



2019 January & February E-Newsletter **January 2019**

2019 Lava Disaster Recovery Update- WITH REPRESENTATIVE JOY SAN BUENAVENTURA

Date: February 23rd, 2019

Time: 1-3 PM

Location: Pahoia Community Center– 15-3022 Kauhale Street

In addition to updates on Kilauea Lava Recovery efforts, we will also be presenting certificates honoring Ikaika Marzo, Pu’uhonua o Puna, and other organizations that went above and beyond to help the Puna community in our time of need.

2019 Opening Day

January 16th: *Opening Day when the 2019 Session filled with lively energy with many people performing, visiting the Hawaii State Capitol offices of senators and Representatives. To be a part of this special day has shown and reminded me of the duties as a representative to the constituents I serve.*



Starting off with a live performance within the House Chamber:



Onto the displays outside surrounded with live music and attractions to the public

Opening Day was a memorable day with familiar and new faces to see throughout this special day.

Friends, family and constituents all came to enjoy the day and talk story



Bills That I Will Be Introducing This Session

HB287: Vacant and Abandoned Homes– Requires counties to expedite demolition permits for vacant and abandoned homes.

HB1557: Squatter Prevention– Imposes fines on a homeowner, foreclosing party or prevailing purchaser in foreclosure auctions when a vacant residential property subject to foreclosure remains unoccupied during the foreclosure process.– and requires recovered fines to be spent on infrastructure in affected subdivision or district

HB1180: Lava Recovery– State budget; Disaster Relief– Appropriates funds for disaster relief, recovery, mitigation and remediation activities for the county of Hawaii.

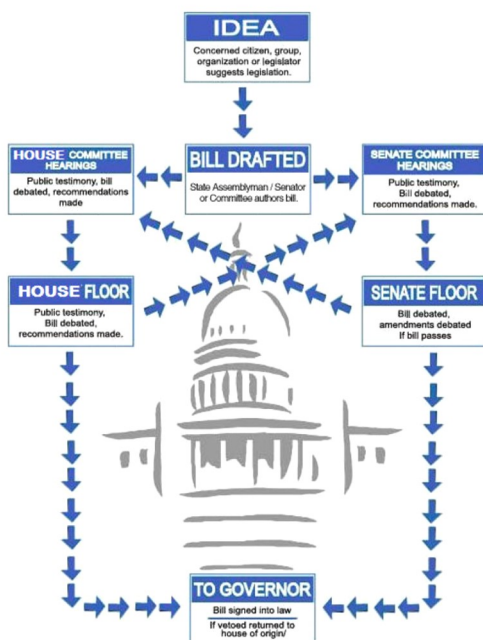
HB747: Disabled Persons; Employment- Establishes employment first as a state policy with respect to disabled persons. Applies employment first principles to Medicaid home– and community based waiver programs.

HB641: Puna; Boat Ramp– Makes an appropriation for a feasibility and cost study relating to the construction of a new boat ramp and pier in Puna

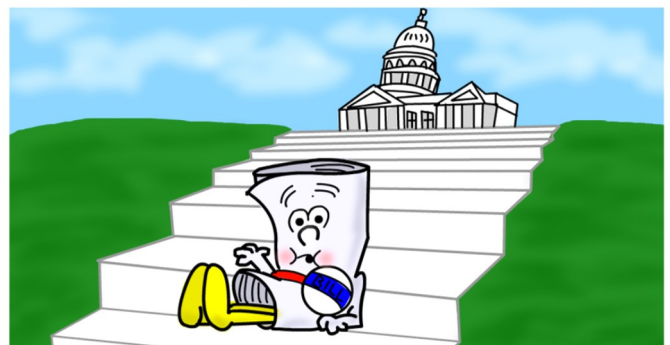
HB643: Homelessness; Appropriations– Appropriates funds to the outreach program, rapid-rehousing program, housing first program, family assessment centers, and coordinated homelessness initiative.

HB291: Marijuana; Legalization; Authorization– Authorizes the counties to adopt ordinances to legalize marijuana cultivation, possession, sale, transfer and use for people over twenty one.

The Legislative Process



From <http://www.legis.state.wi.us/assembly/asm58/news/Legislation.htm>



Homeless Summit III

When people think of homelessness in Hawaii; it's Kakaako, Chinatown and Downtown Oahu. As chair of Human Services and Homelessness, I will ensure that the people of Puna's voices will be heard. Homelessness is an issue that will take a while to solve, but based on testimonies, stories, and results from Homeless Summit III, I'm confident the situation will improve and that homelessness will decrease as we move on forward to a better future.



The 2018 Point in Time Count Information showed homelessness in Big Island has decreased significantly.

- IN 2017– 2018, homeless count decreased 8.8% from 953 to 869 homeless individuals.
- Housing Choice Voucher Section 8 Program: 45 homeless families secured affordable housing.
- The service agencies and County government made a concentrated effort to implement programs that had 234 individuals gaining permanent housing.



