

March/April 2018

Holomua

moving forward

House District One · Hāmākua · Hilo

Volume 10, Issue II



Mark M. Nakashima

Vice Speaker

Vice Chair

Legislative Management

Contact Information:

Hawai‘i State Capitol, Room 404
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Telephone:

(808) 586-6680

Neighbor Island Access dial
974-4000 then extension 6-6680
followed by the pound (#) key
after the recording.

E-mail Address:

repnakashima@capitol.hawaii.gov

Visit Mark’s capitol website
for updates on bills and other
legislative activities.

[http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/
memberpage.aspx?
member=nakashima](http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/memberpage.aspx?member=nakashima)



Hawai‘i Island students
attended the Hawai‘i
State Student
Conference

L-R:

Kara Yoshiyama, Alexis
Martinez, Angella
Brandt (Advisor), Rep.
Nakashima, Shania
Ebreo, Miranda Caniff,
Alyssa Okamura, and
Stephen Panoff

Dear Friends,

We just completed “Crossover” which is the legislative deadline for House bills (HBs) to move to the Senate and Senate bills (SBs) to move to the House and remain “alive”. The House approved and sent 381 bills to the Senate for consideration. Bills include HB 1886 which would establish a 5-year Senior Citizen Higher Education Access Pilot program in the University of Hawai‘i System. HB 2165 and HB 2501 would extend the Hawai‘i Promise program for financial aid students attending the University of Hawai‘i, and HB 1887 would appropriate money for the purchase of laptop computers or tablets for digital learning by students. HB 1883 would create a two-year agricultural theft and vandalism pilot program in Hawai‘i County.

The State Budget HB 1900 was also adopted by the House. The supplemental budget bill, includes a number of items that will benefit Hawai‘i Island and our District. Based on discussions with Principal Dennis O’Brien who anticipates new residential development in the area, the House included \$1.8 million in planning money for a six-classroom building at De Silva Elementary School. It also includes \$2.4 million for Ha‘aheo Elementary School, for a classroom and library building that will be the first major construction on campus in decades. The Budget also appropriates \$1.5 million to fund a new cardiac care unit at Hilo Hospital that will allow for faster treatment of critical incidents on island in a more timely manner. Aloha,

Mark Nakashima

2018 BILL HIGHLIGHTS

Mahalo to everyone for your continued support through the years. With your help, I have been elected as Vice Speaker of the House of Representatives and now serve on the leadership team. This position allows me to have greater input on a wide variety of issues that are of importance to both the people of District 1 and of Hawai'i. The following are a few bills that I introduced this session that have been passed by the House and are now in the Senate for further consideration:

HB 1767 –RELATING TO MOTOR VEHICLES

This bill would require the use of low-gear four wheel drive vehicles while driving the Waipi'o Valley road below the lookout and at the Maunakea Science Reserve above

Hale Pōhaku. This is to address the growing number of visitors who are driving the road and creating traffic and safety issues for residents and people working in those areas. The bill also addresses unauthorized commercial tours that are being conducted in these areas.

HB 2073 RELATING TO URBAN REDEVELOPMENT

This bill would authorize a local redevelopment agency to contract with a developer for construction of non-residential uses on public land within a redevelopment area. It also exempts construction of works or improvements of a redevelopment project from General Excise and Use Taxes. In support of the County Redevelopment Board's work on Banyan Drive, this bill would allow a developer to have some tax and

rental incentives for a set number of years during construction.

HB 2074 - RELATING TO OFFENSES AGAINST PROPERTY RIGHTS

This bill would toughen sentencing for defendants convicted of committing an offense against a nonprofit entity under HRS Chapter 708. This bill arose from a constituent request to create greater penalties against persons who committed property crimes against nonprofits organizations such as churches or community organizations.

HB 2077 – RELATING TO EMPLOYEE TRAINING

This bill would establish the public employees training program to provide training to state employees. It allocates 1% of future collective bargaining increases to the program. There is a need for greater professionalism and accountability in government. As a teacher, I believe that proper accountability for government employees should be expected, however too often employee training is usually "on-the-job." Training is too often viewed as expendable when budget cuts are necessary, however this should be a mandatory function of any employer and the state must make a commitment to properly train our employees to do the job



HOSA (Health Occupation Students of America) at UH Hilo delegates at February 21-23 Statewide conference in Honolulu. L to R: Jeremy Villanueva, Lark Jason Canico, Kelly Gani, Rep. Mark Nakashima, Leslie Arce, Travis Taylor, Sheldon Cabudol, Deserie Pagatpatan.

for which they were hired.

