

Legislative Update

Hawai'i State House District 9 Kahului • Pu'unēnē • Portion of Wailuku





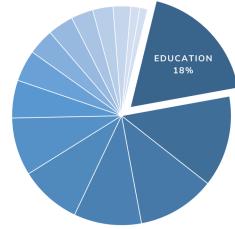


Expanding Access to Preschool

"When we look at high performing systems globally and across the country, one of the components that they have is that their kids enter into kindergarten ready to learn. By providing these high-quality early learning opportunities, we know that our kids are going to be off to a good start, so that is what we're doing here, and we hope that our families will take advantage of it. It is not only about preparedness which is the primary objective, it is about asking: how do we better support our families?"

Representative Woodson
Chair of the House Committee on Education

Hawai'i 2024 General Fund



| CATERGORY | FISCAL YEAR 2024 TOTALS | % |
|---|-------------------------|------------|
| EDUCATION | <u>\$ 2,091,208,175</u> | <u>18%</u> |
| BUDGET AND FINANCE | \$ 1,537,311,486 | 13% |
| RETIREMENT BENEFITS | \$ 1,309,659,925 | 11% |
| DEBT SERVICE | \$ 1,138,771,074 | 10% |
| MEDICAID | \$ 1,035,268,000 | 9% |
| EMPLOYEE/RETIREE HEALTH BENEFITS | \$ 975,382,475 | 9% |
| UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I | \$ 634,926,483 | 6% |
| HEALTH | \$ 528,853,179 | 5% |
| LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES | \$ 439,068,781 | 4% |
| DEPARTMENTS (LESS THAN 1% EACH) | \$ 432,962,301 | 4% |
| BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM | \$ 371,054,681 | 3% |
| HUMAN SERVICES | \$ 342,486,593 | 3% |
| PUBLIC SAFETY | \$ 296,648,812 | 3% |
| ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES | \$ 150,034,081 | 1% |
| CHARTER SCHOOLS | \$ 131,726,855 | 1% |

Capital Improvement Projects

| Title | Description | Fiscal Year 2024 |
|---|--|------------------|
| Maui High School, Maui | Plans, design and construction for track and field improvements to include resurfacing; ground and site improvements; equipment and appurtenances. | \$ 2,500,000 |
| New Central Maui Elementary and Middle School, Maui | Plans, design, and construction for a new elementary and middle school in central Maui; equipment and appurtenances. | \$ 8,000,000 |
| Flood Prevention and Mitigation, Maui | Plans, design, and construction for flood prevention and mitigation measures in or around the Kūlanihākoʻi, Waipulani, and Waiakoa Gulch Systems, to include a R-1 water reservoir; ground and site improvements; equipment and appurtenances. | \$ 2,000,000 |
| Kahului Airport, Airport Improvements, Maui | Construction for improvements to terminals, systems, and facilities at the airport. This project is deemed necessary to qualify for federal aid financing and/or | \$ 37,700,000 |
| Kahului Harbor Improvements, Maui | Plans, land acquisition, design, construction of capital improvement program projects that will provide for safer, more efficient use of existing and/or additional operational areas throughout Kahului Harbor, Maui. This project is deemed necessary to qualify for federal aid financing and/or reimbursement. | \$ 4,994,000 |
| University of Hawaiʻi, Maui College, Maui | Plans and design to renovate existing campus buildings for use as a medical education classrooms and associated facilities. | \$ 250,000 |



2023 LEGISLATIVE SESSION KEY MEASUR

submitting how-to guide

Please Note: The status of these measures will continue to evolve as the session progresses. These bills, along with their updates and full language, may be found at www.capitol.hawaii.gov

Economic Development

HB491 HD2 Establishes a study to analyze the risks and benefits of a pilot program that would help small businesses offer their employees paid family leave and paid sick leave.

HB991 HD1 Changes the cap for grants to small businesses to an unspecified amount and expands the types of eligible expenses under the Manufacturing Development Grant Program.

HB1373 HD2 Administers a workforce development incentive rebate program for local independent film and television productions.

