

Community Update

State Representative Linda Ichiyama • Summer 2013

Dear Neighbor,

It is an honor to serve you and your family in the House of Representatives. I am pleased to share with you some of the accomplishments of the 27th Legislature. This session we focused on the State's long term needs such as reducing long term fiscal liabilities, repaying our reserve funds, promoting economic development, education, sustainability and improving the quality of life for our residents. This newsletter discusses many of the important bills that will affect you and our community.



Your area legislators worked closely to secure funds for the replacement of the Moanalua High School athletic track and classroom renovations and improvements.

Serving as the Vice Chair of the Transportation Committee, I was able to work on many issues close to home, including the appropriation of funds for our State highways, harbors and airports. As Vice Chair of the Committee on Higher Education, I worked on ensuring effective management of the University of Hawaii's facilities and fiscal resources.

I remain committed to working with you to make our community a better place to live. Please keep in touch with me about your concerns. I look forward to hearing from you in the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Linda Ichiyama".

Linda Ichiyama
State Representative
32nd District
Moanalua, Salt Lake & Aliamanu

Community Spotlight: Moanalua Gardens Foundation

For 43 years, Moanalua Gardens Foundation (MGF) has been committed to preserving and perpetuating our native culture and natural environment through education and care for Kamananui (Moanalua) Valley and Moanalua Gardens. MGF pioneered environmental and cultural education in Hawaii including the Ohia Project Curriculum, a widely used environmental education curriculum in our elementary schools. A new fourth-grade place-based curriculum, Huakai o Kamananui, Aloha Aina Moanalua, has just been launched for Kamananui Valley. The Prince Lot Hula Festival, the largest non-competitive hula festival in Hawaii, is also presented annually by MGF. This year's festival is Saturday, July 20, 2013 and more information is online at <http://www.moanalugardensfoundation.org>.

Over the past few years, your area legislators have worked to secure funding for overdue repairs to ensure the safety of visitors to Kamananui Valley, creating economic opportunities and providing exciting eco-tourism programs for students and visitors. Kamananui Valley is a wonderful hike and MGF offers for purchase a self-guide booklet entitled "A Walk Into the Past."



Rep. Ichiyama pictured with Alex Alike Jamile, President, MGF Board of Directors and Pauline Worsham, MGF Managing Director.



Halau Hula O Maiki under the direction of Kumu Hula Coline Aiu perform at the Annual Prince Lot Hula Festival.

PHOTO COURTESY OF MOANALUA GARDENS FOUNDATION.

Highlights of the 2013 Haw

THE STATE BUDGET (HB200, HD1, SD1, CD1)

Our improving economy offered legislators a good opportunity to reevaluate priorities in crafting a state budget. Instead of merely restoring funding cuts that were made during the recession, we decided to conservatively approach government growth and to invest in the future.

During the state's economic crisis we had to borrow from the Rainy Day and Hurricane Relief Funds. We kept our promise to repay the money. The budget includes an addition of \$160 million into the Hurricane Relief Fund and \$50 million into the Rainy Day Fund. Most importantly, it includes appropriations of \$217 million in the next biennium to begin payments towards the State's unfunded liability and will continue to allocate funds every year ending in an allocation of \$500 million in fiscal year 2019.

The goal of the new budget is to strategically use our projected surplus to strengthen economic drivers and ensure increased revenue. Funding highlights include statewide capital improvement projects, increased

support to the Hawaii Tourism Authority to strengthen the marketing of Hawaii as a visitor destination, funds to assist our growing high technology industry in investment start ups and tax credits for research and development.

CLEAN ENERGY FOR ALL

Green Infrastructure Loan Program (SB1087, SD2, HD3, CD1)

In order to achieve Hawaii's goals of energy self-sufficiency, diversification and clean energy, **SB1087, SD2, HD3, CD1** creates measurable cost savings by establishing the Hawaii Green Infrastructure Loan Program to implement a low cost financing program for renewable energy technologies. This bill will help working families to afford solar water heaters and photovoltaic panels and allow them to pay for these technologies on their electric bill.

