



District 51 Waimānalo, Enchanted Lake, Lanikai, Pōhākupu, Kukanono

State Representative Lisa Marten



Aloha neighbors,

Mahalo nui for the opportunity to serve during this historic session. I was grateful to pass several measures that I worked on with District 51 residents, with other legislators, State and County agencies, and subject matter experts. Everything is a team effort at the legislature.

I continue to work on local issues. These include reducing homelessness in our community, exploring opportunities to increase affordable housing, protecting our beaches, managing and restoring the Ka'iwa Ridge trail, restoring the health of Enchanted Lake and supporting our schools and health care providers.

I look forward to talking story about your concerns or ideas. Just call or email!

With warm aloha, *Lisa*

LOCAL HOMELESSNESS + AFFORDABLE HOUSING

People living on the streets and in the parks in Kailua have generally refused to accept mental health and shelter services. In an effort to reduce new arrivals following discharge from psychiatric evaluations and to address those living in Kailua, Rep. Marten is working in collaboration with Adventist Health Castle, HPD, DOH, IHS and other elected officials.

As patients shift into the newly constructed State Hospital (after long safety-related delays) old facilities can be used for voluntary residential mental health services, which are currently insufficient. A State Grant just awarded to Adventist Health Castle for primary care services in Kailua Town may also improve mental health of those on the street. For the homeless at Kailua Beach park, Rep. Marten has asked City Parks and Recreation to establish hours. Without that, they are not breaking a law and there is nothing for HPD to enforce.

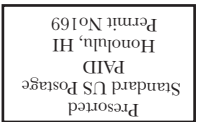


Supporting care of Enchanted Lake with Mike Compton

WANT TO KNOW MORE?

Lisamarten.com has info and links to Bills. Sign up for our infrequent e-news on the website or shoot us an email.

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BANNER YEAR FOR NATIVE HAWAIIANS

Obligations remain, but these resources should help many native Hawaiian residents.

- **DHHL** is allocated \$630 million to develop DHHL housing, lots, homestead services and to assist with down payments and mortgages.
- The **Kalima case**, named for a Waimānalo resident, is settled with \$328 million. 2,700 plaintiffs on the waitlist by 1988 (or their descendants) are compensated for paying rent while waiting for their lots.
- The **OHA** cut of ceded land revenues was increased from \$15.1 million to \$21.5 million annually and \$64 million was released from a special fund for back pay.
- **Hawaiian immersion programs** in the DOE were funded with \$38 million.
- Around \$25 million was given to Bishop Museum, Iolani Palace, Kaho‘olawe Island Reserve, and for a Kalaupapa memorial.
- Native Hawaiians have four seats on the **Mauna Kea Stewardship and Oversight Authority** which will manage lands and astronomy education and leases on Mauna Kea. Astronomy was declared a State policy, but no position was taken on TMT.

FIGHTING INVASIVE SPECIES

I have been removing invasive plants with my own hands (and a chain saw) for seven years at a community forestry site on the watershed of **Hāmākua Marsh State Wildlife Sanctuary**. Want To visit? Let me know.

Last year I was pleased to expand my scope by serving on the **Hawai‘i Invasive Species Council**, and by supporting their work with the Department of Agriculture to fight an infestation of **coqui frogs in Waimānalo**. The frogs have become established over the last year in four acres of very steep valley which are challenging to access. They have hand-caught over 500 frogs and have targeted visible frogs with hand-spraying of citric acid (a common ingredient in food). They then took advantage of an unspent day of helicopter services for fire control to do a soaking with the citric acid using wildfire fighting equipment. This will hopefully reduce the population in the steeper areas not accessible on foot.



SUPPORTING AGRICULTURE

In collaboration with the Department of Health (DOH), the Department of Agriculture and composters, I wrote and passed HB1992 which will promote soil health and reduce landfill waste by allowing composting in agricultural zones. Currently farmers can only compost organic materials that come from their own properties. **Composting** still requires permits from the DOH and the bill funded a position to create a simplified permitting process for small operations. A separate Bill passed to subsidize purchase of compost.

