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### LEGISLATIVE & COMMUNITY UPDATES INSIDE!

'Āhuimanu | Ben Parker | Castle | He'eia | Kahalu'u | Kāne'ohe | Kapunahala | King | Pū'ōhala | Waiāhole

# Castle Complex School Supply Drive

In Partnership with 'Ohana Nights at Windward Mall

Come by and support our Castle Complex students and teachers by making a monetary donation or donating much needed school supplies to help our keiki succeed in the classroom!

### Welcomed Donations:

pencils, erasers, crayons, markers, composition books, folders, backpacks, slippers, etc.

#### **Inside Windward Mall**

FRIDAY, JUNE 24

12 PM - 9PM

**SATURDAY, JUNE 25** 10 AM - 9 PM

**SUNDAY, JUNE 26** 10 AM - 6 PM

Visit: bit.ly/38f4T5z to DONATE online (tax-deductible) Select "school supplies"

#### For more information:

RepKitagawa.com or 808-586-8540



Lisa Kitagawa



















#### Aloha!

It has been a long and difficult past couple of years as we overcame many of the challenges brought on by the pandemic. I am thankful that we have moved from an emergency response phase to a public health management phase for our State. I hope that all of you are doing well and staying healthy during this time.

This year, the Legislature was able to accomplish a lot. It was an unprecedented year for funding services and departments, as well as saving and preparing for future emergencies. I am proud of what we accomplished this year, and am grateful that the bills that passed, as well as the budget, will positively impact so many people in our communities.

Thank you to the many community members who continue to reach out and are working hard to make our district a better place. It is the many hands and hearts that make this such a special place to live.

Thank you for the opportunity to continue to serve you.

## **Follow Me On: SOCIAL MEDIA!**

My office has officially launched our social media pages! Follow me to get updates on the Legislature, what's happening in our community, important resources, and more.







## Visit: **REPKITAGAWA.COM!**

I will continue to send out weekly email blasts and keep our **repkitagawa.com** website updated. If you would like to subscribe to our email blasts, please email my office at repkitagawa@capitol.hawaii.gov.



# **2022 FUNDING FOR OUR COMMUNITY PROJECTS**

<u>Totaling \$24,642,930</u>	
Castle High School Stadium Lights Replacement and Softball Field Improvements	\$5,550,000
Castle Medical Center Primary Care Expansion	\$517,930
Habilitat Dormitory Renovations and Clinical Staff Operating Funds	\$245,000
Hawai`i FASD Action Group FASD Social Laboratory	\$300,000
Hawai`i State Hospital Water System Improvements	\$5,300,000
He'eia Kea Small Boat Harbor Wastewater System Improvements	\$3,000,000
Kahalu`u Elementary School Playground Equipment	\$200,000
Kāne`ohe Elementary School Covered Playcourt	\$600,000
King Intermediate School Building Improvements	\$530,000
Kualoa-He`eia Ecumenical Youth (KEY) Project Youth Program	\$200,000
Waiāhole Bridge Replacement Additional Funding	\$3,000,000
Waiāhole Elementary School Playground Equipment	\$200,000
Waiāhole Water System Improvements	\$5,000,000

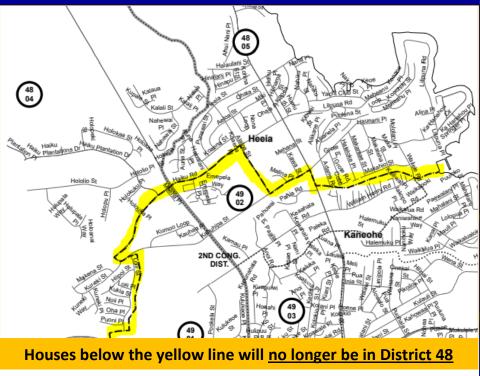
# **2022 DISTRICT REAPPORTIONMENT**

#### WHAT IS REAPPORTIONMENT?

To ensure each political district is represented equally, new district boundary lines are redrawn every 10 years according to the most recent census population data.

#### **HOW DOES IT AFFECT ME?**

The new district lines will take effect **this upcoming election**, and will be reflected on your voting ballot. If you live on William Henry Rd., the Waikalua Rd. area or in Pū'ōhala Villages, you will be in **District 49**. If you live past Ikenakai St. going East on Kāne'ohe Bay Dr., you will be in **District 50**. For



specific information on your residence, visit the State Elections website at elections.hawaii.gov.

