

State Representative
LISA KITAGAWA



Proudly Serving Kāne'ohe to Ka'a'awa

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LEGISLATIVE & COMMUNITY UPDATES INSIDE!

'Āhuimanu | Ben Parker | Castle | He'eia | Kahalu'u | Kāne'ohe | Kapunahala | King | Pū'ōhala | Waiāhole

Castle Complex School Supply Drive

Come by and support our Castle Complex students and teachers by making a monetary donation or donating much needed school supplies to help our keiki succeed in the classroom!

Inside Windward Mall

FRIDAY, JULY 14

12 PM - 9PM

SATURDAY, JULY 15

10 AM - 9 PM

SUNDAY, JULY 16

10 AM - 6 PM

Visit: bit.ly/38f4T5z

to DONATE online (tax-deductible)
Select "school supplies"

For more information:

RepKitagawa.com or
808-586-8540

Welcomed Donations:
pencils, erasers, crayons,
markers, composition
books, folders, backpacks,
slippers, etc.



Representative
Lisa Kitagawa



Kamehameha
Schools



UNIVERSITY of HAWAII
WINDWARD
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

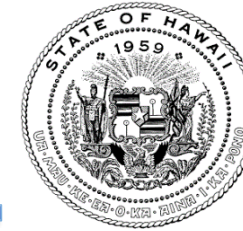


Rotary
Club of Kaneohe



Representative
Scot Z. Matayoshi

CAPITOL UPDATE



Representative Lisa Kitagawa

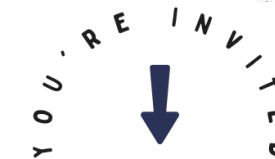
Aloha! Thank you for the opportunity to serve you and our community. Due to last year's reapportionment, the communities in District 48 have changed. Prior to this year, District 48 included communities between Kāne'ohe and Waiāhole. Based on the new reapportionment, District 48 now extends into Ka'a'awa, and includes communities in the Moku/District of Ko'olaupoko (Kāne'ohe – Kualoa) and Ko'olauloa (Ka'a'awa). This newsletter will highlight updates from both of these areas.

With the new areas that are in our district and my new role as Vice Chair of the Finance Committee, it has been a year of learning and new experiences. I am thankful to the community members who continue to share their mana'o/knowledge with me, and those who have collaborated with me to make our communities a better place.

Please stay in touch with me through our website (RepKitagawa.com), our social media pages (@RepKitagawa on Facebook and Instagram), email (repkitagawa@capitol.hawaii.gov), or phone (808-586-8540).

Mahalo,

Lisa



2023

WINDWARD GOING GREEN RECYCLING

JULY 1

9-11 AM

CASTLE HIGH SCHOOL
AUDITORIUM PARKING LOT

ACCEPTED ITEMS:

- COMPUTERS, PRINTERS, SCANNERS
- ONE TV PER CAR
- HI-5 BEVERAGE CONTAINERS
- BATTERIES - ONLY AUTO & LEAD ACID BATTERIES
- GENTLY USED CLOTHING ONLY
- USED EYE GLASSES AND HEARING AIDS
- PROM DRESSES, ACCESSORIES
- CANNED GOODS FOR HAWAII FOOD BANK
- PET FOOD, TOWELS, BLANKETS

SPONSORED BY REPRESENTATIVES MATAYOSHI & KITAGAWA AND:



