



Representative Kymberly Pine

IMPORTANT BILLS NEED YOUR HELP!

Aloha!

This month's newsletter includes a full list of bills I've introduced to solve problems in our community and our state – and you can play a major role in helping these bills get a hearing. I've grouped these bills into 5 categories:

- I. Bills to Decongest Traffic,
- II. Bills to Solve Problems within Homeowner Associations,
- III. Bills to Cut Taxes & Make Government More Responsive to the People,
- IV. Bills to Stop Elder Abuse, and
- V. Bills to Solve Problems for Our Schools.

You can help these bills pass into law by emailing the committee chairperson to whom each bill has been referred and urging him or her to give these bills a hearing. Remember: If a bill isn't given a hearing, IT DIES.

The list of these bills begins on the following page along with a brief summary of each and the committees to which the bill has been referred. For each bills' complete text, visit www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2011. **Contact information for each Committee Chair can be found on Page 5.**

If you're interested in receiving updates and notices as they occur, please call my office to be added to the notification list.

Thank you for sending me to the Legislature for another term – it is an honor to serve!



Kymberly Marcos Pine

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Committees:

Economic Revitalization
and Business
Housing
Health
Human Services
Hawai'ian Affairs
Culture and the Arts



Rep. Pine with her family and special guests

2011 LEGISLATIVE SESSION IS UNDERWAY!

Representative Pine welcomed constituents to the Capitol on Opening Day to celebrate the new session and discuss their thoughts and priorities for 2011.

Thank you to all who came and shared in the festivities!

Rep. Pine is looking forward to keeping an open dialogue with you as session continues.

VOLUNTEERS AND INTERNS

If you or someone you know is interested in volunteering or interning at Rep. Pine's office or in her district, please call our office at 586-9730, email reppine@capitol.hawaii.gov or visit room 333 at the State Capitol. Thank you!

I. Bills to Decongest Traffic:

HB 1351 – Reduces traffic by removing uninsured drivers from our roads: This bill is estimated to reduce traffic by 40%. Thousands of drivers are on our roads without insurance. By requiring easily identifiable insurance for all drivers, this bill will significantly reduce traffic, increase motorist and pedestrian safety, reduce medical and first-responder costs, cut insurance premiums for insured drivers, and help the police easily identify the uninsured.

***HB 1351 was referred to the following committees: TRN, CPC, FIN**

HB 933 – Reduces traffic by requiring developers to build roads before houses: This bill requires residential developers to complete necessary roads and infrastructure prior to mass development. This bill will prevent areas from experiencing 'Ewa Beach traffic which occurred from 2005 to 2009 when roads were built after the development of thousands of homes.

***HB 933 was referred to the following committees: TRN, WLO**

HB 1350 – Reduces traffic by speeding up funding to build roads before houses: This bill provides funding assistance through the issuing of special purpose revenue bonds as an incentive to developers to complete proper infrastructure before they build the houses in new developments.

***HB 1350 was referred to the following committees: WLO/TRN, JUD, FIN**

HB 1353 – Reduces traffic by completing improvements to existing roads more quickly: Yet, even after needed roads go in, improvements to those roads -- such as traffic lights, crosswalks, sidewalks, and drains -- may be needed. The required reports to determine these improvements impact on traffic flow can cause long delays. These reports will still be required under this bill, but they will no longer delay installation of such improvements nor the benefits to the public for now being more immediately installed.

***HB 1353 was referred to the following committees: TRN, JUD, FIN**

HB 1467 – Reduces traffic by getting more funds back to counties to fix traffic problems: Funds for reducing our traffic problem must be done without increasing taxes. This bill would give GET rail tax money back to the City to build the rail, as the State is now taking more than it needs to cover state costs for collecting the GET rail tax for the counties.

***HB 1467 was referred to the following committees: TRN, FIN**



II. Bills to Solve Problems within Homeowners Associations:

HB 1464 – Protects homeowners from neighborhood associations: This bill seeks to protect the rights of association members by requiring that board decisions and actions be as open and transparent as possible. This bill also requires that boards enforce the association's rules fairly, that association members be protected from board member harassment or intimidation, and that no board member have any financial conflicts of interest when they render their board decisions or undertake board actions.

***HB 1464 was referred to the following committees: CPC, JUD**

HB 69 – Protects homeowners' rights to fly the US flag: Some homeowner associations have tried to take away an inherent American right to fly a flag despite the federal Freedom to Display the American Flag Act of 2005. This bill brings Hawai'i into compliance with the federal law and ensures that these homeowners may display a house-mounted American flag continuously with no associated fee and despite any association board's regulation, covenant, or similar binding agreement to the contrary. This bill incorporates language from HB 1468, which Rep. Pine introduced to the same effect.

