

2019 Legislative Report

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Hawaii State Senate District 5 Wailuku • Waihe'e • Waiehu • Waikapu • Kahului

Dear Friends and Neighbors:

The 2019 Legislative session adjourned sine die on May 2, 2019, with 303 bills sent to the Governor for consideration.

The legislature adopted the State Budget using a different process from past years, passing basic funding for government operations in HB2 and HB116. Those two measures provided funding for homelessness and housing, critical health and human service needs, support for keiki and kupuna caregivers, and protection of natural resources.

As part of my primary responsibility as Vice Chair of the Ways and Means committee, I negotiated in separate bills, HB1259, all the capital improvement projects (public schools, University of Hawaii, libraries, State highways, airports, harbors and other public facilities) and HB809 for grant-in-aid awards for eligible non-profits.

I am honored to represent our community and it continues to be a privilege to serve as your State Senator. The 30th Legislature will reconvene on Wednesday, January 15, 2020. As always, the goal is to move forward together on improving the quality of life in all our communities for all of our residents. I look forward to seeing you soon at community events on Maui.

Aloha,

KTOD S.C. Feel-a Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran

Governo<u>r's Deadlines</u>

Please note that some of the bills described in this newsletter are still pending Governor David Ige's action.

June 24, 2019 – Notice of Intent to Veto (35th day after sine die)

July 9, 2019 – Veto Deadline

(45th day after sine die)

Measures Introduced That Passed

Campaign Finance SB197 HD1 - Act 107 (signed 6/21/19)

Exempts candidates who are deemed elected, running unopposed or unsuccessful after a primary or special primary election from the prohibition on donating excess campaign funds for charitable or scholarship purposes.

Pharmacists SB203 HD2

Clarifies that pharmacists may perform certain vaccinations or immunizations and are required to maintain immunization records.

Real Estate Investment Trusts SB301 SD1 HD CD1 [Governor Ige included this measure on bills he intends to veto.]

Disallows dividends paid deduction for real estate investment trusts; applies to taxable years beginning after 12/31/2019; sunsets 12/31/2023.

Crime Victim Restitution SB852 SD2 HD1 CD1 - Act 108 (signed 6/21/19)

Clarifies that lost earnings, mental health treatment, counseling and therapy are eligible for reimbursement to a crime victim as a result of a defendant's offense.



Conference Committee meeting on 3/22/19 regarding Executive Budget (HB2).

END OF SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

Kupuna Caregivers Program SB1025 SD1 HD2 - Act 126 (signed 6/25/19)

Requires the Executive Office on Aging to develop and implement a plan to maximize the number of participants in the Kupuna Caregivers Program; also changes the program funding allocation cap to \$210 per week.

Housing Services SB471 SD2 HD1 CD1 - Act 62 (signed 6/7/19)

Appropriate funds for the next two years to fund the Housing First program, rapid re-housing program, family assessment centers and homeless outreach and civil legal services.

Rental Car Tax SB162 SD2 HD3 CD1 - Act 174 (signed 7/1/19)

Increases the state tax surcharge on rental cars from \$3 per day to \$5 per day for Hawaii residents to meet constitutional requirement of equal treatment under the commerce clause. [Out of state drivers already pay \$5 per day.]

Drunken Driving HB703 HD1 SD2 CD1 - Act 169 (signed 6/27/19)

Increases penalties for people convicted for driving drunk three times within 10 years, making that a felony offense; those convicted would be sentenced to a prison term of up to 5 years, or 5 years' probation with a minimum of 10 days in jail and revocation of their licenses for 3 to 5 years.

Decriminalizing Marijuana HB1383 HD2 SD1 CD1

Establishes that the possession of three grams or less of marijuana will be a violation punishable by a fine of \$130.

Firearms "Red Flag" Law SB1466 SD2 HD2 - Act 150 (signed 6/26/19)

Establishes a process by which a law enforcement officer, family or household member, medical professional, educator or colleague may obtain a court order to prevent a person from accessing firearms and ammunition when the person poses a danger of causing injury to oneself or another.

Vote by Mail

HB1248 HD1 SD2 CD1 – Act 136 (signed 6/25/19)

Enacts voting by mail across all counties for elections starting in 2020; establishes a limited number of voter service centers that would open 10 business days before an election to receive personal delivery of mail-in ballots, accommodate voters with special needs and offer same day registration.

