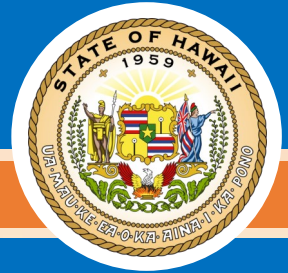




# VAL OKIMOTO

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MILILANI MAUKA - MILILANI - WAIPIO ACRES



JANUARY 2020 NEWSLETTER

### CONTACT



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Aloha Friends and Neighbors,

Happy New Year! Thank you for the honor, privilege and humble opportunity to serve as your voice and advocate in the state House of Representatives. Opening Day for the Legislature was on Wednesday, January 15th and continues through Thursday, May 7th.

Please take some time to fill out the survey that I have included on the other side of this mailer. Your responses will assist me during the legislative session as we debate proposed legislation that may affect the people of Hawaii'i.

I also encourage you to sign up for my e-mail list by visiting the link provided below. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at (808) 586-9460 or via e-mail at repokimoto@capitol.hawaii.gov.

I wish you, your families, and loved ones a Happy New Year!

Sincerely,

*Val*

### COMMUNITY EVENTS



Western Legislative Academy  
THE COUNCIL OF STATE GOVERNMENTS WEST



Top Left - Mahalo to local artists Wooden Wave (Matthew and Roxanne Ortiz) who created this beautiful gift for our community, and mahalo to the Town Center of Mililani for their support of local artists.

Top Right - I recently graduated from the Western Legislative Academy, which was an opportunity for me to sharpen my leadership skills and build regional relationships with other legislators.

Left - Mahalo to MG Arthur J. Logan, former state Adjutant General, who retired from the Hawaii'i Army National Guard this month.

### SIGN UP FOR E-MAIL UPDATES

Visit: <http://eepurl.com/gvluxb> to sign up for my e-mail list. Mahalo!

BILLS INTRODUCED BY REP. OKIMOTO

**Carryover Bills from 2019**

HB 891 HD1 - RELATING TO TAXATION. Establishes a state income tax credit for certain expenses incurred by pre-kindergarten through grade twelve teachers, instructors, school librarians, counselors, principals, registrars, or aides in a school.

HB 1226 - RELATING TO TAXATION. Amends the refundable food/excise tax adjusted gross income brackets and the accompanying credit amounts.

HB 1385 - RELATING TO THE HAWAII SCIENTIST-TO-TEACHER PATHWAY PILOT PROGRAM. Requires the Department of Education to establish a 5-year Hawaii Scientist-to-Teacher Pathway Pilot Program to recruit, train, support, and retain qualified STEM professionals as kindergarten through grade twelve teachers of those subjects in the State. Appropriates funds.

HB 1388 - RELATING TO JURORS. Allows persons seventy years old or older to claim exemption from service as a juror.

**Bills Introduced in 2020**

HB 1830 - RELATING TO TAXATION. Exempts the sale of precious metal bullion from the general excise tax.

HB 1831 - RELATING TO TAXATION. Amends the rate of the environmental response, energy, and food security tax imposed on petroleum products. Amends the portion of environmental response, energy, and food security tax revenues deposited into the energy security special fund.

RELATING TO EVIDENCE – Limits compelled disclosures or unpublished information for journalists, newscasters and persons participating in collection or dissemination of news or information of substantial public interest.

RELATING TO COLLECTIVE BARGAINING – Creates a new bargaining unit (15), exclusively for state and county ocean safety and water safety officers.

HOUSE DISTRICT 36 - 2020 LEGISLATIVE SESSION SURVEY

At the beginning of each legislative session, it is useful to get a direct response from residents of Mililani Mauka, Mililani and Waipio Acres about their personal opinions on issues before the Legislature. In addition to fiscal issues, the Legislature will study and create laws that may not have any up front cost. These issues become much more complicated and nuanced since the issues are rarely black or white. Please respond to the following statements indicating how strongly you agree or disagree.

	Strongly Agree	Agree	No Opinion	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
1. The State should raise the minimum wage to \$15.00/hour.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. I would support the installation of red light cameras to promote pedestrian safety.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. I would support a ban on flavored e-cigarette and vaping products.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. I would support paid family leave for new parents.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. I would support releasing non-violent criminals from jail without bail.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

We welcome responses from all residents of District 36, we only ask that one response is submitted per person. For your responses to be tabulated, we ask for both your full name and street address. This will allow us to verify if you are a valid resident, your information and responses will be confidential. Your email address will allow us to confirm receipt of your survey results. Please e-mail your completed survey to repokimoto@capitol.hawaii.gov. An online version of this survey is also available by visiting: <https://tinyurl.com/HD36SURVEY2020>

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_