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**Capital Improvement Projects
Maui Highlights FY2012-2013**

\$210,680,000

Kahului Airport \$174,370,000

- Reroof terminal buildings
- Construction of runway improvements
- Replace fire sprinkler and fire suppression systems
- Renovate airport restrooms
- Elevator and Escalator replacement
- Access road construction

Kahului Harbor \$17,000,000

- Land acquisition and design for improvements

**Maui Memorial Medical Center
\$12,825,000**

- Air conditioning , Plumbing, Laundry and Elevator upgrades
- Facility expansion and upgrade of equipment for the imaging department

Highways \$1,000,000

- Improve existing intersections

**Maui Research & Technology Park
\$734,000**

- Replace chiller with energy efficient technologies

Maui High School \$250,000

- Plans and design for a multipurpose room

**University of Hawaii Maui College
\$4,501,000**

- Construction of an addition for Allied Health Programs

Aloha Friends and Neighbors,

It's an honor and privilege to represent you and our communities in the Hawai'i State Senate! Mahalo for your interest in moving Hawai'i forward by sharing your thoughts, ideas and concerns with me during the recent Legislative session and throughout the year.

On May 3, the gavel came down on the 2012 session. While still fiscally challenging, it was rewarding with many landmark measures passed. Throughout the second year of the 26th Legislature, the Senate themes were job creation, improving education, rebuilding our safety net and modernizing state government to increase efficiency. The Legislature passed an \$11.2 billion supplemental executive budget for the State, House Bill 2012, CD1. Following three years of budget cuts totaling more than a billion dollars each year, the 2012 budget provided us with a refreshing opportunity to reinforce the safety net (such as senior services and help to victims of domestic violence), reinstitute core services that had been decimated over previous years (such as ag inspectors) and make strategic investments to grow Hawaii's economy (such as repairing and maintaining our schools and other public facilities).

A total of 2,291 bills were introduced this session. Three hundred forty-five passed. Ninety-eight of them are already law with two becoming law without the Governor's signature. One was vetoed.

To see a complete list of bills adopted by the 2012 Legislature go to www.capitol.hawaii.gov. Click on bill status and documents, scroll down to 2012 bills introduced, passed and vetoed. That site also updates the Governor's action on bills sent to him this session.

This brief report highlights a few of the bills that passed this year. Some are already law and some are still waiting to be acted upon. All of those highlighted are designed to help make Hawai'i a better place.

Again, mahalo for giving me the privilege of representing you. Have a wonderful summer and let's stay in touch. A hui hou,

Ocean Safety—Buoys for Kihei

SB 2933, SD2, HD2, CD1

One of my goals this year was to acquire funding for eight swim zone buoys to be placed in the ocean along Kihei's Kamaole beaches. Special mahalo to Mary Kielty and Marian Feenstra of Maui County's Parks and Recreation Department for their invaluable assistance in drafting SB 2933 to delineate the swim zones. DLNR supported this effort and are gearing up to deploy the buoys. SB 2933, CD1 has a \$20,000 appropriation to ensure that South Maui will receive the safety buoys they need.

Kihei beaches are seeing increased use by residents and visitors alike. In Maui County waters last year, there were at least four accidents involving swimmers and divers being struck by boats and many more near misses. Swimmers, free-divers and paddle boarders will be able to enjoy the ocean in greater safety with stricter enforcement and increased awareness of boating regulations around swim zone buoys.

The bill also establish a temporary West Maui Ocean Recreation Management Area Advisory Committee that will advise the Department of Land and Natural Resources on issues related to the use and maintenance of state waters within West Maui. DLNR plans to create a similar advisory committee in South Maui.

Helping Distressed Homeowners — Mortgage Foreclosure Reform House Bill 1875, HD2, SD2, CD1

Strengthening the mortgage foreclosure reforms (Act 48, SLH 2011) so that they work better for consumers was a priority.

During the 2011 interim, the Mortgage Foreclosure Task Force met regularly and submitted recommendations for improvements to the Legislature. Their recommendations were included in HB1875, CD1, awaiting the Governor's action.

Here are some of the key components: making the mortgage foreclosure dispute resolution program permanent, allowing more newspapers to publish foreclosure sale notices as well as on the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs website, addressing the unique challenges of homeowner association lien "foreclosures" and requiring attorneys to attest to the truthfulness of documents submitted to the court in a foreclosure proceeding under penalty of perjury. These important provisions will help make this difficult process easier to navigate and reduce some of the fraudulent practices that have hurt homeowners in the past.

HB 1875 is an excellent example of problem-solving in a fair and balanced way when

both the House and Senate work together with a common goal in mind.

Getting Ag Products to Inter-island Markets House Bill 2644, HD2, SD1, CD1

Agriculture is an important industry in our State. The ability to maintain a diverse and self-sustaining agricultural industry is crucial.

This session we passed HB2644, CD1, which authorizes the Public Utilities Commission to give preferential water carrier rates to those engaged in agricultural activities.

This is an essential step to helping our local farmers stay competitive and provide produce at an affordable price.

