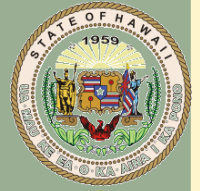




BERTRAND KOBAYASHI STATE REPRESENTATIVE

DISTRICT 19 - DIAMOND HEAD,
KAHALA, KAIMUKI, KAPAHULU



May 2017

Aloha,

I am happy to share with you some highlights of the 2017 Legislature and brief descriptions of some important measures that passed.

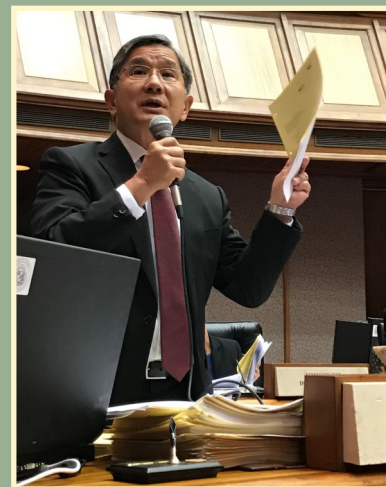
Although Hawaii's economy remains stable, a cautious approach to spending was taken with over \$500 million put into reserves for the first time. Also Governor's original budget request was cut by over \$100 million for each of the next two years.

Items which did not pass included (1) the rail tax increase, (2) new property tax surcharge for education, (3) death with dignity, and (4) the AirBNB short-term rental proposal.

Please keep in touch with me about your concerns and please feel free to email me at repkobayashi@capitol.hawaii.gov, call me at 586-6310, or fax me at 586-6311. Thank you for the privilege of serving you in the House of Representatives.

Mahalo nui loa,

Representative Bertrand Kobayashi
District 19
Diamond Head, Kahala, Kaimuki, Kapahulu



Representative Kobayashi speaking on the House floor on issues affecting District 19.

Prevent Child Abuse Hawaii placed pinwheels along the entrance to the State Capitol in recognition of National Child Abuse Prevention Awareness Month in April



Housing advocates built a small home on the State Capitol lawn. George Massengale of Hawaii Habitat for Humanity spoke with Representative Kobayashi

HB100 The State Budget Bill *Fiscal Restraint*

The Legislature’s final budget is smaller than the Governor’s initial request by \$139 million for FY2018 and \$106 million for FY2019. For the 5th year in a row, the Legislature has cut the Governor’s initial budget request.

This session the House passed a State Budget that appropriates \$14.1 billion in total operating funds for fiscal year 2018 and \$14.3 billion for fiscal year 2019. The budget includes \$2.9 billion for critical capital improvement projects in every county across the state. More than \$30 million is designated in the budget for grants-in-aid for nonprofit organizations who reach out to the community with invaluable services.

In crafting the budget, lawmakers provided funds to support low-income families, protected property owners flood insurance policies, and funded the Hawaii Promise Program to help qualified students with financial needs to pay for in-state college tuition.

Governor David Ige will have 45 days after the end of the legislative session to consider which bills become law. (The computation of the 45 day period excludes Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays. In this instance, three state designated holidays – Memorial Day, Kamehameha Day, and Independence Day). The 45th day after adjournment (May 4, 2017) is Tuesday, July 11, 2017. The Governor’s 10 day notification of intent to veto is Monday, June 26, 2017.

Funding for District 19 Improvement Projects (Fiscal Biennium 2018-2019)

Kapiolani Community College	\$ 30,000,000
Design, construct the Culinary Institute of the Pacific, Phase II (\$20m + \$10m private sector match)	
Kaimuki High School	\$ 500,000
Plans and design for soccer complex; ground and site improvements; equipment and appurtenances.	
Kaimuki Middle School	\$ 500,000
Design and construction to install covered walkways; ground and site improvements.	
Waikiki Elementary School	\$ 815,000
Plans, design, construction, and equipment for electrical upgrades for school; replace curtains for stage in cafeteria; ground and site improvements.	
Diamond Head Health Center	\$ 902,000
Design and construction to waterproof and remediate water damage; improvements to paved and landscaped areas.	
Fort Ruger Above Ground Fuel Storage Tank	\$ 237,000
Design and construction for a 1,000-gallon above ground fuel storage tank to support Dept. of Defense.	
Leahi Hospital	\$ 900,000
Plans, designs, and construction for upgrades for upgrades, renovations, or replacement of Atherton, Sinclair, and Trotter elevators.	
Total	\$ 33,854,000



