



State Representative

Andrew Takuya Garrett

District 22 (Mānoa/Tantalus/McCully-Mō'ili'ili)

2024 End-of-Session Newsletter

Aloha e Friends and Neighbors,

And just like that, it's a wrap! We headed into this legislative session with much uncertainty over our fiscal situation due to the tragic wildfire that destroyed Lahaina last summer. However, thanks to healthier-than-expected tax collections, we were able to support Maui's recovery while passing the largest tax cut in state history to the tune of \$5 billion over several years to help working families. We also eliminated the GET on medical and dental services, which will go a long way to supporting our healthcare workforce. Details of these bills and others can be found on Page 2.

As I reflect back on my first term, my proudest accomplishment was utilizing my service on the Finance Committee to secure over \$30 million for capital improvement projects for public schools that serve our district and over \$100 million for University of Hawai'i facilities systemwide. We also appropriated funding to support the work of several worthy nonprofits in our district. I am pleased to share the list of such allocations on the back page.

In closing, it has been the honor of a lifetime serving on your behalf in the State House of Representatives. By continuing to work together, I know we can build upon the successes of the last two years.

With gratitude,

Pictures from top to bottom:

- ⇒ Visiting Principal Jason Okamoto of Mānoa School and the Green Tigers Robotics team
- ⇒ Hosting 10th graders from Mid-Pacific Institute
- ⇒ Joining area legislators to present Gregg Abe, Music Director of Roosevelt HS, and RHS Principal Sean Wong with a certificate during their Aloha Concert



(808) 586-8475



repgarrett@capitol.hawaii.gov



@repgarrett

Notable bills passed by the 2024 Legislature

The Legislature passed a total of **260 bills** this past session, 17 of which have already been signed into law by Governor Green. He has until **July 10** to decide whether to sign, veto or let these bills become law without his signature. For a complete list of bills passed, please visit the Legislature's website at www.capitol.hawaii.gov.

HB2404 HD1 SD1 CD1—Relating to Income Tax

Incrementally increases standard deduction amounts and widens income tax brackets for specific taxable years.

SB2919 SD2 HD2 CD1—Relating to Property (signed as Act 17)

Clarifies counties' authority to regulate the time, place, manner, and duration in which uses of land and structures may take place. Clarifies that uses that include the provision of transient accommodations are not considered residential uses and may be phased out or amortized by the counties.

SB1035 SD2 HD2 CD1—Relating to the General Excise Tax

Exempts from the general excise tax those medical and dental services provided by health care providers to patients who receive Medicaid, Medicare, or TRICARE benefits.

SB582 SD2 HD2 CD1—Relating to the State Budget (signed as Act 10)

Appropriates funds to support the State's response to the August 2023 wildfires that affected the County of Maui. Makes an appropriation to the One Ohana Bank Trust Account to compensate victims of the 2023 Maui wildfires.

SB3068 SD1 HD1 CD2—Making Appropriations for Wildfire Recovery

Appropriates funds to support the State's continued response to the August 2023 wildfires that affected the counties of Hawai'i and Maui.

HB2619 HD1 SD1 CD1—Relating to Biosecurity

Requires the Department of Agriculture to lead and coordinate the State's invasive pest control and eradication biosecurity efforts.

SB2305 SD1 HD1 CD1—Relating to Missing Persons

Establishes a Silver Alert Program within the Department of Law Enforcement to help locate and safeguard missing persons who are sixty-five years of age or older, cognitively impaired, or developmentally disabled.

Plans Announced for Former St. Francis School Site



Avalon Development shared its plans for “Aria Lane Mānoa,” the former site of St. Francis School, at a recent meeting of the Mānoa Neighborhood Board. **Current plans call for 76 single family and 26 multifamily units.** Since there are no variances being requested, the City and County will not require an Environmental Assessment.

Avalon will be hosting a series of community meetings over the next few months; please attend to share your thoughts or concerns on their plans. For additional information, please visit the **Aria Lane Mānoa** website at www.arialanemanoa.com or email info@arialanemanoa.com.



