

From S. Maui Representative

Terez Amato

415 Beretania St.
Honolulu HI 96813



Working For the People

✉ RepAmato@Capitol.Hawaii.Gov

☎ 808-586-8525

Facebook.com/RepAmato

Instagram.com/RepresentativeAmat

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Working For the People

A Message from Terez Amato:

Aloha friends and South Maui neighbors,

Legislative session is in full swing with a flurry of activity.

This issue of #WorkingForThePeople has an update on a few key bills and issues, projects by my outstanding legislative staff in service of South Maui (Kula Kai), and a link to my latest survey. I want to hear from you. I work for you! I am listenening!

It is my immense honor to serve as your South Maui State House Representative and to amplify your voice at the State Capitol.

This is a presidential election year so make sure your voter registration is up to date!

**Me ke aloha pumehana,
Terez**

**Representative Terez Amato South Maui:
House District 11, (Kihei, Wailea Makena)**



Give Kids a Smile Free Clinic



**Hawaii Dental Association
Legislator of the Year**



**Hawai'i Capitol
Pro Democracy Ukraine Rally**



I'm fighting for Kihei:

- New truly affordable housing
- Civil rights, supporting union workers
- Flood fire & environmental protection
- Supporting local jobs and businesses
- Lower taxes for residents



Just a few of the bills that I introduced this session:

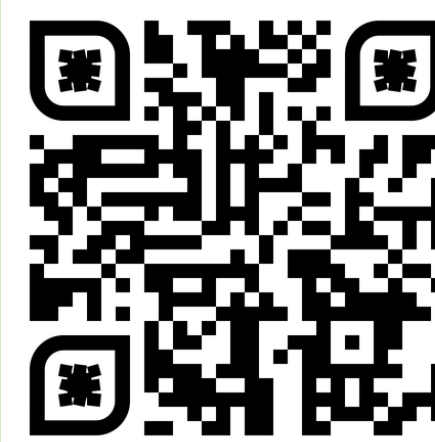
- No rent or insurance gouging
- Food resiliency
 - establishing the right to garden on any residential property
 - local farm to foodbank program
- Non-refundable tax credit for pet-friendly landlords
- Subsidies for healthcare & childcare

Are you
#ProChoice?

Do you support
marijuana
legalization?



'I am listening!
SURVEY'



www.terezamato.org/survey24-3/

Kuleana Wall Picture Contest:

Send pictures of a problem
in need of solution to:

RepAmato@Capitol.Hawaii.gov

with the subject:
"KULEANA PHOTOS"



The 'Kuleana Wall' in our office reminds us daily of why we are at the Capitol.

My job is to amplify your voice and create solutions.

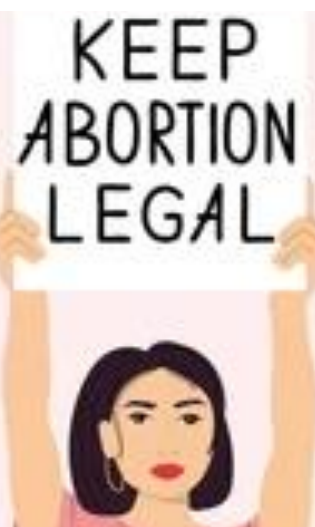
Is there an important 96753 issue you care about? If so please send us a picture for the official kuleana wall at the Capitol!



Working For the People: Staff special projects!



#TeamAmato staff work daily on bills and funding for both State and Kihei specific issues including affordable and workforce housing, flood and fire mitigation, civil rights, body autonomy, reproductive rights, LGBTQ+ rights, living wages, funding education, improving healthcare for all including disabled and Kūpuna and so much more than we can fit here, for example:



#ProChoice: We are constantly monitoring national status and supreme court rulings to ensure we keep our State efforts one step ahead of those that would curtail rights to **reproductive freedom**, abortion, IVF or contraception. It's your body - your choice!



Reducing flooding: Holly Crawford, 3L law student and Legislative Aide, worked on past and future CIP funding for Kihei Mauka deforestation mitigation via Axis deer control. Thanks to T.Amato \$3.5M new funds are now in Draft budget HB1200 this year and more last year. Holly also uncovered state laws that Maui County DPW must follow to **prevent residential damage**.



Environmental: When DLNR would not respond to data requests on 3 leaking shipwrecks, staff and I stepped into action and worked directly with the US Coast Guard Commander Hahn to ensure the shipwrecked Chaparral in North Kihei did not turn into an environmental disaster. **Kudos to our USCG!** Great work!