Mandatory Recounts SB216 SD2 HD1 CD1 – Act 135 (signed 6/25/19)

Requires a mandatory recount of election votes when the difference between two candidates is equal to or less than 100 or one-quarter of 1% of the total number of votes cast, whichever is greater.



June 25,2019: Attending the bill signing of HB168, HB1248 and SB216 -- all measures relating to voting and elections.



699

Emergency Preparedness Handbook: www.mauielectric.com/prepare

At the Maui Food Bank with Rep Hashimoto, Rep DeCoite and Rep Yamashita on May 14, 2019.

Capital Improvement & Repair Projects & Grants-In-Aid

Airports and Harbors

Kahului AirportFacility improvements\$28MTerminal improvements\$10M		
Kahului Harbor Harbor improvements \$56.5M		
Community		
Boys and Girls Clubs of Maui, Inc. New Paukukalo Clubhouse (grant-in-aid) \$850K		
Hale Mahaolu New building for senior housing (grant-in-aid) \$750K		
Hale Makua Health Services Kahului Campus Expansion (grant-in-aid) \$200K Nursing Home Care (grant-in-aid) \$285K		
Hamakua Harvest Support/education for farmers (grant-in-aid) \$30K		
Maui Academy of Performing Arts New theatre (grant-in-aid)\$125K		
Maui Arts & Cultural Center Community Stage & Events Lawn (grant-in-aid) \$500K		
Maui Economic Development Board, Inc. Science, technology, engineering and math curricula (grant-in-aid) \$200K		
Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc. New ADA accessible school buses (grant-in-aid) . \$291K		
Nisei Veterans Memorial Center Pavilion enclosure (grant-in-aid) \$300K		
Education		
Baldwin High Sobool		

Jaiuwin nigh School		
	Reroof Building B (construction)	\$1M
	Girls' Athletic Locker Room (design/construction)	\$1.4M

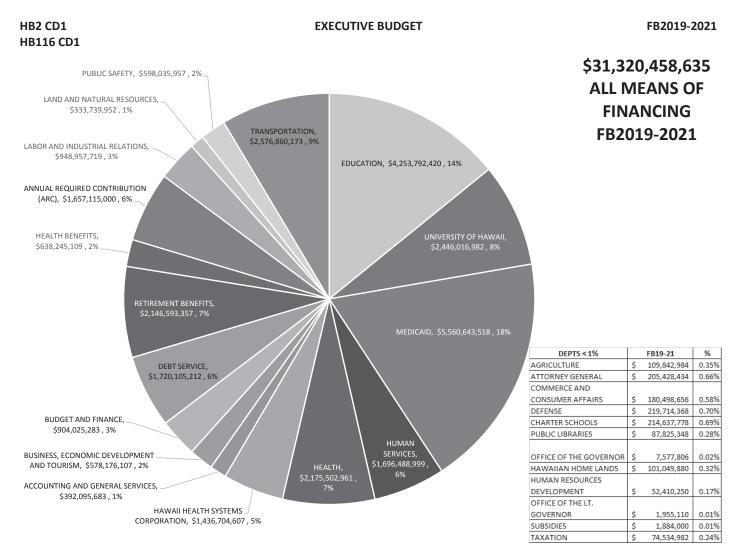
Iao Intermediate SchoolOld cafeteria renovations for additional classrooms\$4MAir conditioning for Building A\$1.1M		
Kahului Elementary School New Classroom Building \$6M Parking Lot fencing (design/construction) \$500K		
Maui High School Girls' Athletic Locker Room and Athletic Facilities \$8M		
Maui Waena Intermediate SchoolP.E. field improvements\$1.81MAir conditioning\$1M		
Pomaikai Elementary School Parking Lot fencing \$500K		
Waihee Elementary School Covered walkways		
Wailuku Elementary SchoolAir conditioning/electrical system upgrades		
Parks, Roads and Baseyard		
Kanaha Pond State Wildlife Sanctuary Perimeter fence		
Puunene Avenue (Kamehameha Ave to Kuihelani Hwy) Widening and safety improvements		

Widening and safety improvements		
Maui Health System		
Repairs and upgrades for MMMC, KH, and LCH \$12M		
Hoapili Hale Courthouse		
Repairs, renovations, and improvements \$4.36M		
Maui Community Correctional Center		

Renovations and upgrades \$8M

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* Also includes funding from SB78, SB491, SB512, SB812, HB624, HB852, HB1561