

# 2022 Update



State Representative Gregg Takayama • District 34 • Pearl City • Waimalu • Pacific Palisades

ues to cope with the health and economic effects of COVID-19.

The contamination of water near the **Red Hill Fuel Storage Facility** is a major cause of concern. I've joined with other members of the State House in calling for the U.S. Navy to decommission the 80-year-old fuel tanks and to build a water treatment facility if needed.

As Chair of the House Committee on Higher Education and Technology, I've introduced measures to address the **shortage of health professionals** to help cope with the pandemic. My bills would add more University of Hawaii nursing instructors and increase opportunities for new physicians to obtain graduate medical training here.

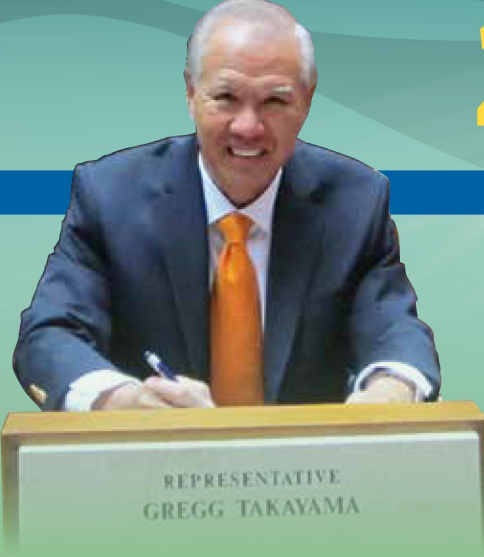
We need to find ways to reduce **illegal and hazardous fireworks**, which plague our community. I've proposed selective inspection of incoming cargo containers and will continue to support its passage.

This newsletter also describes new **improvements to our district schools** and bills passed last session.

As always, I welcome your suggestions and comments on issues.

Mahalo and best wishes for a great New Year!

Representative Gregg Takayama



January 2022

## Aloha Neighbors:

The year 2022 in the Chinese zodiac is the Year of the Tiger, which is associated with action and change. Both are needed as the Legislature opens our challenging new session and our community contin-

# 2021 Summary: Putting people first

Several measures introduced by Rep. Gregg Takayama in this past year's 2021 session were signed into law. Other important measures enacted into law passed through House Higher Education and Technology Committee, which he chairs, or were proposed by the Kupuna Caucus, of which he is a House co-leader.

## MEASURES PROPOSED BY REP. TAKAYAMA ENACTED INTO LAW

**Firearms safety.** Requires owners of firearms to keep them safely locked from access to young people under the age of 18, to reduce the risk of accidental and intentional shootings. **Act 148**

**On-line privacy.** Protects the privacy of students and employees by preventing schools and employers from requiring access to personal on-line internet accounts. **Act 39**

See **RECAP** on page 2



Gregg participated in Leeward Community Church's monthly food distribution to area families in August.



Pearl City Police Sgt. Kaipō Paiva and Gregg were among community sign wavers on October 28th urging motorists to drive safely on Komo Mai Drive.

# 2021 Legislative Summary

## SUMMARY from page 1

**Employee protection.** Prohibits an employer from punishing an employee who declines to download a tracking application to the employee's personal cellphone. **Act 26**

## HIGHER EDUCATION BILLS PASSES

**Physician workforce development.** Provides for medical student tuition re-

payment to physicians who agree to work in underserved areas. Funding is from current physician licensing fees. **Act 151**

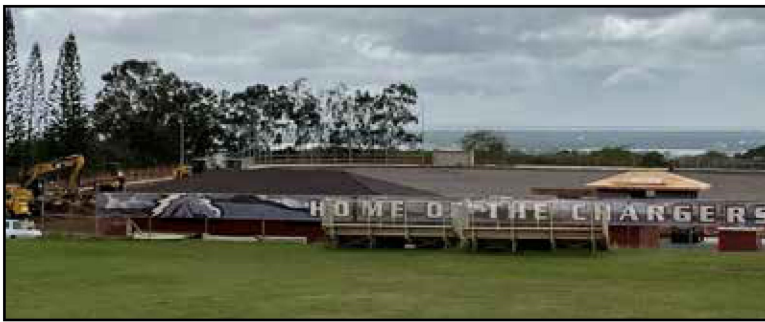
**Special education scholarships.** Authorizes UH scholarships to former special education students who have overcome their disabilities by achieving a 3.0 grade point average for at least two years from grades 7 through 12. **Act 156**

**UH Ching Field.** Provided \$5 million for

improvements to UH Manoa's Ching Field to accommodate 10,000 spectators for UH football games while a new Aloha Stadium is built.

