



# Hawaii State Senator Bennette E. Misalucha

Pearl City | Momilani | Pearl Ridge | Aiea | Royal Summit |  
Aiea Heights | Newtown | Waimalu | Halawa | Pearl Harbor



## Pearl City Neighborhood Board Legislative Report | April 2021

Dear Neighbors and Friends,

Aloha mai kakou.

This is the final week of the legislative session and looking back, we have hit many key milestones. One such accomplishment was securing monies for CIP projects for Pearl City High School and Waiiau Elementary School. The funds for CIP projects are appropriated in the final version of the State budget (HB200), which covers the fiscal biennium beginning July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2023. It was unanimously approved by conference managers from the Senate and House on April 19, 2021. For more information, see my Capitol Update on page 2.

I am thrilled to announce together with Kanu Hawaii that Elizabeth Vann of Pearl City and Claire Tamamoto of Aiea are the winners of the inaugural Aiea and Pearl City Community Heroes Award. See more under our Community Update on page 3. Mahalo to all our nominees and for those who participated in Volunteer Week Hawaii 2021.

As this year's legislative session comes to a close this week Thursday, April 29, 2021, I appreciate all your feedback, comment and concerns you have shared with me. Please continue to contact me as my office will still be open and here for you long after we end this year's session.

Very Truly Yours,

  
Senator Bennette E. Misalucha  
District 16

## Calendar of Events

### April

- 26 Pearl City Neighborhood Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- 29 Legislature Adjournment

### May

- 24 Pearl City Neighborhood Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- 31 Memorial Day Holiday

*We are here to help you...*

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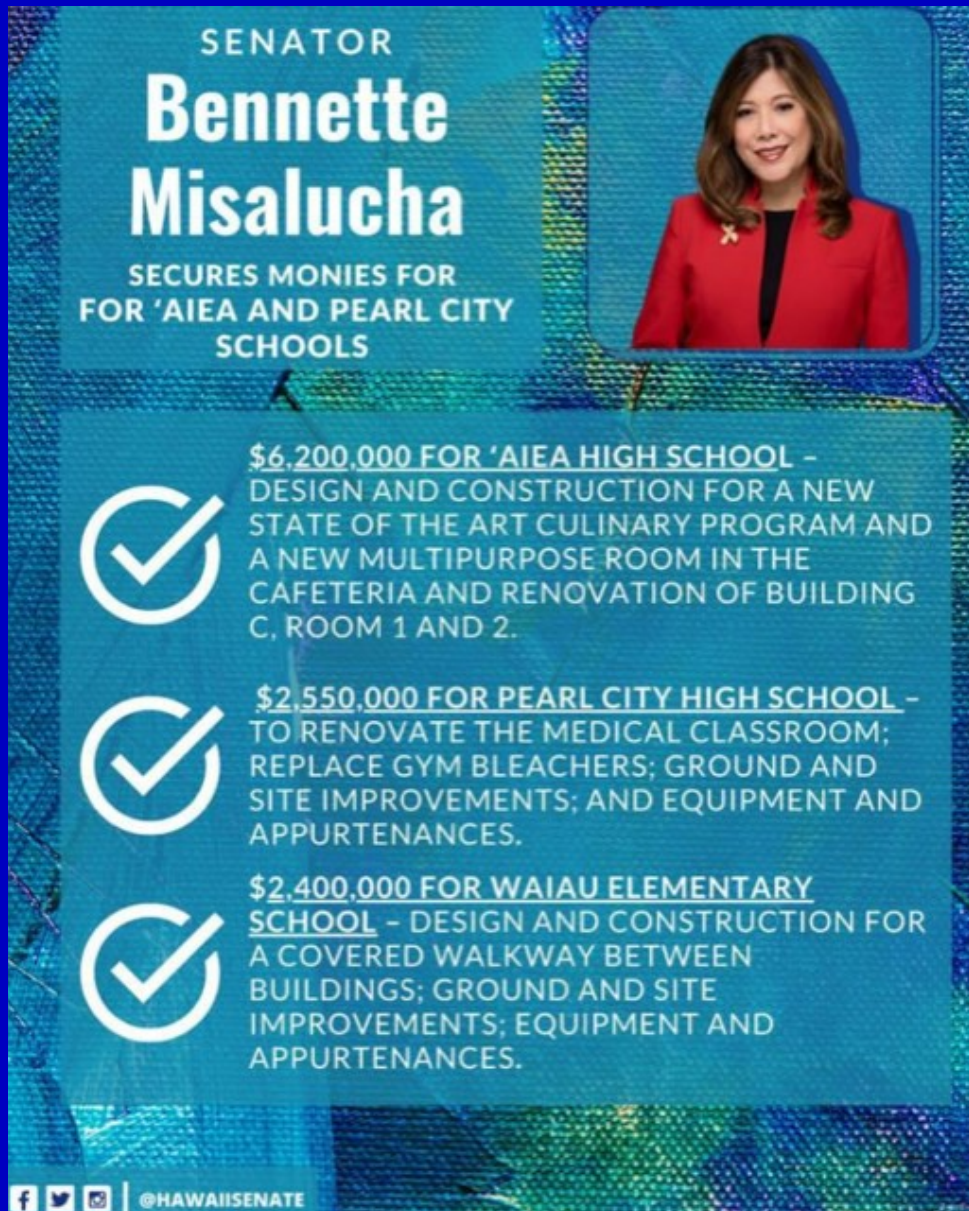
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## CAPITOL UPDATE


### Senator Misalucha Secures Monies for Schools




Senator Misalucha has secured more than \$11.1 Million in CIP funds targeted for improvement to infrastructure and facilities at three Aiea and Pearl City schools.


