



# Representative Jackson D. Sayama



December 2025 Community Report

District 21—St. Louis Heights, Pālolo Valley, Maunalani Heights, Wilhelmina Rise, Kaimukī

## Looking Towards 2026

*Aloha Neighbors!*

*I hope you and your ‘ohana are enjoying this holiday season. Given everything happening in our nation and around the world, I believe it's more important than ever to find strength in our community and our families. As your representative in state government, I will continue to listen to your concerns and take action to support our community now, while also working to improve our state for the future.*



Rep. Sayama walking in the Kaimukī Christmas parade with former State House Representative Calvin Say.

*As we approach the 2026 Legislative Session, I will be focusing on legislation to establish a statewide paid family leave program, expand the workforce pipeline, and improve school facilities. If you have any ideas for legislation or concerns within the community, please feel free to reach out to my office. I look forward to serving you in 2026!*

Mahalo,

### UPCOMING NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD MEETINGS

<b>Dec 10th</b>	Pālolo Board Meeting 7:00 pm, Pālolo Elementary School
<b>Dec 11th</b>	Diamond Head, St. Louis Heights, Kapahulu Board Meeting 6:00 pm, Ala Wai Golf Course Clubhouse Ballroom
<b>Jan 21st</b>	Kaimukī Board Meeting 6:30 pm, Kaimukī Public Library Meeting Room

### 2026 Legislative Session Opening Day



The 2026 Legislative Session “Opening Day” will be on January 21st. Please feel free to visit my office then or contact my office to arrange a meeting. Metered parking is available in the Capitol basement or at Iolani Palace.



## Coqui Frog Management in Palolo

During the summer, I joined the Oahu Invasive Species Council team in Waiomao on their regular Coqui Frog remediation efforts. I learned first hand the hard work it takes to mix the citric acid on-site, carry the hose through rugged terrain, then pump the mixture up to the treatment site. I'm thankful to the staff and the Waiomao neighbors that make this initiative possible. If you would like to report a coqui frog infestation, please contact OISC at 643-7378.



Rep. Sayama with the Oahu Invasive Species Council team discussing Coqui Frog treatment efforts.



## Discussing Bills with the SLHCA

After the 2025 Legislative Session, I hosted a "Talk Story" with the St. Louis Heights Community Association at Hokulani Elementary. I explained the legislative process and highlighted legislation addressing district and state issues. We also discussed community issues relating to workforce development, wildfire safety, and neighborhood speeding. It's during these community meetings that I'm able to craft legislation and advocate for resources.

Rep. Sayama with members of the St. Louis Heights Community Association and Principal Pasalo.

## Cleaning Up Kaimuki Parks

After numerous concerns about potential brush fires around Mau'umae Park in Kaimuki, we held a park clean up to cut back some of the brush and clean the park. Currently, there is a project for a Japanese Archery Dojo at Mau'umae Park that will include a parking lot and also serve as a community center. The project is estimated to be completed in mid-2026. If you have questions about the project, please reach out to my office.



Rep. Sayama cleaning up Mau'umae Nature Park with community volunteers.



Due to reductions in federal funding, inflation, tariffs, and a decline in tourism, the State anticipates losing millions in revenue. Despite these economic challenges, I will be introducing legislation aimed at increasing job opportunities for local graduates, establishing a statewide paid family leave program, and expanding the healthcare preceptor tax credit. Below are some of the bills I plan to introduce.

## Paid Family Leave

It is estimated that one in four people in Hawaii are unpaid caregivers for their family. With so many people struggling to balance taking care of their loved ones and staying at work, I've been working with advocates, unions, state agencies, and other stakeholders to develop a state-wide paid family leave insurance program. This would provide qualified employees with partial wage replacement when they take off work to care for a loved one.

## Preceptor Healthcare Tax Credit

While medical and nursing schools have expanded their capacity to train and retain local healthcare professionals, there is still a bottleneck for local residency programs. To incentivize local healthcare centers to open more residency positions, this bill will increase an existing tax credit for preceptors that train new healthcare workers.



Rep. Sayama speaking with students and staff at UH West Oahu.

## Apprenticeship Tax Credit

Advancements in artificial intelligence continue to threaten and replace entry-level positions in every industry. To ensure recent graduates are connected with secure jobs, this bill will provide a tax credit to apprenticeship programs registered with the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

## Center of Pharmacy

To address the workforce shortage among pharmacists, this bill seeks to establish a special fund for the University of Hawaii's School of Pharmacy. Similar funds have proven effective for UH's medical and nursing schools in their efforts to recruit and retain local talent for these specialties.

## Contact

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## 2026 Summer Study Tours Application

The Pacific & Asian Affairs Council is an international nonprofit that is accepting applications for its 2026 Summer Study Program to Taiwan and Palau. Hawaii high-school students are eligible to apply. The cost of the program is estimated to be around \$4200-\$4500. However, most students do not pay full cost as there is merit/need-based financial aid available. Parents must also fill out the Financial Information section of a Parent Form. More details found on the PAAC website.

Apply: [form.jotform.com/253028379601154](http://form.jotform.com/253028379601154)

Application Due: January 12th, 11:59pm

Travel Dates (Taiwan): June 6-19

Travel Dates (Palau): June 20-29