***HB 69 was referred to the following committees: JUD**

III. Bills to Cut Taxes & Make Government More Open to the Public:

HB 471 – Makes it harder for the government to raise your taxes: None of us likes new taxes or increased taxes. This bill would amend our state Constitution to require that all new or increased taxes or government fees be passed by a super-majority (two-thirds vote) of the legislature. Currently, all it takes is just a simple majority (51%) to increase our taxes and fees. When passed, this bill will let the voters decide if a super-majority vote will be required to raise our taxes.

***HB 471 was referred to the following committees: JUD, FIN**

HB 934 – Provides for a Constitutional amendment to require one-year residency for candidates: It disserves our democracy and our communities when candidates do not actually live within the district they seek to represent. This bill requires candidates to reside in a district for a year before being a candidate to represent it. If this bill is passed, voters will decide if our Constitution should be amended to require candidates to meet this one-year residency requirement.

***HB 934 was referred to the following committees: LMG, JUD, FIN**

HB 935 – Requires proof of residency for candidates in state elections: This bill specifically applies the one-year residency requirement to state elections and outlines the general proof the candidate must provide upon filing for candidacy. This bill also provides that the chief elections official determine if the candidate has provided proof of residency. If the chief elections official finds that the proof has not been provided, the aggrieved candidate may seek an expedited court review to decide this matter promptly.

***HB 935 was referred to the following committees: JUD, FIN**

HB 936 – Requires the one-year residency requirement for candidates in county elections: This bill applies these proposed proof of one-year residency requirements and expedited court review requirements to county elections.

***HB 936 was referred to the following committees: JUD, FIN**

IV. Bills to Stop Elder Abuse:

HB 1478 – Helps elder abuse victims seek justice: Family members may often not discover that their elderly relative has been taken advantage of financially until years later. This bill expands the statute of limitations for bringing a lawsuit for changes made to a will, trust, or estate plan that are caused by fraud or undue influence.

***HB 1478 was referred to the following committee: JUD**

HB 1465 – Makes it safer for elders to use a Power of Attorney: Sadly, the most widely exploited document used by perpetrators of elderly abuse is the Power of Attorney because it can give the perpetrator immediate access to the victim's bank accounts, real estate, and other valuable property unlike a will, trust, or estate planning document that may not take effect for many years. This bill makes such exploitation more difficult by requiring a Power of Attorney to be signed by two non-party witnesses and notarized.

***HB 1465 was referred to the following committee: JUD**

V. Bills to Solve Problems for Our Schools:

HB 1352 – Mitigates crowding in our schools:

Our kids deserve better than to learn in overcrowded classrooms. This bill allows multi-track calendar schools to measure the required instruction time in increments of hours instead of days, thereby allowing these overcrowded schools to manage the scheduling of the schools instructional calendar more effectively.

***HB 1352 was referred to the following committees: EDN, FIN**

HB 1349 – Improves school facilities through Capital Improvement Projects: Better school facilities encourage better learning. This bill allots money for Capital Improvement Projects to expand and physically improve our schools to so that they can effectively accommodate rising enrollments.

***HB 1349 was referred to the following committee: FIN**

HB 447 – Gives schools more decision-making authority on how to improve themselves: A school's own principals and administrators have a better understanding of their schools' needs than do members of Department of Education, so they should also have a larger say in how their school's educational funds are used. This bill seeks to increase the percentage of their decision-making authority from 70% to 80% of received funds.

***HB 447 was referred to the following committees: EDN, FIN**



HB 1466 – Reduces crime in our schools:

This bill protects DOE employees from civil lawsuits when they intervene to prevent a crime by students that might occur on or off school premises. This will encourage staff to intervene to prevent criminal activity before it happens, and not just report it afterwards.

***HB 1466 was referred to the following committees: EDN, JUD, FIN**

HB 932 – Gives our children equal opportunities:

Extracurricular activities enhance the educational experience of all students, expand their perspectives and encourage cooperation with others. This bill will allow home-schooled students to participate in public school extracurricular activities. This will benefit public school students, home school students and the broader community as a whole.

***HB 932 was referred to the following committees: EDN, FIN**



Rep. Pine with Principal Sherry Lee Kobayashi of 'Ewa Beach Elementary, 2010 Blue Ribbon School

WORKING CLOSELY WITH OUR SCHOOLS

Rep. Pine visited nine elementary, intermediate and high schools in the district. She met with principals, teachers and students to discuss their needs for 2011.