As a member of the Agriculture Committee, I heard and supported many initiatives. Key projects funded include: food hubs, food safety certification, soil improvements, cover crops, farmer apprentice mentoring, emergency loans, purchase of irrigation infrastructure serving agricultural parks, purchase of a building for a DOE agricultural training center, control of agricultural pests such as axis deer on Maui, coffee leaf rust and little fire ants. Changes were made in regulations in order to promote: kalo farming, aquaculture, hemp farming, development of agricultural infrastructure, control of feral pigs, and local agricultural purchases for public schools and prisons.



Replacing Haole koa with native trees

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

District 51 Residents Inspire and Help Pass Bills

‘ŌHI‘A LEHUA BILL

I introduced the House companion to the Bill that passed to make the ‘ōhi‘a Lehua the State Endemic Tree. Given my work planting native trees with schools, I was thrilled to have a simple vehicle for students to get involved in the legislative process. DLNR worked with many schools and I supported the schools in my district who testified beautifully, in writing, in person and through art. Attention to the importance of this tree lent itself to an additional \$1.7 million in funding for the Rapid ‘Ōhi‘a Death response on the Big Island.

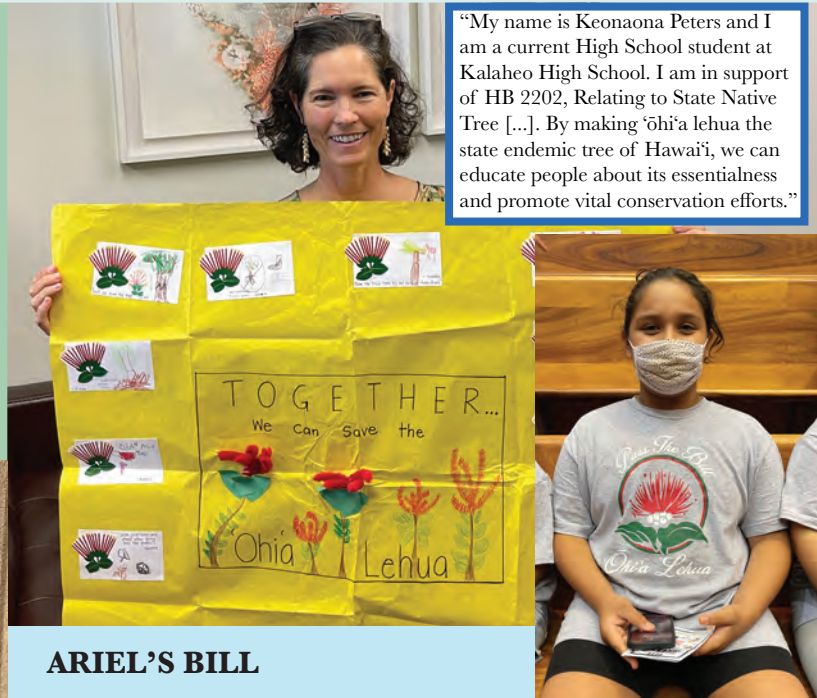
Waimānalo Neighborhood Board Chair
Kimeona Kane and Senator Lee



Elizabeth Kent, Enchanted Lake resident and member of the Commission to Promote Uniform Legislation requested we recognize and enforce Canadian **domestic-violence protections**, as they do for us. I worked with Judiciary Chairs in the House and Senate as well as the Women’s Legislative Caucus to pass the bill.



“My name is Keonaona Peters and I am a current High School student at Kalaheo High School. I am in support of HB 2202, Relating to State Native Tree [...]. By making ‘ōhi‘a lehua the state endemic tree of Hawai‘i, we can educate people about its essentialness and promote vital conservation efforts.”



ARIEL’S BILL

The Waimānalo Neighborhood Board wrote three extensive resolutions asking for more and higher quality resources and better coordination among agencies that work with children who are wards of the State after the tragic death of Ariel Sellers.

I tried to shape those wishes into a Bill, with the guidance from multiple meetings with current and past foster parents in the community, and experts who work in the field. It was very challenging due to opposition from DHS and some constitutional conflicts, but with leadership from Representatives Luke and Yamane, and Senators San Buenaventura and Lee, **\$8 million was allocated and additional regulations were created to transform services and oversight for foster children and for those that are adopted or placed with permanent legal guardians.** This Bill was slashed along the way and nearly died. I thank community members for continuing to testify so I could beg on your behalf to keep it alive as it was fixed and expanded. To complement this Bill, I wrote a resolution to **Audit Child Welfare Service** which was passed by Senator Lee.

