

NEWS AND UPDATES FROM Representative Troy N. Hashimoto

September/October 2021

Aloha! As we head into the fall, I would encourage you to continue staying safe and doing your part in keeping our COVID-19 hospitalization rates low. There are many new guidelines announced by both the Governor and Mayor to ease positive COVID cases, which I have summarized in this newsletter. My hope is that if we all do our part, the sooner we can get back to a normal way of life.

In August, the U.S. Census Bureau released the results of their 2020 Census, showing that Maui County's population increased by 6.4 percent over the last decade to 164,754. In reviewing the numbers closer, the most growth was in Wailuku and Kahului, not surprisingly with all the new development around the community.

The new Census information will be used by the State Reapportionment Commission, which meets every 10 years to review all state legislative districts in Hawai'i to ensure that each district is proportional. The Commission has already decided that statewide, each island will not change the number of state representatives or senators as populations have not shifted dramatically from one island to another. Therefore, in Maui County, my hope is that our legislative districts will not change significantly. As the Commission completes its work, I will be sure to keep you informed. Their decisions are important as it impacts what communities belong together in a legislative district. Public testimony is accepted at each of their meetings. To learn more, go to: <https://elections.hawaii.gov/about-us/boards-and-commissions/reapportionment/>

As always, if you have any questions, concerns, or ideas, especially as we approach the 2022 Legislative Session, please do not hesitate to contact me or my office.

Mahalo,



The House Committee on Higher Education visited the completed temporary stadium for the University of Hawai'i at Manoa football team. In December 2020, Aloha Stadium was deemed unsafe to hold any spectators which has been the Rainbow Warriors' home since 1975. The Warriors' will host games at the T.C. Ching Field until a new stadium can be built.

UH Football 2021 home game schedule

September 4, 6 p.m. vs. Portland State
September 18, 6:30 p.m. vs. San Jose State
October 2, 5 p.m. vs. Fresno State
October 23, 6 p.m. vs. New Mexico State
November 6, TBA vs. San Diego State
November 20, 6 p.m. vs. Colorado State

Eviction and Mediation Information

On Aug. 6, the statewide eviction moratorium that began in April 2020 expired, which allowed Act 57 passed by the Legislature to take effect. The Act calls for free mediation that must be completed before any court action can take place and sets a timeline for court action. Those with 3+ months in back rent can begin court filings on Sept. 6, 2+ month on Nov. 6, and 1+ month on Jan. 6, 2022. Despite this timeline for court actions, mediation centers are encouraging anyone with back rent to pursue mediation as soon as possible and develop a payment plan. To schedule a mediation, or to learn more about how a landlord and tenant can initiate mediation, contact the Maui Mediation Center at (808) 344-4255 or email landlordtenanthelp@mauimmediation.org

Federal rental and utility assistance is also still available for Maui County residents. The County has paid out nearly \$11 million since launching the program in the spring. Additional federal funds are still available and unlike Oahu, Maui County's application portal has never closed. If you have not applied or need further information on resources, here is a listing below:

Rental/Financial Assistance:

•Maui County Emergency Rental Assistance Program:

www.mauiCounty.gov/MauiRentHelp or contact their help line at: (808) 873-4673

•MEO Rental & Mortgage Assistance Program:

www.meoinc.org or call (808) 249-2970

•Family Life Center COVID-19 Emergency Rental

Assistance: www.flcmaui.org/covid-19 or call at (808) 877-0880

•Ka Hale a Ke Ola Maui: www.khako.org/programs/rental-assistance-program/ or call (808) 242-7600

Native Hawaiian Rental/Financial Assistance:

•Department of Hawaiian Home Lands Emergency Resources for Rental/Mortgage Assistance Program:

www.hawaiiancouncil.org/dhhl or call (808) 596-8155

•Office of Hawaiian Affairs's Ka Wailele Emergency Financial Assistance Program: www.KaWailele.org or call (808) 587-7656



As of Sept. 15, Maui County launched its Safer Outside initiative, which requires proof of a COVID-19 vaccination. Operators of bars, restaurants, gyms, fitness centers, recreational boating, ground transport, and commercial tours may operate at 50 percent capacity indoors, provided that all customers 12 years of age and older provide proof of full vaccination. Operators are responsible for verifying vaccination status and identity through government or school-issued identification. Fully vaccinated for COVID-19 is defined as more than two weeks since receiving the second dose in a two-dose series, or more than two weeks after receiving a single-dose vaccine. Restaurants and bars will also be required to close at 10 p.m.

Acceptable proof of vaccination includes a completed vaccination card (which includes name of the person vaccinated, type of vaccine provided, and date of the last dose administered) in original, photocopied, or digital form; the Hawai'i SMART Health Card digital health pass; or other similar vaccination documentation from a healthcare provider.

Those unvaccinated may dine outdoors, order take-out, or use drive thru services. The proof of vaccination requirement will only apply to those ages 12 years and older.

Full or part-time employees 12 years of age and older must show proof of full vaccination or must provide proof of a negative COVID-19 test result taken within seven (7) days of entry to the businesses listed above.

