



Hawaii State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813



**Representative
Justin H. Woodson**

Community

Homelessness

The homeless issue is an increasing concern for the community. I am happy to report, for the first time, there is increased coordination and collaboration amongst service providers, homeless centers, other non-profit organization, as well as county, state, and federal government entities. There is also new technology on the horizon that will greatly assist with these cooperative efforts.

Although we are very grateful for the work the service provider community does in addressing the issue, our goal is to revise the system to be more effective at reducing the numbers of homeless individuals and families.

We're aspiring to create a more effective system that can be replicated around the state. Currently, I am working with stakeholders to increase the capacity of our existing center coordination, we are requesting additional funds to provide the necessary support services that will ultimately allow individuals to transition out of homelessness. Some of the services include outreach to the homeless population to bring awareness to the added services, assistance with job placement, mental services for those in need, and transitional housing placement.

We are also working on plans to develop two new and innovative microunit projects on the center's property. These added units will mean more individuals and families can be serviced and get back on their feet. A microunit development can be done at one third the cost of traditional affordable housing. Therefore, if successfully built on budget, we can use the template to potentially build more much needed affordable housing at a faster rate for the larger Central Maui community.

2016 COMMUNITY FUNDING PROPOSALS

\$6.3 Million	Central Maui Regional Sports Complex -Highway Entrance
\$4 Million	Homeless Support Services
\$2 Million	Maui High School- Band/Choir Room
\$1.1 Million	Air Conditioning -Kahului Elementary -Lihikai Elementary -Maui Waena Intermediate -Maui High School
\$150,000	Kahului Harbor Bathroom
\$85,000	Kupuna Long-term Care Support

The most pronounced concern that has been brought to my attention regarding the new sports complex is the amount of traffic that will increase on Kamehameha Avenue as a result of its operation. This brings questions of safety and traffic congestion. Requesting and receiving funding for a main entrance point of Kuhihelani Highway will alleviate these concerns.

I have had the opportunity to meet with every Principal in the community regularly to ask what are the most pressing needs on their campus facilities and systematically request funding for the various request. The band room funding is currently the most outstanding request.

More wrap around services are needed to help individuals transition out of homelessness. I would continue to work with service providers in order to determine where additional funding is needed.

We must take care of our kupuna as they have taken care of us. This funding request and others will assist to supporting our treasures.

One of my greatest priorities is to help ensure that the Department of Education is delivering high quality education that is equitable and fair for all children. Our public education school system is critically important as it has a direct impact on how well our kids and our community will do in the future. I will continue to work with teachers, principals, community members, board members, and the DOE in this essential endeavor.

It's important to mention that since 2005 Hawaii has noticed a substantial increase in the proficiency of its students, relative to the national average, in Math and Reading. 2013 marked the peak of this increase, and in 2015 the NAEP study observed a slight decline from the 2013 NAEP findings. I believe this is due to the transition into new assessments which are internationally benchmarked.

Over the past decade our state has recognized a substantial increase in the proficiency of DOE students, but it's important that we ensure that the progression of our public education system continues unabated. One new initiative is the upcoming Student Information System, which will make it so communication between teachers is easier. Alternately the ESIS will also ultimately provide an easier resource to keep track of your child's educational progress.

Heat Abatement

Last year we heard numerous complaints from schools throughout the state about the extreme temperatures of their classrooms. The combination of record high temperatures with a lack of Air Conditioners and trade winds, led schools to report classrooms operating at temperatures as high as 108°F. In the most extreme cases, teachers even reported students fainting in their classrooms. The DOE then announced that they would reduce their classrooms to a goal temperature of: 76°F. In order to determine the feasibility of achieving their goal temperatures, the DOE sought the efforts of the consulting firm MKThink. After further evaluation, the DOE estimated that it would cost \$1.7 billion

to make the infrastructural changes necessary to achieve their goal classroom temperatures.

I am currently working directly with the DOE to find alternative and less cost prohibitive solutions to Heat Abatement in our public schools. I have spoken with each principal and numerous teachers of the schools in the community, the BOE members specific to Maui, and community members about the prospect of utilizing a creative solution to combat the excessive heat that was recently experienced in our classrooms. We are looking into closed circuit system Air Conditioning (AC) units that are attached to Photovoltaic (PV) and battery storage technology for every classroom that currently doesn't have AC. The new equipment would not require, new insulation, new and upgraded wiring, new windows, and would not add to current energy costs. These components are all needed for traditional AC units. Utilizing this alternative, we can incorporate AC units in all the classes quickly, efficiently, and at less cost than what is currently being discussed. I will work with my colleagues to bring this project to fruition community wide.



Representative Justin H. Woodson and former Senator Joe Tanka.



Representative Justin H. Woodson and the members of the House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce (CPC).

HC&S Shut Down

Early in January, Alexander & Baldwin (A&B) announced that it would be ceasing operations at Hawaiian Commercial & Sugar Company (HC&S), the last major sugar plantation in the state. HC&S was one of the largest private employers on the island of Maui. A&B has announced that their last sugar harvest will happen at the end of this year, and that they will begin the processes of reducing their workforce in May.