CHANGES IN DISTRICT LINES

District boundaries are adjusted after every census and the boundaries of District 51 in Kailua will change after the next election. Pōhākupu, Kukanono and the hillside above Ka’elepulu Elementary will move away to District 50. Meanwhile, neighborhoods between Hāmākua Drive and Ka’elepulu canal will join District 51.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

I wrote a resolution, passed with the help of Senator Keohokalole, **urging the Marine Corps Base Hawai'i to upgrade their sewage treatment facilities** in light of periodic contaminants in their outfall, and to reuse more treated wastewater for irrigation since they are the largest consumers of fresh water on the Windward side. This Resolution may help them get the resources they need to protect themselves and the rest of us.

As Vice Chair of the Energy and Environmental Protection Committee I helped pass a phase out of **PFAS** “forever” chemicals which harm human health, make grants available to lower-income property owners for conversion of **cesspools** near water, and improve programs **recycling** electronic waste and HI-5 containers.

We passed measures to **reduce carbon emissions**. These included: energy efficiency requirements in all State facilities and use of low carbon materials for State buildings and highways, compensating farmers and foresters for

Several Honu nested at Marine Corps Base Hawai'i and Bellows



sequestering carbon in trees and soil, and setting goals for decarbonization, including for ground and inter-island transportation, and commissioning the groundwork to get us there.

CRIME

At their request, law enforcement agencies were consolidated into the new **Department of Law Enforcement** which will improve coordination and expand capacity.

Rep. Marten had some first-hand experience with crime recently that made her extra happy to pass bills to strengthen enforcement of **gambling** (game room problems in Waimānalo), to crack down on theft and **re-sale of catalytic converters** (her car was targeted at the airport), and to target **re-sale of stolen goods**.

Rep. Marten and HPD watched helplessly as her stolen bike was resold online. Thieves use technology, so she drafted a Bill in collaboration with HPD, the Prosecutor's office, and pawn shop owners to better use technology in crime detection. It establishes a public stolen bike database and punishes the sale of bikes reported stolen on the database.

Consumers can avoid purchasing stolen bikes and sellers will be fined with no need to prove criminal intent. It also transitions pawn shop records provided to HPD to an electronic platform to better screen for stolen items.



Efforts to Improve Public Accountability

A Commission to Improve Standards of Conduct was formed to produce a report this December for action next legislative session. I welcome more transparency both to make the public more comfortable and to make me more effective as a legislator. Related legislation that had already been introduced this session passed to:

- Prohibit fundraisers during session
- Require ethics training every 4 years
- Make providing false names and addresses of people paying for campaign advertisements a class C felony
- Require electronic recordings of board meetings be maintained as public record
- Reduce or waive costs in getting copies of government records

2022 LEGISLATIVE HIGHLIGHTS

- **SMALL BUSINESS** employees are paid \$500 to sign up for the new Hawai'i Retirement Savings Program for those who do not have access to employer-sponsored plans.
- **SMALL BUSINESS** owners will get help to compete for State contracting opportunities.
- **LOW INCOME WORKERS** will permanently receive their full earned income tax credit, even if it exceeds their tax bill, estimated cost \$250 million.
- **MINIMUM WAGE** will rise from \$10.10/hr to \$18/hr in increments by 2028, while the tip credit will rise from 0.75/hr to \$1.50/hr over the same period.
- **KUPUNA DRIVERS** licenses for those age 72 to 80 will expire after 4 years, not after the current 2 years.
- **FIREWORKS** fines increased from \$2,000 to \$5,000, and County records of sales and inventory to be shared.
- **HELICOPTER** companies must report flight paths. A Task Force with community representation established to recommend new laws and regulations.
- **STADIUM** downsized and affordable housing will be built in the parking area. Funded with \$350 million.
- **STATE HEALTH LABORATORY** to enable local testing of drinking water. Navy will be billed.
- **RANKED CHOICE VOTING** for special elections – voters rank from favorite to least favorite.

Serving on Energy and Environmental Protection with Chair Lowen



- **PRISON REFORM** through several initiatives to better tailor rehabilitation and reentry for incarcerated women and their families, setting up a women's court, and to provide IDs and parole services for all.
- **BAIL REFORM** eliminates monetary pre-trial bail for lesser, non-violent crimes.
- **LGBTQ+ COMMISSION** established to address discrimination and equity.
- **PERIOD PRODUCTS AT SCHOOLS** students will no longer miss class due to lack of menstrual products.
- **SEX TRAFFICKING** abatement office established within the Attorney General's office, services provided to support victim witnesses, and emergency shelter funding.