The order also states that the indoor gathering limit is five and the outdoor gathering limit is ten. **This order will be in place until October 15 and will be reviewed by Mayor Victorino at that time for an extension.** Rules related to this order may continue to change. For the latest updates and information please go to: www.mauicounty.gov

COVID-19 testing locations

County of Maui free testing:
Minit Medical Clinics:
Central Maui: 348 Lehuakona Street, Kahului
Tues. and Sat. from 8 a.m.-3 p.m.
Must pre-register for appointment, visit www.minitmed.com/pre-register-maui-covid-19 or call (808) 667-6161, ext 7

State Department of Health free testing
Mauliolo Pharmacy:
95 Mahalani Street, Rm 10, Wailuku
7 days a week, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.
To preregister go to: <https://preventcovidhi.com/>

Other Maui Locations:
Clinical Labs of Hawai'i:
80 Pakana Street, Wailuku
Mon-Fri, 6:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
To register go to: www.clinicallabs.com/appt/covid/
CVS Pharmacy:
135 Kehalani Village Drive, Wailuku
Appointments required, register at www.cvs.com/minuteclinic/covid-19-testing
Maui Medical Group:
2180 Main Street, Wailuku
Appointments required: (808) 249-8080
Mon-Fri from 8 a.m.-7 p.m., and Sat-Sun from 8 a.m.- 4 p.m.
To find more information on other testing locations, please go to www.mauinuistrong.info/covid19-info-testing or <https://health.hawaii.gov/coronavirusdisease2019/testing-locations/>



MAUI NUI STRONG

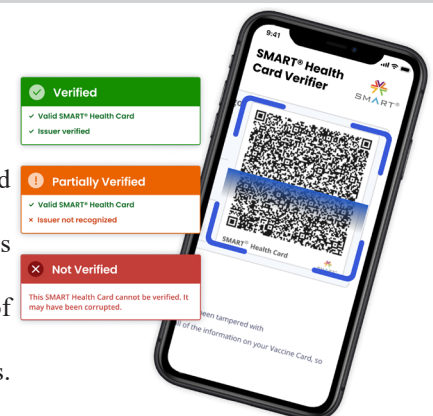
Hawai'i SMART Health Card

Governor Ige announced on Sept. 8, the roll-out of the Hawai'i SMART Health Card which enables individuals who received their COVID-19 vaccinations in Hawai'i to create a state-issued digital health card that may be used to confirm their vaccination status. The program is voluntary and started on Sept. 10.

The Hawai'i SMART Health Card QR code cannot be used for traveling to Hawai'i. Travelers arriving in Hawai'i are required to use the Travel Exemption/Exception feature on the Safe Travels Hawai'i Digital Platform to receive a travel entry QR code.

Here's how the Hawai'i SMART Health Card works:

1. Go to the Hawai'i Safe Travels Digital Platform, <https://travel.hawaii.gov>
2. Create an account or use your existing account.
3. Click on the SMART Health Card logo.
4. Take a picture of your vaccination card and upload it.
5. Enter your vaccination information.
6. If you are a parent or guardian and have COVID-19 vaccination records for minors, upload each digital vaccine record request separately.
7. Once validated by the system, you will receive a QR code that you may present to business and establishments that require proof of vaccination status.
8. Your QR Code will be available for display in the Hawai'i SMART Health Card section of the Safe Travels platform.
9. Businesses and establishments may use a SMART Health Card verifier app to verify status.
(For the app go to <https://thecommonsproject.org/smart-health-card-verifier>)



At this time, the Hawai'i SMART Card allows for the upload of vaccinations cards issued in Hawai'i only. Individuals not vaccinated in Hawai'i may present a hard copy of a vaccination document as proof of vaccination. In addition, the State is looking into developing a system to allow the upload of negative COVID-19 test results. For now, patrons may present a physical copy of their negative COVID-19 test result where required.

Unemployment Insurance update

On Sep. 4, 2021, all Federal aid assisted programs like the Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC), Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA), Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation (FPUC), and Mixed Earners Unemployment Compensation (MEUC) programs ended. Currently, only the State Unemployment Insurance (UI) program continues to be available.

Resources for individuals who do not qualify for a new initial claim for State Unemployment Insurance:

- The American Job Center (AJC) Hawai'i is a free, one-stop center that provides career counseling, HireNet Hawai'i support, skills training, job search assistance and a resource training center. Contact Maui AJC office to schedule an appointment at (808) 270-5777 or go to www.mauiamericanjobcenter.com/
- The Maui County Virtual Job Fair provides job search tools, support to explore certification training and to create long-term career path opportunities <https://mauicountyvirtualjobfair.com/>
- Resources are also available with the State Department of Human Services like Financial and SNAP Benefits, Childcare Connections and Med-QUEST at <https://humanservices.hawaii.gov/>



For more information, visit: www.hawaiiunemploymentinfo.com. If you need to make

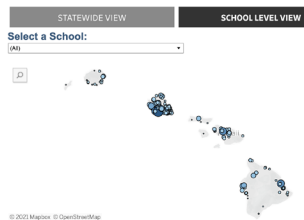
a telephone appointment with the Department of Labor & Industrial Relations for adjudication, general claims, employer services or Pandemic Unemployment Assistance, please go to: <https://labor.hawaii.gov/ui/appointments/>. These appointments will be available until the UI offices reopen to the public.