They discussed many issues including growing enrollment and funding for maintenance projects. Representative Pine reaffirmed her continued commitment to do all she can for our students.

COMMITTEE CHAIR CONTACT INFORMATION

CPC: House Consumer Protection & Commerce Committee

Chairman Robert N. Herkes
State Capitol, Room 320
repherkes@capitol.hawaii.gov
Tel: 586-8400, Fax: 586-8404

EDN: House Education Committee

Chairman Roy M. Takumi
State Capitol, Room 444
reptakumi@capitol.hawaii.gov
Tel: 586-6170, Fax: 586-6171

FIN: House Finance Committee

Chairman Marcus R. Oshiro
State Capitol, Room 306
repmoshiro@capitol.hawaii.gov
Tel: 586-6200, Fax: 586-6201

HSG: House Housing Committee

Chairwoman Rida T.R. Cabanilla
State Capitol, Room 442
repcabanilla@capitol.hawaii.gov
Tel: 586-6080, Fax: 586-6081

JUD: House Judiciary Committee

Chairman Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran
State Capitol, Room 302
repkeithagaran@capitol.hawaii.gov
Tel: 586-6210, Fax: 586-6211

LMG: House Legislative Management Committee

Chairman Kyle T. Yamashita
State Capitol, Room 422
repyamashita@capitol.hawaii.gov
Tel: 586-6330, Fax: 586-6331

TRN: House Transportation Committee

Chairman Joseph M. Souki
State Capitol, Room 433
repsouki@capitol.hawaii.gov
Tel: 586-9444, Fax: 586-9499

WLO: House Water, Land & Ocean Resources Committee

Chairman Jerry L. Chang
State Capitol, Room 435
repchang@capitol.hawaii.gov
Tel: 586-6120, Fax: 586-6121

Office of the Speaker of the House

Speaker Calvin K.Y. Say
State Capitol, Room 431
repsay@capitol.hawaii.gov
Tel: 586-6100, Fax: 586-6101

CAMPBELL HIGH SCHOOL VISITS THE STATE CAPITOL

Campbell students visited the Capitol for a CFL light bulb exchange. They are working with the Blue Planet Foundation to learn about clean energy and encourage members of their community to get involved in the effort.

The students also had a chance to meet the Governor and ask about his plans for making Hawai'i greener. They talked about the exchange being only the beginning, and that communities will need to continue working together to make a big impact.



Rep. Pine with Gov. Abercrombie and Campbell student council

"It's refreshing to see this generation getting so involved," said Rep. Pine. Taking care of the environment is one of Rep. Pine's top priorities.

As part of its clean energy program, the group has so far collected over 700 inefficient bulbs in the community!

NOW OPEN: LONG'S DRUGS!

Representative Pine attended the Grand Opening of Long's Drugs and toured the new facility on February 7th.

She worked with Long's in its development stage to ensure that it would offer a variety of food items. As 'Ewa Beach residents are well aware, a grocery location was sorely needed after the closing of Star Market which left 60,000 residents with only one local store to buy their groceries.



Rep. Pine with Long's staff at its Grand Opening: Leeann Kahuli, VP Hawai'i Operations Bob Ingersoll, and General Manager John Higa



This Long's Drugs location will offer the most grocery options of all Long's locations on the island. It also includes a pharmacy, open daily.

Store hours: 7am—10pm daily.

Pharmacy hours: Mon-Fri 7am—10pm, Sat 7am— 9pm, Sun 7am—10pm.

Long's Drugs is located at the former site of Star Market at 91-919 Fort Weaver Road.

STAY CONNECTED WITH REPRESENTATIVE PINE AND JOIN HER EMAIL LIST



Throughout the year, Rep. Pine generates surveys to poll the sentiments of her district. To participate on the surveys and provide your feedback, please consider getting on the email list by emailing her at:

reppine@capitol.hawaii.gov

Once you are on the list, you will also receive updates on community and legislative events – as well as notices from various state and city departments to help residents navigate through construction zones and other issues of importance.

For monthly newsletters, links to videos and to get messages posting important announcements, visiting Rep. Pine's website at:

www.kymberlypine.com.

You can also reach Rep. Pine and receive updates by visiting Facebook at:

www.facebook.com/kymberlymarcos.pine,

or by following her on Twitter at:

www.twitter.com/kympine.