

Athletic Success in our Community

"Everyone has the desire to win, but only champions have the desire to prepare."

State Wrestling Champions

Congratulations to **Bill Takeuchi** and **Tyler Lauifi** of Pearl City High School for capturing the Boys State High School Wrestling Championship in their respective weight divisions. Also making it to the championship game were **Scott Sua-paia**, **Dallas Collier**, and **Ray Mathewson** of Aiea High School.

OIA Red West All-Stars Girls Soccer

The Pearl City High School Charges Girls' soccer team accomplished much during the recently completed season and has been rewarded by having their co-head coaches named as OIA Red West Coaches of the Year as well as having eight of the players named as All-Stars. Chosen by their fellow coaches for the honor, **Frank Baumholtz III** and **Tracee Kono** led Chargers to their first Conference championship since 2001.

OIA West All-Stars Boys Soccer

Selected for recognition was Aiea High School's **Jon Shirafuji** as Coach of the Year for the Boy's Soccer Program and Pearl City High's **Cameron Dela Cruz** as Player of the Year, along with teammates **Chase Pacupac** and **Cheuk Ho** who were named for First Team honors. Aiea had a total of eight players named: **Mason Puckett**, First team; **Jaren Iwane**, **Ricky Itagaki** and **Scott Kawamura**, Second team; and **Sean Chang**, **Dylan Daguay**, **Alek Biggs**, and **Andrew Frazier**, Honorable Mention.

The coaches of the league also selected Pearl City's **Amy Tanaka** as the Player of the Year along with **Meghan Fuller** and **Kaitlyn Holt** for First team honors; **Tricia Miura** and **Chloe Maeshior** Second Team; and **Bethany Gallarde**, **Jullian Seminara**, **Tami Hashimoto** and **Myra Yamamoto** Honorable Mention.

The Aiea Alii Girls' Soccer Team also were Honored by having eight of their players named: **Jacquie Watkins** and **Kori Nishhi**, First Team; **Leah Peters-Valdez**, Second team; and **Liane Chang-Remular**, **Natalie Fukuhara**, **Marissa Fukuhara**, **Brianan DeGuzman**, and **Kalei Fontanilla**.....

Office of Senator David Y. Ige

• Representing Aiea, Aiea Heights, Momilani, Newtown, Pacific Palisades, Pearl City, Upper Pearlridge, Waiau and Waimalu

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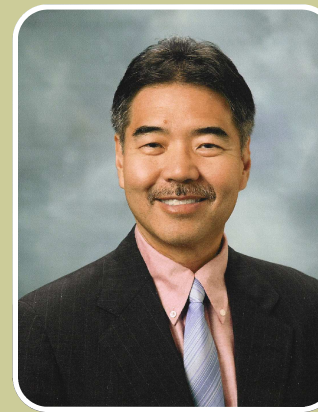
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DavidIge.org!



Welcome to the second issue of the
Capitol Connection
newsletter!

Aloha,

As we enter spring, my fellow legislators and I are gearing up for an important time during the legislative session. We have about one month left, which means that the legislative conference committees will soon commence.

I want to encourage all of you to continue to keep in touch by emailing your questions and concerns, and invite you to participate in the legislative process.

Mahalo,

David Y. Ige
State Senator
16th District

Capitol Connection

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- Bills of Interest -

As the 2008 Legislation session enters prime time, bills that were introduced in the Senate and House have now crossed-over to the opposite legislative bodies and corresponding committees. Senator Ige's role as the Chair of the Senate Health Committee reflect the content of the bills that are of interest to the Senate. Senator Ige has also listened to the concerns of residents within the 16th Senatorial District and introduced bills that address the issue of cyber crimes in Hawaii. Below are a few of the bills that are currently making their way through the legislation process.

HB7 HD1

Relating to the I-SaveRx Prescription Drug Program.

The bill would direct the Governor to establish the State of Hawaii participation in the I-SaveRx prescription drug program to provide residents with increased access to affordable drugs. The bill is in the senate and is currently waiting to be heard by the Commerce, Consumer Protection and Affordable Housing Committee.

HB 2519 HD2 SD1

Relating to Health Care

The bill which was introduced in the House would establish the Hawaii health corps task force to study the feasibility of loan repayment and stipend programs for physicians and dentists who agree to work in the health professional shortage areas and as first responders during civil defense and other emergencies. The bill would also examine the feasibility of expanding the enterprise zone business tax credit, general excise tax exemption, and other tax incentives to include physicians and dentists who establish or maintain practices in areas designated as enterprise zones. The bill is currently in the Senate and is waiting to be heard by the Ways and Means committee.

SB 2535 SD 1:

Relating to the Trauma System Special Fund

The bill which was introduced and passed by the Senate health committee is now in the House and currently waiting to be heard by the assigned committees. The bill would establish additional funding mechanisms for the trauma system special fund. These mechanisms included surcharges for traffic violations, crimes of violence, and for accidents involving death or serious bodily injury to name a few. The surcharges would add to the trauma system special fund, which is in desperate need of expansion in Hawaii.

SCR 177 / SR100

Relating to Cyber Crimes

After a recent Aiea / Pearl City town meeting, Senator Ige has requested that both Senate Concurrent Resolutions and Senate Resolutions be heard by the committees on Economic Development and Taxation and Judiciary and Labor. The measure requests that the Attorney General examine the prevalence of electronic threats to harass and threaten others. After a town meeting, last month, members of the community spoke out about their concern of the growing threat of online predators. These measures would allow the Attorney General to examine cyber crime within the State of Hawaii.

