative Woodson's office were spent on this delegation.

Talking Story with Masters of Education Graduate Students

As Chair of the Lower and Higher Education Committee, Representative Woodson enjoys taking the opportunity to meet with students along with future and current educators. **Representative Woodson met with 15 graduate students** in the Masters of Education in Early Childhood Education program at the College of Education, University of Hawai'i at Manoa on June 25, 2019. He was able to share his thoughts on bills pertaining to early childhood education and the impact such bills have on future generations.



Representative Woodson at one of the several Affordable Housing Delegation meetings



Representative Woodson sharing his thoughts to the graduate students from UH Education in Early Childhood Education program

Capital Improvement Projects on Maui



The new Kahului Elementary School Science, Technology, Art, and Mathematics building



The new Maui High School Band building, which is currently under construction



The new Maui High School Weight and Wrestling room, which is currently under construction

Project	Amount FY20
Boys & Girls Club of Maui, Inc.	\$850,000.00
Catholic Charities Hawai'i	\$140,000.00
Hale Mahaolu	\$750,000.00
Hale Makua Health Services	\$485,000.00
Housing and Land Enterprise of Maui	\$300,000.00
Hui Noeau	\$200,000.00
Kahului Airport, Facility Improvements (Construction for facility improvements at the airport)	\$28,000,000.00
Kahului Airport, Terminal Improvements (Construction of improvements to the terminal and other related improvements)	\$10,000,000.00
Kahului Elementary School (Design and construction for parking lot fencing)	\$500,000.00
Kahului Elementary School (Plans, design, construction, and equipment for a new classroom building; ground and site improvements; equipment and appurtenances)	\$6,000,000.00
Lump Sum Maui Health System, Facilities Repair, Renovations and Upgrades, Maui/Lanai (Plans design, construction, and equipment for Maui Health System for improvements and renovations including new facilities, renovations, expansion, and/or replacements of facilities; ground and site improvements; equipment and appurtenances)	\$6,000,000.00
Maui Academy of Performing Arts	\$125,000.00
Maui Arts & Cultural Center	\$500,000.00
Maui Community Correctional Center (Plans, design, construction, and equipment for improvements, renovations, refurbishments, upgrades, infrastructure work, and new construction for the Maui Community Correctional Center; ground and site improvements; equipment and appurtenances)	\$8,000,000.00
Maui Economic Development Board, Inc.	\$200,000.00
Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc.	\$291,000.00
Maui High School (design and construction for girl's athletic locker room and bathroom, P.E. and athletic facilities, and other related facilities; ground and site improvements; equipment and appurtenances)	\$8,000,000.00
Maui Waena Intermediate School (Design, construction, and equipment for air conditioning systems for the heat abatement of Maui Waena Intermediate School, project may include, but not limited to, building C, D, G, E, B, and A; ground and site improvements; equipment and appurtenances)	\$1,000,000.00
Maui Waena Intermediate School (FY21) (Design, construction, and equipment to aerate the P.E. Field; project may also include regrading areas of the field to remove hard soil; ground and site improvements)	\$1,810,000.00
Maui Youth and Family Services, Inc.	\$250,000.00
Nisei Veterans Legacy Center, Inc.	\$131,000.00
Pomakai Elementary School (Plans, design, and construction for parking lot fencing)	\$500,000.00
Project Vision Hawai'i	\$300,000.00

** Mahalo to Senator Keith-Agaran for his hard work with the Capital Improvement Projects!*

Education

Bills to Increase Opportunity and Outcomes

SB316 SD2 HD2- Hawai'i Promise Program Expansion

Hawai'i Promise provides **funding for community members in need of financial assistance within the community college system**. This program, which is limited to those who qualify for in-state tuition, has been very successful thus far. Therefore, there was a need to expand the program to accommodate the increase in interest. **The program allows the state to invest in individuals within our community by allowing those who desire a college education or other types of formal training the opportunity to do so at no cost to them**. This leads to stronger communities, a stronger state, and a stronger country as a whole.

SB78 SD2 HD2- Early Office of Early Learning: Public Pre-K

Virtually every high performing public school system around the world has a robust high quality pre-kindergarten program in their respective jurisdictions. This year, the legislature passed a bill to provide **additional high quality public pre-k classrooms across the state**. The Executive Office of Early Learning (EOEL) is the state governmental authority on public pre-k. Nine out of ten kids who graduate from an EOEL classroom meet or exceed scholastic expectations going into the k-12 system. Therefore, as more EOEL classrooms become available, our overall pre-k through 12th grade public school system will be strengthened.

HB1276 HD1 SD2 CD1- Best Practices Working Group

This proposal **establishes a best practice working group** with stakeholders from the educational community along with the legislature to **deeply look into high performing internationally competitive public school systems to ascertain pedagogies or overall characteristics Hawai'i can or should incorporate into our K-12 public school system**. Although the Governor vetoed this bill, we felt it was important to mention. We plan to re-introduce this bill next year.

Other Education Bills

RELATING TO EDUCATION

HB1070 HD1 SD1 CD1 provides that a public school shall not be required by the Department of Education to expend its own school funds to maintain any geographically disadvantaged land on or adjacent to its property. **It appropriates funds for teacher stipends for the Grow Our Own Teachers Initiative**. This bill also appropriates funds for the Hawai'i Teacher Standards Board.

RELATING TO SCHOOL-BASED HEALTH SERVICES

HB250 HD2 SD1 CD1 appropriates funds to implement, expand, and sustain school-based healthcare services such as vision screening in public schools.

RELATING TO PUBLIC LIBRARIES

SB976 SD2 HD1 CD2 establishes a pilot program to generate revenue through the lease of public library lands to meet the mission of the public libraries.



A group of Pre-K students making their rounds during Early Childhood Day at the Capitol



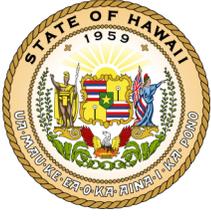
The Associated Students of the University of Hawai'i (ASUH) Caucus met with Representative Woodson to discuss student legislative priorities



Reps. Decoite, Hashimoto, Woodson, McKelvey, and Yamashita with the 2019 Maui District Teacher of the Year, Mr. Brandon Arakawa of Kahului Elementary



Majority Leader Belatti and Representative Woodson speaking about education issues on Live at Leg



**Representative
JUSTIN WOODSON**

State Capitol, Room 405
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

DISTRICT 9—KAHULUI, MAUI LANI, PUUNENE, OLD SAND HILLS



Aloha,

Thank you for allowing me this opportunity to serve you. After an eventful session, I am pleased to share some of the accomplishments from the 2019 legislative session in the post session edition newsletter. I will continue to work hard throughout the interim and session-to-come in order to better our community.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to me or my office at anytime. We are always happy to assist.

Mahalo nui loa,

Justin Woodson

