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LEGISLATIVE REPORT

*Serving Hawaii's
Senate District 12*

*Encompassing the
following communities:*

*Palama
~
Downtown
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Chinatown
~
Kaka`ako
~
Ala Moana
~
Waikiki*

It was a widely held belief that this past Legislative Session would be a difficult one. And that belief was well founded. Beginning with the scaled back opening, the atmosphere was set to get straight to business from day one. The number one priority - the budget; which tied directly to another concern of preeminence – education.

The work on the year-two supplemental budget was arduous. We heard from the administration, each of the various state agencies, from non-profits, from business owners, from furlough-affected employees, and every other group you could imagine. Some advocated an increase in the GET while others rejected that notion summarily. What ultimately occurred was a more staid and balanced approach which incorporated a downsizing in government coupled with some income generating measures – no GET increase. We also passed some major pieces to strengthen and improve our education system and provide a path to eliminating the disastrous furloughs of our public school students. Here is a sampling of some of the major legislation. A comprehensive wrap-up edition of the newsletter will be provided at next month's meeting.

EDUCATION:

• **SB2124 – RESTORATION OF INSTRUCTION DAYS** - Appropriates funds (\$67 million) from the Hawaii Hurricane Relief Fund to restore instructional days for the 2010-2011 school year; moneys shall only be released upon completion of negotiations of relevant parties.

• **HB2376 – BOARD OF EDUCATION** - Amends the Hawaii Constitution to change the Board of Education to a board appointed by the Governor, with the advice and consent of the Senate, as provided by law (put to voters).

• **SB2486 – MINIMUM INSTRUCTION DAYS/HOURS** - Requires the phasing in of implementation of a certain number of student instructional hours at public schools (minimum 180 school days).

• **HB2377 – Board of Education; Appointment; Selection Advisory Council** - Requires the members of the Board of Education to be nominated and, with the advice and consent of the Senate, appointed by the Governor from lists of qualified candidates presented to the Governor by the Board of Education Selection Advisory Council.

BUDGET:

• **HB2200 – STATE BUDGET** - To adjust and request appropriations for Fiscal Biennium '09-'11 funding requirements for operations and capital improvement projects.

• **SB2469 – EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND** - Appropriates moneys (\$24,516,636) from the emergency and budget reserve fund to maintain levels of programs for education, human services and health.

• **SCR18 – INVESTIGATION/LEGAL ACTION/AUCTION RATE SECURITIES** – Establishing a joint legislative investigating committee to oversee the investigation of the Dept. of Budget and Finance's handling of the State's investment in student loan auction rate securities.

• **HB1948 – INCOME TAX REFUND** - Requires the Dept. of Taxation to provide refunds to taxpayers within 90 days of the filing of the return

• **HB2421 – FOOD & ENERGY SECURITY:** Establishes initiatives to promote economic development for local food and energy businesses, and provides credit of the general fund



CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS TO BE FUNDED 2010-2011

DOWNTOWN



The budget passed final reading in both the House and Senate on Tuesday, April 27. As a result, these are some of the projects we can expect to see commenced in our community.

TITLE	DESCRIPTION	\$ AMOUNT (FY 2010)	\$ AMOUNT (FY 2011)
McKINLEY HIGH SCHOOL	Design for the renovation of building W	\$700,000	
CENTRAL MIDDLE SCHOOL	Design and construction to enclose pedestrian overpass connecting the mauka and makai campuses	\$195,000	
CENTRAL MIDDLE SCHOOL	Plans and Design for structural repairs and restoration of buildings A, B and C due to termite damage		\$200,000
JEFFERSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	Construction to reroof the cafeteria building		\$250,000
JEFFERSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	Construction to reroof Building H		\$100,000
KAIULANI ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	Design and construction for electrical upgrade of the entire school	\$465,000	
WAIKIKI COMMUNITY CENTER	Construction for electrical improvement	\$226,000	
WAIKIKI COMMUNITY CENTER	Construction for re-roof repair, gutter replacement and installation and painting of three complex buildings.		\$230,000
FRIENDS OF IOLANI PALACE	Design, construction and equipment of hurricane protection systems, repair and refinish complex facilities	\$400,000	
PIERS 19-35, HONOLULU HARBOR	Construction for improvements to pier areas (Qualifies for Federal \$)	\$30,200,000	
CULTURAL PUBLIC MARKET	Plans, design and construction of the Kewalo Keiki Fishing Conservancy	\$2,301,000	
KAKA'AKO RENTAL APARTMENT COMPLEX	Land acquisition for a 235 unit rental complex facility in Kaka'ako	\$6,500,000	
WAIKIKI BEACH	Plans, design and construction for beach improvements – sand replenishment	\$7,500,000	
CATHEDRAL OF ST. ANDREW	Construction for restoration of Davies Hall (phase I)		\$500,000
HAWAII THEATER CENTER	Design and construction for energy efficiency retrofitting		\$200,000

CHINA TOWN



KAKA'AKO/ALA MOANA



WAIKIKI



PALAMA



WHAT A DIVERSE COMMUNITY!

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