



2021 Mid-Session Legislative Update

Senator Joy A. San Buenaventura

Senate District 2: Puna - East Ka'u

March 2, 2021

Introduction

- Senate Committee on Human Services, Chair
- Senate Committee on Consumer Protection
- Senate Committee on Health

Introduction

- Senate Co-convenor, Keiki Caucus
- Kupuna Caucus
- Hawaiian Caucus
- Women's Legislative Caucus
- Progressive Caucus
- Hawaii Island Caucus
- Filipino Caucus

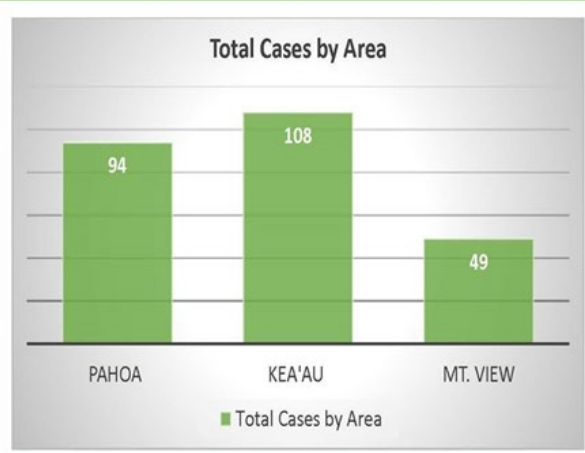
Introduction: Notes

- Reminder that this meeting is being streamed live on Facebook.
 - To keep the audio quality as clear as possible, we are asking all Zoom participants to please keep your mics muted throughout the meeting.
- We will take questions at the end of the presentation.
 - Please send your questions via the chat function (Zoom) or comments (Facebook). We will do our best to address them in the order received.
 - We will try to get to all of your questions, however, if we miss your question or run out of time, please email my office (j.honda@capitol.hawaii.gov) and we will get back to you.
- This power point presentation will be made available on my legislative website (sometime tomorrow):
 - <https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/memberpage.aspx?member=sanbuenaventura&year=2021>

2021 Virtual Town Hall

- COVID-19 Update
- Vaccination Update
- Hawaii County Emergency Rules/Restrictions
- Puna Library Update
- Broadband Update
- Pohoiki Update
- Review of Legislative Process
- How to Use the Hawaii State Legislature's Website - Online Testimony
- Bills Moving Through the Legislature
- District Priorities
- Preliminary Survey Results

COVID-19 UPDATE



Hawaii Total Cases:
27,358

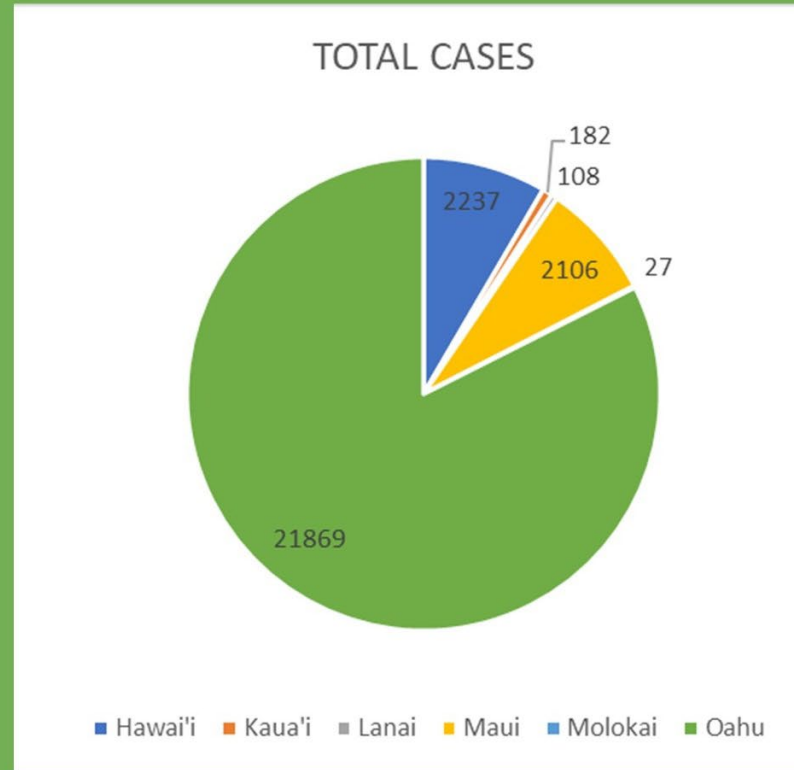
United States:
28.5M

Worldwide:
113M

CASES BY ZIP CODE

ZIP CODE	TOTAL CASES	CASES IN THE PAST 14 DAYS
96778	110	10 or less
96749	132	10 or less
96760	14	0
96771	60	10 or less
96785	10 or less	0
96777	19	0

COVID-19 UPDATE



HAWAI'I	KAUA'I	LANAI	MAUI	MOLOKAI	OAHU
2237	182	108	2106	27	21869

*Please visit the State of Hawai'i—Department of Health Website for information about how to keep you and your loved ones safe:
<https://health.hawaii.gov/coronavirusdisease2019/>

- **Hawaii Total Cases:**
27,358

- **Total Cases Hawaii Island:**
2,237

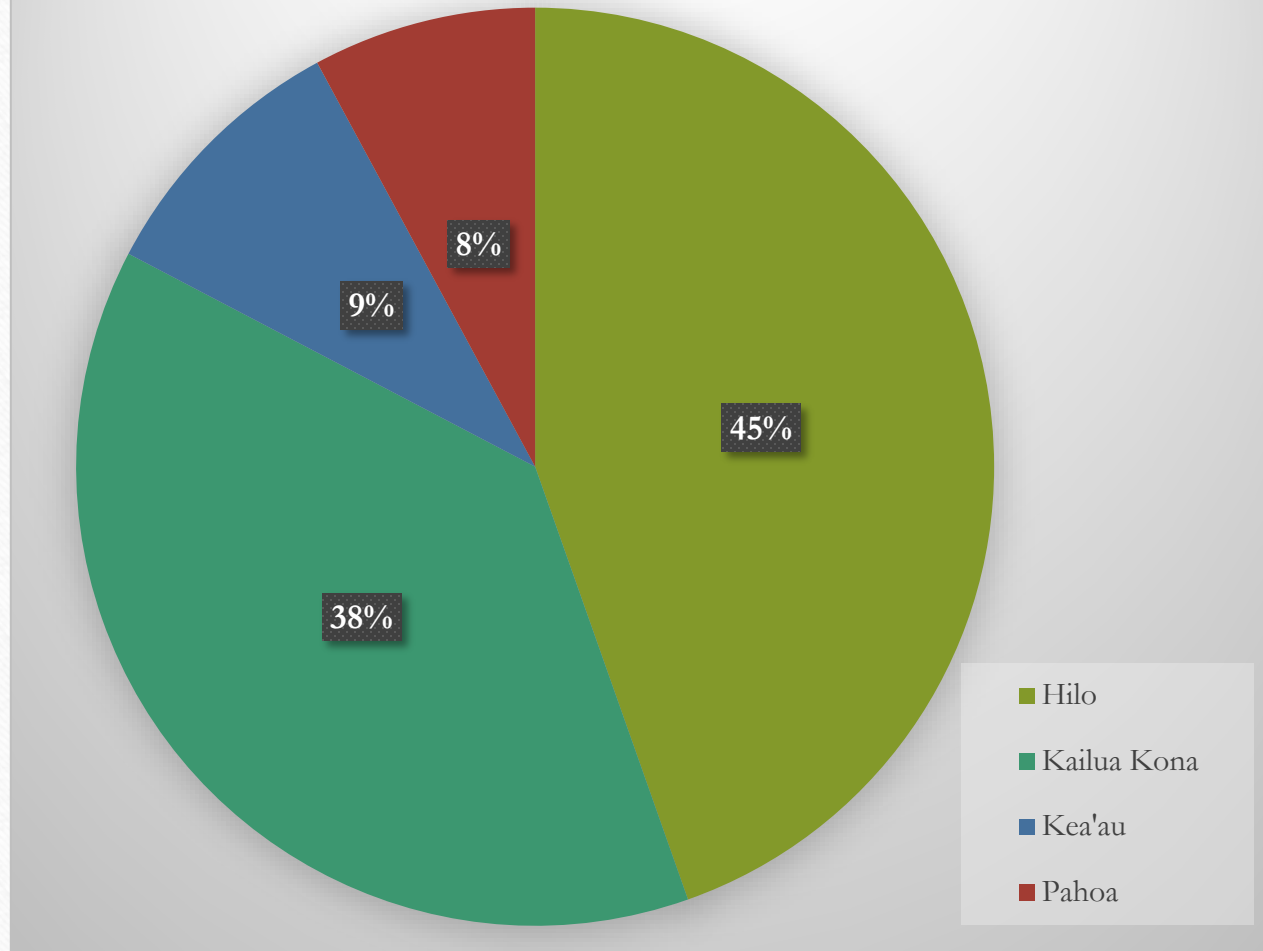
- **Hawaii Total Cases per 1M Population:**
19,322

- **Total Deaths:**
435

- **Cases in the Past 14 Days:**
634

As of Friday, 02/26/2021

Total Cases by Zip Code



Source: <https://health.hawaii.gov/coronavirusdisease2019/>

Hardest hit areas of Hawaii Island:

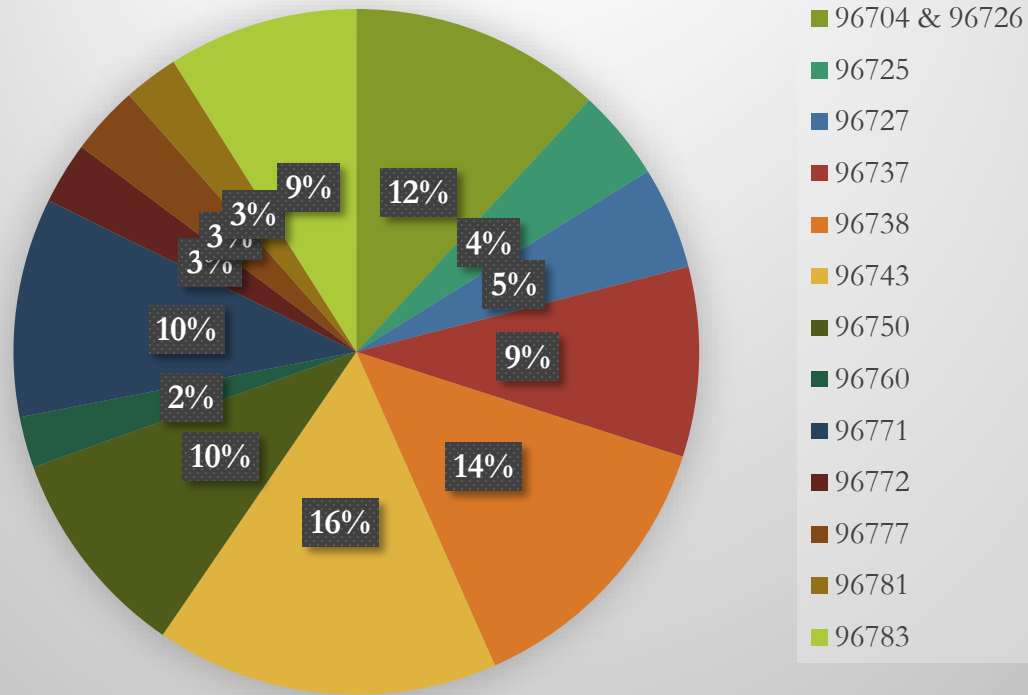
- Hilo: 623
- Kailua Kona: 696
- Kea'au: 132
- Pāhoa: 110