Hawai'i State Department of Education Updates



COVID-19 HIDOE CASE COUNT



HIDOE COVID-19 case dashboard

The Hawai'i State Department of Education (HIDOE) launched an interactive dashboard on its website to display confirmed COVID-19 case data. The dashboard includes confirmed and probable COVID-19 case information from the state, district, complex area and school levels. Case counts are visually displayed by date reported and as a cumulative running total of cases since July 1, 2021. In accordance with Act 4, Session Laws of Hawai'i 2021, the dashboard also includes the date each case was reported to the Department and the date the positively tested individual was last on a school campus.

Daily case counts will reflect confirmed COVID-19 cases reported the day prior. Reported cases that still require confirmation or processing will not be included in the total. Data will be updated daily, Mon. through

Fri. (excluding holidays), prior to the close of business at: www.hawaiipublicschools.org/ConnectWithUs/MediaRoom/PressReleases/Pages/COVID-19-Information-Updates.aspx

Schools will continue to make the following notifications for all confirmed and probable cases:

- Immediate notification to individuals who may have come into close contact with the infected person about possible exposure while maintaining confidentiality in accordance with state and federal law.
- Notification to staff and parents/guardians about the possible exposure and HIDOE activities to contain the spread of infection.

Testing: The Hawai'i State Department of Education has partnered with the Hawai'i State Department of Health to coordinate school-based COVID-19 testing for eligible students, staff, and school communities which are offered at no cost. Currently, H.P. Baldwin High School, 'Īao Intermediate School and Pu'u Kukui Elementary School are offering a program called "Operation Expanded Testing".

Back to school: know your route

Due to a severe nationwide shortage of school bus drivers, the Hawai'i State Department of Education is working to manage staffing and consolidate bus routes to minimize disruption to students and families. As a result, more parents are out on the road transporting their students to and from school. This may be increasing traffic around schools and causing more congestion than usual. More students may also be walking or biking to school.

In the event that families who qualify for bus transportation are unable to receive services, the HIDOE Student Transportation Services Branch will offer mileage reimbursement. Bus pass refunds are also available. Active bus routes and applications for mileage reimbursement are available at: www.hawaiipublicschools.org/ConnectWithUs/Organization/Offices/FacilitiesandOperations/Transportation/RidingtheBus/Pages/Bus-status.aspx



Each school in our district is working to help alleviate traffic, please be aware of times you may want to avoid school traffic. Please be mindful and do your part to keep traffic moving.

▶ H.P. Baldwin High School

- Start: 7:50 a.m.
- Finish: 2:10 p.m.-Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri and 1:40 p.m.-Wed

▶ 'Īao Intermediate School

- Start: 7:50 a.m.
- Finish: 1:55 p.m.-Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri and 1:10 p.m.-Wed

▶ Pu'u Kukui Elementary School

- Start: 7:45 a.m.
- Finish: 2:00 p.m.-Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri and 1:15 p.m.-Wed

▶ Waihe'e Elementary School:

- Start: 7:45 a.m.
- Finish: 2:00 p.m.-Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri and 1:15 p.m.-Wed

▶ Wailuku Elementary School:

- Start: 7:45 a.m.
- Finish: 2:00 p.m.-Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri and 1:15 p.m.-Wed



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please email me, and I will gladly add you.*

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Spotlighting our community



*Honoring **Mayor Michael Victorino** at the Annual Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc. Gala for his work in supporting MEO and the community with Emcee Rod Antone, Senator Baker, Councilmember Lee and CEO Debbie Cabebe.*

Attending the opening of the Villas at Kehalani's Little Free Library where you can take and share a book. The library was sponsored by the Haleakala Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution led by Rosetta Hiranaga. Other Wailuku locations include Market Street, Wailuku Hongwanji, and Nahoana Farm in Waikapū.



*Supporting **Riley Regan** (center) at his Eagle Scout Project bone marrow drive at Queen Ka'ahumanu Center. Riley's project is a statewide effort to add at least 1,000 more individuals to the "Be The Match Hawaii" donor registry. He has completed drives on Kauai, Oahu, Big Island, Lanai and Molokai. Riley also lobbied Gov. Ige to proclaim August as Marrow Donor Registry Month. He is pictured with Trey Andaya who was just elected as his 6th grade class vice-president at Maui Waena Intermediate.*



Attending the ground breaking ceremony for the Nisei Veterans Memorial Center's Stanley Izumigawa Pavilion with Senator Keith-Agaran, Councilmember Sugimura, Executive Director Deidre Tegarden and the Center's Board Members. The Center received a construction Grant-In-Aid from the Legislature. The new pavilion will double the capacity of the Center and allow for larger educational events.

