



# Representative Jackson D. Sayama

## January 2026 Community Report

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



### UPCOMING NEIGHBORHOOD BOARDS

Jan 21st	<b>Kaimukī Neighborhood Board Meeting</b> 6:00 pm, Kaimukī Public Library Meeting Room and online via Webex
Feb 11th	<b>Pālolo Neighborhood Board Meeting</b> 7:00 pm, Pālolo Elementary School and online via Webex
Feb 12th	<b>Diamond Head, St. Louis Heights, Kapahulu Neighborhood Board Meeting</b> 6:00 pm, Ala Wai Golf Course Clubhouse Ballroom and online via Webex

### 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.

## Ready to Serve You

*Wishing you and your family a Happy New Year! I am honored to continue representing our community in the State House, and my staff and I stand ready to serve you. As federal funding pauses threaten billions in support for essential community services and economic conditions remain sluggish, the legislature will work to ensure services remain uninterrupted and vulnerable families continue to receive food, housing, and medical care. The House will continue to focus on reducing the cost of living, increasing affordable housing, and connecting local graduates with job opportunities.*



Office Staff: (L-R) Ariel Stenek (Legislative Aide), Evelyn Hee (Office Manager), Representative Jackson Sayama & Mark Yago (Committee Clerk).

*Continuing with my work as the House Labor Committee Chair, I will introduce legislation on paid family leave, healthcare workforce development, and expansion of apprenticeship programs. In addition to my work in the Capitol, I look forward to connecting with you at upcoming townhalls, park cleanups, and community events. I encourage you to submit testimony during Session and reach out to me on legislation that interests you. I look forward to working with you to better our community and State.*

Mahalo,

# Legislation Taking Effect in 2026

On January 1st, 13 new state laws were enacted. They include legislation related to families, alcohol taxation, property insurance, and Hawai'i's macadamia nut industry. We've highlighted four laws important to our community:

## General Excise Tax Exemptions (Act 47)

To reduce healthcare costs for residents struggling to pay medical expenses, medical and dental service providers for patients covered by Medicare, Medicaid, or TRICARE are exempt from paying the general excise tax on payments for healthcare services and goods.

## Transient Accommodations aka "Green Fee" (Act 96)

The nation's first-ever climate impact fee increases the transient accommodations tax charged to hotel guests and vacation rental visitors from 9.25% to 10%, and expands the tax to tourists traveling by cruise ship (this inclusion is currently being disputed in court). Revenue allocations are overseen by the Green Fee Advisory Council, which advises how funds are directed toward environmental stewardship, hazard mitigation, infrastructure resilience, and improving the visitor experience.



Photo Courtesy: Office of the Governor

## Uninsured Driving Penalties & Coverage (Act 138)

In response to 2025's record-high 129 traffic fatalities, the penalties for repeat uninsured driving violations increased. The minimum fine for second uninsured driving offenses increased from \$1,500 to \$2,000, and required minimums for liability insurance have doubled from \$20,000/\$40,000 to \$40,000/\$80,000 for bodily injury, and \$10,000 to \$20,000 for property damage.

## Parking Restrictions (Act 171)

To improve pedestrian safety, vehicles are prohibited from parking within 20 feet of crosswalks and intersections, regardless of official signs or curb markings. Illegally parked cars will be fined \$50 a day, with exemptions made for emergency and official government vehicles on duty, broken down cars and vehicles assisting them, and cars yielding to emergency vehicles. Fines are directed to the Safe Routes to School Program Special Fund.

# Community Resource Guide

Potholes? Cracked sidewalks? Graffiti? These blights are not just inconvenient, they degrade the health and safety of our community. Below are resources for getting these problems fixed.

## Reporting Issues to HNL 311

HNL 311 is a new service that allows residents to report numerous city-related issues. The City & County of Honolulu's official portal is accessible online through web-browsers and mobile applications. After submitting a request as a registered user or anonymous tip, service requests are routed to appropriate city departments for review and resolution. The status of submissions can be tracked over email or through the app.

In addition to the services provided by the City & County of Honolulu, residents are encouraged to reach out to other providers to request support. A list of our most frequently requested community services is below.



*Rep. Sayama removing trash from Pālolo Stream during a community cleanup event.*

<u>Organization</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Phone Number</u>
*Catholic Charities Hawai'i	Housing, mental health support	(808) 521-4357
*Hawaiian Humane Society	Report a lost or found pet	(808) 356-2200
*Institute for Human Services	Homeless services	(808) 447-2865
*Legal Aid Society of Hawai'i	Affordable legal services	(808) 536-4302
*The Legal Clinic	Immigration legal services	(808) 777-7071
*Sandwich Isle Pest Solutions	Remove feral chickens	(808) 456-7716
*C&C Elderly Affairs	Kūpuna information and services	(808) 768-7700
*Consumer Protection, DCCA	Report financial/identity theft	(808) 586-2630
*Dept. of Environmental Services	Schedule bulky item pickup	(808) 768-3200
*Dept. of Facility Maintenance	Report potholes on City streets	(808) 768-7777
*Dept. of Health (Noise)	File a noise complaint	(808) 586-4700
*Dept. of Land and Natural Resources	Report invasive species	(808) 643-7378
*Dept. of Planning & Permitting	Report zoning violations	(808) 768-8000
*HART Hotline	Report potholes on HART maintained roads	(808) 566-2299
*Public Utilities Commission	Complaint for utility services	(808) 586-2020
*State Pothole Hotline	Report potholes on State roads	(808) 536-7852

**Contact  
Representative  
Jackson D. Sayama**

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## Know sooner, Live better

Dementia affects thousands across the state and can be difficult for families to manage alone. If your family needs support with resources relating to dementia, call the Alzheimer's Association 24/7 Helpline at [1-800-272-3900](tel:1-800-272-3900) to connect with someone who can provide information, local resources, crisis assistance and emotional support.

### Dementia Warning Signs

- Memory loss that disrupts daily life
- Challenges in planning or solving problems
- Difficulty completing familiar tasks
- Confusion with time or place
- Difficulty understanding vision or space
- Problems with words in speaking or writing
- Misplacing things and being unable to retrace steps to find them
- Poor judgment and decision-making
- Withdrawal from work or social activities



*Rep. Sayama with Rep. Ikaika Olds, Rep. Adrian Tam, and Lt. Gov. Sylvia Luke at the annual Walk to End Alzheimer's.*