\$81,825,596 SECURED FOR OUR COMMUNITY

After School All-Stars for After School Programs (including at King Intermediate)	\$100,000
‘Āhuimanu Elementary School for a New Access Lane	\$680,000
Benjamin Parker Elementary School for a New Elevator and Covered Walkways	\$3,500,000
Castle Medical Center for Cancer Services Expansion	\$300,000
Common Grace (nonprofit) for Keiki Mentorship Program (including at ‘Āhuimanu Elementary, Kahalu‘u Elementary, and Castle High School)	\$45,000
Compassionate Ko‘olaupoko for 2 Permanent Positions for Trauma-Informed Education and Care in our Windward Schools	\$251,679
Hawai‘i Health & Harm Reduction Center (homeless service provider for Ko‘olauloa) for Mobile Medical Outreach Services	\$190,000
Hawai‘i State Hospital for New Facility for Stabilization Beds, and Positions for Psychiatric Technicians & Security Guards	\$12,500,000
Hawai‘i State Veteran’s Cemetery for a Global War on Terrorism Memorial	\$250,000
He‘eia Stream Access Road for Flooding Mitigation and Habitat Restoration	\$1,000,000
Hina Mauka (Kāne‘ohe Rehabilitation Center) for Facility Repairs	\$200,000
Institute for Human Services (homeless service provider for Ko‘olaupoko) for Support Services and Shelter Renovations	\$1,000,000
Ka‘a‘awa Elementary School for Electrical Upgrades	\$3,000,000
Kahuku Medical Center for Renovations and Improvements	\$6,000,000
Kāne‘ohe Elementary School for a Cafeteria Covered Deck and a Covered Play Court	\$2,300,000
KEY Project for the Ho‘opilina Youth Program and Facility Repairs	\$325,000
King Intermediate School for Sidewalk Repairs, Repair and Restoration of Gymnasium Floors, Electrical Upgrades to Install Air Conditioning Units, Resurfacing of Outdoor Play Courts, and Campus Covered Walkways	\$2,540,000
Ko‘olauloa Health Center for Site Renovations	\$500,000
Moku O Lo‘e (Coconut Island) for Sewer Line Replacement and Upgrades	\$10,000,000
Paepae O He‘eia Fishpond for Educational Programs	\$300,000
Parents and Children Together for Domestic Violence Shelters (in Kāne‘ohe)	\$205,000
Pū‘ōhala Elementary School for Parking Lot Expansion	\$380,000
Additional Funding to the DOE to Support Small Schools (including Ka‘a‘awa and Waiāhole Elementary Schools)	\$5,000,000
Teacher Housing in Ko‘olaupoko	\$20,000,000
Windward Community College for Air Conditioning Repair and Replacement, and 2 Positions for a Campus Early College Coordinator and Counselor	\$11,258,917

SUPPORTING EDUCATION



Representative Lisa Kitagawa Scholarship

I am happy to be able to offer my 5th Annual Representative Lisa Kitagawa Scholarship to **Graysen Oumi**. Graysen is an outstanding student who has been an active part of Castle High School’s music programs and volunteer organizations. Graysen has also served our community in many ways, including as a volunteer for King Intermediate’s Band. He also excels academically and was one of Castle’s valedictorians. Best wishes to Graysen as he pursues his degree in Computer Science from the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa!



OUTSTANDING 6TH GRADE STUDENT AWARDS

The Outstanding 6th Grade Student Award recognizes students who demonstrate leadership potential, good citizenship, and academic achievement at each of the elementary schools in our district. The awardees were selected by the sixth grade teachers and school, and have received a certificate from the State Legislature, as well as a personalized, engraved trophy. Congratulations to this year’s awardees!



Kahalu‘u Elem.



He‘eia Elem.

Gordon Foster and Maiara Dutra Elliott from ‘Āhuimanu Elementary

Khloe Juliane and Natalie Anciano Gacula from Benjamin Parker Elementary

Kresstin Waiālae and Marlee Chong from He‘eia Elementary

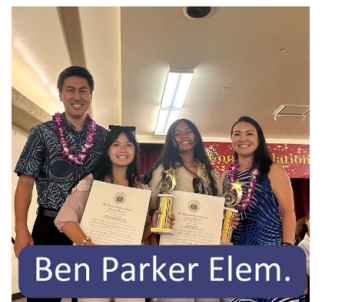
Anelaonalani Kahlbaum from Ka‘a‘awa Elementary