EDUCATING OUR KEIKI

School Readiness Program (SB1093 SD2, HD2, CD1)

High quality early learning programs that are affordable and accessible for children are critical to

ensuring the success of Hawaii's keiki. **SB1093 SD2, HD2, CD1** expands the Preschool Open Doors program within the Department of Human Services to provide access to school readiness services that address young children's physical, cognitive, linguistic, social and emotional development.

PROMOTING OUR FILM AND DIGITAL MEDIA INDUSTRY

Digital Media and Film Tax Credit (HB726, HD1, SD2, CD1)

By extending the media and film production tax credit until 2019 and providing enhanced incentives to attract more media productions to Hawaii, **HB726, HD1, SD2, CD1** encourages the growth of the local film and creative media. This will help Hawaii's economic diversity while creating more jobs.

SUPPORTING LOCAL AGRICULTURE

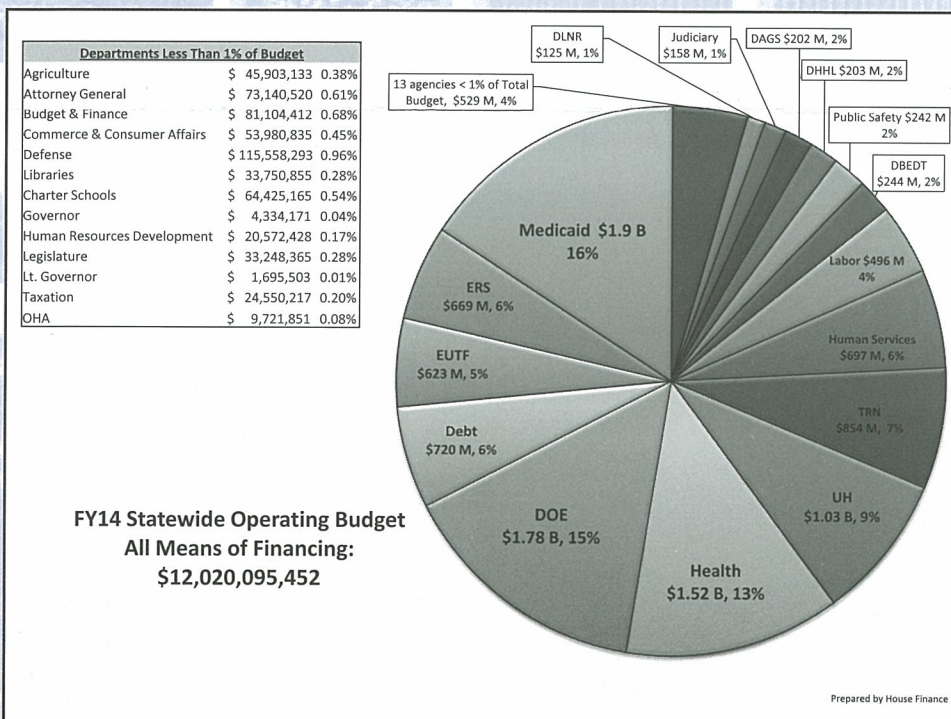
New Farmer Loan Program (SB993, SD2, HD1, CD1)

The average age of the farm operator in Hawaii is 59 years old. We must encourage younger generations to take over existing farms or to start their own farms. The new farmer and farm innovation loan programs provide incentives for young individuals to enter into and to continue local farming.

PROTECTING OUR KUPUNA

Mandatory Elderly Abuse Reporting By Financial Institutions (SB102, SD2, HD1, CD1)

Financial exploitation of seniors is a growing problem in Hawaii. **SB102, SD2, HD1, CD1** requires financial institutions to report instances of suspected financial abuse of an elder directly to the appropriate county police department and the Department of Human Services. The reporting of financial exploitation through



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Rep. Ichiyama, Rep. Johanson and Sen. Kim volunteer at the Moanalua Elementary and Middle School Aloha Aina Day.

Rep. Ichiyama assists in reforestation efforts on the slopes of Mauna Kea.

the most appropriate and efficient channel and the resulting timeliness of the investigation are crucial to the protection of assets as well as the health and safety of the victim.

