

## Senator Kurt Fevella

### November 2024 Newsletter



Senate District 20: 'Ewa Beach, Ocean Pointe, 'Ewa by Gentry, Iroquois Point, and portion of 'Ewa Villages

In this edition:

Greeting

In the Community

Capitol Update

Important Dates & Contacts



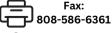




Have a question/comment? Let's talk story!



Phone: 808-586-6360







Aloha Family and Friends,

As we are nearing the end of the year, the holiday season is now upon us! In the coming weeks, we'll be surrounded by our favorite people and favorite foods, but please remember to celebrate with Aloha. Be mindful of your surroundings whether it be on the road, at work, or at school, so that we can all return home to our families.

Election season has also recently concluded, and I hope everyone made their voice heard by voting! Princess Kaiulani was only a young lady when she was fighting for our right to vote and to have a say in our government. I hope we continue to honor her legacy by voting, and electing a government that is by the people, and for the people.

As sessions draws closer, we are getting busier by the day with more events and site visits. Please take the time to look through the newsletter to stay updated on events in the Capitol and the Community!

Mahalo and God bless,

Kurt Fevella

#### Saber Football October 19, 2024

family.

for

On October 19 Saturday night, the No. 1 Campbell Sabers defeated No. 3 Kahuku Red Raiders 21-13. It was amazing to see our Campbell athletes compete throughout the season. This recent match against Kahuku has shown the amount of effort and training our athletes went through to secure numerous victories throughout the season. Thank you to the

friends.

community



Credit to ICHS Saber Media

and your continuous support of our athletes, as they could not have done it without you.

Credit to JCHS Saber Media

#### Capitol Modern - Pool Art October 29,2024

Sabers support Sabers!

As the Capitol Pool is under construction, Native Hawaiian artist Solomon Enos invited the community to leave their mark on the mural. The mural will be replacing the running water in the pool, and will be similar to the mural in the Capitol Modern Sculpture Garden. After construction, guests are invited to come back to find the everlasting mark that they contributed to the painting!



Attendees each painted five dots of various colors



Sen. Fevella adding his design to the pool art.



## In the Community

## October 12, 2024



A display of showcasing the Hispanic influence in Hawai'i.

The Annual Hispanic Festival is celebrated during Hispanic Heritage Month, which runs from September 15 to October 15. This year, the 32nd Annual Hispanic Festival is centered on reflecting Hispanic Americans' service and contributions to the history of our Nation, and was held at the AMVETS West Oahu Veterans Center. This annual event celebrates the contributions and achievements of Latinos and Hispanics by recognizing various elements of their rich culture as demonstrated through their traditions of faith, family, food, and hard work. Mahalo to all the volunteers and vendors for your contribution to making this years' festival a success!



The Puerto Rican Heritage Society of Hawai'i had its own booth at the celebration.

## 2025 Hawai'i State Teacher of the Year Finalist October 15, 2024

Every year, the State Department of Education (DOE) selects the "Teacher of the Year" among the finalists from each complex area. Of the 15 complex area teachers of the year and one charter school teacher of the year, Ms. Kim Virtudazo was among the finalists. She was chosen 2025 Campbell-Kapolei Complex Teacher of the Year earlier this year. Kim Virtudazo has demonstrated exceptional leadership and collaboration in preparing her students with essential life skills and providing them with opportunities in various career fields. Her focus to always put the student first has made the James Campbell High School and 'Ewa Beach proud of her accomplishments. Congratulations to Kim Virtudazo for earning the Campbell-Kapolei Complex Teacher of the Year and we sincerely appreciate the contributions you have made to our students and the community!



Sen. Fevella with Ms. Virtudazo at the ceremony.

## 'Ōlelo - Peter Savio \_ October 29, 2024



Mr. Savio and Sen. Fevella on the set of Olelo.

I would like to first thank Peter Savio for coming to talk story with me about his solution to solve the housing crisis in Hawaii. Peter Savio is an affordable housing developer and owns Savio Realty, a real estate agency. He emphasized that the reason for the housing crisis is not the lack of housing supply, but demand. Many houses in Hawaii are priced at a rate that local families are unable to afford, but those on the mainland could easily afford. If housing prices were tied to the Hawaii Resident's average wages, the average 3 bedroom 2 bath house would be approximately \$450,000 instead of \$1.2 million. We also discuss the "Singapore Example", in which Singapore housing was actually modeled after Hawaii. When Hawaii first became a State, we were extremely successful at building new housing. When Singapore first became a nation, they had a severe housing crisis and used Hawaii as a model to develop their housing. Stay tuned to see the full version on Olelo!



# Capitol Update

#### Press Conference- Gun Violence

#### October 15, 2024



Press conference with supporters behind Senator Fevella

With the recent rise in violence on the west side, particularly in Waianae, I prompted by community members to encourage our local leaders to take a more hands on approach, instead of having meetings and putting together task forces. "We need to engage directly individuals in the community and convey that carrying a gun to intimidate or threaten others is unacceptable". You may also find media coverage by KHON2 here.