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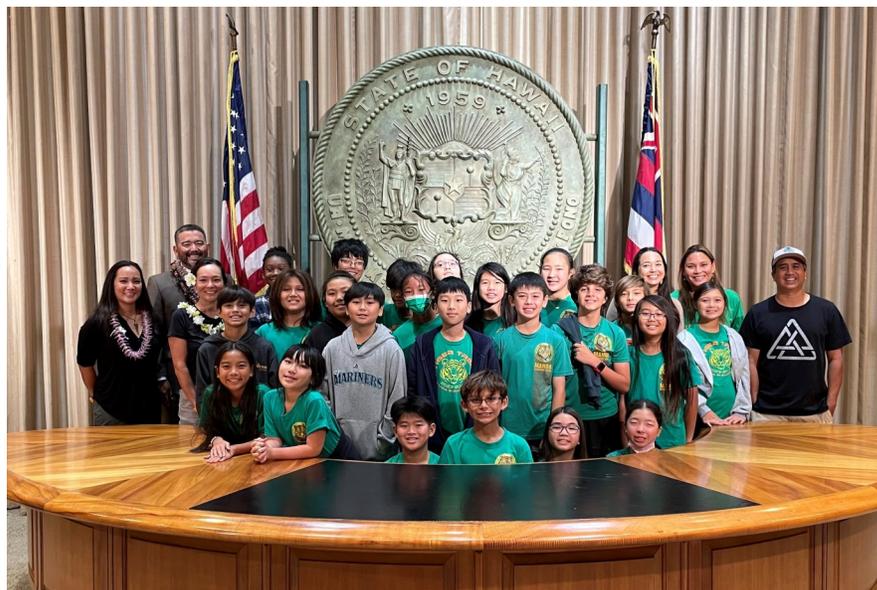


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Rep. Garrett in the Community



Clockwise, from top left:

- ⇒ Joining Lt. Gov. Sylvia Luke during annual Capitol Hawaii Food Bank drive
- ⇒ Hosting 5th graders from Mānoa School during a visit to the State Capitol
- ⇒ Umpiring a televised high school softball game between Pac-5 and Damien Memorial High School
- ⇒ Clearing invasive plants from Pu'ū Ohia trail atop Tantalus
- ⇒ Presenting certificates for Mānoa Pack 33 recipients of Arrow of Light Badge



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@repgarrett



STATE REPRESENTATIVE
Andrew Takuya Garrett

Hawaii State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street, Room 323
Honolulu, HI 96813



With colleagues and Speaker Saiki on the last day of session

Supplemental Budget Highlights for District 22!

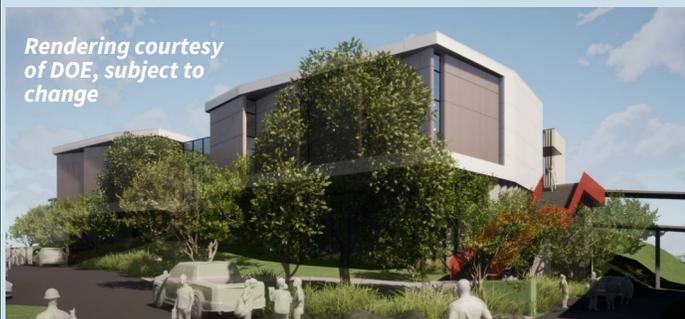
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

University of Hawai'i

\$100 million for projects for UH facilities systemwide and **\$8 million** to upgrade Holmes Hall, home of the College of Engineering on the UH-Mānoa Campus.

Roosevelt High School

\$16 million for a new music building.



Mānoa Elementary School

\$1.5 million for communications upgrades.

Noelani Elementary School

\$1.02 million for new covered walkways.

GRANTS-IN-AID

Hawaiian Humane Society

\$400,000 for hurricane screens to withstand strong winds and storms to protect animals housed at the Mō'ili'ili campus.

Japanese Cultural Center of Hawai'i

\$350,000 to replace parking garage elevators.

'Ohu 'Ohu Ko'olau

\$200,000 to remove hazardous albizia trees along Mānoa Stream that pose threats to life & property.

Mānoa Heritage Center

\$200,000 for continued repairs to *Kūali'i* (former Cooke residence) for conversion into a museum.

Mō'ili'ili Community Center

\$200,000 to support the Japanese Language School and various programs for keiki and kūpuna.

Kapi'olani Health Foundation

\$75,000 for a new Teen Resiliency Program to reduce rates of teen suicide.