



Aloha,

The 2018 legislative has been a historic one: Bills awaiting the Governor's signature include bans on pesticides, chemicals in sunscreen and a pilot project to vote by mail on Kauai. I will now be spending most of my time on the Big Island instead of at the Capitol so I can learn from the community what issues need to be resolved. This past session, I held forums on Crime, Roads, Disaster Preparedness (2 days before the earthquakes) and a listening session on Kehena Beach. Please let me know your concerns on our future or meetings I should attend at 974-4000 x:66530. Joy

2018 Legislative Session Highlights

<http://www.civilbeat.org/2018/05/chad-blair-the-most-progressive-legislative-session-in-a-long-time/>

Our Care, Our Choice [HB2739](#) Creates a regulated process for a terminally ill adult with less than 6 months to live to obtain a prescription to end his/her life. Criminal sanctions for tampering or coercing a patient's request for a prescription.

Big Island Pilot Project to prevent Child Abuse [HB2277](#) Recognizes East Hawaii's need for more social workers due to its vast geography by creating a DHS Child Welfare Services Pilot Project to increase staff and reduce caseloads in the East Hawaii Child Welfare Services Section.

Funding for Public Education [SB2992](#) Lets voters decide whether multi-million dollar investment properties (excludes those with homeowner exemptions) should be taxed to pay for education needs. Purpose is to address teacher shortages by having a funding source for salary increases and to address school repair/expansion needs.

Resolution requesting the County to Create Agency/Department to regulate homeowner associations. [SCR186](#) recognizes that although condos are regulated, subdivisions are not, and asks the County for an oversight authority to validate homeowner associations, audit &/or validate

disputed assessments, and dispute resolution.

Cannabis bills: [SB2407](#) Adds opioid addiction to the list of ailments for which medical cannabis can be certified for treatment. [HB2729](#): Omnibus cannabis bill that allows telehealth for those unable to physically see a medical provider to get certification; and allows for reciprocity of cannabis certification so that those who have recently moved or are visiting Hawaii with an out-of-state certification will be able to continue with their medical cannabis treatment.

Banyan Drive Rehab: [SB3058](#) establishes 10-year redevelopment project for banyan drive and Kanoelehua Industrial area.

Helicopter Air Tours Study: [HR148/HCR177](#): off-shore route/noise mitigation study.

Puna Community Court Study: [HCR81](#): Requesting the Judiciary to study the feasibility of community outreach courts in Puna & Kau.

Automatic Restraining Order: [HB1614](#) Automatically imposes a restraining order upon filing of divorce, annulment or separation to preserve assets of the parties & their dependents.

Breaking New Ground: Pesticide Ban & Reef-Safe Sunscreen

Two of the bills headed to Gov. David Ige's desk are: a ban on the pesticide chlorpyrifos; and a ban on oxybenzone and octinoxate that are found in many sunscreens. Hawaii would be the first to ban these chemicals. Chlorpyrifos was set to be banned by the EPA until the decision was reversed by President Trump. This chemical has been the subject of regulatory battles for decades, was banned in 2000 for indoor use in the United States, and exposure is linked to neurological effects, developmental disorders and other health issues. [SB3095](#) includes a 100-foot buffer zone around public and private schools and requires all users of restricted use pesticides to file yearly reports. The bill originally asked for only a school buffer zone but was amended by House to ban chlorpyrifos.



Above: Supporters of the pesticide ban outside Senate Chamber asking Senators to accept House amendments.