The Environment



HB197 HD1 Establishes a refrigerant management program to reduce emissions of high global warming potential refrigerants. Establishes codes and standards associated with hydrofluorocarbons in updates to the state building code. Specifies that no law, rule, ordinance, or code, including the state building code, shall prohibit or limit the use of a refrigerant deemed acceptable under federal law.

HB441 HD1 Provides funding to gather, maintain, and update data on social vulnerability to climate change in Hawai'i, under certain conditions.

Our Kūpuna

HB278 HD1 Establishes and funds a working group to plan and implement a public health campaign for Alzheimer's awareness, and an Alzheimer's disease and related dementias public health campaign.

HB838 HD1 Reestablishes commission within the UH college of social sciences to identify needed reforms of Hawai'i's long-term care system.

HB872 HD1 Appropriates funds for the Hawaii healthy aging partnership, established in 2003 to improve the health status of older adults by empowering residents to make healthy decisions.

HB1486 HD1 Appropriates funds for the Kūpuna Care Program, enacted in 1999 to help vulnerable seniors lead independent, meaningful, and dignified lives.

Housing

HB224 HD2 Establishes and funds the Hawai'i public housing authority public housing tenant upward mobility pilot program.



HB497 HD1 Establishes and funds a study to find the feasibility of developing teacher and workforce housing at the Queen Lili'uokalani elementary school property. Requires a report to the legislature prior to the 2024 regular session.

HB675 HD1 SD1 Requires, if sufficient funding is available, the Hawai'i Housing Finance & Development Corporation to open at minimum two application periods each year for applications to develop affordable housing.

Educating Our Keiki

HB54 HD1 Establishes and funds an incentive program for nationally certified school psychologists.

HB244 HD2 Establishes and funds a working group to strengthen career and technical education in the State's public schools.

HB260 HD1 Requires DOE to develop and implement safety training for all cafeteria student helpers and provide personal protective equipment for all cafeteria student helpers.

HB540 HD1 Beginning with the 2023-2024 school year, funds and requires the department of education and public charter schools to provide free breakfast and lunch to all enrolled students, regardless of the student's eligibility for federal School Breakfast Program.

HB1330 HD1 SD1 Appropriates funds to the department of education for school bus services to address vacant bus driver positions impacting student attendance rates.



I invite you to fill out this survey so I may continue to understand the everchanging needs and concerns of our community. This will allow me to better serve the people of Kahului, Puʻunēnē, and Wailuku, and give you the opportunity to voice your opinions. Using a smartphone device, you may scan the QR code to the left to be brought directly to the online survey. I look forward to reviewing your responses and applying them to legislation moving forward.



Lieutenant Governor Sylvia Luke and Representative Woodson receiving their Legislator of the Year Awards from the Friends of the Library of Hawai'i. Representative Woodson's chosen book, *The Audacity of Hope* by Barack Obama, was donated in Representative Woodson's honor and may be found at his home branch, the Kahului Public Library.



Representative Woodson with the Hawai'i Children's Action Network during the Early Childhood Care & Education Day, which occurred on day one of Education Week 2023, hosted by Representative Woodson and Senate Vice President Kidani.

Aloha,

I hope this newsletter finds you and your 'ohana well. I am honored to continuously serve House District 9, encompassing Kahului, Pu'unene, and a portion of Wailuku. As the 2023 Legislative Session carries on, I would like to take the opportunity to notify you about key measures currently progressing through the legislative process and updates in our community.

In order to ensure I am able to properly represent your concerns and needs in the community. I also ask that you fill out the online survey found within this newsletter.

As always, I invite you to contact our office with any questions, comments, or concerns. We are always happy to assist. Mahalo nui loa,

Justin H. Woodson





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Instagram | @RepWoodson

Facebook | Rep Justin Woodson

415 S. Beretania St. Office 405

RepWoodson@Capitol.Hawaii.gov

(808) 286 6210

E1889 i'iswaH ,ululonoH 415 South Beretania St. State Capitol, Rm. 405



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