



Representative
Mark Jun Hashem
 State Capitol
 Honolulu, HI 96813

East Honolulu Report

Hahaione, Kuliouou, Niu Valley, Hawaii Loa Ridge, Aina Haina, Wailupe, Kahala

July—September 2011

Representative Mark Jun Hashem

Aloha,

I want to thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve you as your state representative. I continue to look after the interest of the district and make sure its needs are met.

As we all know, these are challenging economic times that require thoughtful and responsible measures. I believe that some of the measures adopted will ultimately help stabilize our economy and create a foundation for fiscal recovery. A top priority this session was balancing the \$1.3 billion short fall in the budget. I co-sponsored cost cutting measures such as the 5% salary cut for elected officials.

Despite the tough economic times, supporting our public schools has remained my top priority and I am happy to announce that we have obtained funds for the improvement of schools in our district.

In addition, East Honolulu residents will be happy to hear that we have obtained funding to repave Kalaniana'ole Highway.

Again, mahalo for the opportunity to serve you and our district. If you have any questions or comments please feel free to contact me.

Mark

Congratulations

Kaiser & Kalani High School Seniors

My heartfelt congratulations go out to the 2011 graduates of Henry J. Kaiser and Kalani High Schools. As a fellow product of Hawaii's public school system, I can attest all things are possible through education and self-determination. I wish you the best as you continue your education, embark on your career, or explore other choices in life.



Top : Congratulations to (left to right) Ashley Lukashevsky, Laura Kam, Malia White and Mitch Mikami (not pictured) of Kalani High School for being named **National Merit Scholarship Program's Commended students** for 2011.

Left: Congratulations to Brittney Shinsato of Kalani High School for winning the House of Representatives Scholarship

2011 Legislat

How We Balanced the Budget

At the start of the 2011 legislative session the state faced a \$1.3 billion shortfall. It was evident that the primary focus of the legislature was to balance the budget which required significant cuts to programs and increase taxes and fees.

We were successful in **NOT** raising the General Excise Tax (GET) which would have affected every person and business in the state. In addition we did **NOT** take away the Transient Accommodation Tax (TAT) from the counties, which would have only resulted in increased property taxes for Hawaii's homeowners.

“Legislature took a conservative approach and passed a budget that was \$336 million below the Lingle proposed budget and worked in a \$300 million cushion.”

The main revenue generator was the temporary elimination of tax exemptions for special interest groups. As seen on the chart to the right, revenue increases are projected to generate \$499 million dollars for the state. **Please note this is NOT a tax increase, but special interest groups had the privilege of not paying GET even while recording record profits.**

It is not widely known, but with the tsunami in Japan and the shortfall of projected revenue the state was \$200 million short in revenue. The state government needed to borrow from the Rainy Day Fund and the Hurricane Relief Fund just to get through July 2011. To avoid the same problem next year, the Legislature took a conservative approach and passed a budget that was \$336 million below the Lingle proposed budget and worked in a \$300 million cushion.

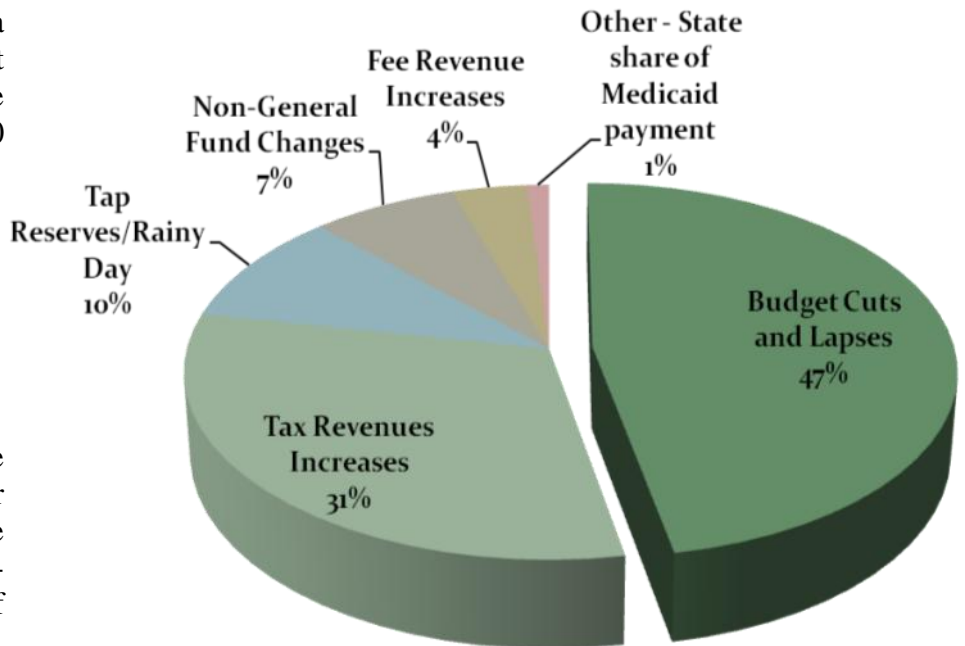
“with the tsunami in Japan and the shortfall of projected revenue, the state was \$200 million short... just to get us to July 2011”

In summary, the actions we took were responsible. They demonstrate where our priorities lie: preserve the safety net for the disadvantaged and elderly, support education and protect the health and welfare of our citizens.