ARE YOUR CONCERNS CITY, STATE, OR FEDERAL? DONT WORRY, WE WILL CONNECT YOU TO THE RIGHT PLACE



Jennifer Barra has spent a decade helping our residents navigate government entities to find solutions to their problems. Her knowledge of ongoing District issues, of government, and the legislative process was crucial while Rep Marten learned the ropes. We bid Jennifer a warm aloha as she leaves to work for the Department of Parks and Recreation.

Stephanie Duarte Whalen and Alexandra Kahn joined us during busy session. Mahalo to this great team!

Many concerns District residents have fall under the jurisdiction of the County or the Federal government, but our office is always happy to let constituents know where and how to get help. For issues important to our community, I engage my elected counterparts.

For example, I ask for help from our Congressional delegation for **military and helicopter concerns**, or I lend support to City initiatives such as CM Ki'aina's Bill 38 to prohibit **commercial activity at Hūnānāniho Beach Park** or Mayor Blangiardi's Bill 41 to reduce the number of **vacation rentals in residential neighborhoods**.

OUR BUDGET REFLECTS OUR VALUES

How was the \$2 billion+ surplus used?

- **SAVING FOR THE FUTURE** \$500 million was added to the \$300 million already in the rainy-day fund and \$200 million in the hurricane fund. (This 10% reserve will ensure low interest rates for State borrowing.)
- **REDUCING DEBT** \$300 million for the public employee pension fund and \$300 million for future public worker health insurance.
- **TAX REBATES** \$250 million to cover rebates of \$300 (income under \$100,000 per individual or \$200,000 per couple), or \$100 for higher income earners multiplied by number of exemptions.
- **AFFORDABLE HOUSING** \$300 million for rental housing (half for working families up to median income), \$20 million for affordable housing infrastructure, \$5 million for gap financing for home purchases, \$4 million to match \$19 million in federal funds for First-to-Work families to get \$500/month

- **PAYMENTS OWED TO NATIVE HAWAIIANS \$1 BILLION FOR DHHL, OHA,** and a court settlement to early wait-listers. See details inside.
- **PUBLIC EDUCATION** \$200 million for pre-school infrastructure and \$120 to compensate teachers for experience, \$35 million for hard to fill locations, special education and Hawaiian immersion, and \$100 million in restored DOE positions.
- **BROADBAND** \$200 million for infrastructure to promote digital equity.
- **ADULT DENTAL** \$26 million so Medicaid clients can smile without shame and save us ER costs.
- **CHILD WELFARE SERVICES** up to \$8 million (this is the District 51 Bill for Ariel!)
- **TRAINING DOCTORS, NURSES AND TEACHERS** \$3.8 million to support students in UH programs.

STATE FUNDS SERVING OUR COMMUNITY

NEW CIP COMMITMENTS- \$12,450,000

- **Enchanted Lake Elementary** Library renovation following a flood event. Resurface and expand school driveways and parking lots.
- **Ka‘elepulu Elementary** Add audio, lighting and internet to complete outdoor performance structure.
- **Ka‘ōhao School** Fire alarm upgrade for safety.
- **Kailua Intermediate** Ventilation improvements and electrical upgrades for safety.
- **Kalāheo High** Renovate locker rooms – they are falling apart since they are the same ones I used in high school!
- **Kawainui Marsh** Predator fencing to protect the native birds and improve access for walking.



Rep Marten served on Finance with Chair Luke

RECENTLY RELEASED- \$4,000,000+

- **Kailua High** Renovations and air conditioning
- **Kalāheo High** Photovoltaic parking canopy
- **Windward Community College** Agripharmatech Program classrooms and lab

KAILUA GRANTS IN AID

Grants in Aid - \$750,000

- **Castle Medical Center** Primary care clinic space in Kailua town for a new team of physicians to fill in as many Kailua doctors will be retiring. Will also help with homeless services.
- **Kinai ‘Eha** Programs assisting youth with workforce training and Hawaiian cultural identity, on Correctional Facility campus.