Services for the Elderly and Individuals with Disabilities (SB106, SD1, HD1, CD1)

Hawaii's residents, including elders and individuals with disabilities, should be able to live at home with the support they need so they can participate in communities that value their contributions. **SB106, SD1, HD1, CD1** establishes and funds a position for an Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementia Services Coordinator. It also appropriates funds for the Kupuna Care Program and the Healthy Aging Partnership Program.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Firearms Registration (SB69, SD2, HD1, CD1)

SB69, SD2, HD1, CD1 requires county police departments to fingerprint, photograph and perform background checks on individuals who wish to register a firearm that was purchased out-of-state. This measure closes a loophole in Hawaii's firearms law which currently does not require

a background check for firearms purchased outside of the State.

HURRICANE RESERVE TRUST FUND

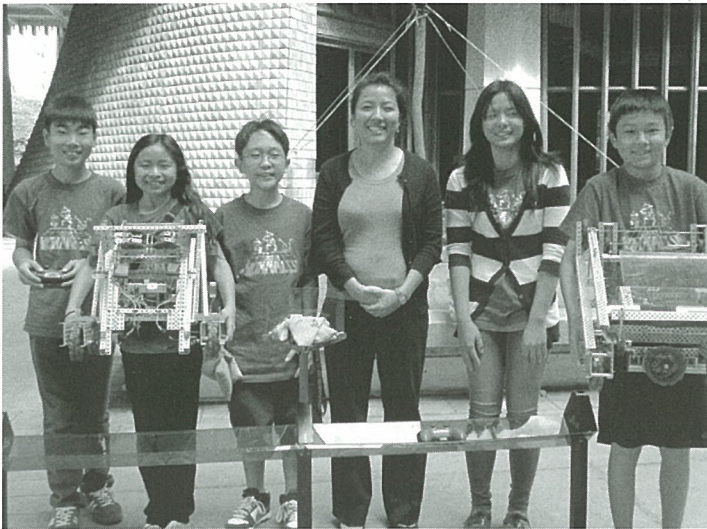
Recapitalize the Hurricane Reserve Trust Fund (SB1092, SD1, HD1, CD1)

Our State is emerging from one of the most challenging economic periods in its history. During the

last several years, the Hurricane Reserve Trust Fund has declined from approximately \$220,000,000 to \$20,000,000. As the State continues its economic recovery, a concerted effort must be made to recapitalize the State's depleted fiscal reserves. **SB1092, SD1, HD1, CD1** appropriates \$50,000,000 for fiscal year 2013-2014 to the Hurricane Reserve Trust Fund.



Rep. Ichiyama meets with Aliamanu Elementary School 4th graders to explain the legislative process and answer their questions.



Moanalua Middle School's Robotics Team visited the Hawaii State Capitol on March 18, 2013 to demonstrate their robots.



The State House honored the Moanalua Symphony Orchestra for their historic third invitation to perform at Carnegie Hall. Pictured from left to right: Rep. Johanson, Jaynie Gaorian-Orchestra Vice President, Skyler Sponberg-Orchestra President, Rep. Ichiyama and Mr. Elden Seta-Music Director.



State Representative
LINDA ICHiyAMA
 Moanalua, Salt Lake & Aliamanu

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DISTRICT 32 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

The following projects have been approved by the Legislature and are in the State budget for fiscal year 2014 and 2015.

SALT LAKE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Design, construction, and equipment for the renovation of Buildings E and P
 Total Project Cost: **\$2,000,000**

Reroof Building F
 Total Project Cost: **\$308,000**

MOANALUA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
Repair and re-grade playground
 Total Project Cost: **\$168,000**

MOANALUA MIDDLE SCHOOL
Reroof Building P3
 Total Project Cost: **\$18,000**

MOANALUA HIGH SCHOOL
Re-crown football field
 Total Project Cost: **\$1,107,000**

Design and construction of a new synthetic 8-lane track
 Total Project Cost: **\$2,500,000**

ALIAMANU ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
Reroof Building C
 Total Project Cost: **\$155,000**

Refurbish playground equipment
 Total Project Cost: **\$70,000**

ALIAMANU MIDDLE SCHOOL
Structural improvements to Building M and S
 Total Project Cost: **\$300,000**

Reroof Building S and G
 Total Project Cost: **\$244,000**

MOANALUA GARDENS FOUNDATION
Design and construction for Kamananui (Moanalua) Valley improvements
 Total Project Cost: **\$450,000**