



# Community Update

State Representative Linda Ichiyama • Spring 2015

Aloha Neighbor,

Thank you very much for the honor of serving you in the State House of Representatives. This year is the Fifth Annual



Aloha 'Āina Day at Moanalua Middle and Elementary Schools. On April 11th, please help support our local schools by dropping off your recyclables and donations at Moanalua Middle School. This is a great time for spring cleaning!

As the Legislature reaches the midpoint of the 2015 Session, please find enclosed a guide to the key bills passed by the House of Representatives and now being considered by the Senate.

We continue to discuss ways to improve these measures and fully address the diverse issues that are important to our community. I encourage you to share your thoughts with me about proposed legislation and any other issues that are of concern to you. Please feel free to send me an e-mail at [repichiyama@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:repichiyama@capitol.hawaii.gov) or call my office at 586-6220.

I hope these legislative highlights are informative and useful. I look forward to hearing from you as we continue our work this session.

Mahalo nui loa,

*Linda Ichiyama*

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

## Community Focus:

# Aloha 'Āina Earth Day

Five years ago, Rep. Linda Ichiyama, Rep. Aaron Johanson and Sen. Glenn Wakai co-sponsored the first Moanalua Aloha 'Āina Earth Day to benefit Moanalua Elementary and Middle Schools. This collaboration between community leaders and businesses has continued to help support our local schools and provide recycling services for our neighborhood. The event is also part of the schools' curriculum, which incorporates the 3R's School Recycling Program. Students are empowered to engage and educate their communities about the 3R's: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle and support on-campus recycling efforts.



Rep. Ichiyama and Rep. Aaron Johanson with students at the Moanalua Elementary and Middle School Aloha 'Āina Day.

With community support, Moanalua Elementary and Middle Schools raised \$617.51 and collected almost 900 pounds of aluminum, plastics, and glass recyclables and 8,500 pounds of technological waste in 2011. Aloha 'Āina Earth Day has proved to be a successful fundraiser while teaching students about the importance of reducing waste through recycling. To support our Moanalua schools in turning "trash into cash," please join us at our 2015 Aloha 'Āina Earth Day on April 11th!

## Items Accepted at Aloha 'Āina Earth Day

- All types of scrap metal including bicycles and appliances
- Computers, printers, scanners, monitors
- Printer cartridges and toner
- Laptop, game systems, fax machines, cameras
- All types of batteries
- TVs
- Reusable clothing and household items (Goodwill)
- Used cooking oil
- Paper, corrugated cardboard
- HI-5 glass bottles and jars, cans, plastics (#1 & #2)



**ALOHA 'ĀINA**  
RECYCLING DRIVE



Sponsored by Schnitzer Steel in partnership with the the Kōkua Hawaii Foundation's 3R's School Recycling Program

**Saturday, April 11, 2015**  
**9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.**  
**Moanalua Elementary and Middle School**

For more information, please email:  
[alohaaina@moanaluaopto.org](mailto:alohaaina@moanaluaopto.org)

## Supporting our Kupuna

**(HB493, HD1)**

As Hawaii's elderly population grows, our State must expand its capacity to meet the needs of our kupuna. **HB493, HD1** appropriates funds for a permanent full-time director and faculty specialist position within the University of Hawaii Center on Aging.

## Increasing Consumer Transparency

**(HB619, HD3)**

Many homeowners expressed concerns about the Hawaiian Electric Company and NextEra merger. In an effort to facilitate citizen participation, **HB619, HD3** requires the Public Utilities Commission to apply certain standards and criteria and hold a public hearing in determining whether to approve a merger, acquisition or consolidation of an electric utility.

