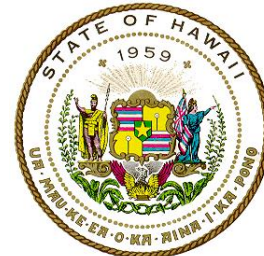




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BUDGET DEFICIT SOLUTIONS FY 2010

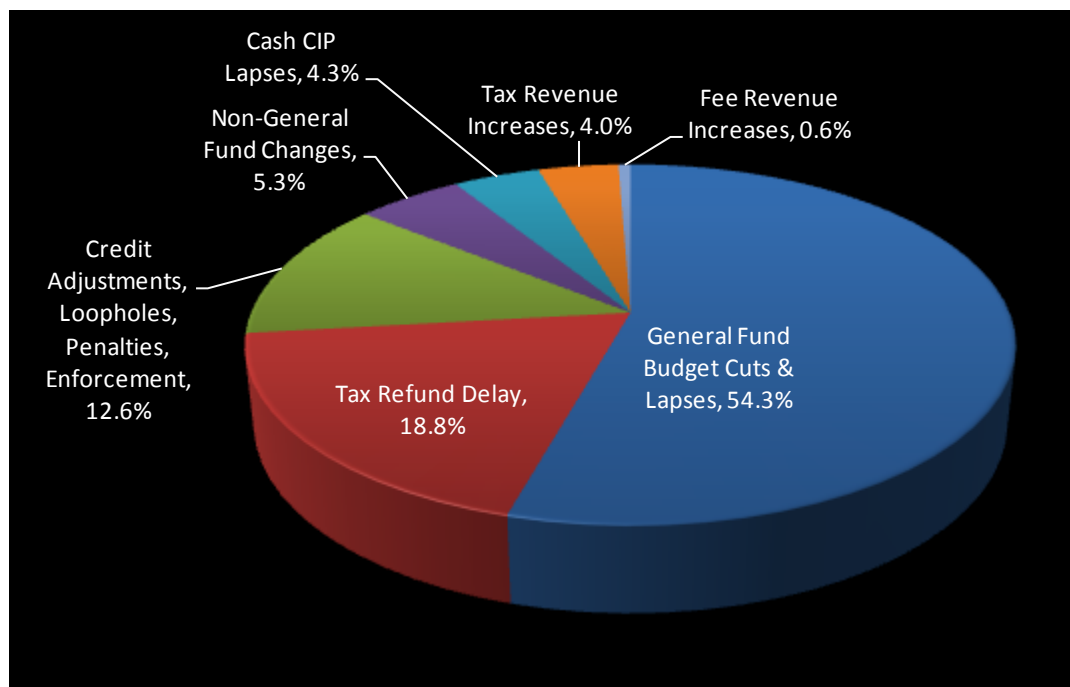
*Serving Hawaii's
Senate District 12*

*Encompassing the
following communities:*

*Palama
~
Downtown
~
Chinatown
~
Kaka`ako
~
Ala Moana
~
Waikiki*



Balancing the budget was again the number one priority of the Legislature this session. It also proved to be the most challenging aspect of our work. This chart represents the budget solution as prepared by the Legislature, derived from the economic data available at the time of the last Council of Revenues briefing (March) to occur prior to our legislative deadlines and adjournment.



As of the writing of this newsletter we have received an updated forecast for our state's economic health and increase in tax revenues from our Council of Revenues. Due to these facts the tax refund delay was not as severe as was originally proposed. In fact, most of the refund checks have already been mailed out.

As the pie chart (above) demonstrates, a number of tactics were employed in the process, including some very moderate tax revenue increases, but the budget, in fact, was overwhelmingly made up of necessary general fund budget cuts, totaling 54%. I am hopeful that this is the worst of the storm and that we will begin to see economic stabilization and recovery in the near future.

DOWNTOWN



CHINA TOWN



KAKA'AKO/ALA MOANA



WAIKIKI



PALAMA



WHAT A DIVERSE COMMUNITY!

The End of Furlough Fridays...at last

On Tuesday, May 25th the Governor announced a path forward to end the "Furlough Friday" debacle once and for all. Here's how it works:

1. Use of SB2124 passed by the Legislature to use the Hurricane Relief Fund. The Governor will release \$57.2 million of the \$67 million appropriated.
2. Use of federal ARRA funds, \$2.2 million, for charter school furloughs.
3. Teachers agreed to give up 6 planning days.
4. Banking community agreed to authorize a \$10 million line of credit, interest free, if needed.



Senator Galuteria chairs most successful Hawaii State Senate Food Drive with \$18,529.50 raised

According to the Hawaii Food Bank website, some of our residents make tough choices.



Many of the client households served by Hawaii Food banks report that their household incomes are inadequate to cover their basic household expenses.

- 21 percent of client households served report having to choose between paying for utilities and food.
- 28 percent of client households said they had to choose between paying for rent or a mortgage and food.
- 19 percent of client households report having to choose between paying for medical bills and food.
- 32 percent of client households must choose between transportation and food.

Over one in five client households (22 percent) do not have health insurance and nearly one third of our adult clients report that they have unpaid medical and hospital bills.

Thirteen percent of households report having at least one member of their household in poor health.

Many thanks to senators and office staff who made this year's drive especially successful!

Please visit the Hawaii FoodBank website at www.hawaiifoodbank.org to find out how you can donate or get assistance.

Don't forget, you can stay in touch with me using the following social media sites:

TWITTER ~ FACEBOOK ~ MYSFACE

**CONGRATULATIONS
HAWAII PACIFIC UNIVERSITY
WOMENS SOFTBALL
IN WINNING YOUR FIRST
DIVISION II NCAA
NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE!**



PHOTOS BY ANDREW SHIMABUKU | The Honolulu Advertiser

Hawai'i Pacific University softball players show off their trophy at Honolulu International Airport a day after beating Valdosta State in St. Joseph, Mo., for its first NCAA Division II national title.

YOU MAKE OUR HAWAII PROUD!