

State Representative
**LISA
KITAGAWA**



Proudly Serving Kāneʻohe to Waiāhole

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Stay Connected!

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LEGISLATIVE & COMMUNITY UPDATES INSIDE!

Are you Prepared for Hurricane Season?

Hurricane season is upon us and lasts until November. Although it is estimated that Hawai'i will have a near or below-normal hurricane season this year, it is still important that our community is ready and prepared if a disaster does happen. Now is the time to start a discussion with your family and create a plan to prepare for a potential hurricane or other emergency situation.

BUILD A SUPPLY KIT:

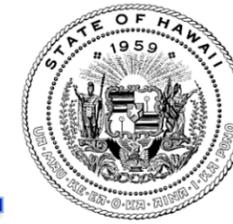


- Keep at least 2 weeks of supplies in your home.
- Have smaller kits for work, family members, and pets.
- Have a vehicle safety kit too.

RESOURCES ON EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS:



CAPITOL UPDATE



Representative Lisa Kitagawa

A MESSAGE FROM LISA

Aloha!

Over the past year, we have experienced unprecedented times full of challenges and hardships. However, despite everything we've gone through due to COVID-19, our community has come together, stronger than before. Thank you to those who have helped with a community vaccine clinic or food drive, those who have helped a student with distance education or child care, those who delivered a hot meal or groceries to a kūpuna in need, and those who reached out and checked in on your neighbors. All of us pulling together in different ways has been a light during this uncertain season of our lives.

This 2021 Legislative Session focused on finding ways to address the many needs of our State, particularly those that are COVID-19 related. The health and safety of our communities has been a priority for the Legislature since the coronavirus began, and finding ways to stabilize and improve our economy were also at the top of our list. The federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 provided much needed aid for our state and local governments, schools, and small businesses. It also provided another round of economic impact payments to individuals and families, aid to continue vaccination efforts, and assistance for those struggling with job, food, and housing insecurity.

Through all of the ups and downs of the last year, I have remained steadfast in working to ensure that our community is taken care of. Although we are in the interim until 2022, I remain committed to you and our community. For COVID-related, legislative, and community updates, useful resources, and other happenings around our district, please subscribe to my weekly e-newsletter by emailing me at repkitagawa@capitol.hawaii.gov or calling (808) 586-8540. Please also visit my website RepKitagawa.com to stay updated.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve you.

Lisa



Windward Flu Shot Clinic



State Hospital Tour



Women's Caucus Donation Drive

2021 FUNDING FOR OUR COMMUNITY PROJECTS

Totaling \$30,424,456

'Āhuimanu Elementary School ADA Pathway	\$750,000
Castle High School Track and Field Improvements	\$4,500,000
Castle High School Gym Improvements and Heat Abatement	\$230,000
Hawai'i Institute for Marine Biology Positions and Coastal Assessment	\$394,456
Hawai'i State Hospital Chillers and Kitchen Improvements	\$4,100,000
Hawai'i State Hospital Stabilization and Mental Health Crisis Unit	\$900,000
Kahalu'u Elementary School Restroom Renovation	\$550,000
Kāne'ōhe Bay Sea Urchin Hatchery Program	\$1,000,000
Ko'olaupoko Trauma-Informed Education Implementation	\$800,000
Pali Highway Traffic Signals	\$5,200,000
Waiāhole Bridge Replacement	\$9,000,000
Windward Community College Agripharmatech Bioprocessing Facility	\$3,000,000

MAHALO KĀNE'ŌHE BAKERY



Left to Right: Rep Pat Branco, Rep Lisa Kitagawa, and Rep Scot Matayoshi presenting a certificate to Kāne'ōhe Bakery.

I would like to take the opportunity to extend a special mahalo to Kāne'ōhe Bakery for serving our community for nearly 70 years. Kāne'ōhe Bakery was a beloved family-run bakery that opened its doors in May of 1953 by James Mizota, who taught himself how to bake through trial and error; since then it has been owned and operated by generations of the Mizota family.

I personally have enjoyed Kāne'ōhe Bakery's desserts at birthdays and other celebrations throughout the years, and would bring their pumpkin custard pie or fudge brownies over when visiting a friend's house.

This landmark on the Windward side will be missed by not only those of us in Kāne'ōhe, but also by customers throughout the island.

SUPPORTING EDUCATION



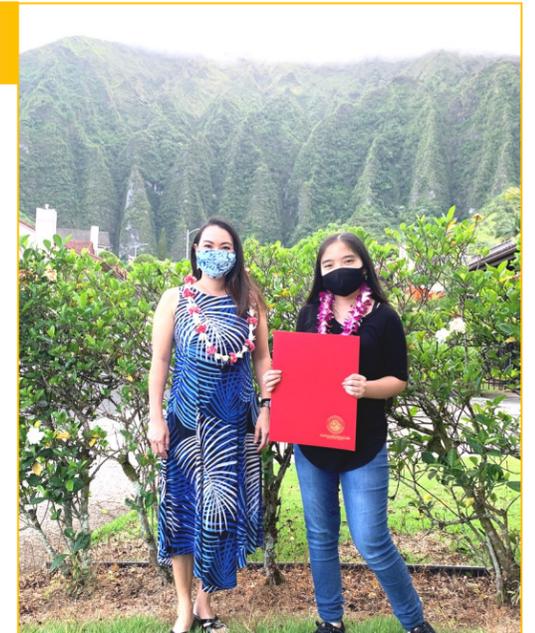
Congratulations, Class of 2021!



