



REPRESENTATIVE HENRY AQUINO

WAIPAHU COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

DISTRICT 35
WAIPAHU * CRESTVIEW * SEAVIEW



APRIL 2012

Dear Neighbors,

As we enter the second half of the legislative session, 286 House bills crossed over to the Senate for further review and consideration including several bills that provide for alternative access to medical care for Leeward Oahu.

On March 28, the Hawaii Medal of Honor Ceremony was held to honor the military service members and their family for their supreme sacrifice in defense of our nation and its freedoms.

Legislators also hosted several mayors representing the League of Cities of the Philippines during their recent Hawaii visit which culminated in the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding.

Operation Manong celebrates its 40th anniversary serving the needs of the University of Hawaii's diverse student population.

I had the opportunity to share my work as a legislator with Waipahu Elementary School 5th graders during their recent visit to the State Capitol. In addition, more good news for Waipahu Elementary School. I am pleased to announce that funding for construction of Waipahu Elementary School's new eight-classroom building was approved and will be released shortly.

I welcome your feedback and comments. Please feel free to call me at 586-6520, fax 586-6521 or send me an email, repaquino@capitol.hawaii.gov.

With Much Aloha,

Hawaii State Capitol, Room 419
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Email: repaquino@capitol.hawaii.gov

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2012 LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

As we enter the second half of the legislative session, 286 House bills crossed over to the Senate for further review and consideration including:

HB609 HMC-EAST – This bill supports and explores the idea of the State's Hawaii Health System Corporation to assimilate or acquire the Hawaii Medical Center – East Facility.

HB1953 Emergency Medical Care – This bill provides for the medical needs of Leeward Oahu in light of the closure of Hawaii Medical Center's two hospitals, by appropriating funds to increase the on-call availability of emergency medical services and ambulance services and assist Wahiawa General Hospital in providing additional emergency room services given its increase in patients and emergency cases.

The House is also considering resolutions, **House Concurrent Resolution (HCR) 56 and House Resolution (HR) 36**. Both measures urge the Hawaii Army National Guard to provide emergency transport services by helicopter to individuals from Leeward Oahu and communities in the immediate vicinity who require immediate trauma care.

Please visit www.capitol.hawaii.gov for more information on all bills being considered by the Legislature.

2012 HAWAII MEDAL OF HONOR

This year, as they have done for the past seven years, Hawaii's Legislature held the Hawaii Medal of Honor ceremony to pay tribute to the service members who were Hawaii residents or stationed here and died in Iraq or Afghanistan. Twenty-four American heroes, including two sons of Hawaii, Marine Lance Corporal Christopher Camero and Navy Senior Chief Petty Officer Kraig Vickers, made the ultimate sacrifice in defending the freedom of our country.



House Speaker Calving Say welcoming the Legislature and honored guests at the 2012 Hawaii Medal of Honor ceremony



"The sacrifices of these brave warriors will forever set the strength and fire of future generations and their loyalty and dedication will always be engraved in our hearts and minds." (Emil Romolor – UH Student,

Legislative Intern with Rep. Aquino's Office)



Hawaii Medal of Honor

2012 Hawaii Medal of Honor Recipients:

Army Cpl. Andrew C. Wilfahrt
Army Staff Sgt. Mark C. Wells
Army Sgt. Kevin W. White
Army Pfc. Thomas C. Allers
Army Spc. William S. Blevins
Army Pfc. Andrew M. Krippner
Army Staff Sgt. Kristofferson B. Lorenzo
Marine Pfc. Josue Ibarra
Army Pfc. Joshua L. Jetton
Army Spc. Levi E. Nuncio
Army 1st Lt. Dimitri A. Del Castillo
Army Staff Sgt. Nigel D. Kelly
Army Spc. Kevin J. Hilaman
Marine Lance Cpl. Christopher L. Camero
Army Staff Sgt. James M. Christen
Army Sgt. Jacob Molina
Army Sgt. William B. Gross Paniagua
Navy Senior Chief Petty Officer Kraig M. Vickers
Marine Cpl. Nicholas S. Ott
Army Sgt. 1st Class Houston M. Taylor
Army Staff Sgt. Christopher R. Newman
Army Sgt. Christopher L. Muniz
Army Spc. Ronald Wildrick
Army Staff Sgt. Joseph J. Altmann

LEAGUE OF CITIES OF THE PHILIPPINES MAYORS VISIT HAWAII LEGISLATURE

Hawaii legislators were honored to host mayors representing the League of Cities of the Philippines during their February visit. The League of Cities of the Philippines (LCP) is a nationally recognized organization representing 40 million people living in 122 cities in the Philippines.