## **SUPPORTING EDUCATION**



## Representative Lisa Kitagawa Scholarship

I am happy to be able to offer my 4th Annual Representative Lisa Kitagawa Scholarship to **Jennifer Maeda**. Jennifer is an outstanding student who has been a member of Castle High School's Distributive Education Clubs of America (DECA) Club, Varsity Air Riflery Team, Hawai'i State Student Council, and Debate Club. She has actively participated in community service projects with the 96744 Youth Council, Key Club, and the Salvation Army. Jennifer has also volunteered at beach clean-ups and the Honolulu Marathon. Best wishes to Jennifer as she pursues her degree in Business Management from the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa!



# Outstanding 6th Grade Student Awards 2022

The Outstanding 6th Grade Student Award recognizes students who demonstrate leadership potential, good citizenship, and academic achievement at each of the elementary schools in our district. The awardees were selected by the sixth grade teachers and school, and have received a personalized certificate from the State Legislature, as well as a personalized, engraved trophy. Congratulations to this year's awardees!

Samantha Shiroma and Tatelyn Ah Mow-Wauke from 'Āhuimanu Elementary

Jayleigh Brinkley and Kaihi Kimokeo from Ben Parker Elementary

Kyra Vuikadavu and Hussin Eid from He'eia Elementary

Hannah Welch-Ornellas and Riley Ching-Pickett from Kahalu'u Elementary

Kale'akainani Nakamura and Esaiah Rivera from Kapunahala Elementary

Teavai Sonoda-Sofa from Waiāhole Elementary

## **COMMUNITY VOICES MATTER**

### **HB 2195: Cesspool Conversion**

Many community members have contacted me with concerns about the cost of cesspool conversion and the overall environmental and public health hazards caused by cesspool contamination in our district. This session, my bill, HB 2195, established a Cesspool Compliance Pilot **Grant Project** to assist low- and moderate-income property owners, including lessees on Hawaiian homelands, with the cost of upgrading, converting, or connecting certain cesspools. This bill passed with a \$5 million appropriation for community grants.

## Want to be informed when applications for the Cesspool **Compliance Grant become** available?

Contact our office to be put on the notification list!

808-586-8540 or repkitagawa@capitol.hawaii.gov

## **HB 2416: Campaign Spending Reform**



It is important that we promote transparency in our election process. That is why I introduced HB 2416, to target "dark money" by requiring 501(c)(4) nonprofit organizations that engage in electioneering activity to disclose the name and address of donors who choose to donate towards campaign-related activities. Now, there will be greater accountability and transparency to protect the rights of voters and keep "dark money" out of elections.

## **HB 2197: Combating Illegal Game Rooms**

Thanks to a concern brought to my attention by a constituent, I introduced HB 2197 to target the issue of illegal game rooms in our communities. Violent activity and sex trafficking in and around illegal game rooms have greatly increased in recent years. To mitigate this, HB 2197 increases penalties for violators and repeat offenders who promote illegal gambling and game rooms. It is my hope that community members will get relief from the illegal activity taking place in illegal game rooms and feel safer in their homes once more.



### **HCR 69: Childcare Provider Appreciation Month**

It is important to recognize the critical work child care providers do for our keiki on a daily basis.

Additionally, during the pandemic, many child care providers remained open and continued to provide care. That is why I introduced HCR 69 to acknowledge

childcare providers by designating September 2022 as Child Care Provider Appreciation Month. Thank you to all of our child care providers for your hard work and dedication in caring for our community's children.

## **2022 COMMUNITY HERO AWARD**



Mahealani Cypher, 2022 Community Hero Award Recipient

This year, my office had the privilege of partnering with Kanu Hawai'i to recognize Mahealani Cypher as House District 48's 2022 Community Hero Awardee. From a pool of nominations submitted, Mahealani was chosen by Kanu Hawai'i to receive this award because of her contributions and involvement in listening to and meeting the needs and concerns of the people in her community.

Throughout her professional and civil service career, Mahealani has worked to use her education, training, and experience to help and protect our kūpuna, keiki, and Hawaiian natural resources, history, and culture. Mahealani is a respected community leader in Kāne'ohe who embodies the values of compassion, dedication, and aloha. Congratulations and mahalo to Mahealani for her incredible service, advocacy, and commitment to our community!

# At the Legislature & In the Community









- 1) Serving families and keiki at a Kahalu`u Community Day
- 2) Presenting certificates to Castle High School Engineering students
- 3) Speaking to Kāne ohe El. students at their visit to the State Capitol
- 4) Volunteering at the Women's Legislative Caucus Easter Basket Drive
- 5) Attending Habilitat's Open House





More photos at: bit.ly/repkitagawaflickr

## 2022 LEGISLATIVE SESSION SUMMARY

With a record budget surplus of approximately \$2 billion, the Thirty-first Legislature capitalized on the opportunity to fulfill long overdue obligations and simultaneously invest in a more sustainable and stable future. Below are some of the key bills and critical funding that passed this year. To learn more about these bills and other legislation that passed, please visit <a href="www.capitol.hawaii.gov">www.capitol.hawaii.gov</a>.

