

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER FROM THE OFFICE OF REPRESENTATIVE JO JORDAN

HOUSE DISTRICT 44 · WAIANAE, MAKAHA, MAKUA, MAILI · MARCH 2016 (808) 586-8460 · REPJORDAN@CAPITOL.HAWAII.GOV · WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/REPJORDAN

Aloha Neighbors,

The 2016 Legislative Session is past its midway point and scheduled to adjourn on May 5th. The Legislature is continuing to review bills and resolutions and I have highlighted inside this newsletter a few bills still under consideration on issues ranging from



workforce development, education, Hawaiian affairs, housing/ homelessness, human services, and supporting our kupuna and women.

In addition to the bills highlighted, I have also introduced the following resolutions: HCR183 (relating to the Makua Valley Environmental Impact Statement and demilitarizing Makua Valley); HCR184/HR131 (report on the viability of a workforce development pilot program in the field of procurement); HCR185/HR132 (relating to establishing an intra-island water ferry transportation system along the Leeward Coast of Oahu); HCR186/HR133 (relating to updating the 2009 Waianae Baseline Environmental Study and completing additional studies and monitoring as recommended in the 2009 Study); and HCR187/HR134 (urging the Office of Environmental Quality Control to adopt the environmental justice guidance document as agency policy).

I also wanted to be sure you were aware of the Department of Transportation's plans to begin a contraflow lane on Farrington Highway in Nanakuli later this year and your opportunity to find out more about the project and express your position at the upcoming Neighborhood Board meeting in April.

I look forward to continuing to work together on these and other issues. It is a privilege to continue to serve you. Feel free to contact me if I can be of assistance.

Mahalo,

Jo Jordan, District 44 Representative

Farrington Highway Contraflow Pilot Project Aims to Bring Traffic Relief to Waianae Coast

The Hawaii Department of Transportation (HDOT) formally announced plans to begin a contraflow lane on Farrington Highway in Nanakuli later this year. The Nanakuli contraflow pilot project will create a third lane of travel for westbound drivers on Farrington Highway from 3pm - 7pm every weekday, excluding holidays. The mile-long contraflow lane is planned to begin at Piliokahi Avenue and continue past Helelua Street. During the contraflow hours signs, cones and markers will be displayed to safely convert the eastbound lane to create three Waianae bound lanes and one Honolulu bound lane. HDOT is in the process of developing conceptual plans. During the contraflow hours, mobility on Farrington will be prioritized and some turning movements from mauka and makai will be disallowed. Due to the turning restrictions, U-turn access points are being coordinated with the City & County of Honolulu to minimize impacts to drivers and area residents. The HDOT is currently working with City & County of Honolulu Department of Transportation Services and Oahu Transit Services to coordinate technical requirements. HDOT has scheduled appearances before the area Neighborhood Boards in March and April to gather input from the community before implementing the plans. With the upcoming community input and feedback, HDOT anticipates the contraflow could be developed during the summer and implemented before the Beat the School Jam and the start of the next school year.



2016 MID-SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

I have included a few of the bills that passed out of the Hawaii House of Representatives up to First Crossover, or the midpoint of the 2016 Regular Session. Since the legislative session is still in progress, the status of the measures in this report will continue to evolve, but I encourage you to weigh in on these issues as the bills move over to the Senate.

Supporting Our Kupuna

Kupuna Care (HB1878 HD1): Appropriate funds for the Kupuna Care Program; the Aging and Disability Resource Center; Fall prevention and early detection services for the elderly; the Healthy Aging Partnership Program; and Alzheimer's disease and related dementia for staff and public awareness.

Long-Term Care Facilities (HB1943 HD1): The purpose of this measure is to preserve access to health care for Medicaid recipients by providing an inflationary adjustment to the long-term care reimbursement methodology used to reimburse facilities for Medicaid recipients.

Workforce Development

Special Minimum Wages (HB2010 HD1): Requires the Director of Labor and Industrial Relations to approve First Job Training Programs.

Agriculture (HB1997): The purpose of this measure is to implement the recommendation of the Hawaii agriculture workforce advisory board that the State should create an agriculture workforce development pipeline initiative to conduct training on all islands for

teachers and school administrators in agricultural selfsufficiency.

Education

Cooling Hawaii's Schools (HB2569 HD2): The purpose of this measure is to accelerate the goals of the DOE to cool Hawaii's schools, reduce energy costs, meet Hawaii's clean energy goals, and provide all students with better classrooms in which to learn.

Technology in Schools (HB2267 HD1): Defines curricular materials to include both printed and digital material and clarifies that moneys for curricular materials can be used for digital formats.

Early Learning (HB2266 HD2): The purpose of this measure is to ensure that the Executive Office on Early Learning has staffing and support to ensure a solid foundation for Hawaii's young children.

University of Hawaii (HB1608 HD1): Appropriates moneys for the UH Graduation Pathway System.



Rep. Jordan with students from Waianae High School.

2016 MID-SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

Housing/Homelessness

Mixed-use Developments (HB2293 HD1): The purpose of this measure is to enable the HHFDC to partner with state and county departments and agencies to develop mixed-use developments to ensure that affordable housing will be in close proximity to jobs, shops, and other services.

Low Income Rental Subsidies (HB1958 HD1): The purpose of this measure is to incentivize the renting of units to Section 8 holders by exempting rental subsidy payments for Section 8 and Housing First Programs from the state general excise tax.

Homeless Outreach (HB1774 HD1): Appropriates additional funds to outreach to homeless individuals and families, as well as homeless unaccompanied youth.

Homeless (HB1773 HD1): Appropriates funds for the Shallow Rent Subsidy Program for homeless working individuals or families who are ready to rent permanent housing to obtain and maintain permanent housing and to continue to administer Housing First Programs for chronically homeless.

Human Services

Oral Health (HB1772 HD2): Appropriates funds to the department of human services to restore basic adult dental benefits to Medicaid and QUEST integration enrollees.

Office of Youth Services (HB1346 HD1): The purpose of this measure is to require the office of youth services to coordinate a positive youth development program to provide after school and school break programs for middle and high school students focused on prevention and intervention.



Rep. Jordan with the Women's Legislative Caucus.

Support for Women

Pay Equity (HB1909 HD1): The purpose of this measure is to encourage equal pay between men and women.

Office of Veterans' Services (HB2489): The purpose of this measure is to address the various problems and needs of all veterans, with a primary focus on female veterans who served on active duty for the full period they were activated.

Hawaiian Affairs

DHHL (HB1932 HD2): Ensures the legislature fulfills its responsibility under article XII, section 1, of the state constitution by appropriating sufficient general funds for reimbursement of administration and operating expenses of DHHL for the current fiscal year.

Hawaiian Language (HB2736 HD2): Requires that Hawaiian language ballots be made available in each election upon voter request. ⊲

Representative Jo Jordan

House of Representatives 415 S. Beretania St., Room 323 Honolulu, HI 96813

Connect with Rep. Jordan



http://facebook.com/repjordan



http://flickr.com/photos/repjordan



Legislative Website http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/ click on "Legislators" click on "Jordan"



Contact Information repjordan@capitol.hawaii.gov repjordan@gmail.com (808) 586-8460



http://twitter.com/repjordan



http://youtube.com/repjordan

Sign up for my email updates at http://bit.ly/repjordan

My email updates are powered by MailChimp.