The trip culminated with the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between Hawaii and the Philippines to strengthen political, social and economic cooperation. This was the first agreement between an American state and group of cities from another nation and, with 12 mayors and one vice-mayor making the journey, the largest trip of its kind in the history of the Philippines.

The State of Hawaii shares common goals with the Philippines in fostering strong and effective local governments, promoting and maintaining friendships, as well as learning and sharing social and economic opportunities that benefit cities in the Philippines and Hawaii.



Gov. Abercrombie, and the LCP mayoral delegation signing the Memorandum of Understanding.



Rep. Aquino and LCP mayoral delegation at Arizona Memorial wreath laying ceremony

OPERATIONS MANONG (OFFICE OF MULTICULTURAL STUDENT SERVICES) 40TH ANNIVERSARY

Operation Manong celebrates its 40th anniversary serving the needs of the University of Hawaii's diverse student population. On March 22, 2012 the House of Representatives recognized this organization on reaching this milestone by approving and presenting House Resolution 187.

Operation Manong, renamed the Office of Multicultural Student Services, was established in August 1972 with the goal of increasing the number of Filipinos and other Asian and Pacific Islander students enrolled in the University of Hawaii.

The organization offers extensive community outreach program and services for public school and pre-college students to assist new immigrant public school students and to increase the number and success of Filipinos, native Hawaiians, Pacific Islanders and other under-represented student groups at the University of Hawaii Manoa.



Vice-Speaker Manahan, Representatives Cabanilla, Giugni, Ching, Aquino, founder Amy Agbayani and former directors of Operation Manong – Melinda Tria Kervliet, Clem Bautista, Ethel Ward, and Jade Butay.

WAIPAHU ELEMENTARY SCHOOL 5TH GRADERS TOUR THE CAPITOL

Rep. Aquino welcomed 5th graders from Waipahu Elementary School during their recent visit to the Hawaii State Capitol. Rep. Aquino, a Waipahu Elementary School alumnus gave the students a tour of the House chamber and answered questions about the legislature and his role as a representative.

The students' questions ranged from wondering where Rep. Aquino sits during session to what is the toughest part of the job. Rep. Aquino cheerfully answered every question the children had for him. He stressed the importance of education, encouraging the students to pursue higher education to open up doors for them in the future.



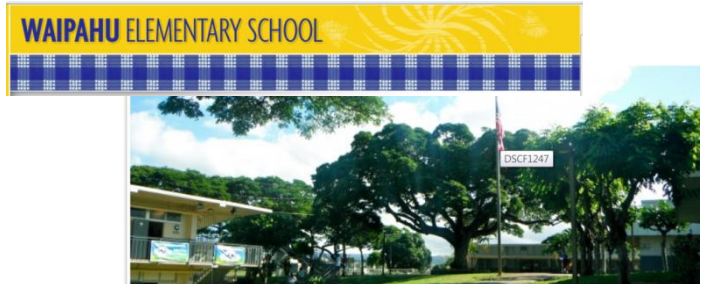
Rep. Aquino (in the background) with 5th graders in the State House gallery seating



Rep. Aquino answering questions and sharing information & facts about the legislative process.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT FUNDS

Capital Improvement Project funds were approved and will be released for Waipahu Elementary School. The funds will be used for the construction of an eight-classroom building.



COMMUNITY PROJECT

Rep. Aquino joined the HGEA graffiti crew to help paint out graffiti at bus stop shelters throughout Waipahu on Saturday, March 24, 2012.



HGEA Graffiti Clean-Up Crew

WAIPAHU HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION

Date: May 25, 2012
Time: 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
Location: Blaisdell Arena
ENTRY BY TICKET ONLY

