

State Representative
**LISA
KITAGAWA**



Proudly Serving Kāneʻohe to Kaʻaʻawa

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LEGISLATIVE & COMMUNITY UPDATES INSIDE!

Roadwork Updates

Roundabout at the Intersection of Kahekili and Kamehameha Hwy.

The DOT's plans for a roundabout near the Hygienic Store are moving forward. The contract is currently in process and roadwork is anticipated to start in June 2023. For more information visit hidot.hawaii.gov/highways, search "Kamehameha Highway roundabout".

Left Turn Lane onto Waihe'e Rd. from Kamehameha Hwy.

The DOT is aware of the community's request to create a designated left turn lane onto Waihe'e Road from Kamehameha Highway in an effort to mitigate traffic in this area. They have begun preliminary engineering and environmental clearance. The design time is anticipated to take 18 - 24 months.

Kamehameha Hwy.

Repaving of Kamehameha Highway between Likelike Highway (near the Burger King Intersection) and Pali Highway is anticipated to take place between Summer 2023 –Fall 2023.

Kahekili Hwy.

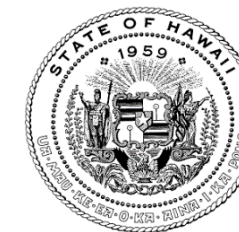
Repaving between Hui Iwa Street and the Hygienic Store is underway and is anticipated to be completed in May 2023 (Note: repaving between the Hygienic Store and Waiāhole will be completed at a later date).

Likelike Hwy.

Repaving of the town-bound lanes is anticipated to be completed by the end of February 2023. Repaving of the Kāneʻohe-bound lanes is anticipated to be completed by the end of March 2023.

Please note: all projects are weather permitting.

CAPITOL UPDATE



Representative Lisa Kitagawa

Aloha,
The 2023 Legislative Session began in mid-January and bills are currently moving through the legislative process. Please visit capitol.hawaii.gov to search for bills or topics that you are interested in. Since being elected to office in 2018, it has been my priority to keep the community informed and updated, as well as connect all of you to community and statewide resources and events. The best way to stay connected is to subscribe to my weekly e-newsletter, where we provide traffic updates, community resources/events, and legislative updates. Please contact my office to subscribe to our e-newsletter. You can also stay connected with my office through Facebook and Instagram (@RepKitagawa). I look forward to connecting with all of you. Mahalo for the opportunity to continue to serve you and our community.

Lisa

REP KITAGAWA'S 2023 LEGISLATION

These highlighted bills are some of the measures I introduced this year. If you would like assistance tracking bills and/or submitting testimony, contact my office!

PROTECTING OUR ENVIRONMENT

HB245: prohibits a vessel from being fumigated on ocean water (including Kāneʻohe Bay), unless exempted, and requires any exempted vessel to take measures to prevent fumigant or other chemicals from contaminating the water.

HB848 & HB1136: provides funding to the Hawai'i Institute for Marine Biology (Moku o Lo'e/Coconut Island) for support staff positions and site repairs.

HB1134: prohibits commercial ocean use activity in Kāneʻohe Bay waters and advertisement of such activity without a permit.

HB1313: establishes the Haiku Valley Cultural Preserve Commission to provide policy and management oversight of the Haiku Valley Cultural Preserve.

SUPPORTING EDUCATION

HB246: requires the Dept. of Education to employ one counselor, vice principal, and media specialist at all public schools. (introduced to support small schools)

HB464: establishes a 5 year magnet school pilot program at Waiāhole and Kaʻaʻawa elementary schools.

HB850: ensures trauma-informed education continues in the Castle, Kailua & Kalaheo complex areas by creating permanent positions for the program.

HELPING WORKING FAMILIES

HB855: establishes a general excise tax exemption for diapers.

HB1135: establishes a general excise tax exemption for groceries and nonprescription drugs.

