



# Representative Bertrand Kobayashi Community Update

DIAMOND HEAD, KAHALA,  
KAIMUKI, KAPAHULU

July 2015

## THE FOLLOWING 8 BILLS WERE VETOED BY GOVERNOR IGE

Governor David Ige vetoed the following 8 bills on July 14, 2015. An explanation for the veto of each bill is included:

### HB540 HD1 SD2 CD1 - RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII ACCOUNTING AND FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

The Governor feels this measure contains provisions that may violate the Hawai'i State Constitution regarding autonomy for University System management over university finances.

### HB553 HD1 SD2 CD1 - RELATING TO COLLECTIVE BARGAINING

The Governor feels that concerns can and should be addressed internally through Board of Regents policy followed by a commitment from the University administration to implement such policy. The Governor encourages this option rather than amending state collective bargaining laws that govern management and employee relations.

### SB105 SD1 HD1 CD1 - RELATING TO THE BUDGET

Governor Ige believes this measure would be difficult to implement given the uncertainty of capital finance markets. It would be difficult to calculate long-term debt and might lead to inaccurate projections that could ultimately affect the state bond rating. He would prefer to voluntarily work toward more accurate projections driven by administrative policy rather than state law.

### SB218 SD1 HD1 - RELATING TO ORDER OF SUCCESSION

The Governor believes that the existing order of succession is adequate and appropriate and that these changes might leave a gap in succession that would be difficult to address in a state of emergency or disaster.

### SB265 SD1 HD1 CD1 - RELATING TO SEX TRAFFICKING

This measure creates a special crime that eliminates the opportunity for prosecution of lesser related offenses. The Attorney General and 3 of our 4 county prosecutors are advising that this bill may result in fewer prosecutions for these types of crimes. The Governor is asking the Attorney General and county prosecutors to propose a bill that will allow them to prosecute the full range of prostitution and sex trafficking offenses.

### SB349 SD2 HD2 CD1 - RELATING TO TAXATION (ETHANOL IN GASOLINE)

The Attorney General advises that the definition of qualified taxpayers is flawed and does not allow for companies outside of Hawai'i to be qualified. This potentially violates the Commerce Clause of the U.S. Constitution, and could subject our state to potential litigation.

### SB569 SD1 HD1 CD1 - RELATING TO THEFT

The county prosecutors are concerned that increasing the threshold for felony theft from \$300 to \$750 will eliminate the deterrent effect within retail markets. The retail merchants, in particular, are concerned that this will increase their revenue loss from shoplifting.

### SB1324 SD2 HD1 CD1 - RELATING TO DIVORCE

The Governor believes that working with the Employee Retirement System (ERS) Board and administration can accomplish the change without a state law.

## BE PREPARED FOR HAWAII'S HURRICANE SEASON

The National Weather Service urges everyone in Hawaii to be prepared for hurricane season which runs from June 1<sup>st</sup> to November 30<sup>th</sup> every year.

- \* Know the history of high winds and heavy rains and flash flooding in your area.
- \* Learn the location of officially designated civil defense shelters for your area.
- \* Check the condition of emergency equipment, such as flashlights & battery powered radios.
- \* Ensure that enough non-perishable food and water is on hand to last for at least two weeks.
- \* Prepare a survival kit for home use or to take to a shelter. Use the list in your telephone book as a guide.
- \* Be aware of the structural limitations of your home and reinforce your home against high winds.
- \* Obtain and store materials such as plywood and plastic necessary to secure your home.
- \* Check your home for loose and clogged rain gutters and downspouts.
- \* Keep trees and shrubbery trimmed. Cut weak branches and trees that could fall or bump against the house.
- \* Determine where to move your boat in an emergency.
- \* Review your insurance policy to ensure it provides adequate coverage.
- \* Individuals with special needs should plan ahead for their appropriate medical conditions.

For more detailed information please visit:

**Department of Emergency Management**

**City and County of Honolulu**

[www.oahuDEM.org](http://www.oahuDEM.org) (808) 723-8960

**National Weather Service** – [www.weather.gov](http://www.weather.gov)

## Check Out Bags: What's in? What's out?



On July 1, 2015, your shopping "bag" experience will be different. Single-use, flimsy plastic bags are out; reusable, paper and compostable bags are in. You may also opt to bring your own bag or go bagless. A bin or laundry basket strategically placed in your car could provide convenient transport of your purchases from shopping cart to car to house, no bags involved.

Initial retail industry feedback indicates that about 43% of businesses will not provide bags. Of the remaining 57% offering bags, it breaks down as 44% paper bags, 31% reusable bags and 25% compostable bags.

For more information on Oahu's plastic bag ban, including a link to the plastic bag ban ordinance and a list of exempt uses where plastic bags are still allowable, please visit [www.Opala.org](http://www.Opala.org) or call the City's Recycling Branch at 768-3200.

## KAIMUKI PUBLIC LIBRARY CELEBRATES 50TH ANNIVERSARY

More than 100 people enjoyed Kaimuki Public Library's 50th Anniversary Celebration on June 21, 2015. The event featured an outstanding performance by slack-key guitarist and singer Danny Carvalho. State Representatives Calvin Say, Scott Nishimoto, and Bert Kobayashi presented a congratulatory certificate to branch manager Maile Davis and State Librarian Stacey Aldrich.