Arwyn Ryder and Jack Rodgers from Kahalu‘u Elementary

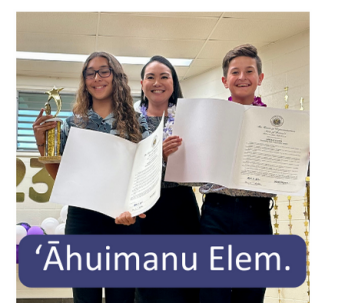
Elias Toyomura and Avery Toilolo from Kapunahala Elementary

Analicia Bascas from Pū‘ōhala School

Parker Ke‘alalau‘e Moseley from Ke Kula Kaiapuni ‘o Pū‘ōhala



Ben Parker Elem.



‘Āhuimanu Elem.



Kapunahala Elem.



COMMUNITY LEGISLATION THAT PASSED

Protecting & Preserving Kāneʻohe Bay

To support the critical research, education, and restoration efforts at the Hawai'i Institute of Marine Biology (HIMB), located in Kāneʻohe Bay, I introduced **HB848** to fund three staff positions. These positions ensure that daily operations and projects at HIMB continue.



Advocating with community for Kāneʻohe Bay

Many concerned constituents brought to my attention the increase of illegal commercial activity in Kāneʻohe Bay. **HB1134** addresses this concern by (1) prohibiting commercial ocean use activity in Kāneʻohe Bay waters without a permit; (2) prohibiting any advertisement of such unpermitted activity; and (3) establishing enforcement mechanisms for the prohibitions. These new restrictions will contribute to the preservation and protection of Kāneʻohe Bay's natural resources for the continued enjoyment of all and for future generations.



Attending Kaʻaʻawa Elementary's Leadership Day

Supporting Our Small & Remote Schools

Our district encompasses two very special small schools: Waiāhole and Kaʻaʻawa Elementary Schools. After working with Principal Obra, Principal Luke-Payne, and the Department of Education, I am happy to report that my resolution, **HCR116**, was adopted. **HCR116** urges the Committee on Weights to recommend, and the Board of Education to adopt, a weighted student formula that gives equal consideration to small and remote schools. It is my hope that more funding will be allocated to our small schools, who provide such a unique and invaluable education to our keiki.

Increasing Access to Solar Panels for Residents

HCR117 urges the counties to include townhomes in the residential permitting process for the installation of solar panels. Thanks to members of the community who brought this issue to my attention, I introduced **HCR117** to encourage the City to allow townhome owners to better access permits to install solar panels on their homes. This will help homeowners take advantage of federal and state tax incentives, and will benefit the State in reaching our renewable energy goals.

ADDITIONAL LEGISLATION

Transparent Elections: To ensure fair and transparent elections, I introduced **HB463**, which lowers the disclosure amount of campaign expenditures for noncandidate committees from \$1,000 to \$500, providing greater transparency and preventing evasion of our campaign spending reporting laws.

Human Trafficking Prevention: Our keiki and other vulnerable individuals are at particularly high risk for human trafficking in our State. That is why I introduced **HB579**, on behalf of the Women's Legislative Caucus (WLC). **HB579** establishes a statewide human trafficking prevention program. The program will also report to the legislature on the State's efforts to address human trafficking and the commercial sexual exploitation of children. My hope is this bill will continue to shed light on this issue and to provide the necessary relief to those affected.



Discussing HB579 at the 2023 WLC Conference

ROADWORK UPDATES

Roundabout at the Intersection of Kahekili and Kamehameha Hwy

Start of work to begin **June 7, 2023**, and is expected to be completed in **January - February 2025**. Any questions or complaints may be directed to *MIRA* at [808-476-0490](tel:808-476-0490) or the Department of Transportation (DOT) at [808-831-6714](tel:808-831-6714), [808-485-6200](tel:808-485-6200) (after hours), or complainthighwayoahu@hawaii.gov

Left Turn Lane onto Waiheʻe Rd. from Kamehameha Hwy

The DOT is in the process of finalizing the consultant contract for design, and estimates **two and a half years** for design and construction.