As of Friday, 02/26/2021

Other Affected Areas of Hawaii Island

Total Cases by Zip Code

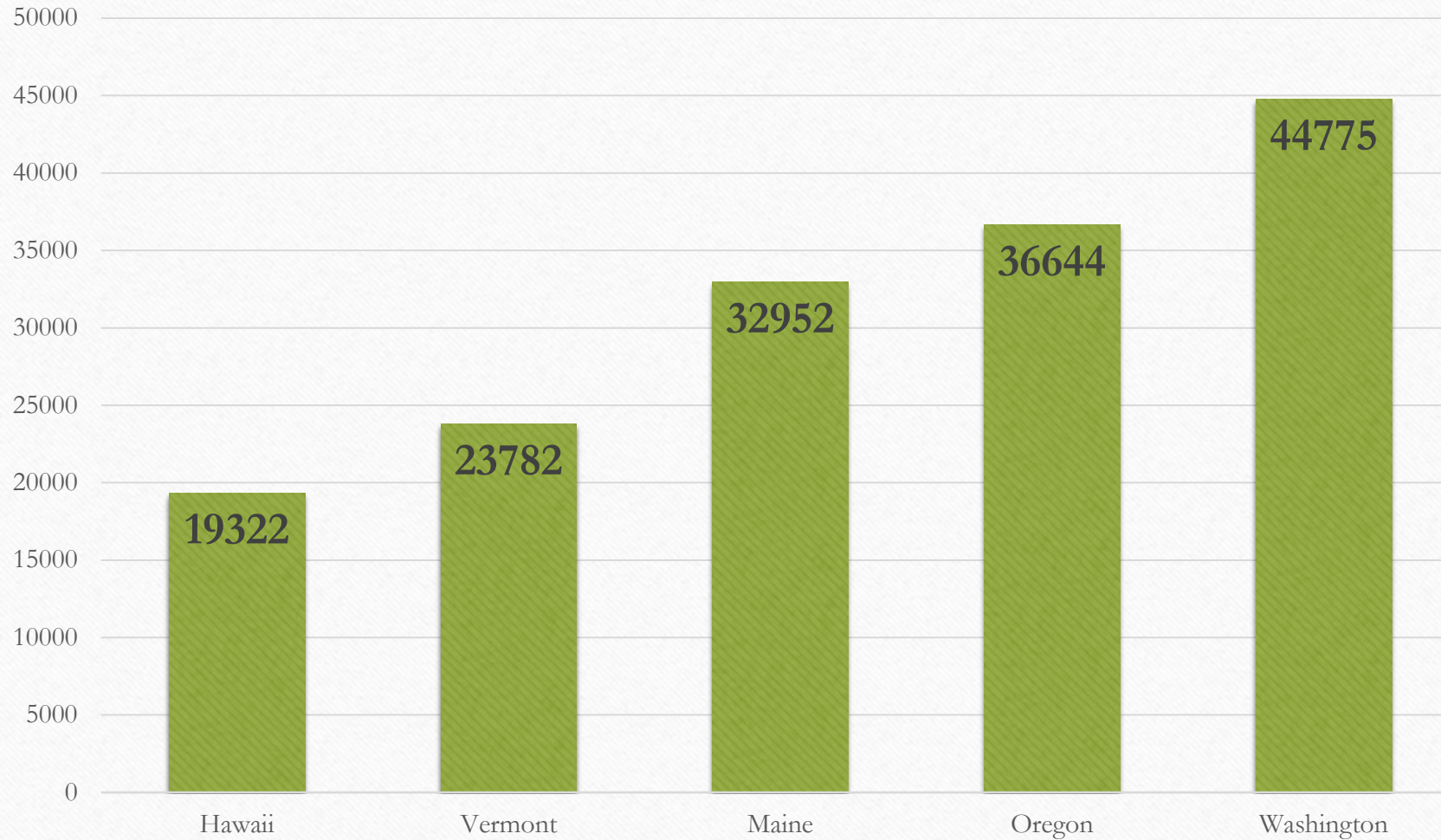
(does not include Hilo, Kona, Kea'au, and Pahoa)



Zip Code	Total Cases
96743; Kamuela	94
96738; Waikoloa	78
96704 & 96726; Capt. Cook & Honaunau	69
96771; Mt. View	60
96750; Kealakekua	58
96737; Ocean View	52
96783; Pepeekeo	52
96727; Honokaa	28
96725; Holualoa	25
96777; Pahala	19
96772; Naalehu	17
96781; Papaikou	15
96760; Kurtistown	14

As of Friday, 02/26/2021

Top 5 States – Lowest Total Cases / 1M Population



*Top 5 states with the highest total cases per 1M population:

- 1) North Dakota
- 2) South Dakota
- 3) Rhode Island
- 4) Utah
- 5) Iowa

Source: <https://www.worldometers.info/coronavirus/country/us/>

As of Friday, 02/26/2021

Vaccination Update

Phase 1b

December 2020 – March 2021

Hawai'i Residents Age 75+

Adults over the age of 75
Est. total: 109,000

Frontline Essential Workers

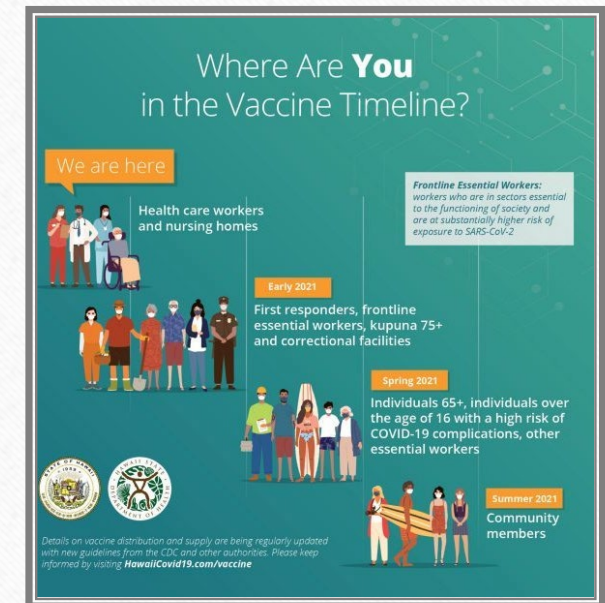
Workers whose duties must be performed on-site and require being in close proximity to the public or coworkers, are at substantially higher risk of exposure to SARS-CoV-2 and are essential to the functioning of society with special attention to life and safety first.
Est. total: 50,000

Hawaii is in Phase 1b where adults 75-years-of-age, and older in the community can register to get the COVID-19 vaccination.

Frontline Essential Workers

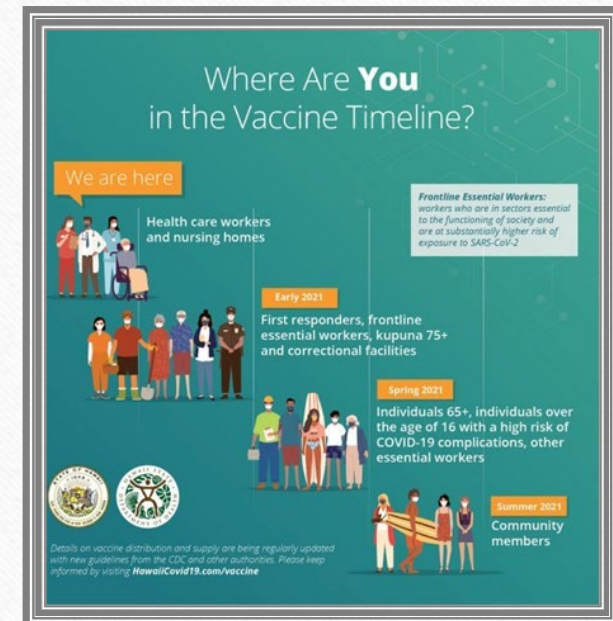
Frontline Essential Workers Include:

- first responders,
- critical infrastructure and key resources,
- educators,
- public transit workers,
- those essential for federal, state, and local government operations,
- food production and agriculture workers, grocery store workers, and
- U.S. Postal Service.



COVID-19 Vaccination Update

- Vaccination of Kupuna 75+ is in process.
 - 41,350 Kupuna still have not received a first dose
- Vaccination of age 70+ is expected to begin around March 15th.
- Vaccination of age 65+ is expected to begin a couple weeks later.



Source: <https://www.staradvertiser.com/2021/03/02/hawaii-news/next-up-for-vaccinations-in-hawaii-is-70-and-older-group/>

COVID-19 Vaccination Update

- Hawaii County: 38,530 Total Doses Administered (Population est. 201,513)
- Hawaii County: 27,135 (13.5% of total population) received at least one dose
- Hawaii County: 11,395 (5.7% of the population) completed (2 doses)
- Statewide: 336,901 Cumulative Doses Administered
- Statewide: 14.4% of the population received at least one dose
- Statewide: 65,118 Kupuna 75+ received 1 dose
- Statewide: 60% of eligible Kupuna received first dose

Source: <https://health.hawaii.gov/coronavirusdisease2019/what-you-should-know/current-situation-in-hawaii/>

Vaccination Update - Phase 1c and Phase 2

Phase 1c

- Adults aged 65-74 years
- Persons aged 16-64 years with high-risk medical conditions
- Essential workers not recommended for vaccination in Phase 1b

Phase 2

- All persons aged 16 years and older not already recommended for vaccination in Phases 1a, 1b, or 1c

Source: <https://health.hawaii.gov/coronavirusdisease2019/what-you-should-know/current-situation-in-hawaii/>

COVID-19 Vaccination Update

- As of Monday, March 1st, Hawaii ranks 12th amongst U.S. States for fully vaccinated residents per 100K population.
- 140,469 residents have been fully vaccinated; 9.9% of population.

Hawaii Vaccination Tracking	
Fully Vaccinated	140,469
Doses Per 100K	17,578
Total Doses	248,885

Source: <https://www.nbcnews.com/health/health-news/map-covid-19-vaccination-tracker-across-u-s-n1252085>

COVID-19 Vaccination Update

- **Bay Clinic** (serving East Hawaii Island)
www.bayclinic.org or call (808) 333-3600
- **CVS/Longs Drugs** (555 Kilauea Ave.)
Hawai'i seniors age 75+ may make appointments for both required doses via the CVS/Pharmacy app:
<https://www.cvs.com/immunizations/covid-19-vaccine>
By appointment only; **NO** walk-ins.
Locations were based on a formula (Social Vulnerability Index) to serve those areas with the most urgent need.
- **Hāmākua-Kohala Health** (serving North Hawaii Island)
If you are a patient at Hāmākua-Kohala Health, call (808) 775-7204 for your vaccination appointment.
www.hamakua-health.org

COVID-19 Vaccination Update

- **Hawaii District Health Office Vaccination Sites**

Phone assistance for registration for adults 75+, call (808) 300-1120, Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

- **Hilo Medical Center Helpline**

For assistance with online registration, call (808) 932-3000 and press 8 (weekdays during business hours)

- **Kona Community Hospital**

For registration and appointments, call (808) 322-4451, Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 12 p.m.

- **Queen's North Hawaii Community Hospital**

Call (808) 881-4668 or email QNHCHVaccine@queens.org for scheduling.

Hawaii Island COVID-19 Vaccination Clinic Information

Clinic Locations and Sign Up

<u>Step-by-Step Instructions</u>	<u>Department of Health (Moderna)</u> Kona Aquatic Center: Tues: 9:30a-2:00p Waiakea Rec Center: Wed: 9:00a-12:00p Hilo Civic Parking Lot: Thurs: 9:00a-2:00p	<u>Hilo</u> Hilo Medical Center (Pfizer) 1190 Waiuanuenue Ave. Mon-Fri: 7:00a-4:00p	<u>Kona</u> Kona Community Hospital (Pfizer) 79-1019 Haukapila St. Thurs & Sat: 8:00a-2:00p	<u>North Hawaii</u> North Hawaii Community Hospital (Pfizer) 67-1125 Mamalahoa Hwy. Mon-Fri Business Hours
Step 1	Call (808) 300-1120 to schedule an appointment	Email required to pre-register at www.HiloMedicalCenter.org	Call (808) 322-4451 to schedule an appointment. Email: Registration forms & questions kchCOVIDVaccine@hhsc.org	Call (808) 881-4668 or email QNHCHVaccine@queens.org to schedule an appointment
Step 2		You will receive an email to register and schedule an appointment on the CDC VAMS website (within 2 business days)	Due to limited roadway access, clinic by appointment only. No drop-ins will be added to clinic.	
Step 3		Schedule your appointment on CDC VAMS website		
Questions, Assistance, No Email	(808) 300-1120 M-F, 9:00a-3:00p, no holidays	(808) 932-3000 press 8 M-F, 8:00a-3:00p, no holidays HMCCOVIDVACCINE@hhsc.org	Call (808) 322-4451 or kchCOVIDVaccine@hhsc.org , no holidays	Call (808) 881-4668 or email QNHCHVaccine@queens.org no holidays
<p>Other locations: Check with the Veterans Affairs Clinic, community health centers and local pharmacies to see if they are administering the vaccine. These locations have a limited supply or are opening in the coming weeks.</p> <p>For your appointment, please bring your government issued ID, insurance card, and any other required documentation. Masks required at all locations.</p>				



Version: 2/1/2021

COVID-19 Vaccination Update

- Johnson & Johnson to begin shipping first U.S. doses.
 - 4 million doses made available to the U.S. Sunday night
 - **11,900 doses will arrive in Hawaii this week** (<https://www.hawaiitribune-herald.com/2021/03/02/hawaii-news/nearly-12k-doses-of-johnson-johnson-inoculation-headed-for-hawaii/>)
 - 16 million more doses will be available to the U.S. by the end of March
 - 100 million total doses expected to be available to the U.S. by the end of June
 - Requires only one dose
 - <https://apnews.com/hub/coronavirus-vaccine>

Source: <https://apnews.com/article/public-health-coronavirus-pandemic-prayuth-chan-ocha-bangkok-china-95b1993785c4daf1349665a231077580>

COVID-19 Vaccination Update

- To watch the most recent Senate Committee on Health and House Committee on Pandemic & Disaster Preparedness joint informational briefing, please visit:
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LRvDZq1CjBU>
 - To view hearing agenda, please visit:
https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2021/hearingnotices/HEARING_HTH-PDP_02-26-21_INFO.pdf

COVID-19 Emergency Rules

- All businesses, operations, and activities are permitted to remain open, except:
 - Nightclubs
 - Large indoor venues
 - Large outdoor venues
 - Road races (marathons, triathlons, etc.)
- Face coverings required while in public settings.
- Elderly and others at high risk for COVID-19 are urged to stay in their residences to the extent possible.
- Persons who are sick or are exhibiting symptoms such as fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, sore throat, or any other symptoms of COVID-19 identified by the CDC shall NOT report to their places of employment and shall stay at their residences, except as necessary to seek medical care.

