

State Senator

# BRANDON ELEFANTE

Representing Senate District 16 - 'Aiea, Hālawā, and Pearl City

Connecting Communities • Protecting Our Planet • Supporting Strong Schools



SUMMER 2024

## Aloha Friends and Neighbors,

It has been an incredible and extraordinary experience as your State Senator, and I am truly honored to represent each and every one of you. I am grateful to serve you for the 2024 Legislative Session!

For the 2024 Session, the legislature has approved over **\$12 million in Capital Improvement Project (CIP)** funding for our district. These CIP's are critical for repairs and improvements to our schools and infrastructure. Additionally, these funds also bring in new local jobs and help to improve the local economy of District 16!

On the topic of CIP's, I am extremely thrilled that Governor Green has released the funding of **\$7M to 'Aiea High School** for a new synthetic athletic field and track, and **\$4M to Pearl City High School** for the lighting, electrical improvements, and equipment for the **Nakasone Performing Arts Center**, the funding for these projects were priorities for me and I am forever grateful that they were funded.

I introduced forty-two measures relating to a large breadth of subject matters from public safety, social services, transportation, housing, fireworks, and of course, CIP's. I am very happy to report additional CIP's were approved and included into the 2024 Budget (see page 2 for breakdown).

**House Bill (HB) 2619 RELATING TO AGRICULTURAL BIOSECURITY** requires the Department of Agriculture to lead and coordinate the State's invasive pest control and eradication biosecurity efforts. Appropriates \$19.78 million to the Department of Agriculture for programs and positions in agricultural biosecurity. Also appropriates to each county as a grant-in-aid, subject to a county match, for the implementation of feral chicken control programs.

**HB 2404 RELATING TO INCOME TAX** incrementally increases standard deduction amounts and widens income tax brackets for specific taxable years beginning after 12/31/2023. This bill essentially doubles the standard deduction starting next year and will reduce the tax burden on low- and middle-income households.

I remain steadfastly committed to open and inclusive representation and I strongly encourage everyone in our communities to become involved in the legislative process. Please do not hesitate to contact my office with any concerns that you may have. Mahalo for your continued support, it is truly an honor to be your voice in our state legislature.

## UH West O'ahu Spring Concert



An incredible evening attending the University of Hawai'i West Oahu Spring Concert at the Nakasone Performing Arts Center. Dr. Chadwick Kamei lead the band through an amazing performance! Pictured with 'Aiea resident and guest conductor of the night, Maestro Michael D. Nakasone.

## Honoring Principal Amy Martinson

I want to congratulate Highlands Intermediate Principal, Amy Martinson, on her retirement, and express our gratitude for her years of dedication to teaching our keiki.



## 'Aiea Boy Scouts Troop 488



Pictured with members of Troop 488.



# MEASURES PASSED BY THE LEGISLATURE FOR 2024

The following is a list of Bills and Resolutions that passed the State Legislature.

**Senate Bill (SB) 2305 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. I'd like to extend my heartfelt thanks to the members of the committee for passing this bill, as well as Sen. Glenn Wakai and Rep. Lisa Marten for their leadership during Conference and advancing this measure. I'd also like to thank Rep. Cory Chun, introducer of the House companion to this bill in a collaborative effort to get this important measure passed by the legislature.



*Celebrating the passage of our Silver Alert bill with Sen. Shimabukuro, Rep. Takayama, Sen. Wakai, Sen. Aquino, Sen. Elefante, Rep. Marten, and the dedicated advocates for this bill. We couldn't have done it without them!*

**Palisades Emergency Access | Senate Concurrent Resolution (SCR) 116** urges the Department of Transportation to work with the City and County of Honolulu to plan and implement options for alternative egress and ingress routes in Pacific Palisades. Thank you to the members of the community for their tireless efforts in advocating for this emergency safety issue.

**Palisades Emergency Siren | SR 58** requests that the Hawai'i Emergency Management Agency install a new emergency siren near the intersection of Aumakua Street and Auhulu Street in Pacific Palisades.