## KUPUNA CRIME BILL PASSES

**Crimes against seniors.** Increases penalties against offenders for certain crimes in which the victim is elderly (over the age of 60), such as assault, theft and fraud. **Act 147**



Construction is progressing rapidly for Pearl City High School's new baseball and softball fields costing \$4.7 million.



**RIGHT** Lions Club members Cindy Aban and Gregg joined other volunteers for a trash pickup campaign along the Pearl City bike trail on October 21st.

**BELOW** UH President David Lassner shows Gregg drawings for a new privately-financed dormitory at UH Manoa opening next year that will house students planning business and technology careers.



In July Governor David Ige signed into law a measure proposed by Gregg to **improve gun safety** by requiring owners of firearms to keep them safely locked from access to young people under the age of 18.



Joined by fellow Rep. Roy Takumi and Pearl City Neighborhood Board Chair Larry Veray, Gregg helped advertise an October **COVID vaccination clinic** at Pearl City Community Church.



Expansion and renovation of the **Pearl City Library** is proposed by Gov. David Ige in his 2023 budget. The \$28 million proposal would include a new **Community Learning Center** for the public to access computers and meeting rooms, and be built on the vacant lot next to the Library.



A new \$2.3 million portable classroom for science and technology learning at **Momilani Elementary School** is nearing completion.

# New school improvements funded

Modernizing our schools and expanding opportunities for students are keys to success for our future generations. These are projects in District 34 funded by the Legislature.

## PEARL CITY HIGH SCHOOL

- \$1.6 million to renovate and equip a classroom for medical science education;
- \$950,000 for replacement of gym bleachers;

- \$600,000 for an outdoor stage and gathering place;
- Also, work has begun on a previously funded \$2.2 million project to renovate Building E to house an engineering academy and other programs.

## WAI'AU ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

- \$2.4 million for a covered walkway between buildings and other campus improvements;
- In progress are campus electrical upgrades costing \$2.2 million.

Other projects under way:

## HIGHLANDS INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

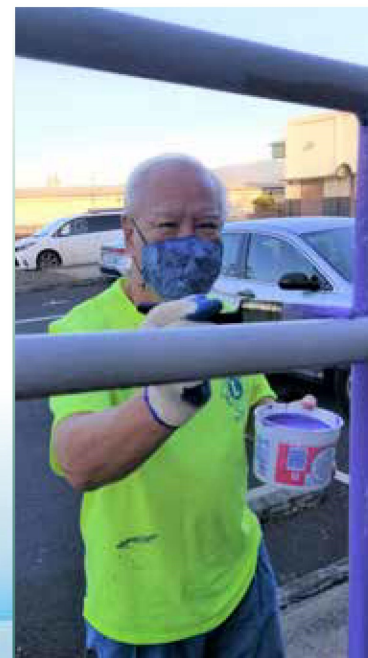
- \$5.5 million for school-wide electrical upgrades;
- Replacement of library air-conditioning and new ceiling fans on Building B classrooms costing \$279,000.

## PALISADES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

- Electrical system upgrades and outdoor lighting totaling \$594,000.



Pearl City High School students won two top awards in the **American Savings Bank KeikiCo** Contest and checks totaling \$30,000 for the School. First place went to Apex Engineering and the People's Choice award to Rocket Signals for their business plan videos.



Gregg was among **Lions Club members** helping paint Highlands Intermediate School's front railing Pearl City purple in April.



## Representative Gregg Takayama

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Pearl City High School students Mikaela Juvan and Madeline O'Sullivan helped Gregg distribute treats at Momilani Community Center's drive-through Halloween event on October 31st.



Gregg joined with other community volunteers for a cleanup of Sunset Memorial Cemetery on April 10.



Gregg painted a Pearl City High School courtyard bench as part of the back-to-school cleanup on September 4th.



**ABOVE** Enthusiastic Pearl City High School students, staff and Lions Club members took part in the September 4th back-to-school cleanup. **BELOW** Gregg joined with Pearl City area principals in congratulating Pearl City High School's Class of 2021 on graduation night May 19th at Aloha Stadium.

