



# Representative Jackson D. Sayama

February 2026 Community Report

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

## Community Engagement

*Aloha Neighbors!*

*As the 2026 Legislative session begins, I will be focused on leading my Committee on Labor to hear legislation on collective bargaining, workforce development, workers' compensation, and retirement. I will also advocate for bills to address community concerns like pedestrian safety, invasive species mitigation, and paid family leave.*



Representative Sayama updating constituents at the Pālolo Neighborhood Board (February 2026).

*Throughout the evolving situation in the federal government and uncertainty regarding funding, I am focused on helping our residents, local businesses, and non-profit organizations. In this newsletter, I highlight some grant opportunities you may be interested in as well as free tax filing services. If you have any questions about testifying on bills or have any concerns in the community, please reach out to my office.*

Mahalo, 



### UPCOMING NEIGHBORHOOD BOARDS

March 11th	<b>Pālolo Neighborhood Board Meeting</b> 7:00 pm, Pālolo Elementary School and online via Webex
March 12th	<b>Diamond Head, Kapahulu, St. Louis Heights Neighborhood Board Meeting</b> 6:00 pm, Ala Wai Golf Course Clubhouse Ballroom and online via Webex
March 18th	<b>Kaimukī Neighborhood Board Meeting</b> 6:30 pm, Kaimukī Public Library Meeting Room and online via Webex

### Public Access Room



Visit the Legislative Reference Bureau Public Access Room to track bills, draft testimony, and learn about the legislative process. Open M-F 8AM-5PM, Room 401.

# Apply for Community Grants

## AARP Community Challenge

Since 2017 Hawai'i has been the recipient of 31 AARP Community Challenge projects, aimed at immediately improving public places, transportation, housing, digital connections, and more.

Non-profits and local government entities are invited to submit proposals for Flagship Grants (max. \$15,000), Capacity-Building Microgrants (\$2,500), and Demonstration Grants (max. \$25,000) through the AARP Community Challenge Application Portal no later than **March 4, 2026 at 12:00 pm.**

Past awardees include:

- **Bikeshare Hawai'i (2018)** – Bike helmets, Biki memberships and social rides for participants age 50+
- **Waikīkī Community Center (2019)** – Sidewalk safety and repair, pedestrian safety education
- **Honolulu Dept. of Community Services and Palolo Chinese Home (2021)** – Home modification assessments and aging-in-place education for kupuna
- **Feeding Hawai'i Together (2024)** – Digital skills training for food pantry volunteers

To learn more and apply: [www.aarp.org/livable-communities/community-challenge/](http://www.aarp.org/livable-communities/community-challenge/)



## Hawai'i Community Foundation Kūpuna Aging in Place

Local non-profits are invited to apply for the Hawai'i Community Foundation's (HCF) Kūpuna Aging in Place (KAP) Program, a three-year funding opportunity aimed at elderly support services including adult day care & day health, and support for caregivers. KAP aims to allow kūpuna in Hawai'i to age in a comfortable and familiar environment. The deadline for submissions is **March 20, 2026 at 4:00 pm.**



Hawai'i  
Community  
Foundation

From 2023-2026, HCF provided 16 nonprofits across the state with over \$3.7 million in three-year grants. Grantees included: Catholic Charities of Hawai'i, Mo'ili'ili Hongwanji Mission, Pālolo Chinese Home, and Waikīkī Community Center.

To learn more and apply: <https://www.hawaiicommunityfoundation.org/strengthening/kupuna-aging-in-place>

# Community Issues

Some of our most frequently raised constituent concerns, and steps you can take to address them.

## Noise Pollution: Aircraft

Recent media coverage has spotlighted increased aircraft noise at all hours in East Honolulu, from military, civil, commercial, and private planes and helicopters.

Our office takes noise complaints seriously. According to the State Department of Health, excessive noise is not merely an annoyance, but can cause physical and psychological damage including hearing loss, mental anguish, and fatigue.

Currently, the Federal Aviation Administration is accepting public input as part of the first phase of the Hawai'i Airspace Modernization Project (HAMP). This effort seeks to update and improve the airspace structure and air traffic procedures in Hawaii, including flight routes, arrivals, airport equipment and infrastructure.

*Use the QR code to access the Google survey and share your thoughts before **March 15, 2026**.*

## FAA redesigning Hawaii flight paths

Updated: Jan. 22, 2026 at 4:00 PM HST



## Invasive Species: Coqui Frogs

Pālolo Valley is one of three major breeding grounds for coqui frog populations. Coqui frogs are both a noise nuisance and a threat to the native ecosystem. Although they've become established and difficult to eradicate, work is still being done to manage the coqui's spread. Spearheading these efforts are the Dept. of Agriculture and Biosecurity, the Dept. of Land and Natural Resources, and the O'ahu Invasive Species Committee (OISC).

To capture/kill coqui frogs, OISC recommends:

- Spraying citric acid or hot water
- Setting PVC pipe or bamboo "refugia" lures
- Eliminating frog-friendly habitats

*Report coqui frogs to OISC at (808) 643-PEST, or email video and/or photos to [oisc@hawaii.edu](mailto:oisc@hawaii.edu).*



Rep. Sayama spraying citric acid in Pālolo with staff from OISC.

## Contact

# Representative Jackson D. Sayama

**Phone:**

(808) 586-6900

**Email:**

[repsayama@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:repsayama@capitol.hawaii.gov)

**Website:**

[www.repjacksonsayama.com](http://www.repjacksonsayama.com)

**Address:**

415 South Beretania St., Rm 443  
Honolulu, HI 96813

## FREE TAX FILING RESOURCES

This year's tax filing deadlines are **April 15 (federal)** and **April 20 (state)**.  
Support is available for various tax payers.

### Online Self-filing Programs (income of \$89,000 or less)

- ◆ IRS Trusted Partners — <https://apps.irs.gov/app/freeFile/browse-all-offers/>
- ◆ MYFREETAXES By UnitedWay — <https://myfreetaxes.com/>

### In-person Appointments (limited availability)

- ◆ *Over 50 years of age:* AARP @ Hawai'i Kai Public Library (249 Lunalilo Home Road)  
Appointments: SAT — 9:00 am to 12:00 pm (no reservation, first come, first served)
- ◆ *Income of \$69,000 or less:* Goodwill Honolulu (1075 Beretania Street, 808-836-0313)  
Appointments: WED, SAT — 9:00 am to 5:30 pm (reserve online)
- ◆ *Green Card Holders:* HCAP Leahi District Service Ctr. (1915 Pālolo Avenue, 808-732-7755)  
Appointments: MON, FRI — 9:00 am to 3:00 pm (call to reserve)