**Red Light Camera Expansion | SCR 25** encourages the State and City Departments of Transportation to expand the Red-Light Safety program. Working collaboratively with the community and seeing the success of the Red-Light camera pilot program, I introduced this resolution to expand this program to make our community a safer place for all.

**SB 582 RELATING TO STATE BUDGET** 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. Temporarily lifts various restrictions on the use of funds for Maui wildfire response. Declares that the appropriations exceed the state general fund expenditure ceiling for 2023-2024. Requires reports to the Legislature.

**House Bill 2193 RELATING TO FIREWORKS** authorizes law enforcement and fire officers to enter and inspect any licensee's

*Measures Passed continued on page 3*

## SENATE DISTRICT 16 CIP's PASSED BY THE LEGISLATURE

### 'AIEA INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

*Plans, design, and construction for a work and play area to support physical education classes and recess periods; ground and site improvements; equipment and appurtenances.*

**TOTAL FUNDING \$2.5 MILLION**

### MOMILANI ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

*Design and construction for perimeter fencing and security improvements.*

**TOTAL FUNDING \$3.55 MILLION**

### PEARL CITY HIGH SCHOOL

*Design and construction to resurface tennis courts.*

**TOTAL FUNDING \$650,000**

*Design, construction and equipment to renovate medical classroom; ground and site improvements; equipment and appurtenances.*

**TOTAL FUNDING \$1.38 MILLION**

### WEBLING ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

*Design and construction for a new paved walkway from school to alternative exit; ground and site ground and site improvements; equipment and appurtenances.*

**TOTAL FUNDING \$1.68 MILLION**

*Design and construction for the expansion of the administration and library buildings and for covered walkways to classroom buildings; ground and site ground and site improvements; equipment and appurtenances.*

**TOTAL FUNDING \$1 MILLION**



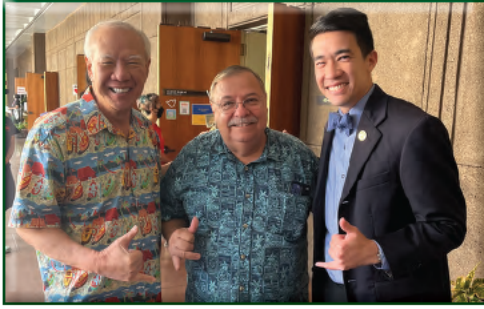
### KĀIWA HEIAU STATE PARK ('AIEA LOOP TRAIL)

*Design and construction for park improvements including but not limited to roadway and shoulder repair, pavilion, and waterline repair.*

**TOTAL FUNDING \$2 MILLION**



## Constituents at the Capitol



Representative Gregg Takayama and Senator Elefante with Pearl City Neighborhood Board Chair, Larry Veray (center) who was at the State Capitol to testify on various measures of importance that benefit Pearl City.

## Homelessness Addressed in Newtown



Sen. Elefante, Rep. Kong, and Councilmember Okimoto coordinated with the State Office of Homelessness, and various City and County of Honolulu departments issues concerning homelessness within Newtown Neighborhood Park and the greater 'Aiea area. I'd like to thank the various offices for meeting to discuss what can be done to protect our communities.

## Waimalu Elem. Family Reading Night



Recently I participated in Waimalu Elementary's Family Reading Night reading to and alongside Waimalu Elementary School students, parents, faculty and staff. Early education is a key part of setting our keiki on a successful & fulfilling path in life and I was thrilled to be able to support and take an active part of their academic journeys.

## Department of Defense Site Visits



I had the privilege of visiting several Department of Defense locations on O'ahu ranging from the 29 Headquarters and Headquarters Company (HHC) and Readiness Center in Kapolei, to the Hawaii Emergency Management facility located at Diamond Head Crater.

## Student Council Members Inducted



It was an honor to present awards to the incoming student officers in the annual Highlands Intermediate Student Council Induction Ceremony, and the 2024 Nat'l Gold Council of Excellence award. Congratulations to the students for all of their hard work towards obtaining this award! I'd also like to applaud Mr. Eric White's dedication and guidance in shaping the future leaders of Hawai'i.