HB 2080 – RELATING TO TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT

This bill would appropriate funds for grants to participants in software application Code Challenges — competitions where a department’s real-world problem is presented to a group of "techies" who are asked to come up with a solution or application to address it. These “proof of concept” solutions can then be developed into prototypes suitable for local and state government.

HB 2236 – RELATING TO GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

This bill would consolidate the regulation of cable TV and telecommunications carriers under one entity. Currently cable TV is overseen by the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs - Broadband Assistance Advisory Council (DCCA - BAAC) and telecommunications carriers by the Public Utilities Commission (PUC). This bill would establish the position of a Commissioner of Telecommunications in the Department of Business and Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT). It creates a special fund in DBEDT for cable TV and telecommunications carriers and requires the BAAC to advise the

Director of DBEDT on broadband deployment. Under a single regulator it is the bill's intent to create an economically competitive environment to encourage these companies to build out infrastructure instead of just fighting over market share in Honolulu.

HB 2277 – RELATING TO CHILD WELFARE SERVICES

This bill would establish the East Hawai‘i Child Welfare Services Section Pilot Project within the Department of Human Services to increase staff and reduce caseloads. Earlier this year, I was contacted by a constituent who expressed concern regarding the administration of child welfare services in East Hawai‘i. While all positions were filled, the case load that each case worker handled on Hawai‘i Island was compounded by the distance that a case worker would have to travel in a district running from Laupāhoehoe to Ka‘u. This bill would address these issues.

You may track these and other bills of interest at the legislative website www.capitol.hawaii.gov.

Should you wish to share your thoughts or concerns, please email repnakashima@capitol.hawaii.gov or call 974-4000 ext. 6-6680 or (808) 586-6680. Mahalo.

Mahalo nui loa to those of you who responded via email or post to my policy issue survey which was included in the last newsletter. The survey continues to be available online at <https://goo.gl/fd3Qa3> or you may write or call to request a hard copy be sent to you via mail. Your ongoing input and feedback on the issues that the Legislature address are important to me and I appreciate all of you who took the time to share your mana‘o.

COMING SOON!! FREE PRESCRIPTION DELIVERY TO HONOKA‘A

Honoka‘a residents will soon be able to have their prescriptions delivered to their homes for free, thanks to a program from the Hawai‘i Medical Service Association (HMSA) and CVS Health®, which does business in Hawai‘i as Longs Drugs. The program is open to HMSA members and the entire Honoka‘a community.

Call 808-885-4418 to request free prescription delivery. There is an authorization form that you will need to pick up, fill-out, sign, and return to Long's.

Deliveries will be made to Honoka‘a residents on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.

Order by noon for delivery between 1-5 p.m. on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.



Representative Mark Nakashima
415 S. Beretania Street, Room 404
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813



How to get **no-cost Rx delivery**:

- Call **808-885-4418** to request prescription delivery.
- Order by noon for delivery between 1-5 pm on Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

House Bill 1900 Proposed Budget Highlights

The House proposed budget HB1900 heads to the Senate Ways and Means (WAM) committee for its consideration. The state budget consists of two major funding allocations: Capitol Improvement Projects (build and maintain the state’s physical infrastructure; and operating funds (run or operate state programs and services).

| | |
|---|-------------|
| Department of the Attorney General for community protection and outreach in Hawai‘i County. | \$ 50,000 |
| Hilo Medical Center for the establishment of a cardiac care unit. | \$1,500,000 |
| Department of Land & Natural Resources to combat the spread of Rapid ‘Ōhi‘a Death on the Island of Hawai‘i . | \$ 800,000 |
| Department of Business Economic Development and Tourism for Elderly transportation services in underserved rural areas. | \$ 800,000 |
| De Silva Elementary School for the design of a six-classroom building. (CIP) | \$1,800,000 |
| Ha‘aheo Elementary School for the design of a multi-purpose building. (CIP) | \$2,400,000 |
| Kona International Airport at Keahole for design and construction for a new United States Department of Agriculture Agricultural Inspection Station and other related improvements. (CIP) | \$8,000,000 |



The Friends of the Library do a great job to support our public libraries.
 Mahalo!