COVID-19 Emergency Rules

- All persons shall maintain a minimum of six (6) feet of physical separation from all other persons to the fullest extent possible.
- Businesses
 - Limited customer occupancy
 - Hand sanitizing products for employees and customers
 - Disinfection
 - Safeguards for high-risk populations
 - Online and remote access
 - Pick up at store or delivery (if feasible)
 - Signage (mask rule, physical distance rules, symptoms, etc.)

COVID-19 Emergency Rules

- Gatherings
 - Indoor or outdoor social gatherings of groups up to ten (10) persons are permitted.
 - Face coverings are required and physical distancing (6 ft) between separate groups must be maintained.
 - Members of a single residential or family unit who share the same address are not restricted.
 - A social gathering is defined as a planned or spontaneous event, assembly, or meeting that brings together multiple people from separate households in a single space or area, indoors or outdoors, at the same time and in a coordinated fashion.
 - A social gathering includes but is not limited to, such get-togethers as a banquet, barbeque, concert, fair, festival, funeral, luau, parade, party, picnic, or wedding.
 - A social gathering does NOT include, and this definition does not apply to:
 - Federal, State, and County government operations and functions.
 - Educational and childcare facilities.
 - Businesses, operations, and activities operating under Section A of Mayor's COVID-19 Emergency Rule No. 14.



SAFE TRAVELS HAWAII' I QUICK FACTS



Domestic Trans-Pacific Travel ↓ 10-Day Quarantine



To Bypass Quarantine:

- Proof of negative test result must be uploaded or brought in hand in hard copy prior to departure or remain in quarantine for 10 days
- Must take a nucleic acid amplification (NAAT) pre-travel test within 72 hours from the final leg of departure. The State of Hawai'i will accept test results ONLY from TRUSTED TESTING AND TRAVEL PARTNERS.
- Applies to all passengers ages 5 and over; travelers pay for test
- Must complete Safe Travels Hawai'i online form prior to arrival
- Or other exemption provided by the state
- Travelers to Kaua'i must receive a negative pre-travel test result before departure and a 2nd negative test result after 72 hours at an approved Enhanced Movement Quarantine "resort bubble" property.

Second Test After Arrival for Non-Quarantine Travelers

City and County of Honolulu
Not required

County of Hawai'i
Required at airport between 25-100% without quarantine; free

Maui County
Voluntary 72 hours after arrival; free

Kaua'i County
72 hours after arrival; for "resort bubble" guests only

Traveling Inter-County (between counties) ↓ 10-Day Quarantine



To Bypass Quarantine:

- **Traveling into City and County of Honolulu**
No test and no quarantine required
- **Traveling into County of Hawai'i**
OPTION 1: Pre-test 72 hours prior to departure, same requirements as domestic trans-Pacific; **OR**
OPTION 2: Post-arrival test in quarantine until negative test received and verified. May break quarantine to test.
- **Traveling into Maui County**
Pre-test 72 hours prior to departure, same requirements as domestic trans-Pacific
- **Traveling into Kaua'i County**
Must receive a negative pre-travel test result before departure and a 2nd negative test result after 72 hours at an approved Enhanced Movement Quarantine "resort bubble" property.
- Or other exemption provided by the state or county

International Trans-Pacific Travel ↓ 10-Day Quarantine



To Bypass Quarantine:

- **Travelers from Canada & Japan**
Pre-test 72 hours prior to departure, same requirements as domestic trans-Pacific
- Currently no other pre-travel test exemptions

For more information, visit
HawaiiCOVID19.com
1-800-GOHAWAII

Negative COVID-19 test result required prior to departure to avoid 10-day quarantine in Hawai'i.

1.14.21

Puna Library Update

- Two new libraries will be planned for Puna, the first being in Pāhoā and the next location being in Kea‘au. The proposed construction of the new Pāhoā Public Library will include 8,000 square feet (SF) of enclosed, air conditioned, interior space and 1,000 SF of indoor-outdoor entry. The proposed sites are:
 - Site 1 Pāhoā Fire Station/DMV
 - Site 2 Pāhoā District Park
 - Site 3 Highway 130 Mauka (DLNR); approximately 0.4 miles to the northwest of the intersection of Niaulani Street and Highway 130
- Kea‘au Library sites are being proposed for Environmental Assessment.

Broadband Update

- Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL)-Makuu-HawaiianTel is expanding to provide fiber internet.
- Starlink possibility in 2022.
- \$50 credit towards broadband bill per latest Federal act.
 - The FCC on Thursday (Feb 25) adopted the Federally funded broadband discount program to help households afford internet service during the pandemic. The Emergency Broadband Benefit (EBB) program will provide eligible households with discounts of up to \$50 a month for broadband service, and up to \$75 a month if the household is on Tribal lands (Hawaiian Homelands). It also will provide a one-time discount of up to \$100 on a computer or tablet for eligible households.
 - Emergency Broadband Benefit Program will roll-out second half of April of this year.
 - Aloha Broadband is exploring their participation in the EBB program.

Broadband Update

- Emergency Broadband Benefit Program will roll-out second half of April of this year.
- EBB is not taking applications from consumers yet. More info will become available at: <https://www.fcc.gov/broadbandbenefit>
- Under the law, the Emergency Broadband Benefit program is open to households that participate in an existing low-income or pandemic relief program offered by a broadband provider; Lifeline subscribers, including those that are on Medicaid or accept SNAP benefits; households with kids receiving free and reduced-price lunch or school breakfast; Pell grant recipients; and those who have lost jobs and seen their income reduced in the last year.
- Because Lifeline service users will automatically qualify them for EBB folks may want to sign-up for Lifeline now.
- Sign-up for Lifeline cellphone service at: <https://www.lifelinesupport.org/>
- Aloha Broadband is exploring how they can participate in EBB program.

Broadband Update

- Starlink:
 - In addition to the current ISPs, Starlink is in the process of launching more Low Earth Orbit (LEO) satellites to cover the globe with satellite services. Current download speeds in beta testing have ranged between top speeds of 50-150Mbps. Hawaii residents signing up for service at the Starlink website are generating a note that a target deployment for service by the year 2022 on a first come, first serve basis. Sign-up at: <https://www.starlink.com/>
- Spectrum
 - Spectrum wants to expand their network on Hawaii Island. No timetable has been provided.
- Cellphone Carriers
 - The companies have made various proposals for additional cell towers and using advanced technologies for more coverage and speed.

Broadband Update

- HawaiianTel
 - HawaiianTel has been awarded \$24M from the Federal Rural Digital Opportunity Fund (RDOF) to expand their 1Gbps fiber to rural areas. (HawaiianTel's timeline is by 2027).
 - Currently reviewing EBB and considering how to best participate.
 - In the meantime, Internet Kōkua Program remains available to those who qualify:
<https://www.hawaiiantel.com/Residential/Discounted-services-for-qualified-Hawaii-residents>
 - 2021 fiberoptic build plans include deploying broadband infrastructure to enable high-speed internet to the following locations:
 - Mountain View - 1,532 locations
 - Kea'au - 5,752 locations
 - Na'alehu - 175 locations

Pohoiki Boat Ramp Update

- Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) moving forward with plans to dredge a channel restoring access to the current boat ramp.
- The State is working with Limtiaco Consulting Group on engineering and design.
- Dredging project will use \$1.5 million previously appropriated by the Legislature and will supplement it with Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) monies.
- Dredging project qualifies for environmental assessment exemption. Maintenance of already existing infrastructure.
- Key to economic recovery.

Pohoiki Boat Ramp Update: Restoration Options

Excavation and Dredging

- Removal of approximately 15,000 cubic yards of sand by dredging or excavation
- Placement of sand back on the beach
- Estimated construction cost: \$2.5M
- Construction timeline: approximately 9 months

Entrance Channel Improvements

- Follow-up to dredging and excavation
- Installation of permanent structures to protect entrance channel
- New swim area
- Estimated construction cost: \$6M
- Construction timeline: 2-3 years

New Boat Ramp Facility

- New ramp on new lava flow on the north side of the bay
- Construction of new breakwater, boat ramp, loading dock, trailer turn around and parking area
- Estimated construction cost: \$28M
- Construction timeline: 5-6 years+