Summary of 2017 Bills

HB 607, Kupuna Caregivers: Appropriates \$600,000 (FY 2017-18) to the Executive Office of Aging to establish the Kupuna Caregivers Program. This bill will help people obtain care for elders up to \$70 per day so they can continue to work. The \$70 per day helps to cover costs such as adult day care; transportation; home delivered meals; homemaker services; personal care; and respite care.

HB 615, Healthy Aging Partnership: Appropriates \$500,000 (FY 2017-18) to the Executive Office of Aging. This program includes education and training on maintaining the health, fitness, and function of older adults with chronic health conditions.

HB 116, Public Schools: Appropriates \$100,000 per year (FY 2017-18; & FY 2018-19) to assist the City and County of Honolulu to prepare, execute, and record the quitclaim deeds required to transfer 14 high schools to the State, including Kaimuki and Kalani High Schools.

HB 375, Hawaii Tourism Authority: Appropriates \$1 million to the Hawaii Tourism authority for projects to address homelessness in tourist and resort areas. The private sector must match any State money released for such projects on a dollar for dollar basis.

SB 1240, Aquatic Life: Prohibits issuance of new aquarium permits or transfer of current permits. Requires the DLNR to submit a policy for sustainable collection practices of near shore aquatic life and a process for determining limits on collection practices.

HB 423, Film; Digital Media Industry; Tax credit: Extends the tax credit to 2026 and caps the amount of tax credits at \$35 million. The Department of Business, Economic Development, & Tourism and Tax Department must report the number of jobs created and the fiscal impact of every film production receiving the tax credit.

HB 115, Highways; Roads in Limbo; Counties: Requires each County with a population of 500,000 or greater to take ownership and jurisdiction over all disputed roads. When ownership of roads are in dispute, the roads often do not receive the proper care and maintenance they need. The dispute may be between the State and a county or a private party, or between a county and a private party.



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Dr. Ian Okazaki, a 2016 Hawaii Healthcare Hero Awardee from Straub Hospital, helps his patients navigate a cancer diagnosis and provides the best care possible.



Kalani High School Senior Kacie Kajihara was honored by the House of Representatives for being a National Merit Semi-Finalist and for international science awards for breakthrough research on tissue culture of the Hawaiian Papaya.



100th Anniversary of Boy Scout Troop 10

Boy Scout Troop 10 of Kaimuki will commemorate its centennial on July 2, 2017. Troop 10 was founded by former Honolulu Mayor Charles Crane on March 7, 1917, making it one of the longest continuously chartered and the longest continuously active Boy Scout Troop in Hawaii.

Chartered by the Kaimuki Lions Club, Troop 10 has been successful in engaging young boys in scouting due to the dedication, leadership, and support of its scoutmasters, parents and staff. Troop 10 has produced many outstanding graduates who have gone on to serve the public – two Chief Justices of the Hawaii Supreme Court, a Lieutenant Governor, a Mayor, a Chief of Police, a State Senator and a United States Army General.

Over its 100-years, Troop 10 has met in “The Bowl” on Crater Road, behind the Kaimuki Fire Station and instilled scouting skills and character for over 2,100 young men of Kaimuki and Honolulu. Three generations of Representative Kobayashi’s family, including his father and his son, were Troop 10 scouts.

KALANI SENIOR SEMIFINALIST FOR U.S. PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLARS PROGRAM

Emily Yang will graduate as the valedictorian of Kalani High and plans on attending the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill where she will major in Biology. Her interest and talent in science has helped her win numerous awards at district and state Science and Engineering Fairs. This year she competed in a science fair in Japan and was a return participant at the 2017 Intel International Science and Engineering Fair.