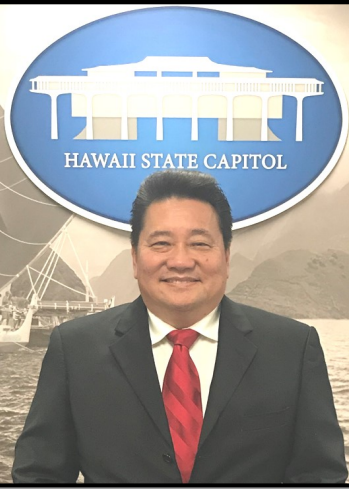


# TOWN & UPCOUNTRY UPDATE

2018 Legislative Session



REPRESENTATIVE

## KYLE YAMASHITA

Dear Neighbors,

We are nearing the end of the 2018 session and legislators are very busy with conference committee meetings.

We were able to address many important issues such as affordable housing, homelessness, Front Street apartments, car rental surcharge, and a ban on oxybenzone and octinoxate in sunscreen.

Look forward to our final session newsletter in late May.

Aloha,

Please assist us in our initiative to 'GO GREEN,' and send us your email address to receive newsletters by email. Call(808) 586-6330 or [repyamata@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:repyamata@capitol.hawaii.gov)



## Moving The Cesspool Agenda Forward

The 2018 Legislature has passed **SB2567 SD2 HD2 CD1**, RELATING TO CESSPOOLS.

This bill establishes a Cesspool Conversion Working Group within the Department of Health to develop a comprehensive plan for the conversion of all statewide cesspools by 2050.

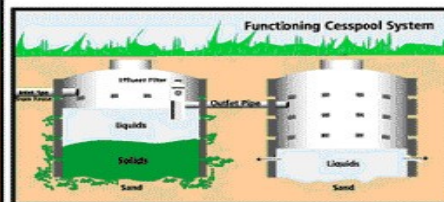
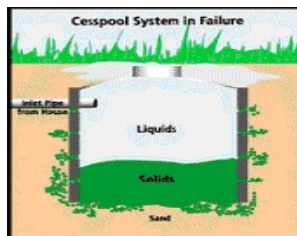
The bill also appropriates funding to the Department of Health for the Cesspool Conversion Working Group and to the University of Hawaii for a comprehensive statewide study of sewage contamination in nearshore marine areas.

The Director of Health or the director's designee shall serve as chairperson to the working group. The bill mandates the selection of the working group.

Part of the working group's responsibilities are to:

- Identify physical, practical, and financial impediments that may be encountered by land owners who are required to connect pre-existing cesspools to a sewer system or convert cesspools to an individual waste treatment system and recommend solutions to those impediments;
- Examine financing issues and the feasibility of various mechanisms to accomplish and fund cesspool conversions;
- Consider alternative wastewater equipment and technologies appropriate to the various areas where cesspools are located that may better protect the environment at lower costs.
- Submit an interim report of its findings and recommendations, including proposed legislation, to the legislature no later than December 31, 2019;
- Submit a final report twenty days prior to the convening of the 2021 session;

The effective date is on July 1, 2018.



## Updates to Rat Lungworm

In 2017, the legislature appropriated money over a two-year period to support the Department of Health's (DOH) education and response efforts to better control and reduce the risk of rat lungworm disease statewide.

The DOH recently released a detailed report on strategies and tactics implemented over the last year. Highlights of the report include:

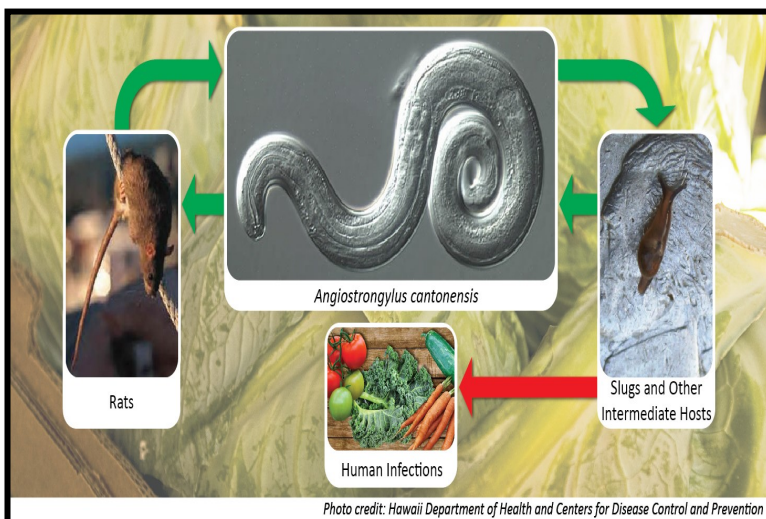
- Mass public education initiatives and targeted outreach.
- Description of partnerships formed to augment the impact of food safety and prevention messaging.
- Upcoming planned activities, including an epidemiological population survey
- Forthcoming public communication plans to better reach and educate people so they may protect themselves and their families from rat lungworm disease.

The DOH continues to work with the University of Hawaii to conduct primary scientific research to learn more about this devastating disease.

We can all do our part to eliminate the risks of rat lungworm disease. This is a statewide problem and we need to do our part to prevent infection.

Primarily, we need to wash all produce under clean, running water.

Look around your homes, gardens and farms and control rats, slugs and snails especially during the rainy season.



*Rat Lungworm cycle*

- Carefully wash all produce under clean, running water, especially leafy greens.
- Cook food thoroughly (**boil 3-5 minutes or heat to 165° F for 15 seconds**).
- Cover water catchment tanks and inspect them regularly.
- Don't drink from the garden hose.



# Photo Journal

## 2018 Legislative Session





**Representative Kyle Yamashita**

Hawaii State Capitol  
415 S. Beretania Street, Room 422  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813  
(808) 586-6330



Please assist us in our initiative to inform you on events. Send us your email address to receive date alerts by email.

[repyamashita@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:repyamashita@capitol.hawaii.gov)

# School Events



## May Day Programs

**Friday, May 11th at 8:30 a.m.**

Kula Elementary School

**Wednesday, May 23rd at 8:30 a.m.**

Pukalani Elementary School

**Friday, May 25th at 8:30 a.m.**

Makawao Elementary School

## Graduation

**Sunday, May 20th at 11:30 a.m.**

Aha Hemo Kula Hawaiian Immersion at

King Kekaulike High School Gym

**Thursday, May 24th at 5:00 p.m.**

King Kekaulike High School

on campus

