

DISTRICT 44

FEBRUARY 2024 NEWSLETTER

GREETINGS AND ALOHA DISTRICT 44!

January and February have been eventful months so far, with ongoing hearings for several introduced bills and community activities.

To address last year's school bus driver shortage, I introduced HB2280, which would require school bus companies to prioritize hiring drivers capable of operating smaller vans, expanding the pool of available drivers who do not need a commercial driver's license (CDL). This change could help alleviate the shortage, as there is a limited number of CDL holders available to drive large school buses.

Every Friday, I post upcoming road and lane closures on Instagram, NextDoor, Facebook, and Facebook community groups. I encourage everyone to follow these posts to anticipate and plan for the week ahead.

I understand that some constituents in District 44 may not have internet access or use social media platforms. In such cases, please contact my office with your concerns or request for updates via email at repkila@capitol.hawaii.gov or by phone at 808-586-9480.

I appreciate your continued support. It is a privilege to serve and represent you.



State Representative
Darius K. Kila
House District 44
Mā'ili, Nānākuli, Ko'Olina,
and Honokai Hale

Committee Member
Transportation (Vice Chair)

Wildfire Prevention Working
Group Co-Chair
Finance
Housing

O'ahu Metropolitan Planning
Organization (Chair)

Hawai'i Interagency Council on
Homelessness, Member



Connect With Us!
@darius.kila

**SCAN TO VISIT
US ONLINE!**



EARLY LEARNING ON THE COAST!

I want to express immense gratitude to Lieutenant Governor Sylvia Luke for collaborating with us to inaugurate two additional preschool classrooms at Nānākuli Elementary. Sixty new students are now enrolled, and the waitlist continues to grow. We are planning to open more classrooms along the coastline and within the Mā'ili-Nānākuli complex in the next several years.



ISLAND LIFE LIVE! ON KITV!

A big thank you to the Island Life Crew at KITV4 for inviting me as their first guest on their 4PM debut. It was a pleasure to discuss and preview my legislative priorities for the upcoming session. To view the complete interview, please visit -><https://shorturl.at/gE128>



COMMUNITY CLEAN-UP!

On January 13th, we collaborated to clean up our beautiful coastline, spanning from our Haleakalā Avenue to Ulehawa Bridge. A big thank you to Councilmember Andria Tupola and her team for organizing and bringing us all together. This marks the first community cleanup event of 2024 – looking forward to having you join us at the next one.

IN THE COMMUNITY WHAT'S UP DISTRICT 44!



INVOCATION SPEECH

On February 9th, I delivered the floor invocation, discussing how I spent the legislative interim and emphasizing the importance of being stewards of time. To watch my invocation, please visit and start at the 7:50 mark -> <https://shorturl.at/hqS39>



OPENING DAY 2024!

Opening day 2024! In second year of the 32nd Hawai'i State Legislative session, I am feeling optimistic and grateful for the chance and opportunity to serve our community and our state. Here are some photos of opening day with my family and my colleagues.



STUDENT VISIT AT THE CAPITOL!

I was delighted to host students and families from Christian Homeschoolers of Hawai'i on January 29th. For more information about living and homeschooling in our district, visit <https://christianhomeschoolersofhawaii.org/w/>



CONGRESSWOMAN TOKUDA

I prioritize connecting with our Federal Congressional Representatives. I was pleased to meet with Congresswoman Jill Tokuda in my office to discuss our district's concerns. I've asked her to explore using Federal resources to address our needs. If you'd like to connect with her or Hawai'i field staff, please let us know, and we can help coordinate.



REINVENTING THE VISITOR PERSPECTIVE

Reinventing the visitor perspective is a key focus for me. I recently participated in a legislative panel at the Beautycounter Hawai'i Conference, where I highlighted Hawai'i's uniqueness and discussed the impact visitors have on our community. I value partnerships and opportunities like this to advocate for change.



DRIVE WITH ALOHA

On February 17th, we gathered to honor Sara Yara at a sign-waving event, promoting a future of #NoMoreVictims. Please drive with aloha for a safer community, whether in our district or anywhere else in Hawai'i. (Pictured: Chevy Saniatan, Sara's mother.)



AG DAY 2024!

Agriculture Awareness Day at the Hawai'i State Capitol brought farmers and food producers from across the islands to the state Legislature.



Representative Darius K. Kila
House District 44 - Mā'ili, Nanakuli, Ko'olina, Honokai Hale



1ST LATERAL DEADLINE!

As we approach the first lateral deadline at the state legislature and get ready for decking and crossover, I want to highlight some of the 19 bills I've introduced this year. To view the complete list of measures I've introduced from both this year and last year, please visit: <https://shorturl.at/eqsN2>



FLAG FOOTBALL!

Support our local flag football team, West Built! For more information, follow them on Instagram @westbuilt_

SUBSCRIBE TO REP. KILA'S ONLINE NEWSLETTER!

