

SENATOR DONNA MERCADO KIM

PROUDLY SERVING
DISTRICT 14

KAPALAMA • 'ALEWA • KALIHI VALLEY • FT. SHAFTER • RED HILL • MOANALUA GARDENS & VALLEY
PORTIONS OF HALAWA & 'AIEA



GOVERNOR MODIFIES CORONAVIRUS RELIEF BILL WITH LINE-ITEM VETOS

Last month, Governor Ige announced his intent to sign SB126 SD1 HD1 CD1 – the state budget and coronavirus relief bill – with eight line-item vetoes. According to the governor, the administration is waiting for Congress to appropriate additional COVID-19 funding to receive clarity on what can or should be done to support new programs established by CARES Act funding.

The line item vetoes for SB126 SD1 HD1 CD1 include:

- ⇒ Reduced from \$90M to \$70M, the appropriation for airport screening and health assurance security initiatives;
- ⇒ Reduced from \$230M to 0, the appropriation to provide an additional weekly unemployment benefit of \$100 per week to state eligible recipients;
- ⇒ Reduced from \$100M to \$50M, the appropriation for housing and rental assistance and administrative costs related to the housing relief and resiliency program;
- ⇒ Reduced from \$100M to \$61M, the appropriation to purchase and distribute personal protective equipment (PPE) to hospitals, childcare facilities, elderly care facilities, businesses, non-profits, and schools;
- ⇒ Reduced from \$36M to \$10M, the appropriation for retraining and workforce development programs;
- ⇒ Reduced from \$15M to \$10M, the appropriation to support emerging industries to create a supply chain for cleaning supplies and PPE;
- ⇒ Reduced from \$2M to \$1M, the appropriation for a public-private partnership (PPP) to provide support to public high school seniors who were adversely affected by school closures in their final semester of school; and
- ⇒ Reduced from \$1,080,000,605 to \$648M, the appropriation from the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund for deposit into the general fund.

Leaders from the Senate and the House have been meeting to discuss if a special session is necessary to override the governor's veto. Stay tuned for more details.

"ACT WITH CARE: DO NOT GATHER" ORDER

Yesterday, the Governor and Mayor announced "Act Now Honolulu - No Social Gathering" Order, which goes into effect today, August 19, 2020, at 12 a.m. for 28 days (or two 14-day incubation periods). This Order is issued to further address the resurgence of the community spread of the COVID-19 virus on O'ahu due in large part to residents attending large gatherings in uncontrolled environments.

Here is a breakdown of the new rules:

- * If individuals can work from home, then it is highly encouraged to work from home
- * Businesses are asked to reduce the number of employees in offices on a daily basis, or stagger work schedules to reduce the number of employees in a facility at one time
- * No social gatherings indoors nor outdoors, whether in private or public settings - no parties larger than 5
- * No groups larger than 5 are allowed at:
 - ◆ Restaurants (5 per table)
 - ◆ Outdoor attractions that remain open such as Sea Life Park, zoos, and water parks
 - ◆ Commercial and recreational boating
 - ◆ Workplace gatherings and common areas
 - ◆ Museums
 - ◆ Movie theaters
- * Face coverings are required at shopping malls (both indoor and outdoor)
- * Face coverings are required for spiritual/worship services at all times, with no singing nor playing of wind instruments allowed



Rules that are continuing include:

- * Beaches remain closed and no activities will be allowed on the beach unless to get to the water for ocean activities only (i.e. surfing, solo paddling, swimming, and fishing).
- * All City Parks, recreational facilities within parks, and State Parks and their parking lots located on Oahu remain closed. This includes: swimming pools, tennis courts, basketball courts, playgrounds, hiking trails, campgrounds, and botanical gardens
- * City pools and pools at private clubs, along with tennis clubs remain closed
- * Golf courses will remain open, but limited to Phase One procedures. Mini-golf facilities remain closed
- * All team sports in all parks remain suspended
- * Bars remain closed
- * All bowling alleys and arcades remain closed
- * Gyms and fitness centers will be allowed to remain open, however all group classes are prohibited.

Again, restaurants, retail, spiritual services, offices, fitness centers, personal services, child care, education, health care, auto dealerships and real estate remain open within these limits.

PARTIAL INTER-ISLAND TRAVEL QUARANTINE REINSTATED



The Governor announced a new inter-island quarantine rule, but it will not apply to all travelers like before. This new order went into effect August 11th and will continue through August 31. The new order requires anyone arriving by air into the counties of Kaua'i, Hawai'i, Maui and Kalawao to quarantine for 14 days or the duration of the person's stay, whichever is shorter. That means neighbor island travelers headed to Oahu will be exempt, but those traveling from one neighbor island to another will have to quarantine.

YOU ARE REQUIRED TO QUARANTINE IF:

- ⇒ You are going from Oahu to Big Island
- ⇒ You are going from Maui to Kauai

YOU ARE NOT REQUIRED TO QUARANTINE IF:

- ⇒ You are going from Big Island to Oahu
- ⇒ You are going from Kauai to Oahu

\$600 PLUS-UP FEDERAL UNEMPLOYMENT MONEY

Our office received several inquiries from claimants receiving unemployment insurance payments but did not receive the additional \$600 for the week of July 26-31, 2020. People are concerned because they were expecting it and did not receive it. Our office contacted the governor's office, and according to his representative, the benefit ended on July 25. Therefore, the additional \$600 is unavailable for claimants for the last week of July.



PUBLIC SCHOOLS MOVE TO DISTANCE LEARNING FIRST FOUR WEEKS OF SCHOOL YEAR

Students returned to school August 17, with distance learning to occur for the first 4 weeks. According to the HI-DOE website, three phases have been created.

First phase, in-person training (Aug. 17-20): During the first week of school, students will physically return to campus on a coordinated and scheduled basis, determined by each individual school, to connect with their teacher, receive training on the distance learning platforms, and address issues with connectivity and access to technology. Special considerations will be given to vulnerable students and their families for more in-person access to the school and teachers.



Starting on Aug. 17, Oahu cafeterias will be serving only grab-and-go meals; in-person dining will not be allowed. After-school programs will be suspended until students return to in-person blended learning models.

Second phase, ready to learn (Aug. 24-Sept. 11): For the remainder of the four-week period, full distance learning will be implemented. Staff will report to their designated work sites for continued distance learning instruction. Special education services that cannot be provided in a distance learning format will be available in person. Supervised in-person learning labs at schools will be available for students who do not have WiFi access.

Third phase, transition to blended learning (Sept. 14): HIDOE will continue to closely monitor the situation and work with the Governor's Office and the Hawaii State Department of Health to assess whether or not students can safely return to in-person blended learning models. If distance learning will continue for the remainder of the first quarter of school, an announcement will be made on Sept. 8.

Updates about the school year can be found on HIDOE's website and their social media platforms (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and LinkedIn).

AVOID THE 3 Cs to prevent COVID-19 clusters

To prevent the occurrence of clusters, keep the 3 Cs from overlapping.



EVICTION MORATORIUM EXTENDED TO AUGUST 31

The governor has extended a moratorium on evictions for failure to pay rent through the end of August.



Despite the moratorium, tenants are being urged to communicate with their landlords if they can't pay rent because once the order is lifted all of the back payments will be due.

Residents who have concerns about evictions during this time can contact the Hawaii Office of Consumer Protection's Landlord Tenant line at 586-2634.

Violators face a misdemeanor charge, punishable by up to one year in jail or a \$5,000 fine.



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