Please note: all projects are weather permitting.

Likeline Hwy Resurfacing

Roadwork will restart in **June**, with the final repaving expected to be completed by the **end of July**.

Kamehameha Hwy Repaving Between Pali Hwy & Koʻolau View Drive

A work order for paving will be issued in late **fall/winter of 2023**.

Kaʻaʻawa Town Hall: Thank you to those who attended our May meeting with DOT. We are planning another meeting in early fall. Contact my office to be put on a notification list for Kaʻaʻawa DOT updates: repkitagawa@capitol.hawaii.gov or [808-586-8540](tel:808-586-8540).

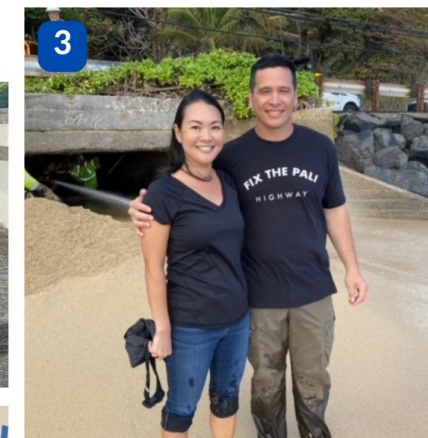
At the Legislature & In the Community



1



2



3



4



5

- 1) With Governor Josh Green at the State Capitol
- 2) Volunteering with my children to beautify our community
- 3) Planning culvert repairs in Kaʻaʻawa with DOT Director, Ed Sniffen
- 4) Meeting with students from Future Farmers of America (FFA)
- 5) Volunteering at the Kāneʻohe Kiwanis Pancake Breakfast

More photos at: bit.ly/repkitagawaflicker

2023 LEGISLATIVE SESSION SUMMARY

This year, the Legislature worked to introduce, hear, and pass measures that address many pressing issues and needs of our State. Below are some key bills and critical funding that passed. To learn more about these bills and other legislation, please visit www.capitol.hawaii.gov.

SUSTAINING OUR ENVIRONMENT & AGRICULTURE

- **\$196 million** to protect, manage, and restore Hawai'i's natural resources, including native forests, native plants and animals, aquatic resources, coastal lands, freshwater resources, state parks and public lands, and trail maintenance. (HB300)
- **\$10 million** to the Board of Water Supply for testing wells. (HB300)
- **\$5 million** to mitigate & control feral animals, including chickens, cats, pigs, etc. (HB300)
- **\$4.2 million** to tackle agricultural & ecological problems such as little fire ants, coconut rhinoceros beetles, spittle bugs, coffee leaf rust, and coffee berry borer; and for a green waste & compost reimbursement program. (SB743/SB1552/HB300)
- **\$1 million** for a Dept. of Land & Natural Resources mobile app & website for license, permit, or reservation needs. (HB954)

INVESTING IN KEIKI, SCHOOLS & EDUCATION

- **\$38.8 million** for the expansion of public & private preschool and early learning opportunities, including expanding the Preschool Open Doors program to 3-year-olds. (HB961/HB300)
- **\$2.1 million** to early learning facilities to gain accreditation. (SB239)
- **\$5 million** for mental health services in public schools. (HB300)
- **\$7 million** for the Hawai'i Keiki: Healthy and Ready to Learn initiative. (HB300)
- **\$3.6 million** for workforce development to assist special education students. (HB300)
- **\$17.5 million** to restore reductions from COVID era budgets at the University of Hawai'i. (HB300)
- **\$3.7 million** to continue the Community College Promise Program. (HB300)

