

ED WERNER

GOV. MSG. NO. 846

Ed Werner is a lifelong resident of Nanakuli, Oahu, and currently resides in the Nanakuli Hawaiian Homestead along Farrington Highway. He is a community leader who serves and gives selflessly. In recent years, alongside his wife Paula, Ed has become a very visible and vocal advocate for pedestrian and traffic safety.

Unfortunately, Ed and his 'ohana know too well the tragedy and grief that result from traffic fatalities and these have been driving factors in his advocacy work. In 2016, Ed and Paula suffered a great loss when their 19-year-old son Kaulana was hit and killed by a drunk driver near their home in Nanakuli. While coping with this tragedy, Ed and Paula worked tirelessly to raise awareness about the harms of driving under the influence and how to prevent crashes and traffic fatalities. One of the greatest outcomes of these efforts is Kaulana's Law. Enacted in 2018, this measure authorizes the courts to extend prison terms for offenders convicted of first degree negligent homicide, when the offender fails to render aid to the injured at the scene of an accident. The Werner 'Ohana also collaborates with Mothers Against Drunk Driving, labor organizations, and even the Department of Transportation to make roadways safer. Ed has also organized sign waving events encouraging drivers on Farrington Highway to slow down and to drive with aloha.

In addition promoting traffic safety, Ed also advocates for other safety measures including buffer zones around landfills to improve the health conditions of those communities living near these facilities. During the pandemic, he also worked with the Ironworkers' Stabilization Fund to distribute food and supplies to families in need.