



REPRESENTATIVE
DeeMORIKAWA
 District 16 * Niihau, Lehua, Koloa, Waimea



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You may have heard media reports that this year’s legisla-
 ture was a failure. Some people will say that representa-
 tives haven’t done enough to protect our residents or we
 haven’t put funding in the right places or we just cater to
 the special interest groups. Who are these special interest
 groups? In my opinion they are individuals and organiza-
 tions who are passionate advocates who care about their
 issues. I may not agree with them, but they provide valu-
 able information, which helps me make the best decisions
 possible.

I prefer to take the positive side on this year’s session and
 highlight the accomplishments. Hawai’i will be the first
 state to plan and implement the Kupuna Caregivers Pro-
 gram. This program will give much needed respite to those
 who care for the elderly. We have funded the Long-Term
 Ombudsman program so there will be better response to
 complaints statewide. The Healthy Aging Partnership pro-
 gram will be funded for another year, and we will pursue
 funding again next year. The Department of Agriculture,
 pesticide branch will receive three more positions for pes-
 ticide compliance and will also receive more funding for
 pesticide regulation expenses and studies.

Changes to the State Department of Education’s student
 meals program passed this year giving parents a grace
 period to replenish meal accounts so a child will not be de-
 nied meals. The DOE is also making it easier for parents to
 replenish accounts through the internet. Ele’ele and Keka-
 ha Elementary already provides free meals to all students,
 so it was great to hear that the program has now expanded
 to 52 schools statewide. Also of note is an appropriation
 of \$1,829,000 in the state budget for the Hawai’i Promise

Program which will help qualified community college stu-
 dents with tuition.

Residents in Waimea may have noticed that the Waimea
 Valley rockfall mitigation project is progressing. There
 are many other dangerous areas and we hope that those
 areas can be addressed soon. Hanapepe Valley will also
 have some rockfall areas mitigated. The county will receive
 \$500,000 to begin plans and construction of a permanent
 Waimea River crossing. Waimea High School’s on campus
 football/baseball field will also get \$1 million for renova-
 tions.

I am thrilled and honored to have been recently appointed
 as Majority Floor Leader. This new challenge allows me to
 be part of a leadership team under newly elected Speaker
 Scott K. Saiki, who has created a team of millennials, wom-
 en and neighbor islanders with the hope of moving our
 state in a positive direction.

For the past 7 years, I have been your representative and
 have done everything I can to address the health and safe-
 ty of our island and state. I can assure you that we will do
 all we can to protect our most vulnerable populations, and
 we will not turn our backs on problems. Thank you for your
 continued support and encouragement, and never hesitate
 to contact me or my office.

Mahalo,



REPRESENTATIVE
DAYNETTE “DEE” MORIKAWA
 Assistant Majority Leader

HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

Having completed my third session as Chair of the House Human Services Committee, funding state departments like the Department of Human Services has become challenging. Ongoing budgetary restrictions make it necessary to delve deep into the department, and work closely with my committee colleagues, department heads and stakeholders. As bills progressed into the final days of the session, the Conference Committees I convened as co-chair along with my counterpart in the Senate, Senator Josh Green were very productive and insightful, ultimately resulting in some very good bills. Below are some of the bills that have passed.

HB 607, HD1, SD2, CD1 Relating to Kupuna Care

Authorizes the Executive Office on Aging to establish the Kupuna Caregivers Program to assist community members in obtaining care for elders while remaining in the workforce. Clarifies the kupuna service and support options provided by area agencies on aging within the program. Appropriates funds for establishing and implementing the Kupuna Caregivers Program.

HB 674, HD2, SD2, CD1 Relating to Child Care Providers (Wiley Kaikou Muir Act)

Requires all child care providers to obtain and maintain liability insurance as a condition of licensure, temporary permission, or registration and disclosure of insurance-related information to certain parents or guardians. Requires the Department of Human Services to submit a report to the Legislature prior to the 2018 Regular Session.