How a Bill Becomes Law

OVERVIEW

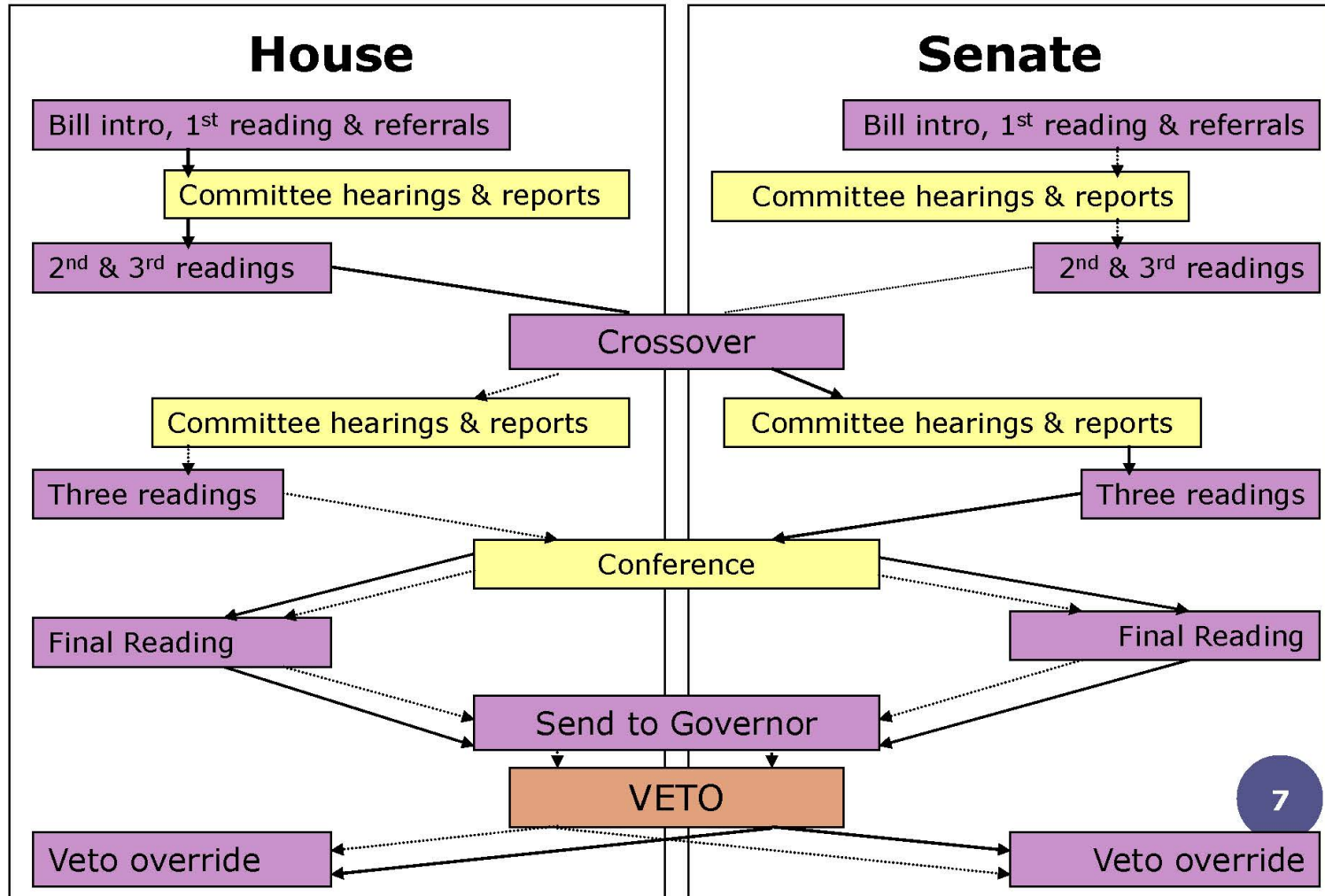
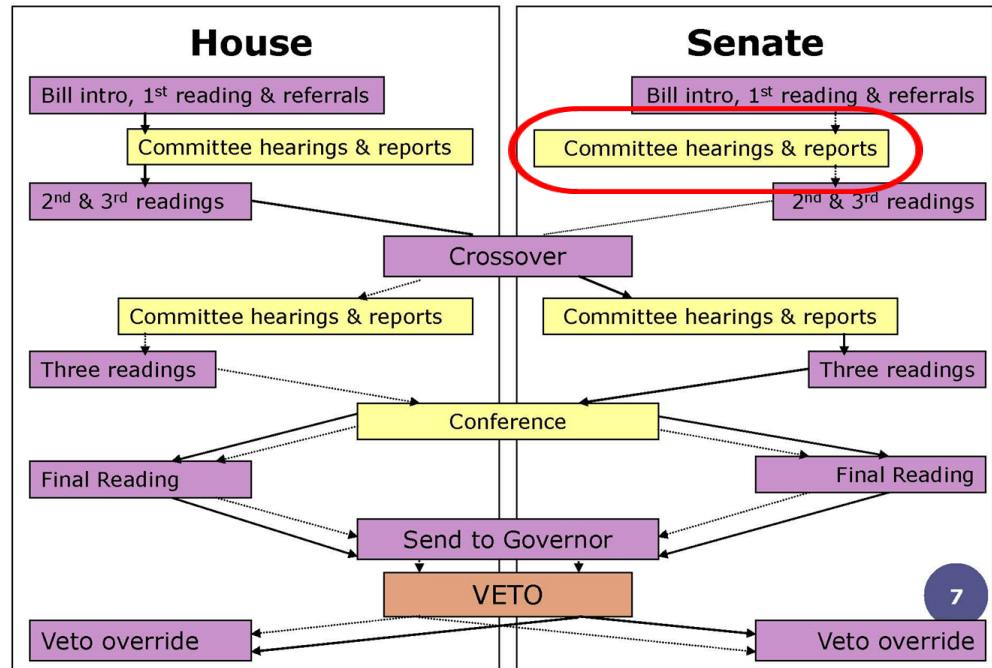


Image Credit: House Majority Staff Office

OVERVIEW



Committee Chairs decide which bills will be considered in a public hearing

- Testimony
- Information gathering
- Amendments



OVERVIEW

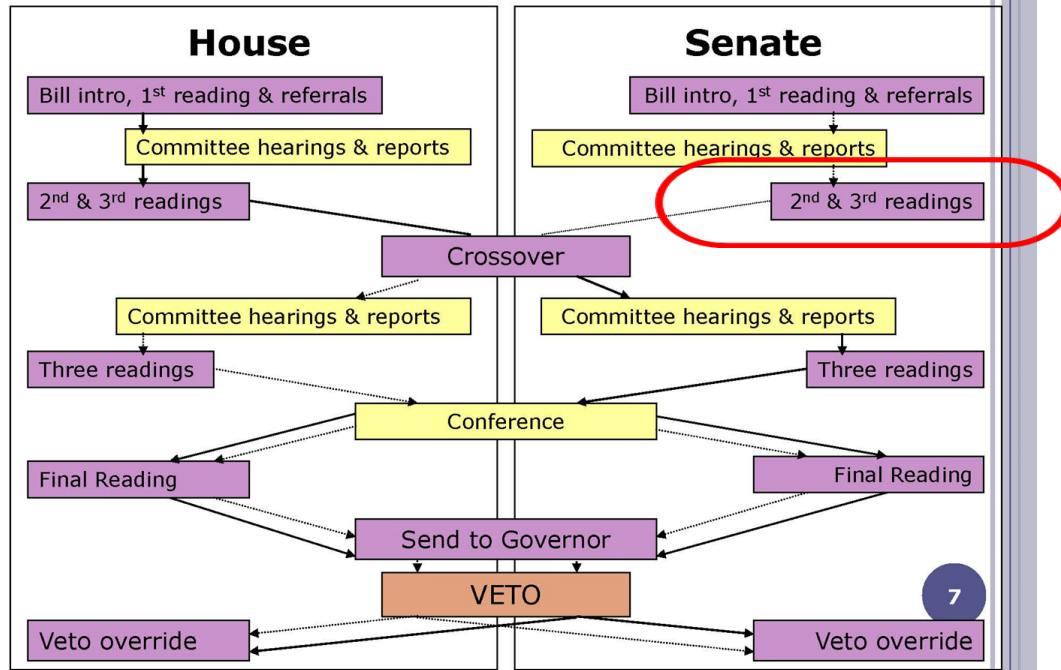


Image Credit: House Majority Staff Office

READING

Vote on a measure by the full membership of each chamber

Constitutional requirement for passage of three readings

Article III, section 15



OVERVIEW

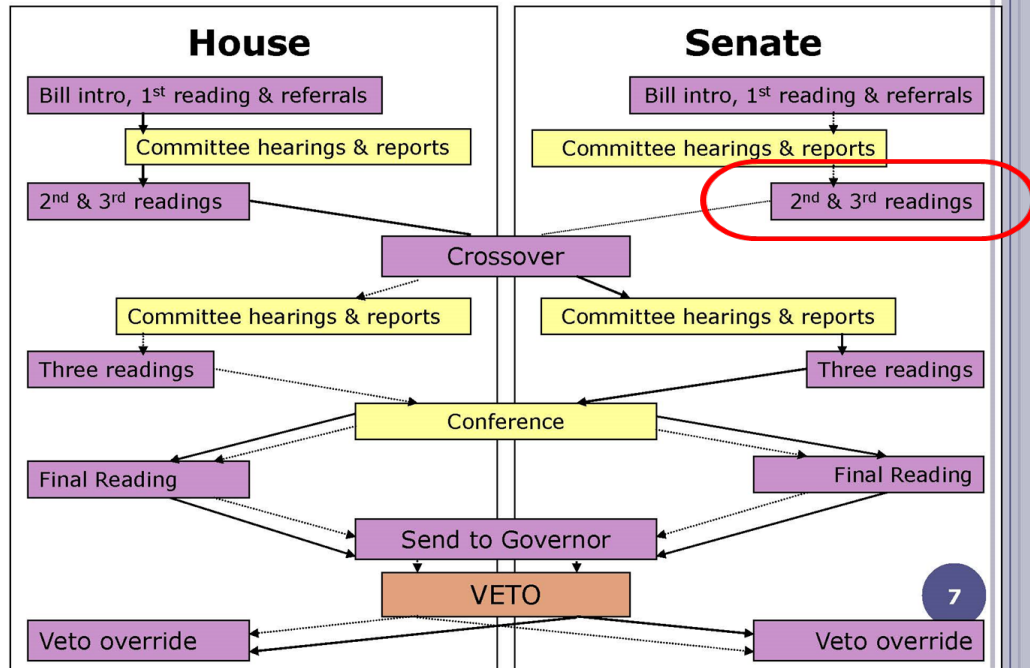
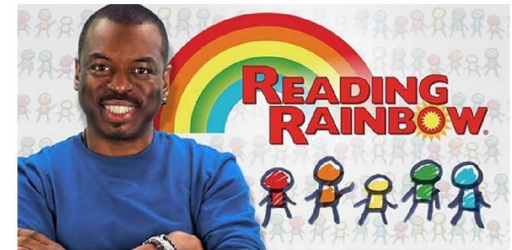


Image Credit: House Majority Staff Office

READING

First reading: Before referrals

- Generally pro forma vote



Second reading: After **first** committee considers

- Generally some floor debate/ discussion

Third reading: After **all** committees consider

- Almost always some floor debate/ discussion

OVERVIEW

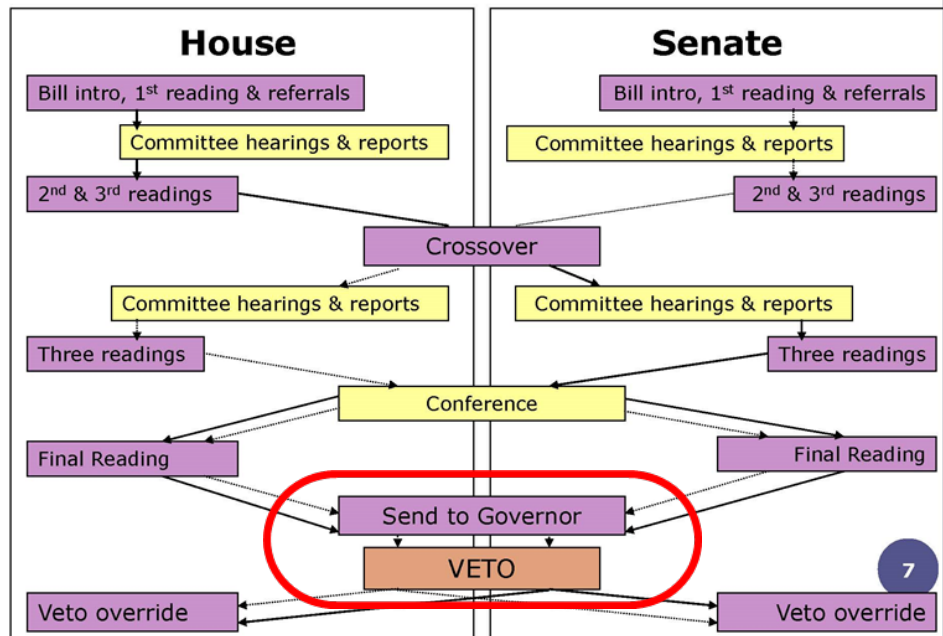


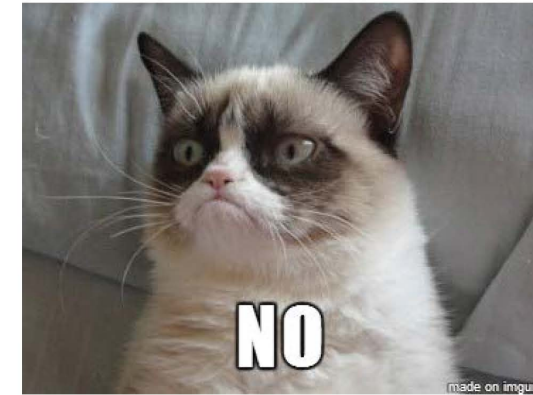
Image Credit: House Majority Staff Office

GOVERNOR'S VETO

Governor's veto
power:

