



# State Representative Micah P.K. Aiu

House District 32 Fort Shafter, Moanalua, Āliamanu, Foster Village, and portions of 'Aiea and Hālawā.

# DISTRICT 32



@REPMICAHAIU



MICAH P.K. AIU



(808) 586-9470

# COMMUNITY NEWS | MAY 2024

## Aloha District 32!

The Legislature came to a close on May 3, 2024. It has been an honor to serve our district in the House of Representatives for the last two years. This was a difficult session. We had to tackle the Aug. 8 Maui wildfires and its recovery, the cost of pandemic hazard pay for public workers, the need to finance affordable housing on Maui and throughout the State, homelessness, and the need for mental health services to name a few.

I can report that we were able to fund all of those priorities as well as passing historic income tax relief, which is the largest tax cut in State history. All families will see a doubling of the standard deduction when they prepare their 2024 taxes next year and adjustments in the tax brackets in the later years. Hawaii is going from one of the highest income tax States in the nation to one of the lowest.

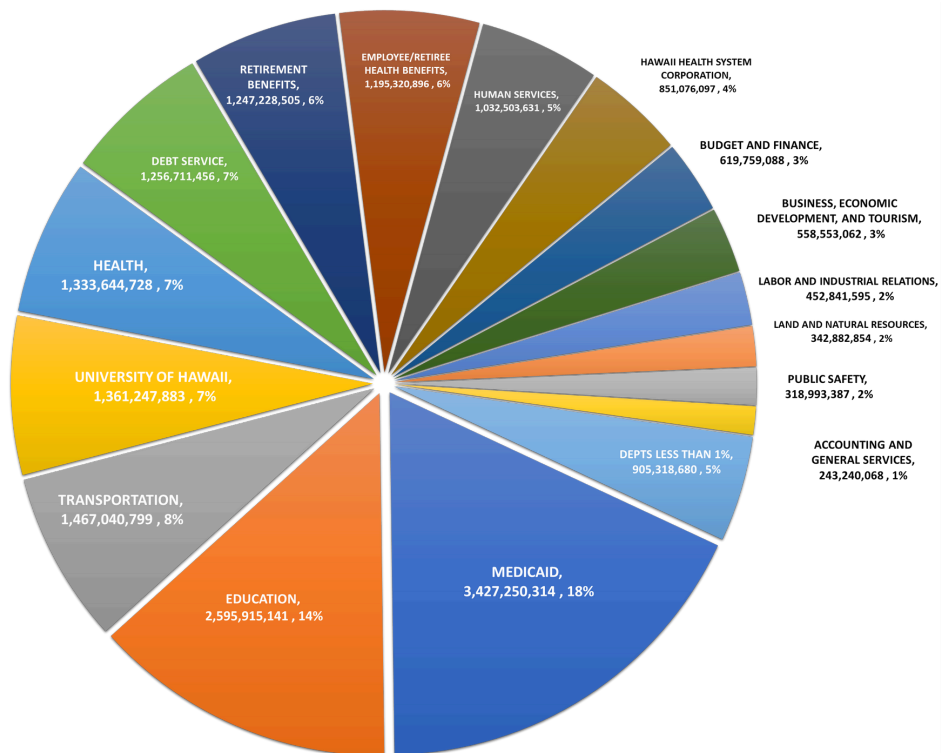
The Legislature also added an additional \$180 million into the Rental Housing Revolving Fund, which will further spur affordable housing projects in the State for those 60 area median incomes and below.

My work does not end with the adjournment of the 2024 Regular Session. Over the next several months, I will continue to deliver for our community, ensuring all have an opportunity for a better future. During the interim, my office is open, and we will be working for you. If you have any concerns or issues, you can also reach me at (808) 586-9470 or at repaiu@capitol.hawaii.gov.

## SESSION UPDATES | HB 1800 - THE BUDGET

HB 1800 responds to the pressing needs of Hawaii's people by appropriating funds for Executive Branch operating expenses, capital improvement projects, and grants-in-aid, adjusting certain budgetary requests to ensure that significant priorities are met and the structural stability of the State's financial plan is continued. In total, this budget includes:

- An operating budget of \$19.2 billion through all means of financing, including \$10.7 billion in general funds, for fiscal year 2023-2024 and \$19.2 billion through all means of financing, including \$10.4 billion in general funds, for fiscal year 2024-2025;
- A capital improvement projects budget of \$1.5 billion in general obligation bond funds and \$4.5 billion through all means of financing for fiscal year 2024-2025; and
- \$10 million for grants-in-aid for fiscal year 2024-2025.







# THE 2024 LEGISLATIVE SESSION



**FOOD DRIVE 2024!**



**MA'I MOVEMENT 2024**



## EDUCATION WEEK 2024!

### Congratulations to Ms. Ritela "Sheila" Sproule

Ms. Sproule was named the Milken Educators 2023 State of Hawai'i Teacher of Promise Award. Over the course of her career at Red Hill Elementary School, Ms. Sproule showcases her versatility and dedication in various roles that positively impacts students and staff. She used innovative and creative techniques to help ease the transition to virtual learning and to keep students engaged during the COVID-19 pandemic. Ms. Sproule is devoted to the development of her students personally and professionally.