Chaparral Torpedo Boat
PC Berney Coleman

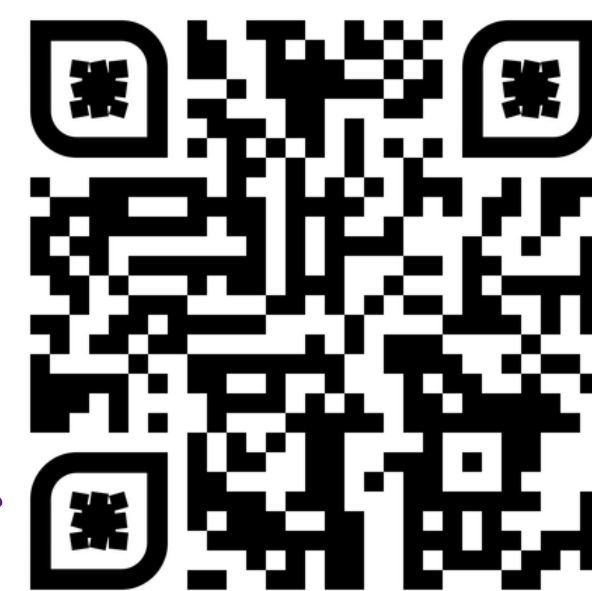
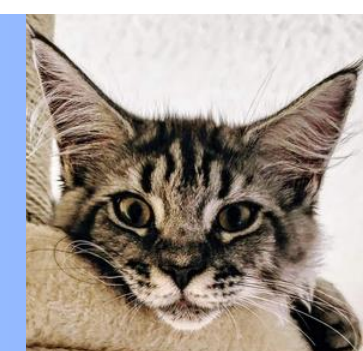
Housing the unsheltered has been a team effort with Terez working with the Governors State Homeless coordinator Mizuno and in office work by Mark Cave, Legal Pro Bono intern, to identify State land for Kauhale's to house people displaced by the fire and high prices. We have submitted requests for an **additional 800 housing units on Maui**



Affordable workforce housing is receiving 200 affordable units in Kihei (\$45 Million). My staff is also working on filing bills to **protect small businesses and limit insurance rates**.

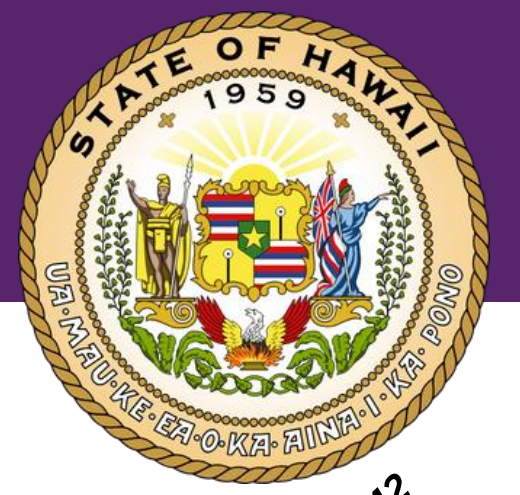


Pet friendly housing: Sophia Cowan, Legislative Aide, is working on fiscal modeling of tax credits to incentivize landlords to voluntarily provide homes to people with furkids (pets). 🐾 🐾



I am listening SURVEY:
www.terezamato.org/survey24-3/

Working For the People: Housing issues



HB 2188
HB 2742
HB 2165
HB 2088



Rent gouging on Maui and illegal evictions: What can you do?

“I am committed to addressing unfair and illegal rent hikes and ensuring safe and affordable housing” -T.Amato

Emergency proclamation 10, in effect until May 5th, is designed to protect renters from losing their homes after the August wildfires, by keeping rent at the 8/8/2023 price.

If you believe you were wrongly issued an eviction notice, you can reach out to the Hawaii Attorney General's office, which is conducting investigations.

Complaints may be emailed to HawaiiAG@hawaii.gov

You may also call FEMA's Civil Rights Resource Line at [833-285-7448](tel:833-285-7448).

For additional information on landlord-tenant issues, contact the Hawai'i Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs' Office at [808-243-4648](tel:808-243-4648).

If you are facing civil legal issues as a result of the wildfires and you cannot afford an attorney, you can get **FREE legal advice** by calling the Legal Aid Society of Hawai'i's toll-free lines at [808-536-4302](tel:808-536-4302) or [800-499-4302](tel:800-499-4302).

Rebuilding Lahaina:

The 2023 Wildfires devastated our community. As your Representative and Co-Chair of the Wildfire Food Water and Other Supplies Special Working Group I supported efforts to...

- Prevent wildfires and floods in Kihei
- Provide homes for the unsheltered
- Support local jobs and businesses
- Supply food and water
- Prevent rent and insurance gouging
- Create action plans for wildfire prevention
- Improved emergency response plans