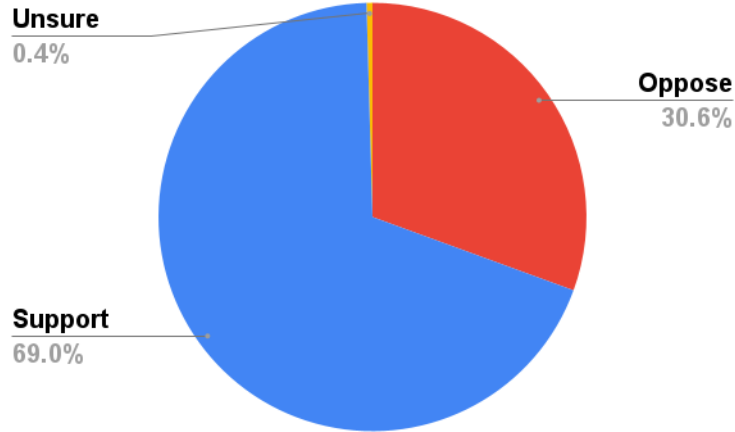
DETERRING DANGEROUS ACTIVITY

HB847: requires the government to seek reimbursement for all or a portion of search or rescue expenses for persons who require rescue due to trespassing on an illegal hiking trail.

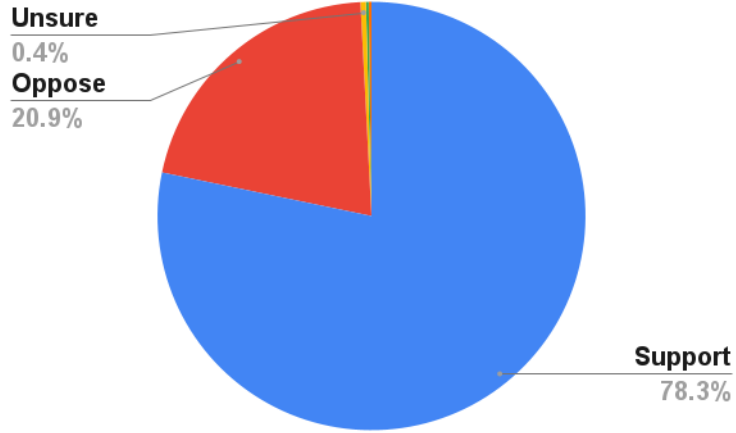
PEOPLE'S VOICE 2023 SURVEY RESULTS

Thank you to those of you who completed our community survey. There were **over 500 participants!** I've read through each response and appreciate being able to learn more about the priorities and concerns of community members. These graphics show the results from the survey.

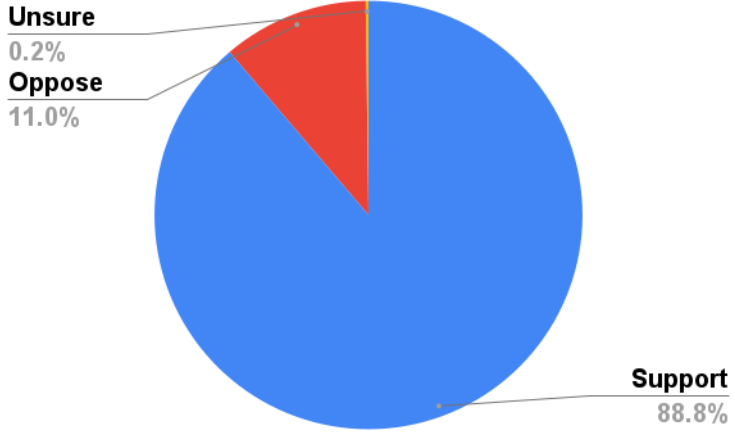
BUILDING A NEW JAIL TO REPLACE THE O'AHU COMMUNITY CORRECTIONAL CENTER (OCCC)