## CSG West Legislative Academy



Rep. Adrian Tam, Rep. Lisa Marten, former Hawai'i State Representative and CSG leader Marcus Oshiro, and Representative Rachele Lamosao, and Senator Brandon Elefante at the CSG West Legislative Academy in Denver, CO.

## MEASURES PASSED *continued from page 2*

or permittee's premises, under certain conditions, to verify compliance with the State's Fireworks Control Law. Establishes procedures for the Department of Law Enforcement to conduct administrative inspections of controlled premises. Requires certain licensees and permittees to keep records and maintain inventories. Requires licensees and permittees to report any stolen fireworks or articles pyrotechnic. Requires violators to be held liable for storage and disposal costs. Specifies that each type of prohibited firework constitutes a separate violation.



*I had the opportunity to Chair several Conference Committee hearings relating to Judiciary matters. Many thanks to Committee Chair Karl Rhoads for his faith and trust in me and to the other conferees for their participation. All measures were successfully reported out of Conference and passed final reading on the Chamber floor.*



## Senator Brandon Elefante • Hawaii State Senate - District 16

*Member of the following Senate Committees*

Public Safety - Gov't Affairs - Vice Chair • Water and Land - Vice Chair • Judiciary • Transportation - Culture and the Arts

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## Hawaii State Capitol

Our State Capitol building in Honolulu is the best in the nation. It has a rich history and a very unique beauty that no other state capitol can compare to.



I encourage everyone to come take a tour of the State Capitol and experience this incredibly great building. Please let us know if you are visiting, we would love to greet you and take a picture!

**Office of Senator Brandon Elefante**  
*State Senate District 16*  
415 S. Beretania Street  
Room 217 • Honolulu, HI 96813

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## E-Updates

Periodically my office will be sending out an E-Update to constituents in the district to keep them informed regarding what is happening in 'Aiea/Pearl City. Oftentimes, we feature a section in our E-update asking for your input on a piece of legislation that is circulating throughout the Capitol, or a set of concerns in the district because we want your feedback and for your voice to be heard. If you would like to stay informed please send an email to be added to our list of recipients to:

[j.salcedo@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:j.salcedo@capitol.hawaii.gov)

## HAWAII STATE DEPARTMENTS & AGENCIES

<https://portal.ehawaii.gov/government/departments-and-agencies/>

Attorney General.....	808-586-1500
Child Support Enforcement.....	808-692-7060
Commerce & Consumer Affairs.....	808-587-3222
Department of Defense.....	808-733-4246
Department of Education.....	808-784-6200
Department of Health.....	808-586-4400
Department of Taxation.....	808-587-4242
Department of Transportation.....	808-587-2150
Hawaii State Ombudsman.....	808 587-0770
Human Services.....	808-586-4997
Information Practices.....	808-586-1400
Labor & Industrial Relations.....	808-586-8844
Legal Aid Society of Hawaii.....	808-536-4302
Long Term Care Ombudsman.....	808-586-7268
Office of Hawaiian Affairs OHA.....	808-594-1835
Hawaiian Homelands DHHL.....	808-620-9500

## CITY & COUNTRY DEPARTMENTS & AGENCIES

<https://data.honolulu.gov/>

Emergency.....	911
For non-Emergency.....	Dial 911 and say "Non-emergency"
Abandoned Vehicle Reporting.....	808-768-2530
Complaints (About City-related Issues).....	808-768-4381
City Refuse and Recycling Services.....	808-768-3200
Graffiti Hotline (HPD).....	808-723-3475 or 911
HART Hotline.....	808-566-2299
Pothole Hotline.....	808-768-7777
Satellite City Halls Information.....	808-768-4325
Senior Citizen Information.....	808-768-7700
Sewer Line Problem.....	808-768-7272
Street Line Markings.....	808-768-3638
Traffic Signal Malfunction.....	808-768-8387
Honolulu City Council.....	<a href="http://honolulu.citycouncil.org">honolulu.citycouncil.org</a>
City and County of Honolulu.....	<a href="http://honolulu.gov">honolulu.gov</a>
Honolulu 311.....	<a href="http://honoluluhi.citysourced.com/default.aspx">honoluluhi.citysourced.com/default.aspx</a>