#### WAM Committee Site Visit

#### October 22, 2024

The Senate committee on Ways and Means flew to Maui on Tuesday, October 22 to visit Ka Lai Ola and La'ikū. The state Department of Human Services and HomeAid Hawai'i collaborated to create Ka La'i Ola- a temporary housing development to house wildfire survivors for up to 5 years. For more information, please visit their website. La'ikū is also designed as a temporary housing project and was a result between state departments and agencies. La'ikū will provide 16 two-bedroom, one-bath units at 560 sq. ft. each. The homes are being built on approximately two acres of land that was previously acquired by the HDOT as part of the Lahaina Bypass project.

### The Committee on EET Informational Briefing

#### October 23, 2024



The EET Committee as HTA Board Chair Mufi Hanneman speaks

On October 23, the committee on Energy, Economic Development and Tourism gathered to receive an overview of the current operations from the Hawaii Tourism Authority (HTA). This includes an overview of the HTA Board, rules and responsibilities of the Board, the Hawaii visitors and Convention Bureau, and the HTA budget. You can view the entire discussion on YouTube.



Audience present at the EET Briefing

### Lights on Afterschool October 29, 2024

At the State Capitol, keiki from all over the island arrived to advocate for afterschool programs. Afterschool Alliance (national) led thousands of schools in its 25th Lights On Afterschool celebration. There are over fifty afterschool programs statewide. It was an honor to speak before our keiki and fellow advocates during this years Hawai'i Afterschool Alliance. I believe engaging our keiki in afterschool programs helps inspire them to grow mentally and socially. If you would like to read more about Hawai'i Afterschool Alliance, please visit their website.





## **Committees on EET & HWN Informational Briefing**

### October 30, 2024



DHHL Chair Kali Watson facing the EET and HWN Committee

In June 2024, more than 1,500 customers were cut from their telecommunication services, including many homesteaders and businesses. Most of these customers were located in remote regions of the islands, with only 1 telecommunications carrier. The hearing features an overview of the future of telecommunications on Hawaiian Home lands, recent show cause order of the emergency proclamation, and an outline from Spectrum and Hawaiian Telcom on their contributions to enhancing services on Hawaiian Homelands. You can view the entire hearing on **YouTube**.



Senator Fevella during the EET-HWN Joint briefing

### Filipino Caucus

#### October 30, 2024



Presentation by Hawai'i Coalition for Immigrant Rights (HCIR).

On October 30, the House and Senate Filipino Caucuses met to receive updates from various community organizations to better prepare us for the 2025 Session. We were shown presentations about Filipino Culture and J1 Visas for Filipinos as part of an exchange program, and also heard from the Pamantasan Council at UH Manoa, the Filipino Chamber of Commerce, and the Hawaii Senate and House legislators with HCIR. Coalition for Immigrant Rights.





## Important Dates & Contacts

### <u>'Ewa Neighborhood Board</u>

November 14, 2024 at 7PM

Visit: <a href="https://www.honolulu.gov/nco/boards.html">https://www.honolulu.gov/nco/boards.html</a>

# Ewa Beach Lions Club Community Christmas Parade

Saturday December 14 at 10:00AM

### **SPREAD ALOHA**

**Everyday** 



## Connecting our Community Emergency Services

Ambulance/Fire/Police: 911

State Emergency Management Division: 808-733-4300

State Highway Safety Hotline: 808-831-6714

#### **Utilities**

Hawaiian Electric Co. (trouble only): 808-548-7311

Hawaiian Telcom (customer care): 611

Board of Water Supply (report leaks): 808-748-5000 ext. 1

The Gas Company (trouble only): 808-526-0066

### **Community Concerns**

City Refuse & Bulky Item Collection: 808-768-3200

(Missed) Pickup in 'Ewa Beach: 808-768-9732

Graffiti Hotline (HPD): 808-723-3475

Damaged Sidewalks: 808-768-8159

Public Trees: 808-971-7151

Clean Stream Hotline: 808-768-7890

Medicare Call Center: 800-633-4227

Social Security: 800-772-1213

Potholes (City): 808-768-7777

Potholes (State): 808-536-7852

## City & State Departments

Education ('Ewa) 808-692-8000

City Dept. of Facility Maintenance 808-768-3343

Handi-Van Operations 808-456-5555

Dept. of Hawaiian Home Lands 808-620-9531

Dept. of Health 808-586-4400

Mental Health Hotline DOH Hawaii CARES 808-832-3100 or 1-800-753-6879

Dept. of Labor & Industrial Relations 808-586-8844

Unemployment Insurance Claims 808-762-5751

Land and Natural Resources 808-587-0401

Neighborhood Board Commission 808-768-3710

Parks & Recreation 808-768-3003

Public Safety 808-587-1288

Transportation Services 808-768-3053

Transportation 808-587-2150