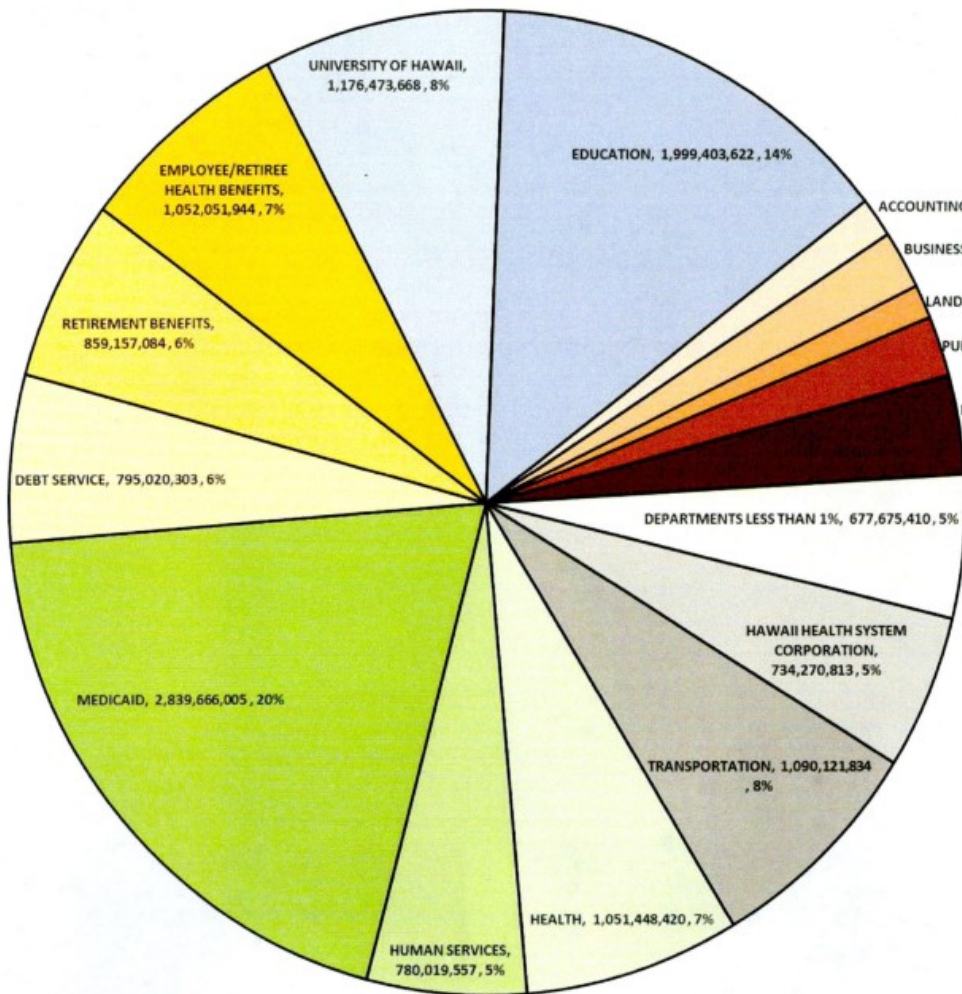
Below: Coral polyp (photo: pixabay).



Regarding sunscreen, the ban on products containing oxybenzone and octinoxate stems from studies that show the chemicals harm coral reefs and marine life. The ban goes into effect on January 1, 2021 to give industry time to reformulate their products while continuing to provide sun protection. [SB2571](#) was passed unanimously in both House and Senate.

**FY2019 HB1900 CD1
ALL MOF**

\$14,438,080,109



DEPARTMENTS LESS THAN 1%	HB1900 CD1 FY2019 TOTALS	%
AGRICULTURE	54,292,642	0.38%
ATTORNEY GENERAL	101,128,756	0.70%
BUDGET AND FINANCE	72,890,575	0.50%
COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS	91,069,503	0.63%
DEFENSE	105,360,395	0.73%
CHARTER SCHOOLS	92,300,831	0.64%
PUBLIC LIBRARIES	41,529,120	0.29%
HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS	57,204,500	0.40%
HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT	25,539,778	0.18%
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR	3,462,635	0.02%
OFFICE OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR	940,566	0.01%
SUBSIDIES	942,000	0.01%
TAXATION	31,014,109	0.21%

2017-2018

- \$250,000 DLNR**, Pohoiki Safe swim Area study
- \$91,000 HAAS** Fire alarms/ infrastructure
- \$13.2 million Haw Community Correctional Center**—construction of new building
- \$250,000 Puna Ag Park** study— \$ released
- \$500,000: Pahoia Elementary School** — Administrative bldg./Cafeteria master plan -\$ released

2018-2019

\$200,000 Big Island Law Enforcement Arrest Diversion (“LEAD”) pilot project which allows police to divert a few defendants into rehab, hospital or other facility immediately instead of jail—which means immediate consequences/ rehab instead of court delays.