Email: repkila@capitol.hawaii.gov



LEGISLATIVE UPDATES **MID-SESSION REVIEW**

SOME OF THE BILLS I'VE INTRODUCED THIS SESSION!

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HB 1531

Relating to Motor Vehicle Insurance:

Makes mandatory the suspension of the driver's license of a driver or registered owner of a vehicle for operating a motor vehicle without a motor vehicle insurance policy. Increases duration of suspension of driver's license for violations.

HB1572

Taxation; Pension Income; Income Tax:

Limits the exclusion from gross income to pensions received for past services provided in the State.

HB1574

Sex Trafficking; Enhanced Sentencing:

Permits the courts to consider enhanced sentencing for defendants convicted of sex trafficking if the victim was a minor, Native Hawaiian, or transported between islands or across state lines for the purposes of sex trafficking.

HB1576

Vehicles; Number Plates; Front Windshield Display:

Allows owners of vehicles to display the front number plate on the inside of the front windshield as an alternative to being securely fastened to the front of the vehicle.

HB1580

Animal Cruelty; Penalties:

Amends the criminal penalties for various animal cruelty offenses by increasing the category of offense.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT FUNDING!

Funding crucial for projects at Nānāikapono Elementary School has been released for the construction of restroom facilities in the amount of \$89,998.

THE WAI'ANAE APPLIANCE "TRADE UP" PROGRAM IS NOW OPEN!

The Hawai'i Energy Wai'anae Appliance "Trade-Up" program is now open! Residents in the 96792 zip code can trade in their working fridge or freezer for a new, energy-efficient ENERGY STAR® model for AS LOW AS \$250 each, plus FREE delivery and haul-away. Sign up by 3/18/24 at HawaiiEnergy.com/WAIANAE or call Mākaha Learning Center at 808-913-2399. First come, first served!

TAX FILING ASSISTANCE!

AARP Foundation Tax-Aide offers free tax filing assistance to low to middle-income taxpayers, with a focus on older individuals. AARP membership is not necessary. Services are provided in-person on a first-come, first-served basis at all sites, including Nānākuli Library and Wai'anae Library. Bring your Tax Year 2022 returns and Tax Year 2023 tax documents. For more information, email taxaidehi@gmail.com.

SUBMIT TESTIMONY ON BILLS! SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS AT THE CAPITOL!

Elevate 2024 with your impact and involvement! Testify at the Hawai'i State Legislature to show that House District 44 residents are ready to contribute, participate fully in the legislative process, and be active for our community! Don't hesitate to contact us with any questions - we're here to assist!

URGING OFFICIALS TO INCREASE ENFORCEMENT AT THE PARKS AND PUBLIC SPACES!

I sent a letter to Mayor Blangiardi of the City and County of Honolulu, Chief Logan of the Honolulu Police Department, and Mrs. Pu'u, Deputy Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation, urging for increased enforcement in and around our park spaces. The Revised Ordinances of Honolulu (ROH) govern the use of parks and parking lots, with Section 10-1.2 outlining specific rules. Taking back control of parks and beaches will ensure clean and accessible areas for all residents. I will also urge Prosecutor Steve Alm to vigorously enforce related cases. I encourage all of us to request the County and HPD to enforce these rules as well.



Representative Darius Kila

Hawaii State Capitol
415 S. Beretania St., Room 322
Honolulu, HI 96813
House District 44
Parts of Ko'Olina, Honokai Hale,
Nānākuli, Mā'ili



Congratulations to Teapresso Bar Wai'anae, the newest local small business in 96792, on their GRAND OPENING! Thank you, Danielle Delima for bringing a well-deserved treat to our coastline.






Restore, Reconnect, Revive Makaha, Waianae, Maili, Nanakuli, Kapolei

READY FOR CHANGE? NEED A PLAN?

We maximize all resources in the Westside community to reduce homelessness while working in small outreach areas to restore public spaces to the public. If you're ready to build income and improve your situation, we help the goers go!



SERVICES OFFERED


-  Work and Income Opportunities
-  Reunification with Family
-  Shelter and Housing
-  Mental Health Services
-  Community Court

WHY CHOOSE US?

-  Birth Certificates & IDs
-  Hot Meals
-  Animal Outreach
-  Work Bus Passes

FEBRUARY 5 - MAY 16

More Info 808-768-5001

 International River of Life
87-728 Farrington Hwy
Mondays & Thursdays, 12-1 pm

 Samoan Church of Hawaii
87-140 Kahau Street
Mondays & Wednesdays, 5-6 pm

DIRECTORY

Adult Abuse:
808-832-5115

Child Abuse:
808-832-5300

Dead Animals:
808-768-9766

Potholes:
808-768-7777

Abandoned Vehicles:
808-768-2530

Sidewalk Concerns:
808-768-8118

Park Maintenance:
808-768-3003

Public Assistance Line
808-643-1643

Landlord-Tenant Hotline
808-564-2634