#### PROVIDING AFFORDABLE HOUSING

- \$300 million for the <u>Rental Housing</u>
   Revolving Fund to develop rental housing
   for working individuals and families
   (SB 3048)
- \$15 million for the <u>`Ohana Zones Program</u>
  to provide temporary shelter, transitional
  housing, and services for homeless
  individuals (HB 2512)
- \$25 million for the <u>Dwelling Unit Revolving</u>
   <u>Fund</u> to develop affordable housing infrastructure and the Affordable
   Homeownership Revolving Fund to provide gap financing for for-sale housing (HB 1600)
- \$23 million for up to \$500/month for rent assistance for TANF and TAONF families (HB 2233)

#### **INVESTING IN SCHOOLS AND EDUCATION**

- \$206.9 million for the building and expansion of <u>preschool services</u> and grants (SB 3110 and HB 2000)
- **\$2 million** to provide free menstrual products in public schools (SB 2821)
- \$10 million to install <u>air conditioning</u> in all public schools (SB 2862)
- \$75,000 for a Digital Literacy Program (SB 2214)
- Establishment of an <u>Adult Workforce Readiness</u>
   <u>Program</u> (HB 1561)
- Establishment of a <u>Digital Learning Center</u> (SB 2184)
- Support for <u>teacher compensation</u>, and recruitment and retention of teachers (SB 2819)

#### **ASSISTING WORKING FAMILIES**

- Incremental increase of the minimum wage to \$18/hour by 2028 (HB 2510)
- \$47 million to make the <u>Earned</u>
   <u>Income Tax Credit</u> refundable and permanent (HB 2510)
- \$250 million to provide a \$300/ person tax rebate for people earning less than \$100,000 and couples earning less than \$200,000 (SB 514)
- Establishment of the <u>Hawai`i</u>
   <u>Retirement Savings Program</u> to
   provide a retirement savings plan
   for private sector employees
   (SB 3289)



# \$1 BILLION FOR THE BENEFIT OF NATIVE HAWAIIANS

- \$600 million for the <u>Dept. of Hawaiian Home Lands</u> to develop housing and provide down payment and mortgage assistance for Native Hawaiians (HB 2511)
- \$328 million settlement of <u>Kalima v. State of Hawai`i</u> (SB 3041)
- \$64 million to OHA for pro rata share of <u>ceded land</u> revenues (SB 2021)
- \$20 million for <u>Bishop Museum</u>, <u>`lolani Palace</u>, <u>Kaho`olawe Island Reserve</u>, and <u>`Aha Moku Council</u> (HB 1600)
- \$2 million for Native Hawaiian nonprofits (SB 3357)
- Stewarding and preserving <u>Mauna Kea</u> (HB 1179 and HB 2024)

# PROTECTING OUR VULNERABLE POPULATIONS

- \$8 million for investigation and case management for <u>Child Welfare Services</u> (HB 1932 and HB 2424)
- \$31.8 million to expand MedQuest to include <u>post-partum coverage</u> and <u>adult</u> <u>dental benefits</u> (HB 1600)
- \$1.7 million to establish a sex trafficking abatement office and provide <u>domestic</u> <u>violence and human trafficking services</u> to victims and witnesses (HB 1600)
- Ban on <u>flavored tobacco</u> products beginning January 2023 (HB 1570)
- Establishment of a <u>Women's Court Pilot</u> <u>Program</u> (HB 2421)

#### SUSTAINING OUR ENVIRONMENT

- **\$1.5 million** for response and enforcement activities relating to the petroleum leaks at Red Hill (SB 3124)
- \$2.3 million for the <u>Carbon Smart Land Management Assistance</u>
   <u>Program</u> to incentivize good land management and agricultural practices (SB 3325)
- \$1 million for the Compost Reimbursement Program to incentivize farmers and landscapers to use compost (SB 3004)
- Expansion of the <u>electronic waste recycling program</u> (HB 1640)
- Setting of goals and policies for energy efficient State facilities (HB 1801)
- Support for the Department of Land and Natural Resources in <u>managing</u> <u>environmental impacts</u> and <u>protecting our natural resources</u> (SB 204, SB 2768, and HB 1600)
- Increased fines for <u>fireworks</u> infractions from \$2,000 to \$5,000 (SB 2923)

# CARING FOR KŪPUNA

- \$2.65 million to fund the <u>Kūpuna Care</u> Program (SB 3113)
- \$18 million to expand Medicare-certified care homes (SB 3236)
- Extension of the driver's license renewal period from 2 years to 4 years for licensees 72-79 years of age, effective January 1, 2023 (SB 2679)