



COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

FROM THE OFFICE OF REPRESENTATIVE JO JORDAN

HOUSE DISTRICT 44 · WAIANAЕ, MAKAHA, MAKUA, MAILI · MARCH-APRIL 2013

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Aloha Neighbors,

The 2013 Legislative Session is scheduled to adjourn on May 2nd and the Legislature is doing its final review of bills and resolutions. I have a few bills still under consideration on issues ranging from public safety, housing, efficient allocation of public funds, and medicaid program integrity, some of which are highlighted inside this newsletter. I also introduced a resolution requesting DLNR to conduct a study of the commercial vessel permits in state small boat harbors involving ocean-related activities for ocean waters between Kalaeloa and Kaena Points due to the increased usage of beach parks and state boating facilities along the Waianae Coast.



In this newsletter, I also highlight Waianae Complex School upgrades and include the most recent projects at Waianae High School and Kamaile Academy that will be initiated shortly. I'm also proud that Kamaile Academy participated in Education Week at the Legislature and Johna-Rae Leedy and Kaliko Kauai were named the 2013 State of Hawaii Boys & Girls Clubs Youth of the Year Honorees from the Waianae Clubhouse.

It is my honor to continue to serve you. Feel free to contact me if I can be of assistance.

Mahalo,

**Jo Jordan,
District 44 Representative**

Waianae Complex School Upgrades Continue

Schools in the Waianae complex area—designated as Zones of School Innovation under Hawaii's Race to the Top plan—continue to benefit from major upgrades to campus facilities. In addition to the nearly \$7 million in construction already completed and/or underway at schools throughout the Waianae complex, construction totaling \$249,876.32 to reroof Building AA Dining Room and Kitchen and \$131,400 to reroof Building J at Waianae High School and construction totaling \$855,300 at Kamaile Academy for Campus Expansion will be initiated shortly.



Above, right: Representative Jordan pictured with representatives from Kamaile Academy including (from L-R): Dan Jenkins, Special Education Administrator; Anna Winslow, Associate Principal Grades Pre-K to 3; Paul Kepka, Associate Principal Grades 4-6; and Emma Weiss, Principal.

Kamaile Academy Participates in Education Week at the Legislature

Education was the focus of an interactive week-long celebration at the State Capitol from March 18-22. Various educational stakeholders and organizations that make a difference in the lives of Hawaii's students participated in the legislature's annual Education Week. During House and Senate Floor Sessions, legislators honored various individuals and schools, such as district teachers of the year, principals of the year, and Hawaii Blue Ribbon Schools.

As part of the Hawaii Public Charter Schools Network round table discussion, Kamaile Academy shared about their model as a public conversion charter school and its commitment to the vision of a P-20 learning village for the community. The vision of Kamaile Academy is "where learning leads to endless opportunities and infinite worth" and their mission is "to prepare self-directed, self-aware, college-ready learners who will embrace the challenges of obstacles, experience the pride of perseverance and accomplishments, and demonstrate the strength of 'ohana (family) and community." I was honored to attend the round table discussion and excited that Kamaile Academy was one of the charter schools showcased by the Hawaii Public Charter Schools Network.

2013 MID-SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

I have included a few of the bills that passed out of the Hawaii House of Representatives up to First Crossover, or the midpoint of the 2013 Regular Session. Since the legislative session is still in progress, the status of the measures in this report will continue to evolve, but I encourage you to weigh in on these issues as the bills move over to the Senate.

Leeward Coast

Makua Valley, HB509 HD2

Establishes the Makua Valley Reserve Commission to oversee the control and management of Makua Valley. Provides that DLNR will provide enforcement and administrative support for the Commission's activities.

Traffic Mitigation, HB1112 HD1

Requires the DOT to take specified traffic mitigation actions for east-bound traffic near Kunia Road.

Economic Development/Jobs

Worker Retention, HB634 HD1

Establishes job security requirements upon the divestiture of a covered establishment if the covered establishment employs 100 or more persons.

HI Growth Initiative, HB858 HD1

Appropriates funds to the Hawaii Strategic Development Corporation for the HI Growth Initiative, an investment program to develop an ecosystem to support high-growth entrepreneurial companies in the State.

Employment and Training Fund, HB927

Strengthens the use of the Employment and Training Fund to assist local small businesses through training programs identified in the State's economic development strategy as identified by the DBEDT and local Workforce Investment Boards.

Education

Early Education, HB1402 HD2

Requires the Executive Office on Early Learning, in consultation with the Department of Budget and Finance, to conduct a study on the feasibility of using

social impact bonds to fund early learning programs and services in the State.

