



Representative
 Sharon E. Har
 State Capitol, Room 438
 Honolulu, HI 96813



People First

Representative Sharon E. Har

2011 Legislative Session

Dear Friends and Neighbors:

Happy New Year! I hope you and your families had a safe, happy holiday season, and are enjoying a good start to 2011.

As we begin a new year, we also marked the start of a new legislative session on January 19th. With a new administration and many new faces in the legislature, we must address a wide range of challenges and opportunities. The Council on Revenues has projected that our state's economy will continue to improve, but

will do so at a slow pace. Because of this, we are looking at a budget deficit of about \$770 million over the next two fiscal years (\$410 million for FY2012 and \$360 million in 2013), so we will

continue to face some difficult choices as we work towards a balanced budget again this session. I hope that you, as my constituents, will take time to share with me your thoughts and priorities on our state's budget and other issues with me, whether by filling out the survey on the second page of this newsletter or contacting my office by phone or e-mail.

As always, I look forward to hearing from you throughout the session. If you have any ideas for legislation, please feel free to e-mail me. I also invite you to visit www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2011/members/house/memberpage.aspx?member=har, my newly redesigned Web page, which will have information on the bills I am introducing, my latest newsletters, links to community resources and other updates, and as always, you can contact me at rephar@capitol.hawaii.gov or 586-8500

or with concerns or questions. Thank you once again for the incredible opportunity to serve as your representative in the State House of Hawaii.

Mahalo,

Sharon Har
 State Representative, District 40 - Kapolei, Makakilo, Royal Kunia, Kalaheo



As part of the legislature's "Back to School" program, Rep. Har spoke about government with Ms. Nakamura's 2nd-grade class at Makakilo Elementary School on January 10, 2011.



Mom (Katherine) and Rep. Har spent winter vacation in Seoul, Korea.



Members of the Ignition Interlock Task Force, including Rep. Har, met on December 28, 2010 at Progressive Auto Sounds in Aiea, one of twelve service stations across the state that will be installing the ignition interlock devices, under the new law that went into effect at the beginning of 2011.

Graffiti Paint-Out

Mark your calendar! I will be sponsoring a community graffiti paint-out event on **Saturday, March 19th, 2011** from **9 a.m. to 12 p.m.** If you or your community organization is interested in volunteering for this event or have any questions, please contact my office at 586-8500 or rephar@capitol.hawaii.gov.

Community Survey 2011

As in the past two legislative sessions, our state is once again facing a budget deficit. After deficits of \$2.1 billion in 2009 and \$1.2 billion in 2010, the estimated \$410 million deficit we are facing this year is an improvement, but will still necessitate continued impacts upon the services that our state government can provide. Additionally, with the federal stimulus funding also drawing to a close, our state will again face some challenging budget decisions. As the legislature takes up these questions for the 2011 session, I invite you to share your thoughts by participating in the brief survey below:

1. **Governor Abercrombie has pledged that he will not propose raising the general excise tax (GET). Given the budget shortfall, keeping this promise will mean making cuts in government services. Please rank the below areas from 1 to 10, with 1 being the area in which you most support funding cuts:**

- _____ Education (K-12)
- _____ Education (Higher)
- _____ Health (Including Long Term Care)
- _____ Public Safety (Crime/Drug Abuse)
- _____ Environment
- _____ Economic Development (Jobs)
- _____ Transportation
- _____ Human Services/Welfare
- _____ Agriculture
- _____ Renewable Energy

2. **What funding sources (if any) should the state consider in order to preserve or restore government services (i.e. ending furloughs?)**

3. **Are there any state or community issues or questions would like to bring to my attention?**

Name: _____ Phone: _____
 Address: _____
 E-Mail: _____

Would you like to join my community e-mail list, with my monthly newsletter and periodic updates on community events? _____

Thank you for your participation in this survey.

Please return it to our office by mail (Representative Sharon E. Har, State Capitol Room 438, Honolulu, HI 96813) or by fax (808-586-8504). If you are able to scan and e-mail, please send to rephar@capitol.hawaii.gov

Talk Story with Representative Har in 2011

Join me to talk story about community and legislative issues at 9:00 a.m. on the following Saturdays:

February 12, 2011 **Kapolei High School Teacher’s Lounge
91-5007 Kapolei Pkwy, Kapolei**

May 14, 2011 **Royal Kunia Community Center
94-750 Anoiki St., Waipahu**



(From L to R) Rose Marie Marques (Junior Miss Teen Hawaii World), Jenalyn Satori Ng (Miss Hawaii Petite 2010) and Cassie Ann Sumimoto (Miss Teen United States-World 2009), the founders of “Hawaii Princess 4 a Day,” were honored by Rep. Har at the non-profit group’s first event, held January 8, 2011 at Ward Warehouse. The group focuses on activities to instill self-confidence in girls ages 7 - 12.