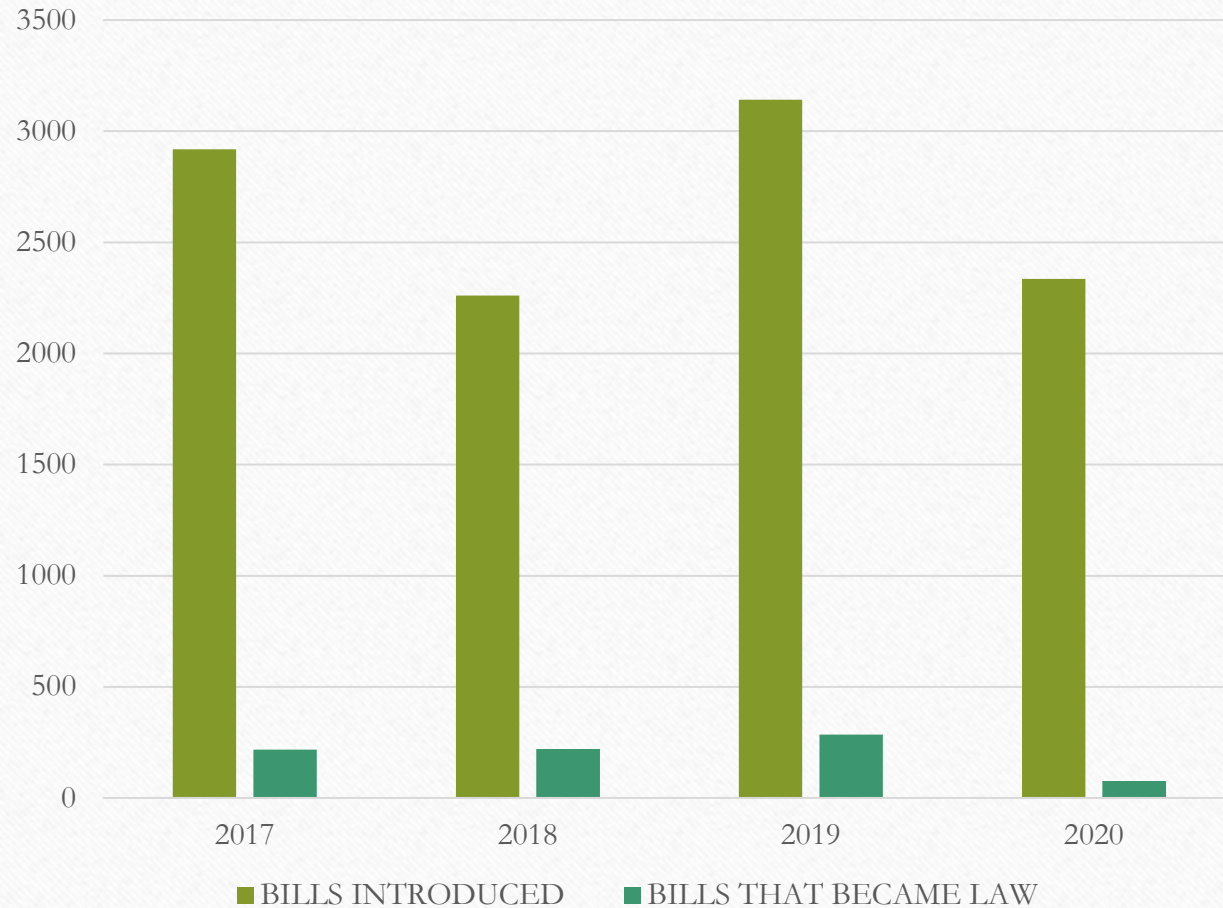
Article III, section
16

- Requires notice
- Governor's message



27

Chart Title



2017:

Bills Introduced: **2918**

Bills that became law: **217**

2018:

Bills Introduced: **2260**

Bills that became law: **220**

2019:

Bills Introduced: **3142**

Bills that became law: **286**

2020:

Bills Introduced: **2336**

Bills that became law: **76**

Legislative Website

<https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/>

Hawaii State Legislature



30th Legislature, 2019
[View Legislative Calendar](#)

The Legislature has adjourned sine die for 2019.

[Find Your Representative](#)

 **Search**

How to use the Searchboxes

Bill Status/Measure Status

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Bills/Committee Reports

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Hawaii Revised Statutes

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[Browse HRS Sections](#)
[Table of Contents](#)
[Tables of Disposition](#)
[HRS Index](#)
[HRS Index Supplement](#)

Session Laws (Acts)

[Go](#)

Recent Updates

Aloha!

If you are a first-time user, you may visit the [General Information and FAQs page](#) for additional help navigating the website.

You may also [see the help page](#) for assistance in creating an account.

- [Governor's Intent to Veto Report](#) NEW
- [2019 List of Acts](#)
- [Session Calendar](#)
- [Senate Leadership and Committee Assignments](#)
- [House Leadership and Committee Assignments](#)
- [House and Senate Directory](#)



[Submit Testimony](#)



[Hearing Notification](#)



[Measure Tracking](#)

Submit Testimony

❖ Register or Sign In

The screenshot shows the Hawaii State Legislature website. At the top right, the navigation bar contains links for 'Sign In', 'Register', and 'help'. The 'Sign In' and 'Register' links are circled in red. Below the navigation bar, there is a search bar and several sections for navigation and updates. The 'Recent Updates' section includes a message about the State Capitol building remaining closed. The 'Browse Document Repositories' section lists various categories like Bills and Resolutions, Committee Reports, and Testimony.

❖ Enter your name and email to create an account.

The screenshot shows the registration form on the Hawaii State Legislature website. The form is titled 'Register with the Hawaii Legislature'. It includes fields for 'name', 'organization', 'phone number', 'email address', 'verify email address', and 'create password'. The 'email address' field is pre-filled with 'jhonda@capitol.hawaii.gov'. Below the form, there is a checkbox labeled 'I understand and agree to the terms above.' which is also circled in red. The 'Create User' button is located at the bottom of the form.

Submitting Testimony

❖ Enter bill number.

31st Legislature, 2021
View Legislative Calendar

Search

Bill Status/Measure Status
sb149

Keywords

Hawaii Revised Statutes

Session Laws (Acts)

Browse Document Repositories

Testimony

Hearing Notification

Measure Tracking

Legislators

Committees

Reports and Lists

Hearings

Order of the Day

Live and On-Demand Video

❖ Click on Submit Testimony button.

Hawaii State Legislature

31st Legislature, 2021
View Legislative Calendar

SB149

Submit Testimony

Measure Title: RELATING TO PROPERTY FORFEITURE.

Report Title: Attorney General; Penal Code; Forfeiture; Civil Assets

Description: Restricts asset forfeiture to cases involving the commission of a covered criminal misdemeanor or felony offense. Requires seized property to be forfeited only when the property owner has been convicted of an underlying covered criminal misdemeanor or felony offense. Changes the standard of proof that the State must meet in order for property to be forfeited from "preponderance of the evidence" to "beyond a reasonable doubt". Requires the State to prove that owners consented to or possessed knowledge of the crime that led to the seizure of their property. Requires that the agency seizing the property pay for safe and secure storage of the seized property until the completion of the forfeiture proceeding or final disposition of the property. Directs any proceeds from a civil forfeiture to the general revenue fund for public education purposes. Repeals administrative forfeiture proceedings.

Sort by Date	Status Text
1/21/2021	S Introduced.
1/21/2021	S Passed First Reading.
1/22/2021	S Referred to PSM, JDC.
2/12/2021	S The committee(s) on PSM has scheduled a public hearing on 02-16-21 1:00PM; Via Videoconference.
2/16/2021	S The committee(s) on PSM recommend(s) that the measure be PASSED, UNAMENDED. The votes in PSM were as follows: 5 Aye(s); Senator(s) Nishihara, English, Baker, Riviere, Fevelis; Aye(s) with reservations: none ; 0 No(es); none; and 0 Excused: none.
2/18/2021	S Reported from PSM (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 324) with recommendation of passage on Second Reading and referral to JDC.
2/18/2021	S Report adopted; Passed Second Reading and referred to JDC.

S = Senate | H = House | D = Data Systems | \$ = Appropriation measure | ConAm = Constitutional Amendment
Some of the above items require Adobe Acrobat Reader. Please visit [Adobe's download page](#) for detailed instructions.

SB149

Human Services

Child Abuse; Keiki Protections



- Adds immunity from civil and criminal liability for individuals who provide information or assistance in child abuse investigations.
- On January 7, 2019, the federal Victims of Child Abuse Act Reauthorization Act of 2018, P.L. 115-24, was enacted, further amending the Child Abuse and Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA). The amendment grants immunity from civil and criminal prosecution to people who provide information or assistance to a good faith report of child abuse and/or neglect. This includes medical evaluations and professional consultations.
- SB1129:
https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/measure_indiv.aspx?billtype=SB&billnumber=1129&year=2021

Persons with Disabilities; Minimum Wage



- Repeals the exemption of persons with disabilities from minimum wage requirements.
- Under the law, being “disabled” or “handicapped” allows an individual to be considered exempt from minimum wage within the State of Hawaii. The subminimum-wage law for workers with disabilities was enacted as part of the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) in 1938, before the civil rights era as a means of easing disabled persons into the workforce (this law is no longer relevant and no longer serves the purpose it was originally intended to fulfill).
- SB793:
https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/measure_indiv.aspx?billtype=SB&billnumber=793&year=2021

Homelessness



- Allows the governor's coordinator on homelessness, in conjunction with the Hawaii Interagency Council on Homelessness, to develop plans for the City and County of Honolulu and the counties of Hawaii, Kauai, and Maui to coordinate the services and shelter facilities of public agencies and nonprofit organizations to meet the concerns of communities impacted by homelessness and the needs of the homeless population within each county.
- SB221:
https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/measure_indiv.aspx?billtype=SB&billnumber=221&year=2021

Sex Trafficking; Minors



- Includes coercion as a means of committing the offense of sex trafficking. Removes the criminal statute of limitations for sex trafficking and promoting prostitution. Designates solicitation of a minor for prostitution as a form of sex trafficking. Specifies that sex trafficking of a minor is a strict liability offense. Repeals the offense of solicitation of a minor for prostitution.
- SB 48:
https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/measure_indiv.aspx?billtype=SB&billnumber=48&year=2021

Domestic Violence



- Adds abuse of a family or household member to those felonies that qualify for repeat offender sentencing.
- Existing law does not provide for enhanced sentencing for defendants who continue to abuse beyond a third offense. These repeat offenders may serve terms that are substantially shorter than five years, or worse, receive probation.
- SB410:
https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/measure_indiv.aspx?billtype=SB&billnumber=410&year=2021

Kupuna Support



- Allows the Executive Office of Aging to relax the thirty-hour employment requirement for qualified caregivers under the Kupuna Caregivers Program during a state-declared state of emergency. Adds the option of kupuna caregiver-directed services to the Kupuna Caregivers Program. Includes assisting the care recipient and caregiver with the enrollment process as the duty of a coach. Allows funds under the Kupuna Caregivers Program to be issued to the care recipient's financial management service provider.
- SB838:
https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/measure_indiv.aspx?billtype=SB&billnumber=838&year=2021

Public Assistance; General Assistance During State of Emergency



- Allows the Department of Human Services to administer and provide public assistance to eligible residents of the State during a governor-declared state of emergency period to persons who are not otherwise provided for under this chapter and who are unable to provide sufficient support for themselves or those dependent upon them, provided that such persons meet the criteria.
- SB 192:
https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/measure_indiv.aspx?billtype=SB&billnumber=192&year=2021

Consumer Protection and Health

Food Donations; Charitable Protections



- Expands liability protection for donors to include donations of food and similar donations made to needy persons by organizations. Authorizes the donation of expired food when the donor reasonably believes in good faith that the food remains fit for human consumption.
- SB 244:
https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/measure_indiv.aspx?billtype=SB&billnumber=244&year=2021

Ambulance; Emergency Services; Medicaid



- Requires Medicaid and insurance coverage of ambulance services. Authorizes Medicaid programs, and requires private insurers, to pay for community paramedicine services provided by emergency medical technicians or paramedics. Appropriates moneys for costs resulting from Medicaid coverage of ambulance service and community paramedicine services provided by emergency medical technicians or paramedics. Requires the Auditor to submit a report to the Legislature.
- SB283:
https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/measure_indiv.aspx?billtype=SB&billnumber=283&year=2021

Agricultural Cooperative Associations

- Authorize agricultural cooperative associations and consumer cooperative associations to operate as agents to sell the products of their members and nonmember patrons on a nonprofit basis, under certain conditions;
- Allow agricultural cooperative associations and consumer cooperative associations to convert to cooperative associations;
- Authorize an agricultural cooperative association to be formed for purposes in connection with leasing land to its members;
- Authorize the articles or bylaws of an agricultural cooperative association to provide for referendum upon the affirmative vote of two-thirds of its members voting at any meeting; and
- Exempt membership stock or membership certificates issued by a cooperative and preferred stock, equity, or notes issued to members of a cooperative.