HB 1099, HD1, SD2, CD1 Relating to Reports of Child Abuse

Brings the State into compliance with the federal Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act of 2015 and the federal Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act of 2010. Amends the definition of “child abuse or neglect” to include sex trafficking or severe forms of trafficking in persons. Clarifies that records and information contained in child abuse and neglect reports that are expunged from the State’s central registry may be retained by the Department of Human Services solely for future risk and safety assessment purposes. Deletes the child abuse investigation disposition of “unsubstantiated” and replaces it with “not confirmed”.

HB 1396, HD2, SD2, CD1 Relating to Community Care Foster Family Homes

Authorizes the Department of Health, working in consultation with the Department of Human Services, to allow two private-pay individuals to be cared for in the same community care foster family home after consideration of specified relevant factors.

HB 83, HD1, SD2, CD1 Relating to Homelessness

Requires the Hawai’i Interagency Council on Homelessness, in conjunction with and with the advisement of the Department of Human Services and Department of Land and Natural Resources, to establish a working group to examine and develop recommendations related to the establishment of safe zones for persons experiencing homelessness. Requires the working group to submit a report to the Legislature. Appropriates funds.

HB 615, HD1, SD1, CD1 Relating to the Healthy Aging Partnership Program

Appropriates funds for the Healthy Aging Partnership Program to further the program’s important role in improving the health and well-being of Hawai’i’s kupuna.



Floor presentation honoring Kuana Torres Kahele – Kumu Hula, award winning musician and cultural practitioner extraordinaire. Nice to have this photo op with the House Speaker Souki and the Kaua’i Delegation.



As a supporter of Agriculture, it was great to hear the issues and concerns of the Cattlemen’s Council of Hawai’i.



Agriculture Day at the Capitol! Kaua’i’s hardworking agricultural advocates proudly display their products from the Garden Island. Always great to have their presence known at the Capitol.

The Budget – HB 100, HD1, SD1 CD1

Each year, the Legislature is tasked with working on the State Budget. It is a very difficult task to undertake, as each state department requires funding to carry out their operations and responsibilities. In addition, funding for Capital Improvements Projects (CIPs) are becoming limited due to the state's financial situation. However, I was fortunate to secure meaningful CIP funding for District 16. My commitment to working toward a better quality of life for the residents on Kaua'i has always remained in the forefront of my duties as a legislator. Below are Capital Improvement Projects (CIPs) for the 16th District only.

District 16 Capital Improvement Projects approved by the 2017 Legislature

Hawaiian Home Lands Lot Development **FY18 \$1,000,000**
Plans, design and construction for development of Hanapepe Residential Subdivision Phase 2.

Lump Sum Public Housing Development, Improvement and Renovations Statewide **FY18 \$17,675,000**
Plans, land acquisition, design, construction and equipment for AMP 38, Kaua'i for infrastructure Phase 1, infrastructure and site work for 6 West Kaua'i projects.

Captain Cook Memorial Park **FY18 \$1,000,000**
Design and construction of new backstop, dugouts, lighting and grandstand at the Captain Cook Memorial Park in Waimea

Kaumuali'i Highway, Hanapepe River Bridge **FY18 \$9,600,000**
Construction and rehabilitation and/or replacement of Hanapepe River Bridge along Kaumuali'i Highway. This project is deemed necessary to qualify for federal aid financing and/or reimbursement. (N Funds)

Kaumuali'i Highway Bridge Hanapepe River Bridge **FY18 \$2,400,000**
Construction and rehabilitation and/or replacement of Hanapepe River Bridge along Kaumuali'i Highway. This project is deemed necessary to qualify for federal aid financing and/or reimbursement. (E Funds)

Other notable Kaua'i CIP's approved for the Island of Kaua'i

Shooting Range Development **FY18 \$350,000**
Plans, design and construction for the development of shooting ranges on Kaua'i.

Kaua'i Community Correctional Center (KCCC) **FY18 \$13,210,000**
Construction of a new medium security housing unit and related improvements at KCCC.

