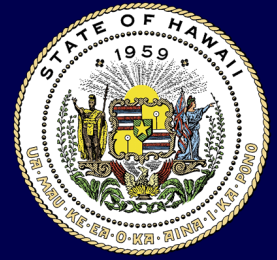




# HAWAII STATE SENATOR BENNETTE E. MISALUCHA

*Pearl City Neighborhood Board  
Legislative Report*



**NEWSLETTER**

**FEBRUARY 2021**

Dear Neighbors and Friends,

Aloha mai kakou. This Legislative session is proving to be unprecedented on two points - All the hearings will be virtual and legislators are facing the biggest budget shortfall in our state's history.

To date, I have signed more than 300 pieces of legislation. Many constituents have contacted me about their concerns and issues on matters pertaining to Pearl City. I have recently met with Governor David Ige who sat down with first-time senators to discuss their priorities. As you know, Governor Ige was once the state senator of our district and continues to take an interest in our community. I have signaled to the Governor that I have several priority bills in which I have included on page 2 of the newsletter.

As a reminder, with operational changes at the Legislature in effect, do note that the Capitol remains closed to the public and therefore, constituents interested in having their voices heard regarding bills will no longer have the opportunity to appear in person to give testimony at hearings. To submit testimony, please go to [www.capitol.hawaii.gov](http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov).

I am eager to serve each one of you and should you need any assistance with efforts to submit your testimony online, please do not hesitate to contact my office. It will be my pleasure to help you.

Very Truly Yours,

Senator Bennette E. Misalucha  
District 16

## Calendar of Events

### February

- 23 Pearl City Neighborhood Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- 25 Legislature 5-Day Recess

### March

- 11 First Crossover (Bills)
- 17 Budget Crossover
- 23 Pearl City Neighborhood Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m.

*We are here to help you...*

**Phone:** 808.586.6230  
**Email:** [senmisalucha@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:senmisalucha@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**Website:** [www.capitol.hawaii.gov](http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**Facebook:** Senator Bennette Misalucha

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## **Priority Bills Introduced by Senator Bennette Misalucha**

### **SB 908 (Relating to Driver's Licenses):**

“Extends the renewal period from two years to four years for licensees who are seventy-two years of age or older but younger than eighty years of age; provided their driving record does not include two or more moving traffic violation convictions after the licensee attained the age of seventy-two years. Defines moving traffic violation.”

- ⇒ Encourages safer driving
- ⇒ Judges drivers according to their performance, not their age
- ⇒ Strong support in the community (Harimoto family support)
- ⇒ Meets the needs of seniors during the pandemic when visiting the DMV is a risk

### **SB 913 (Relating to Sustainable Electronics):**

“Requires persons who receive state funds and state financial assistance to donate unnecessary but functioning electronic devices, hardware, and televisions to nonprofit organizations that will refurbish and distribute them to eligible persons in the State. Sets reporting requirements for donating entities, nonprofit refurbishers, and the department of accounting and general services. Sets penalties for violations.”

### **SB 914 (Relating to Broadband Access):**

“Requires the Hawaii Public Housing Authority to conduct a study on the state of broadband access in all public housing projects in the State. Requires the Public Housing Authority to submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the legislature prior to the convening of the regular session of 2022. Authorizes the Hawaii Public Housing Authority to request assistance from the Legislative Reference Bureau as may be necessary.”

### **SB 1004 (Relating to Education):**

“Beginning with the 2021-2022 school year, requires the department of education to include the teaching of financial literacy in the personal/transition plan requirement for each student.”

- ⇒ There is no mandate to teach financial literacy within public schools, which naturally disadvantages all students, but, in particular, disadvantages lower-income students for whom access to credit and debt can be particularly obstructive to lifelong financial stability
- ⇒ Minimally intrusive to the DOE and would not require the Board to change graduation requirements.

### **SB 1420 (Relating to Technology):**

“Creates the Hawaii Diversification and Resilience in a Vibrant Economy Program (HI DRiVE) and special fund, which requires the Hawaii technology development corporation to build on small business innovation research phase II awards and use funds to support phase III efforts to commercialize technology, develop manufacturing infrastructure, acquire equipment or materials, and support training or quality systems. Requires the governor to apply for \$100,000,000 in economic diversification assistance from the federal government for the creation of the HI DRiVE program.”



Ways to follow along and participate in committee hearings in 2021:

- **Livestreams:** All Senate and House committee hearings and floor sessions will be streamed live on **YouTube**.
- **Cable Television Broadcasts:** Selected committee hearings and floor sessions will be broadcast on public access cable television
- **Testimony:** The House and Senate standing committees will be accepting both written and remote testimony via **Zoom**

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Before the Hearing Begins

The Zoom meeting will begin 20-30 minutes prior to the scheduled start time for the hearing.

Be sure to join the Zoom meeting using the first and last name you provided when submitting your written testimony via the Legislature's website so we can identify you in the waiting room.



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Instructions for Remote Testimony

- To submit remote testimony, you must also submit written testimony at least 24 hours in advance at [www.capitol.hawaii.gov](http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov)
- Confirm that your name in this field matches your name on Zoom exactly

Testifier's Full Name  
 (First and last)  
 (Last Name)  
\*If joining on testimony via Zoom, this name must match your Zoom name exactly.

How will you be testifying? [more info](#)

Remotely via Zoom during the hearing & submitting written testimony  
 Written testimony only

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Your Testimony

Not yet submitted.  
 Successfully submitted.  
 Support  Oppose  Comments

| House | Hearing              | Status         |
|-------|----------------------|----------------|
| HR01  | HEARING LAB 01-31-21 | Zoom Requested |
| HR01  | HEARING LAB 01-31-21 | Zoom Requested |
| HR01  | HEARING LAB 01-31-21 | Zoom Requested |
| HR01  | HEARING LAB 01-31-21 | Zoom Requested |

You should see a note in the green "your Testimony" section that says, "Zoom requested"

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After Submitting Request

- There may need to be limits to the amount of videoconference testifiers and/or time allotted to each testifier
- If we are not able to accommodate your request to testify, you will be notified via email
- If we can accommodate your request to testify via Zoom, you will receive access three hours before the hearing begins



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During the Hearing

- Utilize your computer audio
- Make sure your chat panel is open
- When you are not testifying, turn off/mute your video and microphone
- You will receive a request to share your video before it is your turn.
- When it is your turn to testify and the Chair calls on you, please remember to unmute before addressing the committee



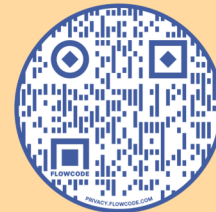
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Tips and Reminders

- Test your audio before joining
- Check the chat panel frequently
- Your internet speed will affect the quality of your video
- Mute any livestream or cable broadcasts of the hearing in the background while your mic is on
- Minimize background noise
- Be mindful of what is in the background of your video
- Do not use virtual background with copyrighted material

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Scan this QR Code for more information



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