• SB495:

https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/measure_indiv.aspx?billtype=SB&billnumber=495&year=2021

Agricultural Structures; Building Permit and Code Exemptions

- The purpose and intent of this measure is to increase the maximum area for each agricultural shade cloth structure, cold farm, and greenhouses that could qualify the structure for an exemption from building permit and building code requirements.
- The existing maximum area for each agricultural shade cloth structure, cold frame, and greenhouse that qualifies the structure for an exemption from building permit and building code requirements is twenty thousand square feet. Increasing the maximum area allowed from twenty thousand to sixty thousand square feet will support local food production.
- This measure will drastically cut construction costs and effectively utilize the open areas currently required between smaller greenhouses. This will in turn make farming more productive and economically feasible for farmers and will further help Hawaii reach its self-sustaining food production goals.
- SB489: https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/measure_indiv.aspx?billtype=SB&billnumber=489&year=2021



Food Labeling

(not heard yet but still alive)



- Prohibits certain food labeling practices with regard to foods with non-genetically-modified-organisms, organic foods, and gluten-free foods.
- Prevents some food manufacturers from making less than factual health claims on their food labels that take advantage of a consumer's preference to eat healthy foods.
- SB709:
https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/measure_indiv.aspx?billype=SB&billnumber=709&year=2021

Advanced Practice Registered Nurses; Rural Healthcare



- Authorizes advanced practice registered nurses to certify whether a person is totally disabled under the income tax code. Authorizes advanced practice registered nurses (APRN) to make capacity determinations. Adds APRN as primary providers in advance mental health care directives.
- There is a need for greater access to healthcare in the State, especially in rural communities and on the neighbor islands. Because there is a well-documented physician shortage in the State, authorizing the readily-available APRN workforce to engage in activities within their scope of practice and in accordance with their education, training, and licensure provides a reasonable means of addressing this problem.
- SB 620:
https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/measure_indiv.aspx?billtype=SB&billnumber=620&year=2021

Community Health Workers; Rural Healthcare



- Requires the Department of Health to establish a task force to plan the certification and training process for community health workers and submit a report to the legislature.
- Hawaii is facing a shortage of medical professionals, especially in geographically isolated and homeless communities. Community health workers help support medical practices by providing essential health education and working with social service programs, which are currently struggling to keep up with the demands placed on the behavioral health care system as a result of the coronavirus disease 2019 pandemic. Community health workers have been underutilized and this measure would establish a pathway for certification and reimbursement for services rendered by community health workers.
- SB 858:
https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/measure_indiv.aspx?billtype=SB&billnumber=858&year=2021

Telehealth



- Authorizes the establishment of a physician-patient relationship via a telehealth interaction, if the physician is licensed to practice medicine in the State.
- Currently, the law is ambiguous as to when a physician-patient relationship is established via telehealth. As written, the physician-patient relationship with a telehealth provider can only be established if the patient was first referred to the telehealth provider by another health care provider who has conducted an in-person consultation with the patient. The 2019 COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in an increase in the use of telehealth services and the establishment of telehealth as a community standard of care is a strategic priority for the Department of Health. This measure will make clear that a physician-patient relationship may be established via telehealth by a physician licensed to practice medicine in the State.
- SB 970:
https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/measure_indiv.aspx?billtype=SB&billnumber=970&year=2021

Commercial Rent Relief; Local Businesses; Federal Aid



- Establishes a Commercial Rent Relief Grant Program. Requires that the commercial rent relief grants be given priority for moneys received through federal funding.
- As a result of the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic and stagnation of the tourism economy, it is estimated that more than one thousand four hundred local businesses have closed their doors permanently, with another two thousand suspending their operations at least temporarily. Commercial rent remains one of the largest fixed costs for a business, and without the ability to take on more debt or additional governmental support, the expenses being absorbed by both lessors and lessees will result in additional closures, further damaging this sector of the economy.
- SB 946:
https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/measure_indiv.aspx?billtype=SB&billnumber=946&year=2021

Senator
San Buenaventura's
Bills

Medical Cannabis

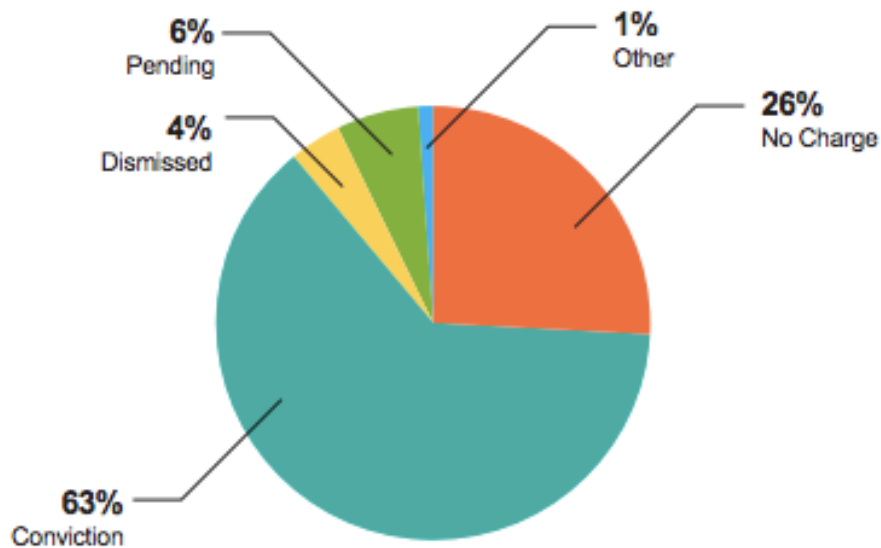


- Authorizes the sale and distribution of cannabis propagules, cuttings, cannabis seeds and cannabis clones by medical cannabis dispensary licensees, subject to quantity limits and quality requirements.
- Patients and primary caregivers who wish to cultivate medical cannabis have no legal means of obtaining safe, laboratory-tested genetic material from which to propagate their plants. Currently, state law authorizes qualifying patients to cultivate up to ten medical cannabis plants but does not specify by what means propagules, cuttings, or other cannabis genetic material necessary to produce these plants may be obtained. This measure will allow authorized patients and primary caregivers to obtain laboratory-tested genetic material without resorting to illicit markets.
- SB145:
https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/measure_indiv.aspx?billtype=SB&billnumber=145&year=2021

Civil Asset Forfeiture

- Restricts asset forfeiture to cases involving the commission of a covered criminal misdemeanor or felony offense. Requires seized property to be forfeited only when the property owner has been convicted of an underlying covered criminal misdemeanor or felony offense. Changes the standard of proof that the State must meet in order for property to be forfeited from “preponderance of the evidence” to “beyond a reasonable doubt.” Requires the State to prove that owners consented to or possessed knowledge of the crime that led to the seizure of their property. Requires that the agency seizing the property pay for safe and secure storage of the seized property until the completion of the forfeiture proceeding or final disposition of the property. Directs any proceeds from a civil forfeiture to the general revenue fund for public education purposes.
- SB 149:
https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/measure_indiv.aspx?billtype=SB&billnumber=149&year=2021

Civil Asset Forfeiture (cont.)



Source: Office of the Auditor

- A 2017 report by the Institute for Justice, a civil rights law firm, gave Hawaii a grade of “D+” for its civil asset forfeiture program overall and an “F” on its accounting for how seized cash and property proceeds are later spent by law enforcement agencies
- In 2017, I passed a resolution requesting an audit of the Attorney General’s Civil Asset Forfeiture Program.
- The audit revealed mismanagement of the Asset Seizure Program.
- Failure to account for forfeited property.
- Failure to spend \$2M for drug prevention programs as required by the law.
- Lack of administrative rules to provide guidance to law enforcement, county prosecutors, and the public.
- Lack of transparency and accountability.
- According to the audit, 26 percent of the \$11.5 million-worth of civil asset forfeitures by Hawaii law enforcement between 2005 and 2017 were not accompanied by criminal charges.

Landlord-Tenant Code; Tax Evasion; Unfair Evictions



- Requires certain landlords, lessors, or plaintiffs in a summary possession action to provide a general excise tax license in good standing.
- If passed, this bill would serve the dual purpose of encouraging tax code compliance and discouraging frivolous and illegal eviction efforts by landlords who don't care to respect their tenants' rights. Landlords who use the taxpayer-funded court system to evict tenants should be required to prove they are complying with their tax-related obligations.
- SB 148:
https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/measure_indiv.aspx?billtype=SB&billnumber=148&year=2021

Senate District 2 Capital Improvement Projects



- Construction for an acceleration lane/right-turn on red for Shower Drive onto Highway 130.
- Funds to support Hawaii National Guard Youth Challenge Academy.
- Ka‘ū High and Pahala Elementary School - Construction of a seven-classroom building and schoolwide building renovation.

Senate District 2

Capital Improvement Projects

- Kea'au High School - Construction for covering of play court; Construction for covered drop off/pick-up ramp; Construction for sound induction improvement inside cafeteria.
- Keonepoko Elementary School - Construction for a new school playground.
- Pāhoa Elementary School - Construction for a covered walkway; Construction for campus fencing; Construction for air quality and heat abatement.
- Pāhoa High and Intermediate School - Construction for new administration building.



Medical Cannabis; Interisland



- Authorizes qualifying patients and qualifying out-of-state patients to transport cannabis between islands of the State for personal medical use.
- This measure assures access to legal medical cannabis to qualifying patients regardless of where they live or where they travel within the State.
- SB 241:
https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/measure_indiv.aspx?billtype=SB&billnumber=241&year=2021

Abandoned Properties; Squatters; Public Safety



- Requires counties to establish expedited procedures to approve demolition permits for vacant and abandoned residential homes. Allows the Department of Taxation to seek sale of the property through nonjudicial foreclosure of vacant and abandoned residential properties with outstanding recorded state tax liens after establishing vacancy and abandonment.
- Abandoned residential properties can impose significant costs on the community and become public safety hazards and magnets for criminal activity. Furthermore, it is in the public's interest to encourage the use of residential properties and reduce the number of vacant and abandoned homes in the State. This measure will reduce the potential hazards associated with vacant and abandoned residential properties and ensure that they are promptly removed from Hawaii communities.
- SB 818:
https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/measure_indiv.aspx?billtype=SB&billnumber=818&year=2021

Keiki Caucus; Emancipation



- Allows a minor who has reached the age of 16 to petition the Family Court for emancipation, and directs the court regarding investigation of the petition, appointment of legal counsel and a guardian ad litem for the petitioner, and the findings necessary to grant the petition. Specifies the rights gained by the minor upon emancipation and authorizes the court to require the minor's parents or legal guardians to pay for any services ordered by the court.
- Provides support for minors seeking to escape abuse and/or neglect. This bill provides a means of allowing a minor to seek emancipation while also requiring parents to provide financial support. This reduces the risk of minors entering into marriage with adults and/or engaging in prostitution.
- SB 821:
https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/measure_indiv.aspx?billtype=SB&billnumber=821&year=2021

Medical Cannabis; Cultivation Licenses

- Creates a cultivation facility license, which allows cultivators to grow cannabis for sale to licensed dispensaries. Establishes requirements for license application and qualifications for license holders.
- Currently, only holders of medical cannabis dispensary licenses may legally cultivate and sell medical cannabis in retail locations. Allowing residents, farmers, and families to grow cannabis for retail would provide a positive social and economic impact across the State and creates better access to safe, regulated products for qualified patients.
- SB 1372:
https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/measure_indiv.aspx?billtype=SB&billnumber=1372&year=2021



Wage Garnishment; Moratorium; Emergency Proclamation

- Prohibits a creditor from initiating or continuing any action to garnish wages from a debtor during the period of an emergency proclamation in relation to the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic and some time thereafter. Prohibits a creditor from garnishing more than ten per cent of a debtor's wages for six months thereafter.
- Many households, particularly those of the economically vulnerable, often depend on several incomes to make ends meet. Due to the economic devastation created by the COVID-19 pandemic, many of these households now have fewer incomes on which they can rely. Existing law allows creditors to garnish approximately twenty-five percent of a person's net wages, but for many in this State experiencing hardships related to COVID-19, that amount can directly impact whether a household can continue to pay for basic needs.
- SB 1373:
https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/measure_indiv.aspx?billtype=SB&billnumber=1373&year=2021



Other Priorities

Hawaii National Guard Youth Challenge Academy Hilo Campus

- Senate District 2, Capital Improvement Projects
- Senate Concurrent Resolution (bill number pending).
 - Urges the State of Hawaii Department of Defense to work with the Hawaii State Department of Public Safety to avoid closure of the YCA Hilo campus.



