



REPRESENTATIVE HENRY AQUINO

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

HOUSE DISTRICT 35
WAIPAHU * CRESTVIEW * SEAVIEW



JANUARY 2012

Dear Neighbors,

Happy New Year! The start of the 2012 Regular Session of the Twenty-sixth Legislature began on January 18, 2012. During the second year of a two-year legislative biennium, I will continue to work towards legislation and public policy that addresses issues impacting our community and the State.

I encourage you to participate in the process. In this issue of the Community Newsletter, I've included information regarding the 2012 legislative timetable and Hawaii's Public Access Room (PAR).

In this newsletter, there is a look back at my 2011 highlights from last year's legislative session and information regarding new requirements for Hawaii Driver's License and Learner's Permit which take effect on March 5, 2012. I would also like to introduce you to my legislative staff as well as some interesting "Did You Know...?" facts regarding our community.

I welcome your feedback and comments. Please feel free to send me an e-mail at repaquino@capitol.hawaii.gov, call me at 586-6520 or send a fax to 586-6521.

With Much Aloha,

Hawaii State Capitol, Room 419
Phone: 586-6520 / Fax: 586-6521
Email: repaquino@capitol.hawaii.gov

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2012 LEGISLATIVE TIMETABLE

- JAN**
- 18th Opening Day
- 23rd State-of-the-State Address
- 31st Deadline for organizations to submit grant and subsidy requests to the Legislature
- FEB**
- 17th First Lateral (Bills)
- 20th Holiday: President's Day
- 23rd Start mandatory 5-day recess
- 29th End mandatory 5-day recess
- MAR**
- 2nd First Decking for non-fiscal bills
- 8th First Crossover
- 12th Budget Decking
- 14th Budget Crossover and last day to introduce Substantive resolutions.
- 23rd Second Lateral (Bills)
- 26th Holiday: Kuhio Day
- APR**
- 3rd First Lateral for House concurrent resolutions
- 5th Second Decking
- 6th Holiday: Good Friday
- 12th Second Crossover
- 13th First Crossover for concurrent resolutions
- 20th Deadline for final form of bills proposing constitutional amendments
- 23rd Second Crossover for concurrent resolutions
- 26th Final Decking of non-fiscal bills
- 27th Final Decking for fiscal bills
- MAY**
- 3rd Adjournment Sine Die (Session Pau!)

2011 LEGISLATIVE HIGHLIGHTS

Although the past 2011 Legislative Session was conducted in tough economic times, I along with my fellow House and Senate colleagues worked together to pass good, meaningful legislation. While I worked on many of these bills, I would like to highlight several measures that I worked on closely.

In response to concerns raised from local law enforcement agencies, I authored **House Bill (HB) 968**, which passed and signed into law on June 8, 2011 as Act 85. This new law protects domestic violence victims by strengthening the legal authority of temporary restraining orders (TRO) and allows judges more discretion in providing protective orders.

HB 555 relating to graffiti offense sentencing was signed into law on June 23, 2011 as Act 156 requires a person convicted of criminal property damage by graffiti to remove graffiti from property within 250 yards of the site of the offense instead of 100 yards in a bill I introduced and passed last year. We also added specific language that the property owner needs to provide consent and the act of removal does not endanger the person or others nor provides an inconvenience to the public. If the removal does not meet these requirements, the courts may require the person to perform one hundred hours of community service in lieu of removing the graffiti.

Senate Bill (SB) 1025 signed into law on July 5, 2011 as Act 187 protects our fire and water safety first responders from assault when performing their duties. Assaulting fire and water personnel would be classified as a felony in the second degree. In addition, this bill protects our seniors and disabled individuals in the community by creating a Class B felony for unauthorized entry into homes where occupants are 62 years old or older or incapacitated.



Rep. Aquino with Honolulu Fire Dept. personnel

In addition, **over \$200 million in capital improvement projects** were approved to benefit residents of the 35th district which includes projects relating to our transportation, education, and civil defense systems. These projects provide needed jobs in our construction industry and provide needed infrastructure to better our lives in our community and state.



HAWAII'S PAR HELPS YOU TO PARTICIPATE IN OUR DEMOCRACY

The **Public Access Room (PAR)** provides the public with resources, i.e., computers, reference material, work space, expert staff, etc. to participate in the legislative process including tracking bills. The PAR services are free of charge. The PAR is a division of the Legislative Reference Bureau, a non-partisan agency of the Hawaii State Legislature.