INTERIM SURVEY RESULTS:

- To help Puna Recovery, should government support a LAVA VIEWING SITE? Yes, Allow people to recover losses by making money off their land: 98, Yes, But only on non-residential sites: 0, No, Not culturally appropriate: 29, No, increased theft: 0, Other: 56.
- Should the government help displaced residents move from Lava Zone 1/ Lava Inundated Homes? Yes, By creating a subdivision and allowing a land swap: 168, Yes, Offering low interest loans: 188, Yes, Allowing permit exemptions/tax incentives to make rebuilding easier: 166, Yes, Other: 65, No: 31.
- Puna Geothermal Venture will take at least 18 months to reopen, should it decide to reopen. PGV, which supplied 30% of Big Island Power, has not considered if it will reopen. Do you support the reopening of PGV? Yes: 158, No: 121.
- Should Housing Micro Units be allowed to remain beyond emergency period? Yes, but on a case by case basis: 226, No, Section 8 or other rental subsidized programs should absorb homeless: 42, Other: 50.
- Pohoiki, which supplied over 25% of Big Island fish, has been closed. Department of Land and Natural Resources and its engineers will study where or if to retain the ramp. Should Puna have a small boat fishing? Yes: 262, No: 13, Other: 49.

Events In January:

With every new year, there are new events that happen that I am grateful to have been a part of and witness throughout this past month of January. These past events in January remind me of my duty to the constituents I serve and the reason as to why I became a representative in the first place. As the 2019 legislative session continues forward, there will be many more events that I will attend to ensure as the representative of Puna.



On PBS Insights discussing decriminalization of Cannabis.

To view this episode visit:

<https://www.pbshawaii.org/insights-on-pbs-hawaii-recreational-marijuana/>



WLC (Women’s Legislative Caucus) Meeting



Live at the Legislature with Carolyn Tanaka and Representative Takumi.

This episode will soon be available at:

<http://olelo.org/olelonet/>



Olelo Opening Day 2019 Interview.

To view this episode tune in on Feb. 12th 8:30am, Hawaiian Telcom Channel 1049 or visit:

http://olelo.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?view_id=78&clip_id=69761

Community Events

It's nearing the end of January, but there is much to do and many more events to attend to get out there and enjoy while there is time left!



Pau Hana Fridays at Hawaiian Acres Community Center

2:00 PM - 6:00 PM Feb 1, 2019



Pet Adoption Event

10:00 AM - 1:00 PM Feb 2, 2019

697 Manono St. Hilo, HI 96720

Hula for Seniors at the HPP Activity Center
9:30 AM Feb 5, 2019
 Location: 15-1570 Makuu Drive, Keaau, HI, USA

Support Group for people affected by the Lava Flow (Nanawale Long House)
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM Feb 6, 2019



Capoeira Angola, Music and Movement with Criss (Pahoa Community Center)

4:30 PM - 6:00 PM Feb 7, 2019

Capoeira Angola, Music and Movement with Criss

Thursdays, Pahoa Community Center

4:30 to 6pm, All Ages, All Levels, By Donation



Trails need your help!

The Na Ala Hele Trails and Access Program is looking for volunteers to assist us in our trail use survey project. We're trying to get a better idea of who and how many folks hike on our trails on Hawai'i Island. Times and locations are flexible to fit your schedule! Interested?

Volunteer Survey takers are needed at the following trail heads:

Pololū Trail

Muliwai (Waimanu) Trail

Ala Kahakai Trail at:

Spencer Beach Park

Mau'umae Beach

Hāpuna Beach

Puakō Boat Ramp

Puakea Bay

Pu'u Lā'au Road/R-1 (at Kilohana Hunter Checking Station)

Pu'u Huluhulu Loop Trails

Manukā Loop Trail

Onomea Trails

Kaūmana Trail

Kaulana Manu Nature Trail (formerly Kīpuka 21)

Puna Trail

Pu'u 'Ō'ō Trail

[If you are interested in volunteering, please contact: Jackson.m.bauer@hawaii.gov](mailto:Jackson.m.bauer@hawaii.gov)

Know The Staff That Works Behind the Scenes:

David K graduated from UH Manoa with a Bachelor's in Political Science. He's a former intern for Governor Ige and will utilize his experiences for his position as a Legislative Aide for this session.

John H joined my staff as a leg aide in 2017 and is now serving as my Office Manager. John enjoys working at the legislature and looks forward to another productive session.

Brandon G graduated from Virginia Tech with a degree in Political Science and was an Army Officer for eight years. He is joining the office as our Committee Clerk and will utilize his operational expertise to ensure a productive session.

Ashley S is a UH West Oahu intern currently working towards degrees in Justice Administration and Disaster Preparedness & Emergency Management. She is interested in learning more about the legislative process this session.

Kevin W is joining our office as an experienced legislative aide, analyst, and committee clerk. He is very excited to be a part of team San Buenaventura.



Front Row (Left to Right) John H, Office Manager; Kevin W, Committee Clerk.

Back Row (Left to Right) David K, Legislative Aide; Brandon G, Committee Clerk; Ashley S, Intern

If you have a community event that you want featured in our newsletter/e-newsletter, e-mail sanbuenaventura1@capitol.hawaii.gov. We will do our best to include it.

Thank you for subscribing to my E-Newsletter!

This allows me to send out more information about what's going on here at the State Legislature. If you know anyone who would be interested in receiving the E-Newsletter please have them contact my office at: sanbuenaventura1@capitol.hawaii.gov

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E-mail Address: repsanbuenaventura@capitol.hawaii.gov

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[Click here](#)

Chair: Human Services and Homelessness

Vice Chair: Judiciary

Contact Information: Hawaii State Capitol, Room 302, 415 South Beretania Street, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Telephone: (808) 586-6530

Neighbor Island Access dial 974-4000 then extension 66530#, after the recording.



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