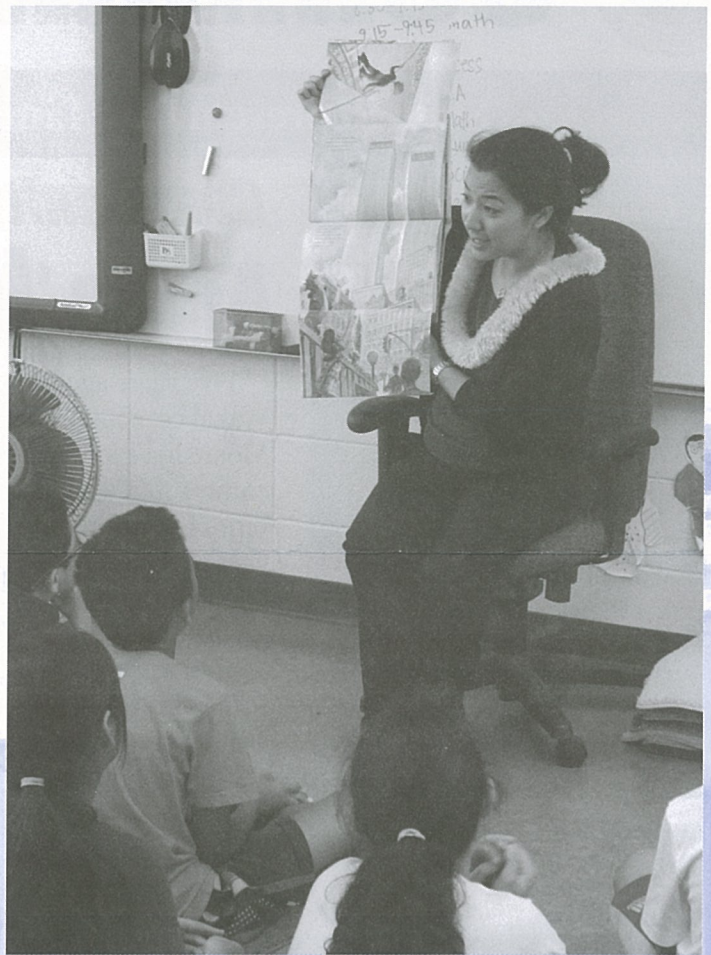
## Fiscally Responsible Higher Education

**(HB540, HD1)**

The efficient use of tax payer and student tuition dollars by our State's higher education system is a growing concern. To improve the University of Hawaii's accounting system, **HB540, HD1** requires the Board of Regents to submit a quarterly report to the Legislature regarding the fiscal performance of University programs.



*Rep. Ichiyama addresses questions at the Women's Legislative Caucus Breakfast Meeting and Press Conference regarding the 2015 Women's Legislative Caucus Package.*



*Rep. Ichiyama reads to Moanalua Elementary School 4th graders at the school wide Read Aloud.*

## Early Childhood Education

**(HB820, HD2)**

To prepare students for school and participation in society, **HB820, HD2** establishes the Executive Office on Early Learning Pre-Kindergarten Program to help build a solid educational foundation for our keiki. The program allows children to register a year before they are eligible to enroll in kindergarten and prioritizes underserved and at-risk children.

## Fostering Economic Stability

**(HB1091, HD1)**

*Introduced by Rep. Ichiyama*

Many Hawaii families are having difficulty keeping up and making ends meet. To continue the State's economic recovery, **HB1091, HD1** increases the standard deduction and allowable personal exemption amounts. This bill also increases the number of exemptions that may be claimed by taxpayers 65 years of age or older who meet certain income requirements.

## Supporting Future Transportation Services

**(HB134, HD1)**

Heavy traffic and poor roads are a source of stress for thousands of residents who commute every day. To help alleviate these burdens, the City established the Honolulu Rail Transit project in 2011. To aid the successful completion of the project and reduce the GET tax, **HB134, HD1** reduces the rail surcharge to 0.25%, beginning January 1, 2017 and extends the tax to an unspecified date. Discussions are ongoing about how long this extension should last.

## Supporting Local Business

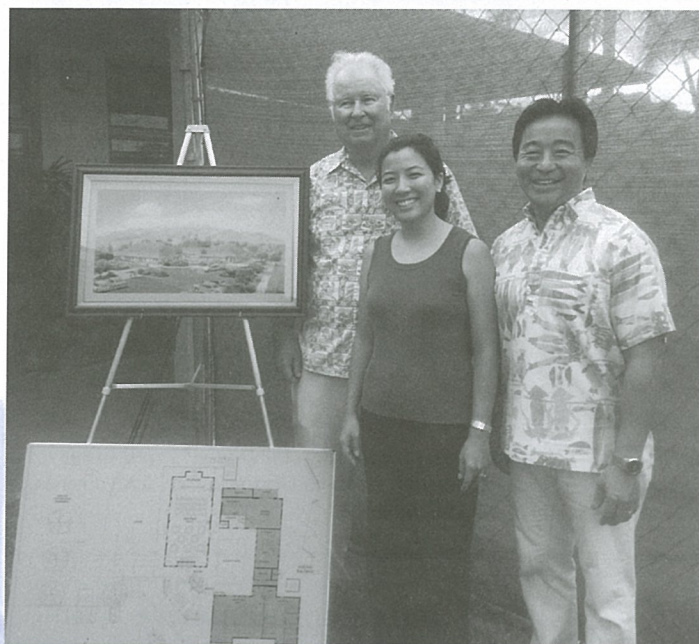
**(HB1454, HD2)**

Hawaii imports 90 percent of the products we consume each year. To encourage local manufacturing, **HB1454, HD2** establishes a temporary tax credit for taxpayers who incur certain equipment and training expenses in the manufacture of products in Hawaii.