PAR at Hawaii State Capitol
415 S. Beretania St., Room #401
Honolulu, HI 96813
Phone: 808-587-0478
TTY: 808-587-0749
Email: par@capitol.hawaii.gov

PAR Office Hours - Monday through Friday
Regular Legislative Session
(January – April) – 8 AM to 7 PM
Interim
(May – December) – 9 AM to 5 PM



**PROCEDURE TO RENEW, REINSTATE, AND APPLY FOR HAWAII DRIVER LICENSE OR LEARNER'S PERMIT
State to Implement Legal Presence Act Requirements**

The State Department of Transportation posted the following news on their website www.hawaii.gov/dot on January 8, 2012.

(Honolulu) Beginning Monday, **March 5, 2012**, proof of “legal presence” will be required for driver licenses and learner’s permits throughout Hawaii. The state Department of Transportation (DOT) and all county Motor Vehicle, Licensing and Permits Divisions will implement the Legal Presence Act requirements in accordance to Act 38 of the 2010 state Legislative session. This is a major component of the federally mandated REAL ID Act of 2005 that will affect driver licensing requirements statewide.

Proof of “legal presence” will be required of all individuals renewing, reinstating and applying for a Hawaii driver’s license or learner’s permit. Existing permit holders must also comply with requirements before passing their road tests. These requirements apply to all U.S. citizens and foreign-born residents.



Individuals must provide a valid or certified copy of their Social Security card. In addition, to demonstrate legal presence, the Drivers Licensing Offices will also require at least one of the following documents:

- A valid, un-expired U.S. passport
- An original or certified copy of a birth certificate filed with a state Department of Health or equivalent agency in the individual’s state of birth
- A Consular Report of Birth Abroad (CRBA) issued by the U.S. Department of State, Form FS-240, DL-1350 or FS-545
- A valid, un-expired permanent resident card issued by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS), Form I-551
- A certificate of naturalization issued by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Form N-550
- A certificate of citizenship issued by the DHS, Form N-560
- A valid U.S. Active Duty/Retiree/Reservist Military ID Card (DOD ID DD-2)
- A valid foreign passport with Visa and I-94 issued by Customs and Border Protection, DHS

Additional requirements may apply. For instance, married women who have changed their last names must also provide a valid or certified copy of their marriage licenses.

In conjunction with implementation of the Legal Presence Act, Hawaii will be issuing temporary licenses, and upon completion of all verifications, the plastic license will be mailed. If there are no subsequent issues that come up after the initial processing, applicants should receive their plastic licenses within two weeks of the date that they applied.

A full list of the Legal Presence Act requirements and frequently asked questions can be found at www.hawaii.gov/dot and click on the legal presence banner.

MEET THE STAFF

Maureen Andrade – Office Manager
Ruffy Sunajo – Committee Clerk
Janelle Funtanilla – Legislative Aide
Stacie Gandauli – Legislative Aide
Emil Romolor – Legislative Aide (Intern)



Pictured from left to right – Janelle, Stacie, Maureen, Ruffy & Emil

Did you know...Waipahu High School Offers the Lodging Management Program?

Waipahu High School is currently the only school in Hawaii offering the Lodging Management Program (LMP), a two-year lodging curriculum designed for high school juniors and seniors. It was developed by



the Education Institute of the American Hotel and Lodging Association with input from thousands of lodging professionals across the nation. Students from Waipahu High School will compete in the American Hotel & Lodging Association's National Lodging Management Program Competition in Orlando, Florida on April 7 -9, 2011. Congratulations to Waipahu High School students **Karen Gail Galanto, Dulce Ramos, Kimberlyrose Garcia and Richard Dean Danao**, who will participate in the April competition (see picture). The

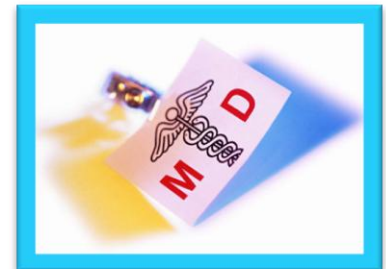
team will be under the guidance of their instructor Todd Nakayama, who is the American Hotel & Lodging Association's Educational Institutes 2010 Lamp of Knowledge Award Winner and recognized as one of the Lodging Management Program's Teacher of the Year.

Did you know...Pearl City Urgent Care Has New Extended Hours?

The recent closings of the Hawaii Medical Centers (HMC East and HMC West) have resulted in longer waits for many as emergency rooms are crowded and stressed to the limit. Pearl City Urgent Care has been busy taking care of people who need immediate medical care and have extended their hours of operation to help with this crisis.

Pearl City Urgent Care
1245 Kuala Street
Pearl City, Hawaii

Monday through Friday: 7 AM to 7 PM
Saturday and Sunday: 8 AM to 6 PM
Walk-ins are welcome



Pearly City Urgent Care provides a quick and affordable option for people needing immediate medical care and treatment for common or everyday health problems seven days a week – no appointments are necessary.