Constitutional Amendment Authorizing Temporary Judges Senate Bill 650, HD 1

This constitutional amendment proposed for the voters' consideration on the General Election ballot will allow judges who have reached the mandatory retirement age of 70 to serve as temporary judges on a specific assignment by the Chief Justice. We often lose valuable legal expertise from judges who are still capable of performing

their duties but have reached the mandatory retirement age.

Adoption of this amendment would allow age-retired judges to continue to share their expertise in temporary assignments designated by the Chief Justice. The courts often face a backlog of cases. Using temporary judges will assist currently sitting judges with the expeditious disposition of cases in their courtrooms.



Maui Senators with District Court Judge Mimi DesJardins after her Confirmation by the Senate.

Pelvic Exams — Informed Consent House Bill 2232, HD2, SD1 CD1

As a member of the Women's Legislative Caucus I am pleased we were able to pass an important measure for the protection of women. Under current law, women can unknowingly be subject to pelvic exams while unconscious and awaiting other medical procedures.



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It has been the practice in teaching hospitals to allow medical students to perform these examinations without the consent of the unconscious patient. These procedures are so invasive in nature that the informed consent of the patient should be required unless it is medically necessary to perform an examination immediately and consent cannot be obtained, but not as a matter of routine.

HB 2232, CD1 would require informed consent to be given before medical personnel could perform a routine pelvic examination for medical or training purposes on an anesthetized or unconscious female patient. By enacting a law that expressly requires informed consent for these procedures, we help to guarantee the dignity of the female patients without jeopardizing quality medical education. By the way, a male JABSOM medical student brought this practice to our attention.



Sen. Roz Baker, along with members of The Legislative Women's Caucus, presents the Easter Baskets to the Institute for Human Services.

Saving Costs for Cancer Patients House Bill 1964, HD2 Act 30, SLH 2012

One-fourth of all deaths in the US are due to cancer, many treatable. The cost of cancer treatments can put a significant strain on patients and their families.

In HB 1964, HD 2, the Legislature sought to alleviate some of that strain by putting limits on out-of-pocket costs (such as co-payments) for cancer treatments under health plans. Currently, many people exhaust their savings to keep up with the costs of treatment.

However, the difference in cost between oral chemotherapy which may be the

standard of care and intravenous treatments should not be the primary determination in the type of treatment a patient receives.

With this law, Act 30, patients will be free to choose on the basis of treatment efficacy. By easing the financial burden, cancer patients will be able to focus on recovery instead.

Office of Hawaiian Affairs Claims Settlement Senate Bill 2783

The 2012 legislative session was historic for the State of Hawai'i and its native people by passing SB 2783 to settle past due claims.

To do so, SB 2783 conveyed Kaka'ako Makai lands to the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA). The State and OHA were able to agree that approximately \$200 million settlement was a reasonable approach to settle the claims for ceded land receipts collected between 1978 and 2012.

The parcels, near the Kaka'ako Waterfront Park, include Fisherman's Wharf along the southern coast of Oahu, as well as the site proposed to hopefully house President Barrack Obama's presidential library. The settlement, a major step forward for the Hawaiian community, does not eliminate all claims or those related to sovereignty or ceded land receipts after July, 2012.

On April 11, 2012, I was proud to be a witness to this historic day for Hawai'i as Governor Abercrombie signed SB 2783 into law as Act 15.



Sen. Baker with colleagues and OHA Chair Colette Machado and U.S. Senator Daniel K. Akaka at the historic signing of Act 15.

Maui Food Bank Fundraiser

Hawai'i Food Bank fundraisers have become a tradition at the State Capitol. Every year many offices participate in an array of activities to help generate funds for food banks around the state.

This year, my office planned a March Madness Maui lucky number contest. Prizes included various Maui products including Kā'anapali coffee, Maui brewed beer and Ali'i Kula lavender. The Grand Prize was a round trip for two to Maui.