For more information regarding these bills of interest and others we are tracking, please visit : **DavidIge.org**



Senate Health Committee Public Informational Briefings

To encourage and share information with the public and key organizations, the Senate Health Committee, chaired by Senator David Ige, held several public Informational Briefings. These briefings are meant to educate the general public and Senators on issues that directly impact the specific committees, as well as to provide legislators with some insight on future bills and measures that are being addressed during the session.

Hawaii is at the forefront of integrating traditional medical practices with that of complimentary/alternative wellness practices, according to Dr. Terry Shintani of the Hawaii Health Foundation. He reported on how changes in one's health, diet, exercise and simple lifestyle habits can be effective in combating chronic disease. Dr. Shintani's research has been included in national forums and medical studies. His patients include those who have had significant reductions in cholesterol levels, blood pressure, and diabetes.



Leaders of Hawaii's growing medical technology field also briefed Senators and the public on the latest ways in which technology is helping make healthcare more efficient for physicians, community health centers, hospitals, pharmacies, health plans and, most importantly, patients.

They discussed projects ranging from the Holomua Project, which is committed to

improving healthcare for vulnerable patient populations as they move between facilities, to TeamPraxis, a local tech company who recently raised \$20 million to strengthen its ability to develop clinical software solutions and create more tech jobs in Hawaii.

Georgiana Fujita, Senior Vice President of HMSA, also presented information on the steps HMSA is taking to update its E-Prescribing program and the importance of Telemedicine services. HMSA is embarking on an initiative for innovation and quality for both hospitals and physicians to adopt electronic medical records.

The briefing was organized by Susan Forbes, President and CEO of the Hawaii Health Information Corporation. Forbes worked hard to gather guest speakers from the various organizations in health sectors as well as the material that was presented in the informational meeting.

Town Meeting

The next town meeting will be held on May 21 at the Pearl Ridge Elementary School Cafeteria. The meeting begins at 7:00 pm and legislators will be on hand to discuss disaster preparedness.

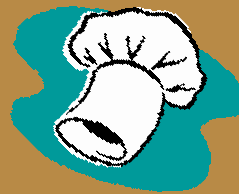
Capitol Cooking Corner

The capitol cooking corner will feature a recipe from a member of Senator Ige's staff. This month office receptionist Joyce Morita, shares her recipe for "Aunty Joyce's Banana Bread".

Ingredients :

- 1 cup butter (2 blocks)
- 2 cups sugar
- 2 1/2 cups flour
- 2 teaspoons baking soda
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 8 mashed bananas
- 4 eggs
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 1/4 cup sour cream or yogurt (optional)
- 1 small can crushed pineapple (optional)

1. Cream butter and sugar by hand
2. Add eggs one at a time and beat well
3. Add mashed bananas, sour cream, vanilla and crushed pineapple
4. Add dry ingredients
5. Bake at 350 degrees for 45 to 60 minutes



The Neighborhood Connection

Aiea / Pearl City Town Meeting News

Meeting attracts residents concerned with traffic

Traffic... at some point we've all found ourselves stuck in bumper to bumper traffic whether it is near our home on Kamehameha Highway or on the H1 freeway. On Wednesday, March 12, members of the Hawaii State Legislature along with Brennon Morioka, Director of Transportation from the State Department of Transportation and Wayne Yoshioka, Director of Transportation Services from the City and County of Honolulu, met with Aiea and Pearl City residents to discuss the issues concerning the traffic problems within the area. The major theme of the evening concerned the traffic situation in and around the Central Area and the



Kamehameha Highway Improvement Project. The City's plan for a mass transit rail system in Honolulu was also briefly discussed. Both Morioka and Yoshioka addressed the concerns of residents and provided handouts explaining both projects.

The Kamehameha Highway Improvement Project addresses the issues raised by the community to make safety, traffic and aesthetic improvements within this corridor. The project was broken up into four major themes, addressing the areas of traffic congestion, safety aspects, aesthetic views and recognizing the cultural and historical content of the area. To combat the problem of traffic congestion, the state plans to implement new hardware and software to improve the traffic signal coordination and timing throughout the corridor to reduce congestion during peak travel hours. The median that line Kamehameha Highway will also see improvements as fences will be posted along the median to prevent pedestrians from crossing the busy streets. The fences will also be decorated in various visual motifs that will include visual images of Hawaiian and cultural patterns. All improvements to the roadway will also reflect the cultural values of the communities' agricultural history in the area.

One of the most important improvements that the Kamehameha Highway Improvements Project looks to address is the safety of pedestrians in the area. Pedestrian countdown signals are being installed at each intersection from Acacia Road (Home Depot) to Center Drive (Hickam Air Force Base) to help make crosswalks safer for the many in the area that use walking as a means of travel. Through data collection, efforts will be made to improve pedestrian signal timing. Also, installation of median fencing that will prohibit pedestrians from jay-walking across the busy highway and will encourage walkers to use the marked cross walks.

For more information about the improvements to Kamehameha Highway, log onto www.Kamehamehahighwayimprovements.org, and for dates and information on the city's proposed rail system, visit www.honolulustransit.org.



Sen. Ige speaks with concerned residents about the traffic situation in the Aiea/Pearl Ridge Area.

Kamehameha Highway Improvement Projects

- Signal Improvements: Hekaha St.
- Signal Improvements: Kaahumanu St.
- Monitoring and Signal Operation Improvements
- Median Fencing
- Signal Optimization

Additional information regarding this town meeting, including photos and copies of some of the pamphlets, are available at DavidIge.org.