Unemployment Benefits

- Please do not hesitate to contact my office if you are experiencing difficulties with your claim. My office will submit your information to the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations and request assistance on your behalf. While my staff is unable to work directly on your claim, they will do their best to bring attention to your claim and request that the Department of Labor contact you.
- Please send an email to j.honda@capitol.hawaii.gov with a summary of your issue and include your name, address, phone number, email, last four digits of your Social Security Number (please do **NOT** email us your full social security number), date of birth and account ID, if you have one.
- If you know someone who lives outside of Senator San Buenaventura's district and would like to seek help from their elected officials, please visit: <https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/fyl/> to find their State Senator and Representative's contact information.
- The Department of Labor's call center numbers are:
 - Toll Free: 833-901-2272 which corresponds to Local: 808-762-5751 and
 - Toll Free: 833-901-2275 which corresponds to Local: 808-762-5752
- The Department of Labor also has a FAQs (Frequently Asked Questions) and it's posted at: <https://labor.hawaii.gov/covid-19-labor-faqs/>




Minimum Wage Increase



- Increases the minimum wage for certain employees to \$12.00 per hour beginning 7/1/2022.
- A vast majority of credible studies conclude that higher minimum wages appreciably boost workers' earnings with little or no effect on employment. A 2018 study by the U.S. Census Bureau found that raising the minimum wage benefits a large majority of low-income workers by putting them on the path to higher earnings in the long term and decreasing income inequality. There is currently, a significant difference between the minimum wage and what is needed to afford basic needs in Hawaii.
- SB 676:
https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/measure_indiv.aspx?billtype=SB&billnumber=676&year=2021

2021 Homelessness Summit



01/13/21 LIVE

HONU/POST
Navigation Centers


Keolahou
Emergency Shelter

Hale Hanakahi
& Ka Lamaku

RYSE Youth
Assessment Center

**Increasing Homeless
Access Points**

- Low-barriers to entry and 24-hour access
- Emergency shelter vacancies are tracked and posted daily
- Spaces provide new opportunities to engage and build relationships

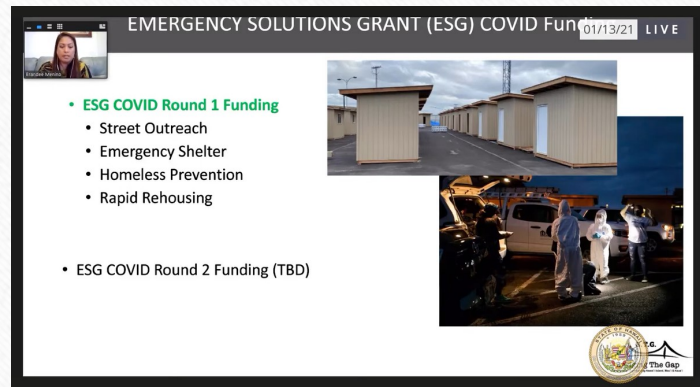


HMS-HHH Info Briefing 10AM 1-13-2021

The Ohana Zones bill that I passed in 2017, leveraged with other City and State resources, supported new housing across the neighbor islands.

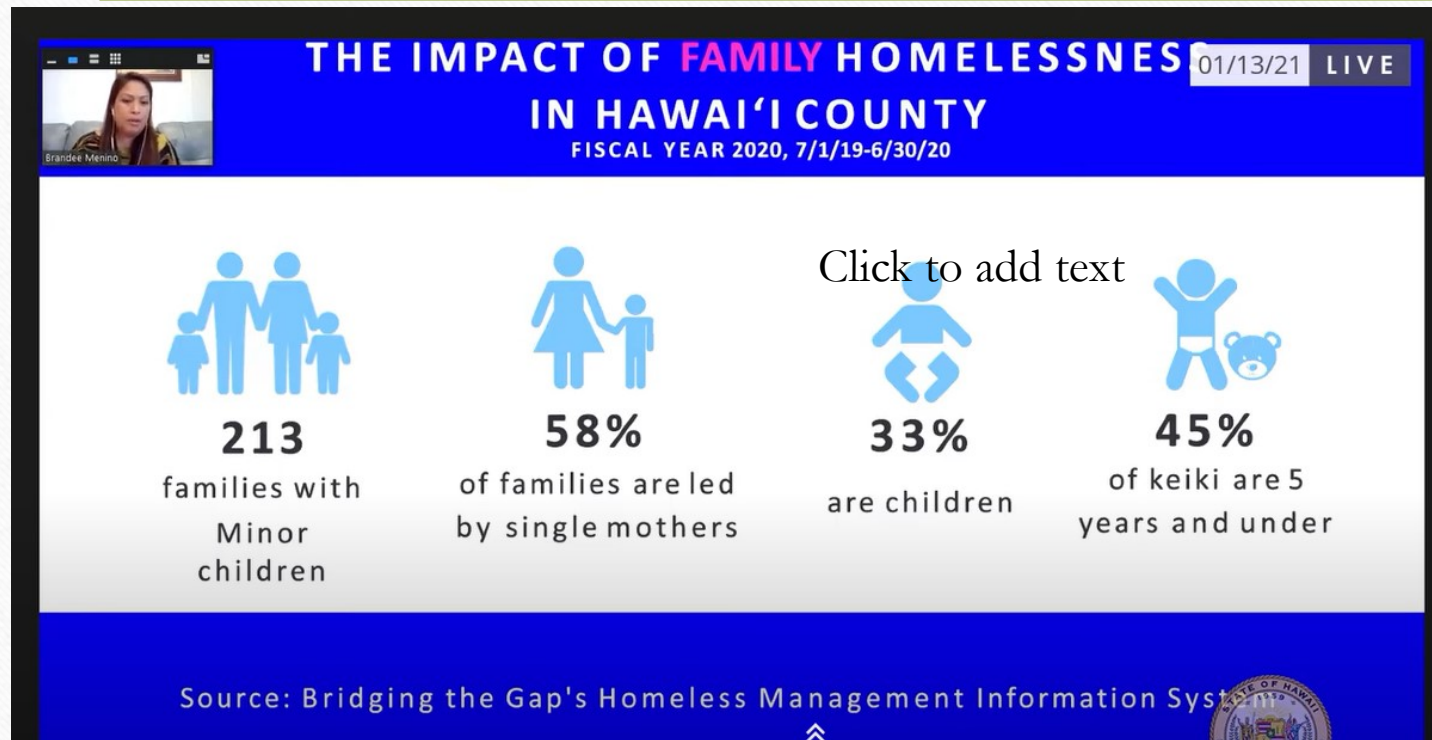
Ohana Zones funding supports services, while HHFDC and City funds were utilized for construction, acquisition, and rehab.

2021 Homelessness Summit



- Point in time homeless counts are actually decreasing, thanks to outreach efforts, Ohana Zones funding, and Homeless Prevention programs.
- Between 2009 and 2016, homelessness increased by 2,137 people.
- Since 2016, statewide numbers decreased by over 18%, and then leveled out between 2019 and 2020.

2021 Homelessness Summit



- Bridging the Gap shared statistics on Hawaii County homelessness.
- Due to the economic devastation brought about by the pandemic, more resources will be shifted towards programs that help families who are now extremely vulnerable to becoming 'first time' homeless.

To watch 2021 Homelessness Summit, please visit:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t4QNTThQdD38&list=PLAEwDhLrRKH2ReuC-Mxdz3zYzwaknqBfn&index=4>

Pandemic Economic Recovery

- Governor Ige and other state officials project a \$1 billion deficit due to reduced tax revenue caused by economic closures of businesses and loss of jobs.
- State Government is currently in debt just making payroll.
- Proposed relief is temporary:
 - <https://www.hawaii-tribune-herald.com/2021/02/18/hawaii-news/schatz-touts-1-9t-pandemic-relief-package/#:~:text=But%20they%20just%20don%E2%80%99t%20have%20the%20revenue%2C%20because,the%20economic%20downturn%20caused%20by%20the%20COVID-19%20pandemic.>

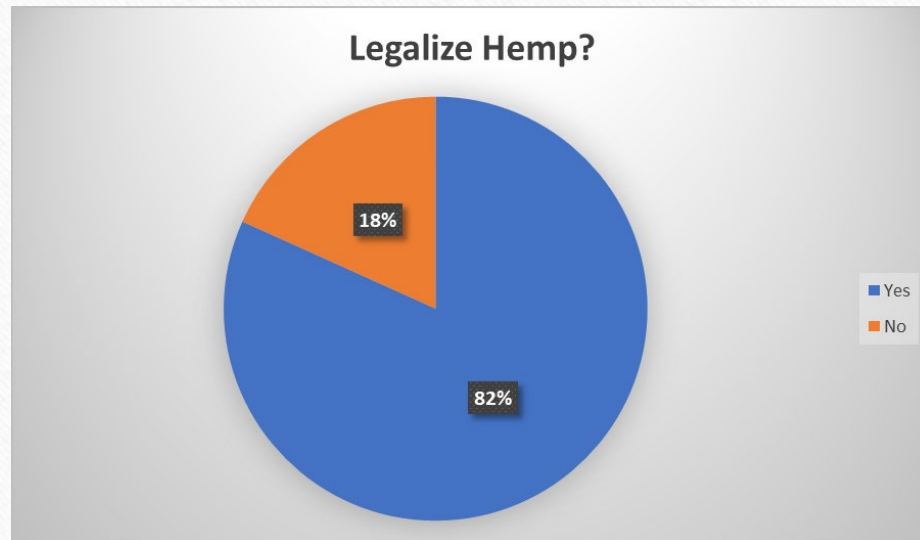


Preliminary Survey Results



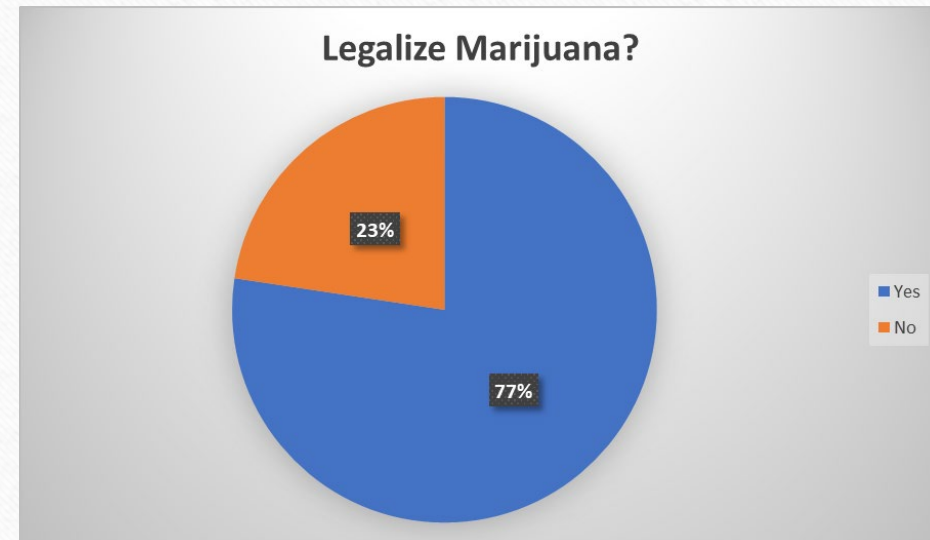
Preliminary Survey Results: How do we revive the economy?

Legalize Hemp?



Yes: 631 No: 141

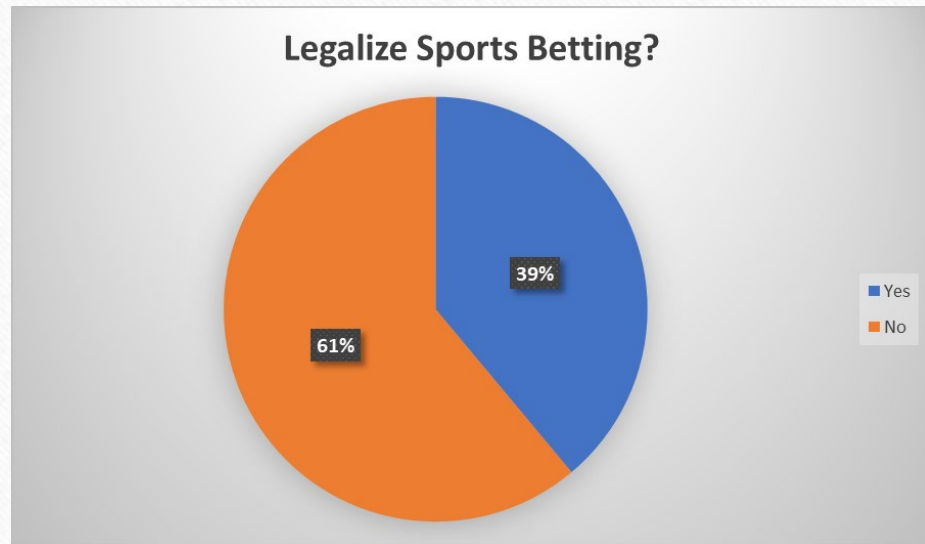
Legalize Marijuana?