ASSISTING WORKING & LOW-INCOME FAMILIES

- Doubling the Earned Income Tax Credit, Doubling the Food/Excise Tax Credit, Increasing the Dependent Care Tax Credit. (HB954)
- **\$100 million** to provide solar panel loans to low-income families. (HB300)
- **\$6.5 million** for the State Rent Supplement Program. (HB300)
- **\$5 million** for the Supportive Housing Pilot Program. (HB1397)
- **\$100 million** to the Rental Housing Revolving Fund and **\$50 million** to the Dwelling Unit Revolving Fund. (HB300)
- **\$170 million** for teacher housing. (SB941/HB300)
- Creating the option to renew driver's licenses online, in addition to by mail, beginning July 1, 2025. (SB1166)

Rep Kitagawa taking the Oath of Office



CARING FOR OUR VULNERABLE POPULATIONS

- **\$3.5 million** for a Child & Adolescent Crisis Mobile Outreach Team Pilot Program. (HB948)
- **\$4.2 million** to increase & enhance Child Protective Service contracts. (HB300)
- Establishing the Mālama 'Ohana Working Group to improve the State's child welfare system. (SB295)
- **\$15.7 million** for a Medicaid Home and Community Based Service Waiver for individuals with intellectual & developmental disabilities. (HB300)
- **\$65.5 million** for improvements to existing correctional facilities across the State. (HB300)
- **\$1 million** for a kūpuna rent supplement program at Hawai'i Public Housing Authority. (SB898)
- **\$229,680** for the Senior Medicare Patrol Program to prevent scams & fraudulent activities targeting kūpuna. (SB1592)
- **\$186,228** for the Hawai'i State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) to assist kūpuna with Medicare enrollment. (SB900)
- **\$1 million** for the Executive Office on Aging to create and implement an Alzheimer's disease and related dementias public health campaign. (HB278)
- **\$485,000** for the diagnosis and treatment of persons with fetal alcohol spectrum disorders (FASD) & an annual public awareness campaign on preventing FASD. (SB318)

KEEPING OUR COMMUNITIES SAFE & INFORMED

- Requiring the creation of an accessible Digital Voter Information Guide to provide voting and candidate information in one convenient location. (SB1076)
- **\$1.25 million** for an Illegal Fireworks Task Force to stop the importation of illegal fireworks & explosives into the State, promote compliance with fireworks law. (SB821)
- **\$20 million** for a Safe Routes to School Advisory Committee to develop a comprehensive statewide Safe Routes to School Plan. (HB600)
- Establishing firearm regulations that balance individuals rights with public safety by adding new disclosure, reporting, and concealed carry requirements, and prohibiting possession in certain locations and situations. (SB1230)

SUPPORTING HEALTHCARE & ADDRESSING HOMELESSNESS

- **\$47.6 million** for Emergency Medical Services. (HB300)
- **\$10 million** for the Hawai'i State Loan Repayment Program & Interstate Medical Licensure Compact to increase & retain more doctors in the State. (HB300/SB674)
- **\$69.9 million** for improvements to safe water drinking systems. (HB300)
- **\$11.9 million** to health/mental health, homelessness, substance abuse, & food assistance organizations. (HB300)
- **\$10.8 million** for homelessness programs (Housing First, Rapid Re-Housing, Outreach Services, Family Assessment Centers). (HB300)
- **\$30 million (\$15 million each)** for the 'Ohana Zones Pilot Program and Kauhale Projects across the State. (SB1442/HB300)
- Increasing the Medicaid reimbursement rates to 100% of Medicare rates, helping individuals on Medicaid (like Quest) to access better healthcare coverage. (HB300)
- **\$3.3 million** for the Child Wellness Incentive Pilot Program to encourage well-child exams by Medicaid recipients. (Act 127, SLH2022)
- Taxing electronic smoking devices (vaping products) the same amount as cigarettes, which is projected to generate \$15 million/year in revenue and disincentivize use among youth. (SB975)
- **\$100,000** for the Return-to-Home Pilot Program, to provide eligible homeless individuals with assistance in being reunited with family and friends in their home state. (HB1366)