**SALT LAKE WATERWAY & LIKINI STREET MINI-PARK COMMUNITY GENKI BALL CLEAN-UP:**



**FORT SHAFTER ELEMENTARY VISITS THE CAPITOL!**





# SESSION UPDATES

## GENERAL EXCISE TAX EMPTION ON MEDICARE, MEDICAID, AND TRICARE MEDICAL AND DENTAL SERVICES

I voted YES on Final Reading to SB 1035 which will exempt GET on Medicare, Medicaid, and TriCare medical and dental services. This will ease the fiscal burden on doctors and dentist practicing in Hawaii while also ensuring health care access to rural communities, low income families, and the elderly.



## MOANALUA ROCKFALL MITIGATION

After convening a Rockfall Mitigation Working Group with U.S. Army Garrison Hawaii, I introduced HCR134/HR115 to request that HiEMA submit a grant request to FEMA for rockfall mitigation grants in the Moanalua Gardens and Valley.

# BILL HIGHLIGHTS

## WILDFIRE RESPONSE, RECOVERY, AND MITIGATION

For fiscal year 2024–2025 to support the State's continued response to the August 2023 wildfires that affected the County of Maui and County of Hawaii:

- \$200,000,000 for insurance claim payments related to the Maui wildfires disaster;
- \$186,160,000 for recovery costs for the Maui wildfires disaster;
- \$62,500 for a temporary library in Lahaina, Maui;
- \$13,370,000 and \$12,751,554 for emergency management related to the Maui wildfires;
- \$521,473 for the DLNR Resources' Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement for Maui wildfire recovery;
- \$424,344 for six full-time equivalent permanent positions in the HiEMA for Maui wildfire recovery and emergency;
- \$20,000,000 to the DHHL for wildfire response, recovery, and prevention;
- \$7,425,000 for fire response and rehabilitation and wildfire fuels reduction contracts for the DLNR' Division of Forestry and Wildlife;
- ~\$15,00,000 to the DLNR' Native Resources and Fire Protection Program;

# SESSION UPDATES

# HB 2404 - TAX RELIEF

## Largest Tax Cut for Working Families in Hawaii's History

### How does it work?

The legislation amends two key components of Hawai'i's tax code over a seven-year period. As a result, the income taxes paid by working-class families will fall by 71% by 2031.

#### Standard Deduction:

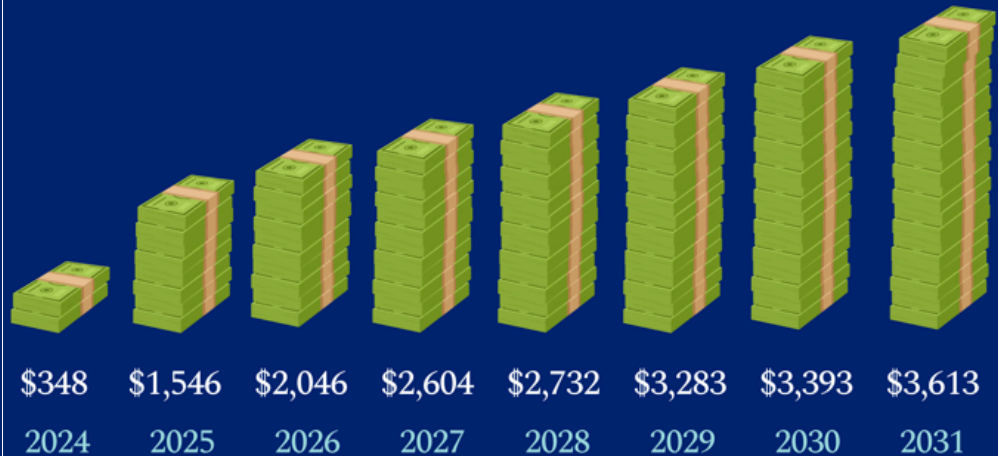
For income tax filings for taxes paid in 2024, the standard deduction, the amount of income that is exempt from taxation, is doubled. There will be further increases for taxes paid in 2026, 2028, 2030, and 2031. Increases in the standard deduction benefit low and medium-income households because they are less likely to itemize their deductions.

#### Tax Brackets:

In odd years through 2029, the tax brackets are modified by eliminating the lowest brackets, thereby reducing tax rates in the lower brackets.

### HB2404 CD1: How much will the average Hawai'i family of four save?

The average family of four with a median income of \$88,000 will save nearly \$20,000 through 2031. The tax cut will show up directly in your take-home pay!





Representative Micah P.K. Aiu



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House District 32

Fort Shafter, Moanalua, Āliamanu, Foster Village,  
and portions of 'Aiea and Hālawā



CONNECT  
WITH MY  
OFFICE!

# BUDGET UPDATES

## CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUNDING AND GRANT-IN-AID IN DISTRICT 32

### DISTRICT 32 GRANTS-IN-AID



**\$150,000**  
appropriated to  
Feeding Hawaii  
Together



**\$50,000** was  
allocated for the  
organization.



**\$100,000**  
appropriated for  
operating grant-  
in-aid.



### MAKALAPA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

**\$1,201,000** for construction of covered walkways throughout the school.

### ALVAH A. SCOTT ELEMENTARY

**\$2,200,000** for construction of a new office and health room.

### AIEA INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

**\$2,500,000** for the construction of a multi-purpose area for physical education and recess.



### MOANALUA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

**\$3,147,000** for construction and equipment for a multi-purpose innovation center.

### MOANALUA MIDDLE SCHOOL

**\$500,000** for fire alarm system replacements and upgrades and **\$150,000** for construction of an outdoor stage and sitting area.



### MOANALUA HIGH SCHOOL

**\$2,000,000** for construction of a new tennis court and refurbishment/repair/renovation of existing courts.