Yes: 605 No: 177

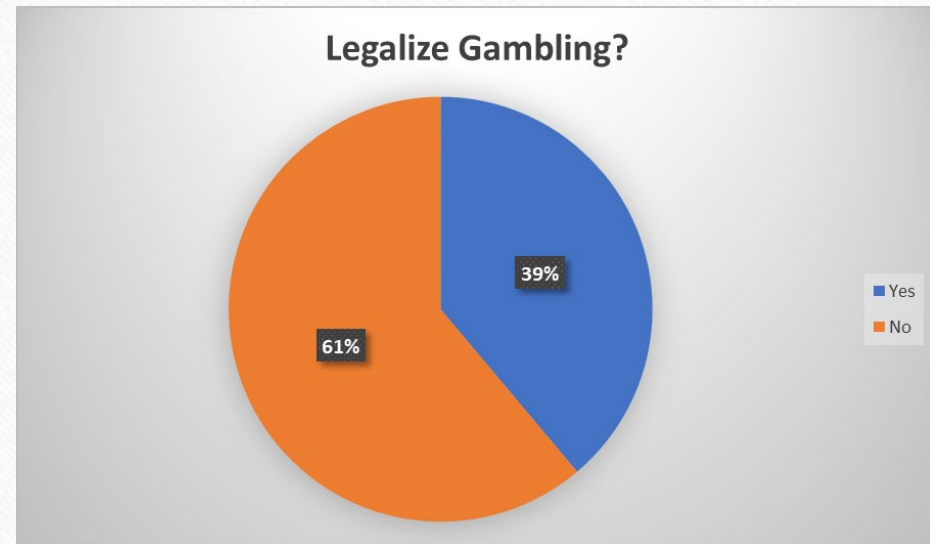
Preliminary Survey Results: How do we revive the economy?

Legalize Sports Betting?



Yes: 288 No: 452

Legalize Gambling?

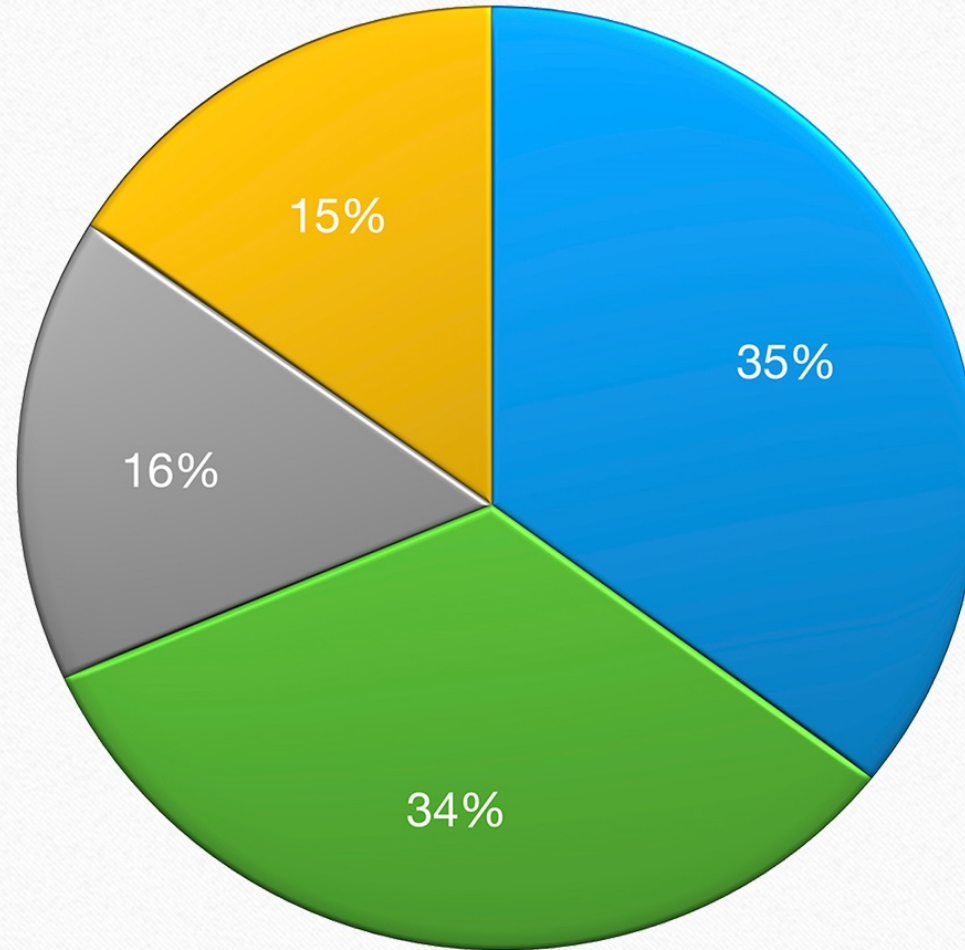


Yes: 293 No: 461

Preliminary Survey Results: Economy

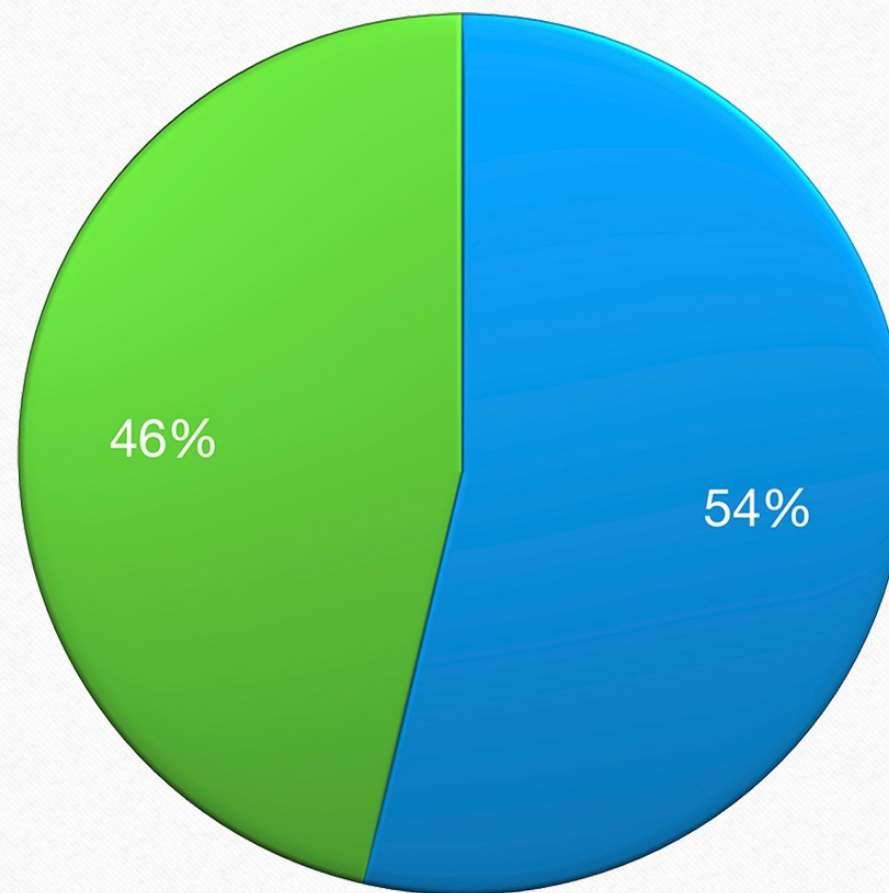
How do we revive the economy?

- Legalize Hemp
- Legalize Marijuana
- Legalize Gaming
- Legalize Sports Betting



Preliminary Survey Results: Private Roads

We have miles of private roads in subdivisions that are not maintained. Are you satisfied with the association/entity that maintains the roads in your subdivision?



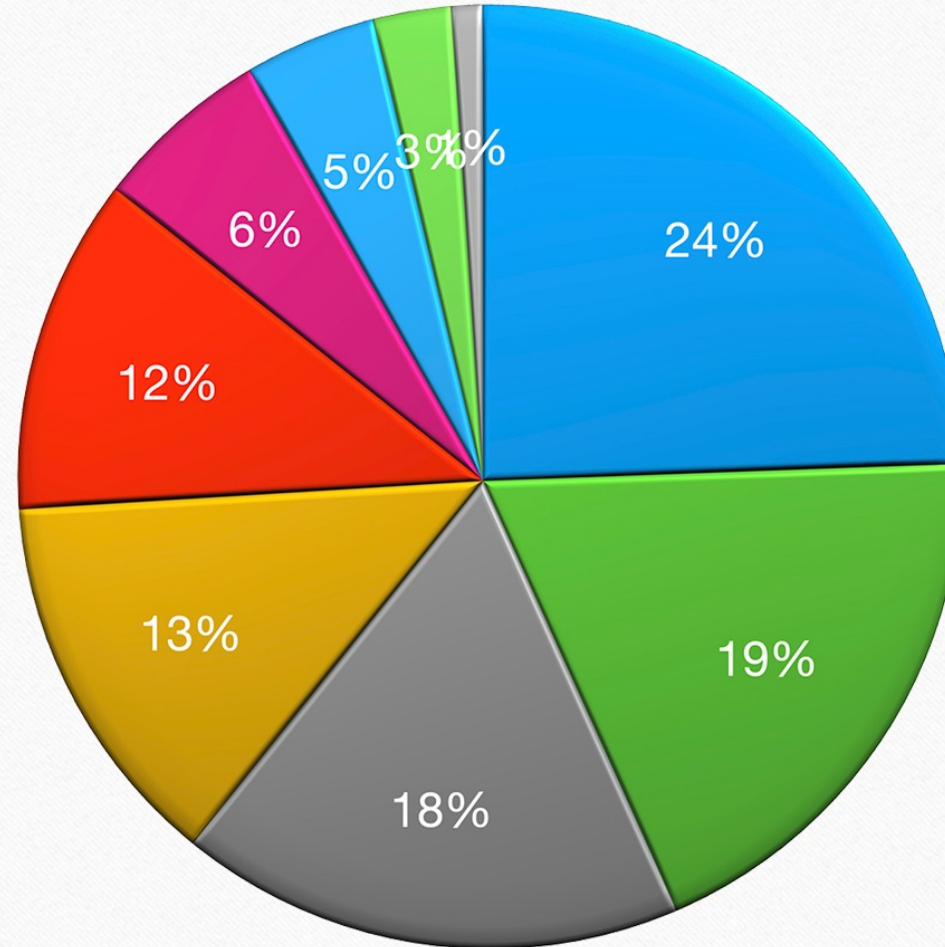
● No

● Yes

Preliminary Survey Results: Important

What do you think is the most important issue facing our community?

- Economy/Jobs
- COVID-19
- Infrastructure
- Roadways
- Climate Change
- Crime/Drugs
- Housing
- Environment
- TMT



Preliminary Survey Results: Notes

Preliminary survey results. Many of you also specifically mentioned:

- Diversifying Local Economy
- Support for Agriculture and STEM
- Fireworks
- Traffic
- Mental Health Care
- Government - Federal, State, County Leadership
- Food Security
- Broadband/Internet Connectivity

If you have not already responded to the survey, you can still submit your response online at:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2BSWHTW>

Puna Lane Closure

Lane closure: Kea‘au-Pāhoa Road (Route 130)

Single lane closure on Kea‘au-Pāhoa Road (Route 130) in both directions between mile markers 11 and 14, Pāhoa Bypass Road and Nunulu Road, on Monday, March 1st, through Friday, March 5th, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., for shoulder work.

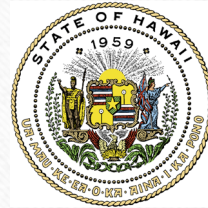
For more traffic updates please visit:

<https://hidot.hawaii.gov/highways/>

To sign up for email alerts, please visit:

<https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/hidot/subscriber/new>

Contact Information



SENATOR JOY A. SAN BUENAVENTURA

Hawaii State Senate

District 2: Puna – East Ka‘ū

Chair, Senate Committee on Human Services

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Email: sensanbuenaventura@capitol.hawaii.gov

Questions?

Send your questions via chat (Zoom) or comment (Facebook)