## Protecting our Watersheds

**(HB440, HD1)**

Protecting forested watersheds is one of the State's top priorities and an ongoing effort. With a long-term decline in rainfall, watershed protection has never been more urgent. **HB440, HD1** appropriates funds to the State Department of Land and Natural Resources for watershed management and projects related to preserving our forests.

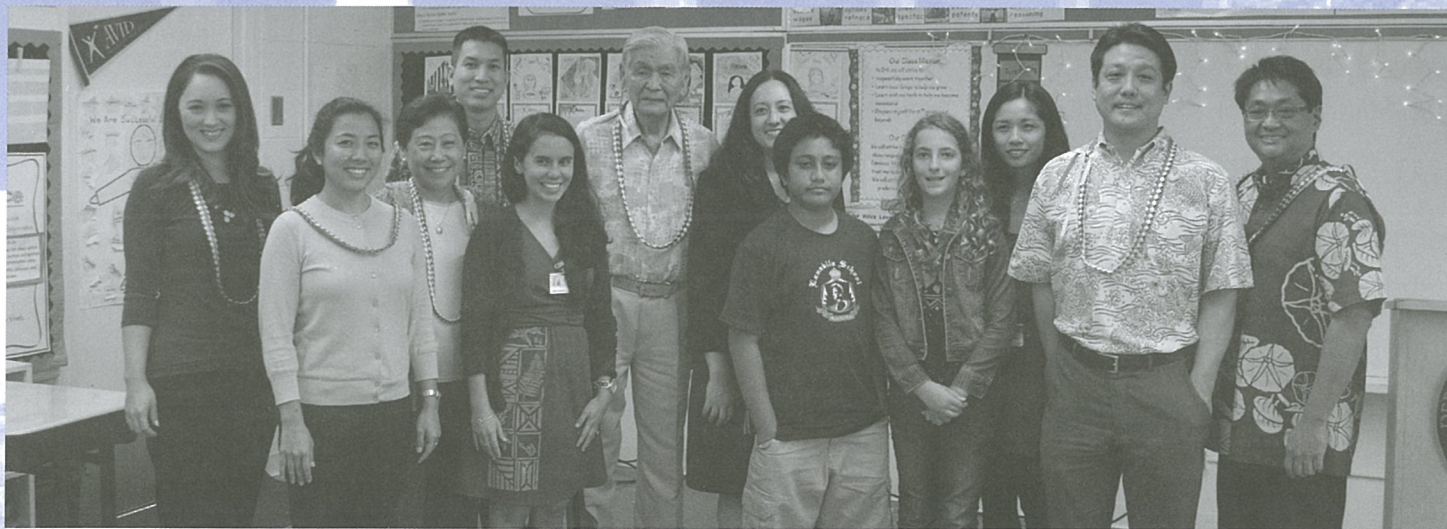


*Rep. Ichiyama and Sen. Wakai at the groundbreaking ceremony for Phase III of the Oahu Veterans Center with Chairman George Sullivan of the Oahu Veterans Council.*

## Statewide Sexual Assault Services

**(HB452, HD1)**

Sexual violence is a serious public health issue. It often results in significant and lasting consequences for victims, families, and communities. **HB452, HD1** appropriates funds to expand the Department of the Attorney General's budget in support of development, delivery and maintenance of quality, sustainable programs to provide sexual assault services to victims and families.



*(Left to right) Rep. Fukumoto Chang, Rep. Ichiyama, BOE Superintendent Kathryn Matayoshi, Rep. Ohno, Governor Ariyoshi, aio Foundation's Brandon Kurisu and Rep. Nakashima with teachers and contestants of the Hawaii: Next 50 contest.*



(Left to right) Rep. LoPresti, Deputy Director Darrell Young of the Department of Transportation - Harbors Division, Rep. Ichiyama and Rep. Aquino tour Honolulu Harbor.



Rep. Ichiyama with Chair Isaac Choy and Rep. Ohno discuss the University of Hawaii's budget request at the Committee on Higher Education Informational Briefing.



**State Representative**  
**LINDA ICHIYAMA**  
 Moanalua, Salt Lake & Aliamanu

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# DISTRICT 32 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT REQUESTS

The following projects were requested for the fiscal year 2015 budget.

**SALT LAKE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**  
 Interior renovation of classrooms; Construction of four individual classrooms in two buildings  
**Total Project Cost: \$3,600,000**

**MOANALUA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**  
 Construction for a restroom facility in the school library  
**Total Project Cost: \$350,000**

**MOANALUA MIDDLE SCHOOL**  
 Expansion and addition of STEM classrooms to building F  
**Total Project Cost: \$5,200,000**

**MOANALUA HIGH SCHOOL**  
 Construction for Performing Arts Center Phase II  
**Total Project Cost: \$29,000,000**

**ALIAMANU ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**  
 Expansion of the administration building  
**Total Project Cost: \$3,500,000**