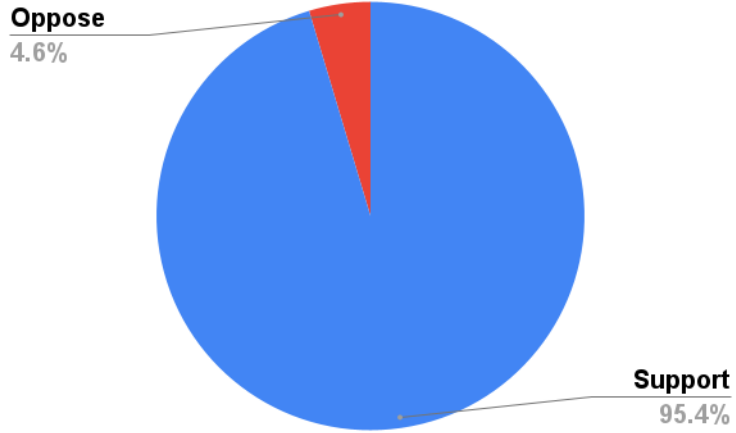
UNIVERSAL FREE PRESCHOOL FOR ALL 3- AND 4-YEAR-OLD CHILDREN



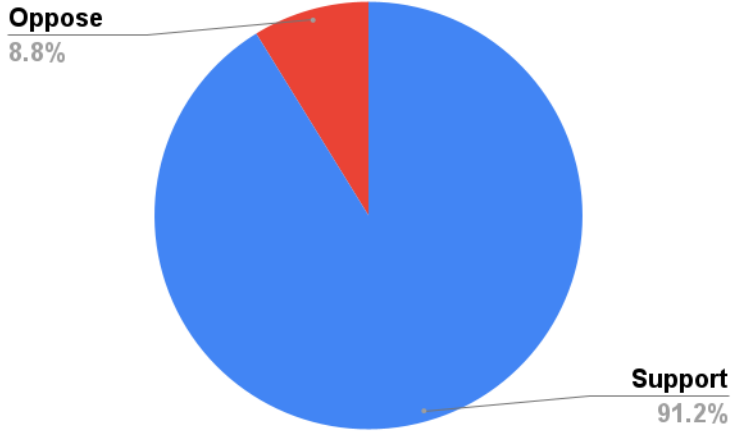
REQUIRING REIMBURSEMENT TO THE STATE/CITY FOR RESCUES ON ILLEGAL HIKING TRAILS



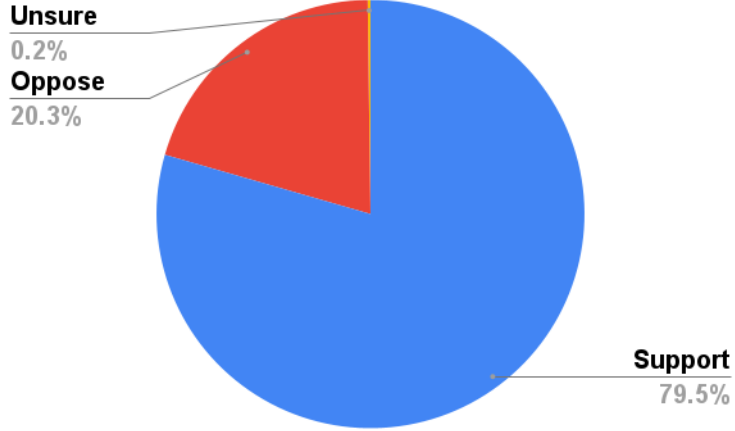
TAXING VAPING PRODUCTS SIMILARLY TO OTHER TOBACCO PRODUCTS



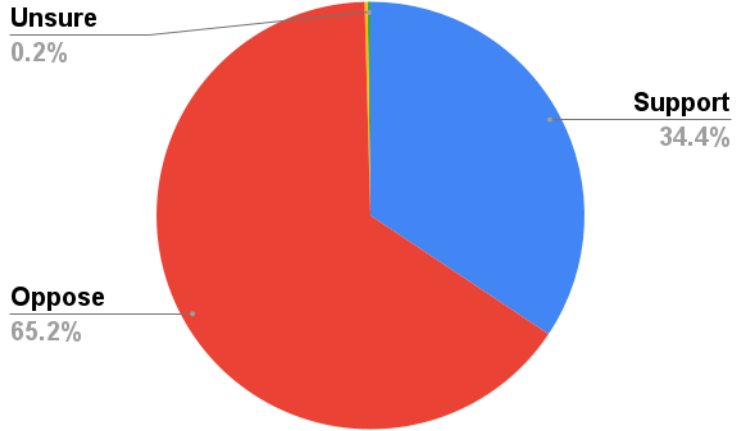
INCREASING FUNDING FOR MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES



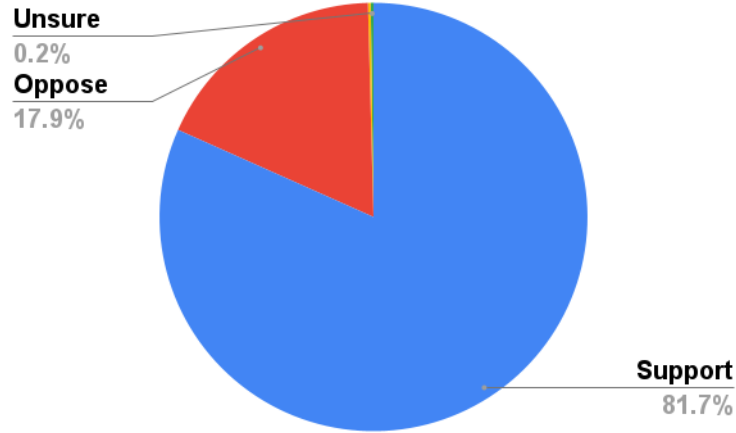
INCREASING FUNDING FOR ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND STEWARDSHIP



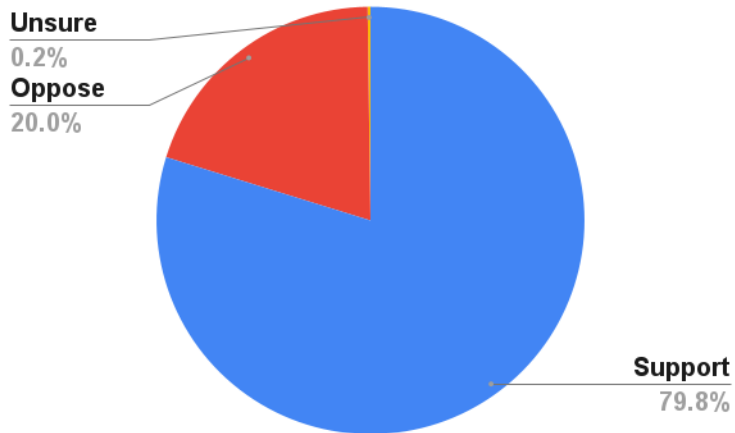
INCREASING FUNDING TO BUILD THE ALOHA STADIUM



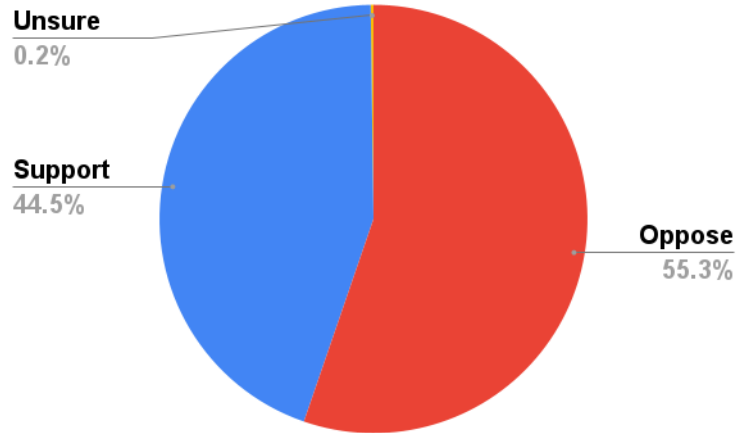
INCREASING FUNDING TO ADDRESS HOMELESSNESS



PAID FAMILY LEAVE



LEGALIZING RECREATIONAL MARIJUANA



(the larger/darker words appeared more frequently in the comments received)

(unsure answers mean an individual did not answer the question or circled both support and oppose)