Bryan J. Baptiste Sports Complex Improvements **FY18 \$2,500,000**
Plans and construction of a new announcer's booth, bleachers, P.A. system and ADA walkways.

Lihue Airport Storage Facility **FY18 \$1,000,000**
Plans, design, and construction of a new storage facility at the Lihue Airport to store emergency equipment including but not limited to Federal, State and Local agencies emergency equipment.

Grant-In-Aid

Grant-In-Aid (GIA) as defined in §42F-101 of the Hawai'i Revised Statutes means "an award of state funds by the legislature, by an appropriation to a specified recipient, to support the activities of the recipient and permit the community to benefit from those activities." Below are GIA's that were awarded to organizations for the benefit of all Kaua'i's communities.

Hui O Laka **\$25,000**
Construction for the renovation of historic State-owned buildings.

Kaua'i Habitat for Humanity, Inc. **\$500,000**
Construction for affordable housing for low-income families on Kaua'i.



Members of the Kaua'i ILWU stop by for a visit. Always great to see my hardworking constituents



Members of Kaua'i Fire Department drop by for a meeting. Mahalo for keeping Kaua'i Safe.



Human Services Committee Hearing. Listening to testimony is an integral part of the bill process.

2017 Session Highlights – Bills Introduced by Rep. Morikawa

The measures below provide a snapshot of bills that have passed the legislature. In order for a bill to pass out of the Legislature, it must be approved by both the Senate and the House. While numerous bills have passed, the measures I introduced listed below are consistent with issues I have been advocating and what I believe is important to my district, all of Kaua'i, and everyone in this state. If you are interested in learning more about the many other bills that have passed this session, please feel free to contact my office.

HB 1444, HD2, SD2, CD1 Relating to Pharmacy Benefit Managers (First Primary Introducer)
Requires pharmacy benefit managers to register with the Insurance Commissioner.

HB 428, HD1, SD1, CD1 Relating to Physician Workforce Assessment (Primary Introducer)
Allows the John A. Burns School of Medicine to continue to receive a portion of the physician workforce assessment fee for ongoing physician workforce assessment and planning to support the recruitment and retention of physicians in the State, particularly those in rural and medically underserved areas.

HB 451, HD1, SD2, CD1 Relating to the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act (Primary Introducer)
Reduces the minimum Hawaiian blood quantum requirement of certain successors to lessees of Hawaiian home lands from one-quarter to one thirty-second.

HB 551, HD1, SD2, CD1 Relating to Health Insurance (Primary Introducer)
Establishes the Affordable Health Insurance Working Group to plan for and mitigate adverse effects of the potential repeal of the federal Affordable Care Act by Congress.

HB 655, HD1, SD1, CD1 Relating to the Rose-Ringed Parakeet (Primary Introducer)
Appropriates funds to the Department of Land and Natural Resources to assist and provide supplemental funds to the National Wildlife Research Center of the U.S. Department of Agriculture to research the adverse effects of the rose-ringed parakeet on Kaua'i and develop and begin implementation of a control plan to reduce the negative impacts.

HR 24 (First Primary Introducer) Recognizing Kuana Torres Kahele – kumu hula, award winning singer and songwriter, traditional and cultural practitioner for all his accomplishments, accolades and efforts to perpetuate Hawaiian culture. Adopted on 02/15/2017.



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Other Notable Bills

HB 209, HD1 SD1, CD1 Earned Income Tax Credit; Income Tax Rates; Refundable Food/Excise Tax Credit. Establishes a state earned income tax credit. Changes income tax rates after 12/31/17. Repeals the sunset date for amendments made to the refundable food/excise tax credit by Act 223, SLH 2015.

SB 423, SD, HD1, CD1 Relating to Student Meals

Prohibits denying a student a meal for failure to pay within: (1) The first 21 days of the first semester of a school year while the student's application for free or reduced lunch is being processed; or (2) 7 days after the student's meal fund account balance is zero or negative. Authorizes the Department of Education to adopt rules or policies for the collection of funds for negative student meal balances. Requires a report to the Legislature.