February 2017

Majority Whip

Vice Chair: Committee on Ways and Means; Committee on Transportation and Energy

Member: Committee on Education



You can view Senator Dela Cruz's senate website at www.capitol.hawaii.gov.



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Senate Approves Senate Draft of State Budget

The Senate passed the state budget HB100, HD1, SD1 which appropriates funds for the operating and capital improvement project budget for fiscal years 2017-2018 and 2018-2019. The Senate Ways and Means Committee, of which I am Vice Chair, worked diligently to ensure that the needs of our communities would be met in the ares of agriculture, education, public housing, and public safety.

The following projects are included in the Senate Draft of the state budget:

- \$942,000 for operating subsidies in each fiscal year for Wahiawa General Hospital
- \$3M for Mililani High School to design and construct an enclosure for a building courtyard
- \$15M for Mililani Middle School for plan, design, and construction of an additional classroom building
- \$20M for the purchase of approximately 500 acres of agricultural land in Central Oahu

Wahiawa General Hospital also requested nearly \$4 million to address deferred repair and maintenance projects, According to the Dept. of the Attorney General, Dept. of Budget and Finance, and Dept. of Health, all private organizations that receive state funds must receive funding through the 42F grant-in-aid process. The hospital has submitted a grant-in-aid for the same request which will be later deliberated by the committee on conference.

Finally, to end the search for and debate on prospective jail sites, the Senate included \$60 million for the design of a new correctional facility in Halawa. Appropriating these funds allows the Dept. of Public Safety to address critically needed public safety infrastructure.

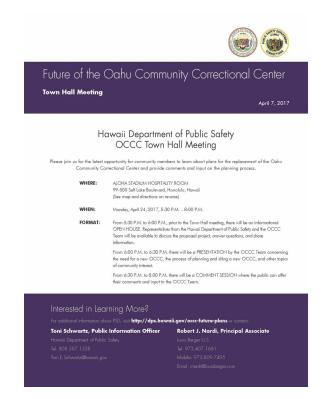
I look forward to working with my colleagues to secure bridge funding for Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Working for you!



The Senate honored Mililani Middle School Vice Principal Greg Nakasone for being named the 2017 National Association of Elementary School Principals Foundation Vice Principal of the Year.



The Dept. of Public Safety is holding a town hall meeting for community members to learn about plans for the replacement of the Oahu Community Correctional Center and provide comments/input on the planning process. The details for the meeting are as follows:

WHERE: ALOHA STADIUM HOSPITALITY

ROOM

WHEN: Monday, Apr. 24th at 5:30 p.m.

FORMAT: 5:30—6:00 PM, Open House

6:00—6:30 PM, Presentation

6:30—8:00 PM, Comment Session

For additional information, please contact PSD at 587-1358.