



Senate President Donna Mercado Kim

~ Senatorial District 14 ~

• Kapalama • 'Alewa, Kalihi Valley • Ft. Shafter • Moanalua Gardens & Valley
• Portions of Halawa & 'Aiea

March 2015

Senate President Donna Mercado Kim's Priority Bills

Elections (SB 287)

This proposal launches an exclusively mail-in voting program, with walk-in early voting, for selected districts. If successful, the program would be expanded statewide over the next two elections.

According to the State Elections Office, using mail-only ballots would save the state about \$874,000 per election cycle. Colorado, Washington, and Oregon all employ a vote-by-mail system, and they enjoy the highest voter turnouts.

Inspector General (SB 287)

Despite the Legislature's best efforts to identify and rectify government mismanagement and waste, problems have continued to surface time and time again.

Senator Kim has proposed the establishment of an inspector general, modeled after that of the federal government. An inspector general, operating at the executive branch level, would have more flexibility to conduct investigations of fraud or waste that are beyond the mandate of the Legislative Auditor, whose assignments require approval by both houses.

Vacation Rentals (HB 825)

Illegal vacation rentals continue to pose problems in zoning and uncollected taxes. This bill (which is the companion bill proposed by Senate President) would have vacation rentals licensed by the state government, and would be required to pay all transient accommodation and general excise taxes, and comply with county zoning ordinances. This would add a substantial amount of revenue which are being lost.

Beach Sand Restoration (SB 617)

Hawaii beaches have been experiencing dramatic sand loss and this is expected to continue for years to come. Rather than wait and hope for an appropriation from the Legislature for a specific sand replenishment program, President Kim has proposed using hotel room tax revenues for the maintenance and restoration of beaches across the state. This bill would make available a steady source of funds to implement the recommendation of a joint Department Land and Natural Resources and country government study and help preserve the marine environment.

Domestic and Sexual Violence (SB 387) and SCR 27)

Recent high-profile episodes involving domestic violence and sexual assault on college campuses led the Women's Legislative Caucus to offer several bills and resolutions to address these concerns.

The Affirmative Consent bill (**SB 387**) requires the University of Hawaii to act jointly with the Board of Regents to establish and enforce an affirmative consent standard for all policies and protocols relating to sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking.

Senate President Kim proposed a resolution (**SCR 27**) directing the Honolulu Police Department to establish a family violence unit staffed with officers specifically trained to handle all complaints of domestic and sexual violence.



Senate President Donna Mercado Kim and Vice Speaker John Mizuno coordinated the Flu Immunization Clinic participated by HMSA and Kaiser Permanente at the Capitol for all legislators and staff on Tuesday, February 3—in picture: Vice Speaker Mizuno, Senate President Kim and representatives of HMSA and Kaiser Permanente.

DEFEND YOURSELF AGAINST THE FLU

- ◆ Flu is a contagious respiratory illness that infect the nose, throat and lungs which may cause fever.
- ◆ It is spread by droplets when people with flu cough, sneeze or talk, or touch a surface.
- ◆ Flu seasons are unpredictable and can be severe. In some years, flu-associated deaths reached a low of 3,000 and a high of 49,000.
- ◆ The best way to prevent seasonal flu is to get vaccinated.

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Schedule of Community Meetings

Neighborhood Boards

Liliha/Puunui/Alewa/Kamehameha Heights Neighborhood Board No. 14

Monday, March 9, 2015, 7:00 p.m.
 Ma'e Ma'e Elementary School

Kalihi Palama Neighborhood Board No. 15

Wednesday, March 18, 2015, 7:00 p.m.
 Kalihi Union Church

Kalihi Valley Neighborhood Board No. 16

Wednesday, March 11, 2015, 7:00 p.m.
 Akira Sakima Recreational Center

Aiea Neighborhood Board No. 20

Monday, March 9, 2015, 7:30 p.m.
 Aiea Library

Community Associations

Moanalua Gardens Community Association

Tuesday, March 3 2015, 7:00 p.m.
 Moanalua Middle School

Moanalua Valley Community Association

Wednesday, March 11, 2015, 7:00 p.m.
 Moanalua Golf Course

Upcoming Events

7th Annual Art at the Capitol:
 An opportunity for Constituents to visit the State Capitol
 Friday, March 6, 2015 4:30—7:00 pm