General Excise Tax, HB 506 HD1

Prohibits the State from paying or reimbursing contractors for the General Excise Tax (GET) as a result of the management audit of the DOE's school bus transportation services where it was uncovered that the DOE includes within its contracts with school bus service providers a provision specifying that the DOE will pay the GET of these contractors. The DOE estimated it would pay more than \$2 million in School Year 2012 for contractors' GET.

Hawaiian Language Immersion Program, HB224 HD3

Requires the DOE to develop annual assessments in the Hawaiian language in language arts and mathematics for students in grades 3-6, and in science for students in grade 4 in the Hawaiian Language Immersion Program.

Housing

Rent Supplement Program, HB518 HD2

Appropriates funds for the rent supplement program for homeless working individuals or families who are ready to rent permanent housing to obtain and maintain permanent housing.

Housing First Programs, HB519 HD1

Appropriates funds to the Department of Human Services to continue to administer housing first programs for chronically homeless individuals in the State.

Rental Housing Trust Fund, HB521

Authorizes the issuance of general obligation bonds and the appropriation of funds for deposit into the rental housing trust fund to finance affordable rental housing development.

Health

Long Term Care, HB2

Requests the Executive Office on Aging of the Department of Health to conduct an education and awareness campaign on long term care and have the campaign independently evaluated.

2013 MID-SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

Cancer Control Program, HB407 HD2

Appropriates funds to the DOH for the Comprehensive Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program.

Comprehensive Infant Mortality Reduction Program, HB909 HD2

Creates the Comprehensive Infant Mortality Reduction Program. Clarifies the role of the DOH in establishing, administering, and maintaining a statewide, comprehensive infant mortality reduction program. Addresses departmental duty to provide information to facilities, and provides duty to provide patients and report to departments, certain birth information.

Interagency Obesity Council, HB914 HD1

Establishes the Hawaii Interagency Obesity Prevention Council. Appropriates funds from the Obesity Prevention Special Fund to support child and adult obesity prevention programs.

Human Services

Asset Limit, HB868

Eliminates the asset limit for the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Program. This bill is the result of a resolution I introduced last year requesting the Department of Human Services to conduct a study which concluded that the asset limit be eliminated for the TANF Program based on a review of five states that have eliminated the asset requirement for TANF with no increases in caseload or costs.

Affordable Care Act, HB1207 HD1

Requires the Department of Human Services to report on the State's compliance with the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010 as it relates to medicaid program integrity in order to address the problems of fraud, abuse, and waste within medicaid programs, which lead to higher costs.

Licensing and Certification Fees, HB1208 HD2

Requires the Department of Human Services to gather data and recommend fees for licensure and certification of certain programs transferred to the DOH.

Public Safety

Deferred Acceptance Pleas, HB510 HD1

Prohibits the use of deferred acceptance of guilty pleas or deferred acceptance of nolo contendere pleas by defendants charged with an offense involving the killing of another person.

Abuse of Family or Household Members, HB587 HD1

Amends penal code to include persons in a dating relationship as family or household members.

Integration of Offenders, HB1279 HD1

Appropriates funds for programs related to the reintegration of offenders into the general population.

Juveniles, HB182 HD1

Permits a court to dispose of a juvenile case by referring a child offender to a restorative justice program when the court deems it would be in the best interest of the child and the child admits guilt. Clarifies and provides examples of restorative justice programs.

Hawaiian Affairs

Disclosures, HB1093 HD1

Requires the Department of Land and Natural Resources, Department of Hawaiian Home Lands, and Office of Hawaiian Affairs to submit annual reports detailing all contracts for services entered into that affect Native Hawaiian rights.

Native Hawaiian Traditional and Customary Practice, HB1327 HD1

Requires at least one member of the Board of Land and Natural Resources to have demonstrated expertise in native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices.

Corrections Population Management Commission, HB218 HD1

Adds the OHA administrator and a member of the public who is knowledgeable about issues relating to the criminal justice system and has substantial experience or expertise in traditional Native Hawaiian practices to the corrections management commission.

COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

Congratulations to Johna-Rae Leedy and Kaliko Kauai

The State of Hawaii Boys and Girls Clubs held the Boys & Girls Clubs of America State of Hawaii Youth of the Year Competition and Legislative Luncheon on March 19. The Youth of the Year program helps Boys & Girls Club members become articulate, well-groomed and knowledgeable spokespersons for their Club and their community. The outstanding qualities of a candidate's character, community service and leadership that make a Youth of the Year are promoted in clubhouses every day for all members. I had the pleasure of personally congratulating Johna-Rae Leedy and Kaliko Kauai, the 2013 State of Hawaii Boys & Girls Clubs Youth of the Year Honorees from the Waianae Clubhouse.



Above: Representative Jordan pictured with (from L-R) Johna-Rae Leedy and Kaliko Kauai, 2013 State of Hawaii Boys & Girls Clubs Youth of the Year Honorees from the Waianae Clubhouse.

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