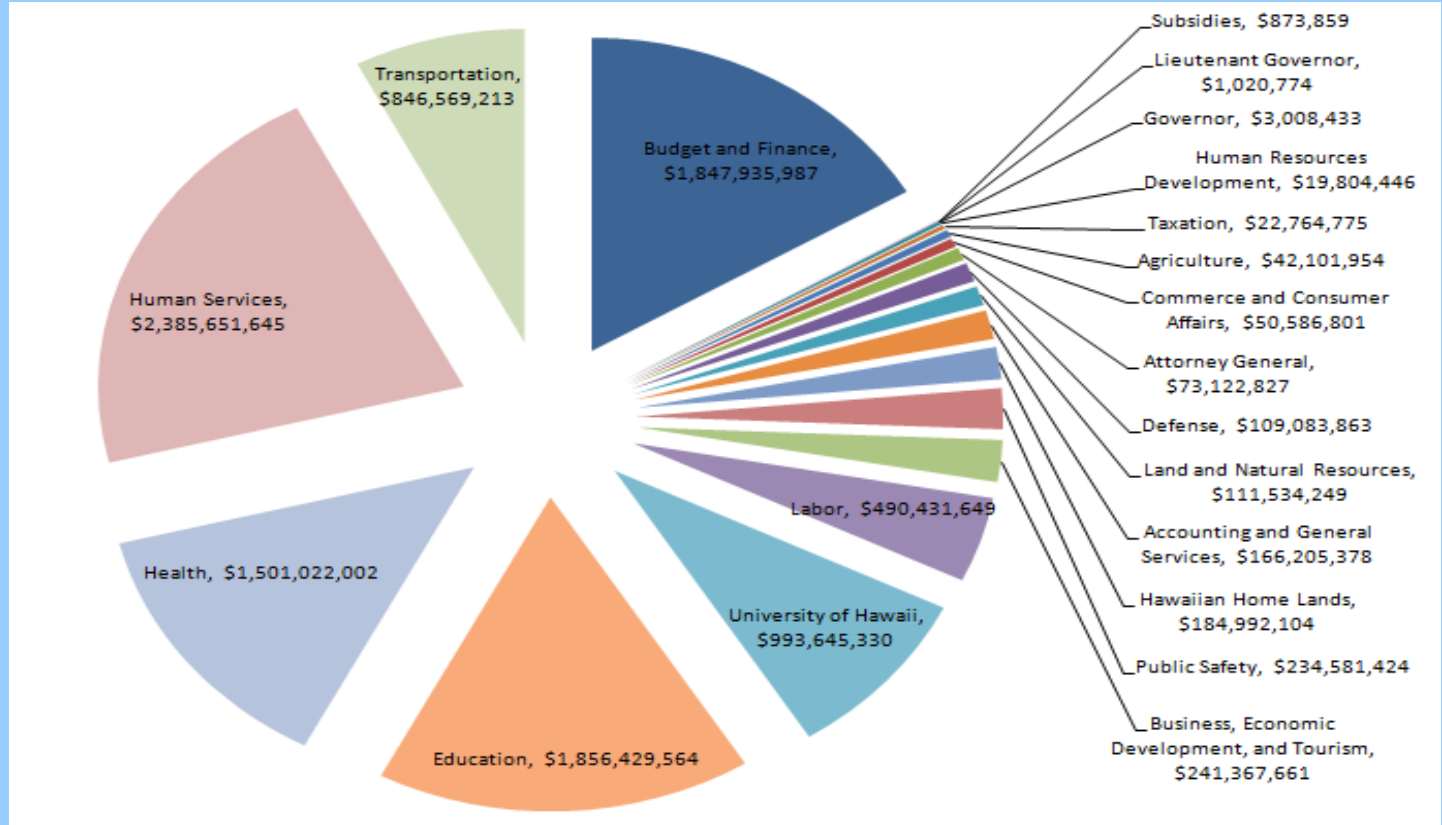
In all, our office was able to raise over \$900 that was donated directly to the Maui Food Bank. We hope to top this next year!

Another event that I participated in was the Senate Dunking Booth. Along with fourteen of my colleagues, we took a turn in the dunking booth to raise money for the Hawai'i Food Bank. The event was held on the Capitol's front lawn and all were welcome to take their best shot. Luckily, it was a nice sunny day!

Fifteen Senate offices participated in fundraisers to help support the Food Bank with more than \$9,400 donated to the food banks throughout the state.



Sen. Roz Baker with her soaked colleagues at the Dunk-a-Thon!



2012 Budget Breakdown

In the early morning hours of April 28, 2012 the state budget was finalized. It was an arduous process before the House and Senate were able to agree on an \$11.2 billion state budget which includes \$428 million in new bond-financed state construction. This funding will create more than four thousand shovel-ready jobs focusing on needed repair and maintenance of many of our public buildings.

The Department of Education will receive \$296 million for fiscal year 2012-2013 for classroom renovations, electrical upgrades to support evolving technology, upgrades to address compliance with American with Disabilities Act and health and safety issues. The notion that education dollars are best spent at the school level was supported by the allocation of an additional \$14 million for the WSF (weighted student formula). This means that across the state, schools will receive an average increase of \$75 - \$87 per student. This can mean thousands of dollars to individual schools. The Legislature was also able to fully fund the requested \$25 million to provide student transportation services. This is particularly important for Maui County schools.

The Department of Agriculture regained funding for

inspectors that had been cut in previous years. Kahului airport will receive nine positions and \$215,568 to hire Plant Quarantine inspectors. This will help to keep Maui and our agricultural industry safe from invasive species and ensure that our products can be exported.

For the first time in many years, the Legislature also fully funded some important services provided by nonprofits like Read Aloud America, senior chore and respite services and domestic violence shelter programs.

While the budget contains funding for many important programs, I was very disappointed that the budget conference did not provide any additional infrastructure funding for Kihei High School. After the Senate had included the full \$20 million I had requested for the project, I was hopeful that at least a portion of it would survive. I plan to ask Governor Abercrombie to include a funding request for the infrastructure required for the high school in his 2013 budget proposal.

In the meantime I'll continue working with DOE facilities branch and BOE Maui member Wesley Lo to ensure the project keeps moving forward.