Source	Amount
Budget Cuts and Lapses	\$756.5 mil
Tax Revenues Increases	\$499.4 mil
Non-General Fund Changes	\$117.0 mil
Tap Reserves/ Rainy Day	\$157.0 mil
Fee Revenue Increase	\$60.6 mil
Other- State share of Medicaid payment	\$17.5 mil
TOTAL	*\$1,608 billion

**Deficit
\$1.3
Billion**

**Cushion
\$300+
Million**



*General Funds Only, July 1, 2011 through June 20, 2013

ive Highlights

Repairing East Honolulu Fishpond Saves Tax Dollars



Left-Kalauha'ihā'i Fishpond, 1980's
Photo: T. Hara, courtesy MFHC

Right- April 2010.
Photo: J. Kennedy.

*By Chris Cramer

Visitors to Kalauha'ihā'i Fishpond and its nearby ecosystem along Maunalua Bay will notice something terribly wrong. Underground lava tubes that fed the natural fresh water springs were blocked during the widening of Kalaniana'ole highway in the early 1990's.

In 2009, the City and County of Honolulu published a figure of "1 million gallons" of fresh water that leaks every day into the sewer from this area.

This massive leak has continued for years in an area fronting Kalauha'ihā'i Fishpond in Niu. *In this economy it makes no sense to continue to pay to treat our fresh water as wastewater at Sand Island.* Every gallon of



Photo: Left to right Rep. Hashem, Maunalua Fishpond Heritage Center board members Chris Cramer and Kauai Lucas, and Tony Costa of the Hawaii Near Shore Fisherman Organization receive a copy of House Concurrent Resolution 104.

wasted water costs money. We pay when it damages infrastructure on entry and we pay to treat it when it exits at Sand Island.

During the 2011 Session, Rep. Hashem successfully introduced HCR 104. This resolution requests State support for a study on returning the leaking water to its traditional path through Kalauha'ihā'i Fishpond and Maunalua Bay. Both the House and Senate recognized the need to reduce the costly sewer and utility overload.

Repairing the leaking groundwater artery could literally turn back the clock by restoring the fresh-water "lifeline" to the Niu fishery and Maunalua Bay. Maunalua Fishpond Heritage Center in conjunction with the state are taking the next step to do a study to revive the fresh water springs to prevent further ecosystem and infrastructure damage.

*For more information on Maunalua Bay, Maunalua Fishpond Heritage Center visit their website: maunaluafishpondheritage.com

House Acknowledges Niu Valley Principal



JUSTIN MEW, principal of Niu Valley Middle School accepts certificate and congratulations from Rep. Hashem. Mr. Mew was named the 2010 Metlife National Middle School Principal of the Year. Good Job Justin!!

*Photo: Justin Mew and Rep. Hashem

Presentations to the Rotary Clubs of Kahala & East Honolulu



Rep. Hashem presented "The State Budget and Highlights of the 2011 Legislative Session" to both the Rotary Club of Kahala Sunrise and the Rotary Club of East Honolulu in June.

*Photo: Darrell Large President of the Rotary Club of East Honolulu and Rep. Hashem

Easterly Winds

District 18: Hahaione, Kuliouou, Niu Valley, Hawaii Loa Ridge, Aina Haina, Wailupe, Kahala

July—September 2011

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Free Keiki ID's



Please join us at:

**Kahala Mall's Kids Day
July 16, 2011, 11am-3pm.**

Rep. Hashem's office has teamed up with the Honolulu Police Department and Kahala Mall to give free child identification cards or Keiki ID cards that contain information on the child, a recent photo and a fingerprint.

4th of July



Please join us at:
**Maunalua Bay
July 4, 2011, 1-9pm**

Keiki bike decorating contest and parade. Bicyclists will meet at the Keahole street parking area of Maunalua Bay at 1p.m.

Aina Haina Boulder Removal Starts



Thanks to the Department of Land and Natural Resources, boulder removal will start in Aina Haina above Ahuwale Place. Rep. Hashem fought for \$3,000,000 allocation of funds for the removal of boulders. Also, our district successfully received a separate \$240,000 special funding for boulder removal in Niu Valley.

Free Computer Class for Seniors

Various Dates in June, July & August. Carole Kai Charities, Inc. and the Harry & Jeanette Weinberg Foundation are providing free 2 hours senior citizens computer classes that include: email, use of the internet, composing documents, and just having fun being comfortable with computers.

Classes are at: **418 Kuwili St.
Honolulu, HI 96817**
Contact Rene Mansho: 306-1876



District 18 Capital Improvement Projects

Department of Education

AINA HAINA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Design and construction for fence.	\$50,000
Design and construction for pave parking lot.	\$50,000
Design and construction for administrative conference rooms	\$75,000
Install wireless system	\$80,000
Aina Haina public library fire alarm upgrade	\$50,000

KAISER HIGH SCHOOL

Design and construction for girls' athletic locker room	\$7,200,000
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KALANI HIGH SCHOOL

Design and construction of security screens and gates	\$497,000
Softball practice field	\$102,000
Design for girls' athletic locker room	\$800,000

Department of Land and Natural Resources

Boulder removal Aina Haina	\$1,200,000
Boulder removal Niu Valley	\$240,000
Kuliouou stream flood control	\$250,000
Wailupe stream flood control	\$250,000
Renovate Maunalua Bay boat ramp	\$2,000,000

Department of Transportation

Kalaniana'ole highway resurfacing from Lunalilo Home Road to East Hind Drive	\$9,000,000
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When Sending Emails

I thank all of you for your correspondence. Your feedback has helped me develop ideas for many of my bills. My office receives 100's of emails everyday from all around the state and country. We ask that you please write your name and address when submitting emails to us. Let us know if you live in the district. We want to make sure our district concerns are addressed.

Contact Information



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