"I am extremely pleased that our Aiea High, Pearl City High and Waiau Elementary will receive funds to improve infrastructure and other facilities on their campuses. Our students and staff deserve the best and I'm thankful to my legislative colleagues for their support of my CIP priorities," said Senator Misalucha.



**SENATOR**  
**Bennette Misalucha**  
SECURES MONIES FOR FOR 'AIEA AND PEARL CITY SCHOOLS



-  **\$6,200,000 FOR 'AIEA HIGH SCHOOL** - DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION FOR A NEW STATE OF THE ART CULINARY PROGRAM AND A NEW MULTIPURPOSE ROOM IN THE CAFETERIA AND RENOVATION OF BUILDING C, ROOM 1 AND 2.
-  **\$2,550,000 FOR PEARL CITY HIGH SCHOOL** - TO RENOVATE THE MEDICAL CLASSROOM; REPLACE GYM BLEACHERS; GROUND AND SITE IMPROVEMENTS; AND EQUIPMENT AND APPURTENANCES.
-  **\$2,400,000 FOR WAIAU ELEMENTARY SCHOOL** - DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION FOR A COVERED WALKWAY BETWEEN BUILDINGS; GROUND AND SITE IMPROVEMENTS; EQUIPMENT AND APPURTENANCES.

 @HAWAIISENATE

COMMUNITY UPDATE

Elizabeth Vann selected as the Pearl City recipient of the Aiea and Pearl City Community Heroes Award



Elizabeth Vann has been a resident of Pearl City for nearly 50 years. She is committed and dedicated to not only helping Pearl City High School raise funds for its sports programs including uniforms, but also for her compassionate volunteer work at Sunset Memorial Park Cemetery. Continuously plagued by crime, theft, and desecration, the grounds of Sunset Memorial Park Cemetery are maintained solely by community volunteers like Maka. She empathizes and helps grieving families who have loved ones interred at Sunset Memorial Park Cemetery. She regularly coordinates the Sunset Memorial Park Cemetery cleanup project including bagging, trashing of more than 200 bags of debris from Sunset Memorial to the Waipahu City Bulk Depot and donating lunch bentos for her team of volunteers.

Vann and Aiea's Claire Tamamoto were recognized during a virtual awards ceremony on Saturday, April 24, 2021. Each will be presented with \$500, which will be donated to a non-profit, charitable organization of their choice.

Other noteworthy community volunteer nominees are: Dexter Aoki; Jeoffrey Cudiamat; Johnelle Chun; Kelsey Poaha; Ken Suenaga; Mark Engler; and the Mana Loa Nimitz Lions Club.

A huge mahalo goes out to Kanu Hawaii for administering the Aiea & Pearl City Community Heroes Award and for selecting a panel of noteworthy judges who volunteered their time to read through all the nominations: Founding member of Kanu Hawaii James Koshiba; KHON-TV's Kamaka Pili; and Na Hoku Hanohano Award winner Maila Gibson. Thanks to Annalisa Burgos of KITV for volunteering her time to host the Aiea & Pearl City Community Heroes Award virtual event.



Two long-time volunteers from Aiea and Pearl City were honored Saturday night in an inaugural event meant to recognize the selfless men and women who make Hawaii a better and sustainable place.

See media coverage on KITV :

<https://youtu.be/V4PZgS4vW0>



Senator Misalucha poses with Elizabeth Vann (left) and Claire Tamamoto of Aiea (center).

## COMMUNITY UPDATE

### COVID-19 Update



The Department of Health has announced that individuals 16 or older are now eligible for the COVID-19 vaccination. DOH is urging eligible individuals to make an appointment at their earliest convenience. Visit <https://hawaiicovid19.com/>. Meantime, the FDA and CDC have lifted the pause in the use of the Johnson and Johnson Janssen vaccine. Read more here at <https://www.fda.gov/>.

### UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

The Department of Labor and Industrial Relations has started instituting an appointment system for claimants to communicate with unemployment staff via video conference or telephone. The appointment system went into effect on April 5, 2021 to allow claimants to schedule an appointment beginning April 20, 2021. Appointments will be available every Tuesday and Thursday. The initial pilot will focus on Oahu with plans to expand to the Neighbor Islands. Claimants can now request appointments via online at <https://labor.hawaii.gov/ui/>. DLIR is also warning claimants not to click on links in scam and phishing attempts. See: <https://labor.hawaii.gov/blog/news/dlir-issues-urgent-unemployment-insurance-fraud-message/>

### HEALTH INSURANCE MARKETPLACE COVERAGE EXTENDED

Hawaii residents are encouraged to take advantage of new savings for health insurance through the American Rescue Plan after President Biden announced the extension of a Special Enrollment Period (SEP) for Marketplace coverage until August 15. Visit [www.Healthcare.gov](http://www.Healthcare.gov) to sign up for a health insurance plan.

### RELIEF FOR ENTERTAINMENT VENUES

The "Shuttered Venues Operators Grant" program designed to provide some economic relief funds for small business, especially those in the Live Entertainment Venues impacted by the effects of COVID-19, can apply by visiting [www.svograntportal.sba.gov](http://www.svograntportal.sba.gov).

### SAFE TRAVELS PROGRAM

For Hawaii residents wanting to travel inter-island, there are new guidelines. Governor Ige recently announced the new Travel Vaccination Program. Individuals fully vaccinated in Hawaii may travel inter island without pre-travel testing/quarantine starting the 15th day after the completion of their vaccination. Read more at <https://governor.hawaii.gov/newsroom/office-of-the-governors-news-release-inter-county-travelers-vaccinated-in-hawaii-may-bypass-pre-travel-testing-quarantine-starting-may-11/>