



Representative Jackson D. Sayama

March 2023 Community Report

District 21—St. Louis Heights, Pālolo Valley, Maunalani Heights, Wilhelmina Rise, Kaimukī

Good Policy Comes from Listening to Constituents

Aloha Neighbors!

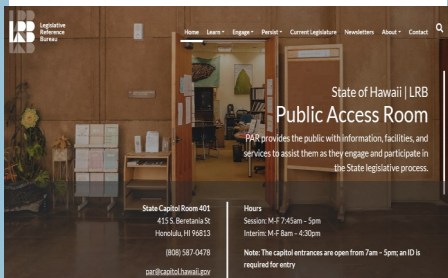
As Vice-Chair of the Consumer Protection and Commerce Committee, I am debating important issues surrounding professional licensure, marijuana, and end of life care. Recently we heard and passed bills related to e-cigarette products and flavored tobacco products, which have disproportionately harmed our keiki. For our community, I'm working to secure funding to begin planning and design for the potential redevelopment of the former Queen Lili'uokalani Elementary School (for more info see page 3).

Next Neighborhood Board

| | |
|----------|--|
| Mar 9th | Diamond Head, St. Louis Heights, Kapahulu Neighborhood Board Meeting 6:00 pm, Ala Wai Club-house 2nd Floor |
| Mar 8th | Pālolo Neighborhood Board Meeting, 7:00 pm. Via Webex |
| Mar 15th | Kaimukī Neighborhood Board Meeting, 6:30 pm. Kaimukī Public Library |

Public Access Room

The Legislative Reference Bureau Public Access Room provides a place where you can track bills, draft testimony, and learn about the legislative process. Visit them at Room 401 M-F 7:45 am-5PM or <https://lrb.hawaii.gov/par/>



Rep. Sayama questioning testifiers at a committee hearing.



Rep. Sayama helping plant ti leaves at Kaimukī High School.

In our district and across O'ahu, traffic safety remains a major concern. As was highlighted by the tragic death of McKinley High School student Sara Yara, reckless driving and outdated traffic infrastructure needs to be improved. In our district, my office is working closely with the City to improve traffic safety in areas such as 10th Ave, intersections along Wai'alae Ave, and Harding Ave. I appreciate your patience as these improvements take time. If you have concerns in the community or questions about how to submit your testimony, please reach out to my office.

Community Updates

Addressing Chronic Homelessness

Representative Sayama joined together with other state and county officials for the launch of the 'Imi Ola Piha Homeless Triage Center. Run by IHS, the facility will provide critical services and temporary housing to homeless individuals requiring medical, psychological, or detox treatment prior to moving into longer term shelters or treatment facilities. This facility will be the first of many facilities to address Hawai'i's mental health crisis.



Rep. Sayama with state and county leaders join IHS Director Connie Mitchell at the 'Imi Ola Piha Preview.



Rep. Sayama pictured with City Councilmember Calvin Say at a recent clean up of Pālolo Valley District Park.

Beautifying our Community

Representative Sayama has been busy working alongside residents and partners to beautify and clean up our communities. In February, he participated in a community workday at Kaimukī High School and another at Pālolo Valley District Park. The latter is a step towards reopening Pālolo Valley Gym for community activities and sports. Rep. Sayama will also be working to rehabilitate a deteriorated community park along Wai'ōma'o Rd. later this year.

Promoting Financial Literacy

Congratulations to the 2023 Kalani High School Hawai'i LifeSmarts Team for reaching the state finals where they competed against teams from Maryknoll and Waipahū High School. Sponsored by the State Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs and Hawai'i Credit Union League, LifeSmarts is a national competition that tests the students' knowledge of personal finance, health and safety, the environment, technology, and consumer rights and responsibilities.



Rep. Sayama with the Kalani HS Coaches at the 2023 Hawai'i LifeSmarts State Finals.

Creating Homes for Local Families & Classrooms for Children

The lack of affordable housing options underline many of our financial woes, especially for young professionals and new families. As part of a state-wide effort to repurpose underutilized facilities, I am committed to redeveloping the Queen Lili'uokalani Elementary School property for teacher housing and Pre-K classrooms.

Located along the Wai'alae corridor next to the Kaimukī small business district, the property is within a two-mile radius of three public elementary schools, two public middle schools, and two public high schools. Its location and current use as a DOE office space makes this property an ideal candidate for a mixed use housing project like Hale Kālele: a mixed-use affordable housing development opened along Pi'ikoi last year.



Rep. Sayama touring Hale Kālele's affordable housing units with Vice-Speaker Greggor Ilagan.



Rep. Sayama discussing community concerns with UH students about redevelopment project in Kaimukī.

To better understand what affordable housing in Kaimukī might look like, I visited Hale Kālele with Vice Speaker Greggor Ilagan. We were impressed with the affordability of units, accommodations, and management of the facility. While I do not intend to emulate all aspects of Hale Kālele, such as its 20 story height, I hope to use it as a model to maximize the utility of the Kaimukī property not only for housing and Pre-K classrooms, but also for community needs like public parking.

As I work to secure funding for planning, design, and an Environmental Impact Study for the project, I am also working with a University of Hawai'i (UH) Architecture class to generate conceptual designs. Like UH, I'm eager to work with community stakeholders to make sure this project will elevate Kaimukī, provide affordable homes for teachers, and create classrooms for the next generation of Hawai'i.

Contact
Representative
Jackson D. Sayama

Phone:
(808) 586-6900

Email:
repsayama@capitol.hawaii.gov

Website:
www.repjacksonsayama.com

Address:
415 South Beretania St., Rm 328
Honolulu, HI 96813

Free Kūpuna Services

Catholic Charities of Hawai'i is a nonprofit that provides programs and services to Kupuna and caregivers of all faith across Hawaii. Their programs include;

Caregiver Training/Support



REACH Community; An evidence-based caregiver training and support program to help increase their knowledge of dementia and the caregiving role.

Transportation for Kūpuna



Transportation Services; Provides transport to meal sites, medical appointments, Adult Day Care, and more.

For more information, contact Catholic Charities of Hawai'i at 808-527-4777 or www.CatholicCharitiesHawaii.org