2018-2019

- >\$50 million Homeless programs** statewide
- \$1 million Pahoia High & Inter:** Covered walkways, repairs
- \$32 mil Hwy 130**— continued 4-lane widening
- \$4.5 million 3 ambulances**, includes one for Hawaii County-Puna
- \$1.5 million Hilo Med Ctr** Cardiac Care Unit
- \$800,000 DLNR**-combat Rapid Ohia Death
- \$300,000** recurring **UH-Hilo**-Rat Lungworm research
- \$1 million Kulani Correctional**.— security, fencing, plans and construction
- \$100,000 Kalani Honua** cesspool conversion
- \$300,000 Keaau& Mt View**— new library plans
- \$1 mil Keaau Middle**— parking improvements

Hawaii State Department of Transportation STIP Meeting

May 15, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. Pahoia Community Center

The Hawaii Department of Transportation (HDOT) will be holding its first round of statewide public informational meetings to discuss and solicit comments on the Draft Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) for Fiscal Year 2019-2022 (+2). Participation is encouraged as comments received will help to guide the finalization of the STIP. It was at these meetings that the Pahoia roundabout and the expansion of Hwy 130 into 4-lanes was first formulated. You may wish to voice your comments on the **Contraflow Test**

April 30--May 11, 2018 where a contraflow lane between Kaloli Drive to Shower Drive on Hwy 130 for the makai lane was added. No left turns from Poni Moi (29th) to Hwy 130 and no left turn from Hwy 130 to Shower were allowed during the test period of 6-9 am on April 30-May 11



Kea'au - Pahoia Road Contra Flow Plan

LEGEND

Roadway (Grey)
Lane Striping
(White & Yellow)

Cones (Red Square)
Contra Follow Lane
Configuration
(Red Arrow)

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KEHENA BEACH—Talk Story:

Community Forum with DLNR, Councilwoman Jen Ruggles and Rep. Joy San Buenaventura to discuss issues concerning Kehena Beach such as

- lack of sanitation,
- lack of call boxes and
- ideas on community-driven solutions.

Saturday, June 16 at Kalani Honua, 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.



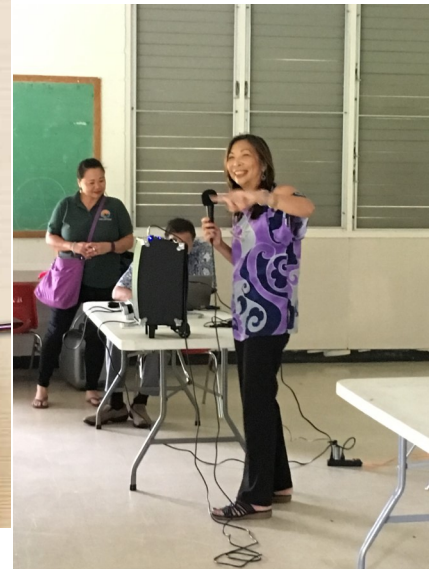
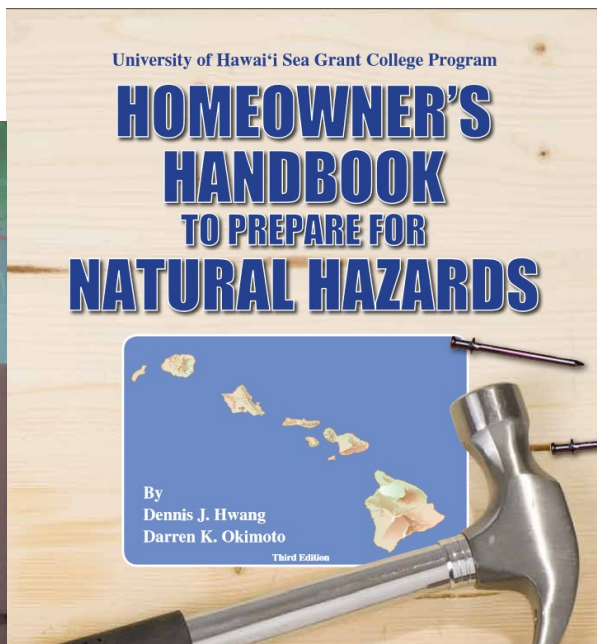
Preparing for Disaster