When I think about the 675 plus employees and their families, I am saddened by the impact this decision will have on all of their lives. Our focus will now be on helping these employees through the transition and securing good paying jobs. In addition, we want to ensure that the 36,000 acreage that was dedicated to the production of sugar remains green and in productive agriculture.

If there are any individuals who are currently struggling to find jobs as a result of this news, please feel to reach out to me and my office.

Governor Ige has also initiated Rapid Response Teams from the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR) to be deployed to assist displaced workers with unemployment compensation, career transition, training for new jobs and job placement. The DLIR will also work with the International Longshore and Warehouse Union (ILWU) on other transitional aspects.

For more information on the DLIR visit: <http://labor.hawaii.gov/>
Or call: (808) 984-2072.

Maui Mayor Alan Arakawa has also created a working group in which I will be actively participating. The goal of this working group will be job placement and or retooling of skillsets.



Enterprise Zones

I am working to create a resolution promoting Enterprise Zones (EZs) in Central Maui. EZs are areas in which businesses receive government incentives such as: tax credits, tax concessions or subsidization. When our local companies choose to shut down, or to relocate their offices, it results in a rise in the observed unemployment rate of our community.

By establishing EZs in our district we can further support our local business owners and encourage more entrepreneurs to take on the challenge of starting a new business; both of which mean more good paying jobs for the members of our community.

Motion Picture Income Tax Credit

With the successful implementation of the Film and Digital Media Industry Development Act 89 (2013 Legislative Session), I am now seeking to ensure that there are more hires for Maui residents. This measure will help diversify our local economy by providing new jobs for community members. HB2610 requires a film production to make reasonable efforts to hire at least sixty percent of the production's crew from the county in which the film's qualified costs are incurred.

Legislation

HB2507

**Photovoltaic Storage Batteries;
Electric Vehicle Storage Batteries**

Establishes refundable income tax credits for the development and manufacturing of photovoltaic storage batteries and electric vehicle storage batteries.

HB2508

Financial Institutions; Community State Bank

Establishes the community state bank. Directs the bank to offer low-interest small loans to only individuals who do not otherwise qualify for financing at traditional lending institutions and requires those individuals to receive financial literacy.

HB2509

**Volunteer Investigators;
Public Works Projects**

Allows the DLIR to train and deputize volunteer to investigate public work projects. Requires the DLIR to submit reports.

HB2510

Housing Vouchers; Classroom Teachers

Authorizes the HHFDC to establish a housing voucher program for full-time classroom teachers employed by the DOE.

HB2511

Energy Storage

Creates an energy storage income tax credit.

HB2609

Drug Offenders

Mandates the enrollment of certain drug offenders into the Judiciary's substance abuse treatment program.

HB2611

Renewable Fuels Production; Feedstock

Establishes a tax credit for the production of fuel-grade renewable fuels using renewable feedstocks originating in Hawaii.

HB2610

Motion Picture Income Tax Credit

Requires film productions to hire at least sixty percent of the production's crew from the county in which the film's qualified costs are incurred. Requires a taxpayer claiming a motion picture income tax credit to verify the county of residency of local hires.

HB2612

CIP; 9th Representative District

Appropriates funds for capital improvement projects for the ninth representative district.



United States Congressman Mark Takai and Representative Justin H. Woodson.



Aloha!

Welcome to the 2016 Legislative Session

Hawaii's 2016 State Legislative Session is underway! I am honored that you have chosen me to serve you. I want to assure you that I take this responsibility very seriously.

This year, I am again the Vice Chair of the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce (CPC). I am also a member of the House Committees on: Agriculture (AGR), Economic Development & Business (EDB), Tourism (TOU), and Veterans, Military, & International Affairs, & Culture and the Arts (VMI).

I am humbled and grateful for the opportunity to represent our community.

If you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions, please don't hesitate to contact me or my staff. We are more than happy to assist you.

Mahalo nui loa,



Representative Justin H. Woodson

BUDGET ACCOMPLISHMENTS

\$300 Million	Kahului Airport Rental Facility
\$7.5 Million	Kahului Airport - Restrooms
\$9.7 Million	Central Maui Regional Sports Complex
\$5 Million	Central Maui Park - Rennovations
\$2 Million	Raceway Park - Rennovations
\$4.5 Million	Maui High School - Band/Choir Room
\$3 Million	Maui High School - Wrestling Room
\$215,000	Maui High School - Gymnasium Floor
\$2.25 Million	J. Walter Cameron Center
\$2 Million	Maui Family YMCA
\$927,532	Maui Family Support Services, Inc.
\$500,000	Ka Lima o Maui
\$210,000	Hale Mahaolu
\$175,000	Child & Family Service
\$125,000	Hui Malama Learning Center
\$550,000	Maui Economic Development Board
\$140,000	Maui Economic Opportunity
\$10 Million	Widening of Pu'unēnē Avenue



Representative Justin H. Woodson and Maui County Council Chair Mike White meeting to discuss upcoming legislation.



Representative Justin H. Woodson and Governor David Ige at the State Legislature's Opening Day Ceremony.