[Latest Update: Volcano Update USGS](#)

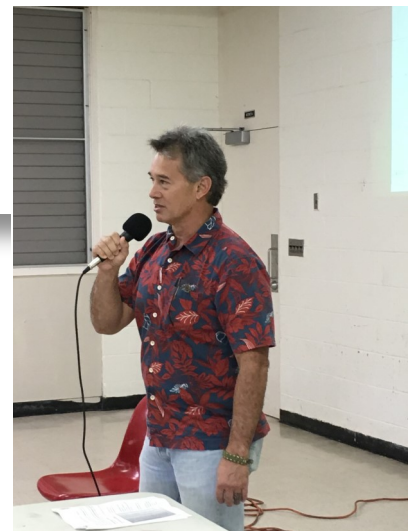
[HI County Civil Defense Alerts](#)

At the Community Forum on Disaster Preparedness at the Pahoehoe Neighborhood Facility on April 28, HI-EMA Director Capt. Thomas Travis, Civil Defense Administrator Talmadge Magno and Dennis Hwang of University of Hawaii Sea Grant spoke about our need to prepare for disasters. Each emphasized the importance of preparing as much as possible on our own because government can only do so much: Currently there are no hurricane shelters in Puna, and if shipping facilities in Honolulu or Hilo are damaged, one would have to rely on his or her supplies. That's why it is essential to have a 2-week minimum of food and water. When a storm approaches is NOT the time to stock up. Learn to turn off inflow for catchment to prevent disaster-caused contaminants.

To prepare one's home, Hwang's book, "Homeowner's Handbook to Prepare for Natural Hazards" is very helpful. The retrofits he describes in the book are effective for stabilizing homes for hurricanes and earthquakes. His advice is timely given the frequent small earthquakes Puna has been experiencing along the East Rift Zone. An electronic version of the publication put out by the University of



Clockwise, from left to right: Capt. Thomas Travis of HI-EMA; Dennis Hwang of University of Hawaii Sea Grant; Hwang's book; Rep. San Buenaventura; Talmadge Magno, Civil Defense Administrator.



[link](#) to:

[Family Disaster Plan \('Go-Bag' list\)](#)

[Volcano Observatory Daily Update](#)

[Sign up for HI County Civil Defense Alerts](#)

Events...

Plant Aloha (FREE Sustainable Farming Class)

Every Thursday, 9:00 to 12:30 p.m.

Hawaiian Sanctuary, 13-3194 Pahoa-Kalapana Rd.

IRON & SILK: Taiji-Qigong-Live Music

Saturday, May 19

1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Pahoa Village Museum

Taiji, Qigong and meditation accompanied by live Indian classical music.

Handbuilding with Clay Workshops

Volcano Art Center

19-4074 Old Volcano Road

2:30-4:30 p.m. & 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Every Tuesday, Thursday

ASTRODAY!

Free at the Prince Kuhio Plaza

Saturday, May 5

10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Cool demos, Solar viewing, science fun and prizes & giveaways!

MAUNAKEA OBSERVATORIES

Celebrating Hawaii Astronomy <http://www.mkaoc.org/programming/astroday>