Representative Lisa Kitagawa Scholarship

As a former higher education administrator and someone who attended college through the generous scholarships given by others, I have always wanted to give back and help other Castle High School students further their education.

This year, I was able to award **Kelly Urasaki** with the third annual Representative Lisa Kitagawa Scholarship. Kelly is an outstanding student who served as president of Castle's Key Club, and volunteers with numerous campus and community organizations. She excels academically and was one of Castle's valedictorians. Best wishes to Kelly as she pursues her degree in computer science from the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa.



Outstanding 6th Grade Student Awards

The Outstanding 6th Grade Student Award recognizes students who demonstrate leadership potential, good citizenship, and academic achievement at each of the elementary schools in our district. The awardees were selected by the sixth grade teachers and school, and have received a personalized certificate from the State Legislature, as well as a personalized, engraved trophy. Congratulations to this year's awardees:

- Adrienne Lininger** and **Justin Katayama** from 'Āhuimanu Elementary School
- Francine Burgos** and **Cameron Pierce** from Ben Parker Elementary School
- Clint Pahia** and **Sienna Sasaki** from He'eia Elementary School
- Mikaloh Thai** and **Colby Kawaguchi** from Kahalu'u Elementary School
- Jarin Masaki** and **Ella Brown** from Kapunahala Elementary School
- Braylee Woodland** from Waiāhole Elementary School



COMMUNITY VOICES MATTER

HB 1333: Relating to Clean Energy

HB 1333, which I introduced, passed this year and addresses disposal, recycling, or secondary use of clean energy products in our State, such as photovoltaic and solar water heater panels. This bill appropriates funds for the Hawai'i Natural Energy Institute, in consultation with the Department of Health, to conduct a study to determine best practices for clean energy products, which are expected to be discarded in our landfills in large quantities in the coming years due to product lifespan. Thank you to community member, John Reppun, for proposing this idea at a Kahalu'u Neighborhood Board meeting and supporting the measure as it moved through the legislative process.



HB 2148: Relating to Family Leave

I am happy to report that as of last year (2020), grandparents are now included under the Hawai'i State Family Leave Law. My bill, **HB 2148**, extended family leave in the State to include care for employees' grandchildren. Thank you to the Rezada family (shown to the left) for bringing this issue to my attention and continuing to partner with me to pass this law.

SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY

Kāne'ōhe Bay Sea Urchin Program



This year, I am grateful to have been able to help secure **\$1,000,000** in funding for the very important work that Ānuenuē Fisheries Research Center is doing with its sea urchin hatchery. Through this program, native Hawaiian sea urchins are spawned and raised to fight invasive alien seaweeds in Hawai'i and help corals to thrive. This program initially began in Kāne'ōhe Bay, and due to its success is now being used in other areas across the state.

Hawai'i Institute of Marine Biology

The Hawai'i Institute of Marine Biology (HIMB) is such an important part of our community. This year, I was able to help secure almost **\$400,000** in the State Budget to fund essential positions and research at HIMB.

On a recent visit to HIMB (photos to the right), I was able to learn about the history, programs, and research at Moku o Lo'e (also known as Coconut Island). Currently, HIMB is on the cutting-edge of vital research to help save corals and other marine life from environmental devastation, due to events such as coral bleaching. Saving our coral reefs are essential to preserving our ecosystems and ensuring the sustainability of fishing in our islands. Coral reefs also protect our coasts from waves, storms and floods, and help to prevent the loss of life, property damage, and erosion. The coral research conducted in Kāne'ōhe Bay helps to preserve and protect our beautiful community.

For more information, please visit: himb.hawaii.edu



Top Left: A graduate researcher explains the different projects she has worked on.

Top Right: A faculty member shows Rep Kitagawa her work on coral spawning.

Bottom: Rep Kitagawa learns about a project on growing corals.

For photos of this site visit and more, please visit my Flickr page at: [bit.ly/repkitagawaflickr](https://www.flickr.com/photos/repkitagawaflickr/)

TRAUMA-INFORMED EDUCATION AND CARE

Trauma-informed education and care are essential to help children and families be resilient and compassionate so they can take care of themselves and others in the community.

Compassionate Ko'olaupoko is an organization that brings together educators, and community leaders and members to strengthen a culture of caring in our region. They are dedicated to creating a flourishing and thriving Ko'olaupoko by ensuring our communities are trauma-informed and responsive.

Over the past two years, I have been working on legislation to help support the efforts of Compassionate Ko'olaupoko by expanding the reach of trauma-informed education and care into all of our communities. Currently, in the Ko'olaupoko region there are a handful of schools that are trauma-informed (educators and staff have received training and skills to help students with trauma); however, the goal is to have all of our schools be trauma-informed. This year, the Legislature approved funding to expand trauma-informed education and care in our Ko'olaupoko communities. We received **\$800,000** to support trauma-informed education and restorative practices in the Castle, Kalaheo, and Kailua school complexes over the next two years.

If you would like to get involved to support trauma-informed initiatives in our community, please visit the Compassionate Ko'olaupoko website: compassionatekoolaupoko.org



Hawaiian Civic Club Helen C. Kane Award



Virtual Read Aloud Event at He'eia EI.



Castle Engineering Challenge

SESSION SUMMARY

In March 2021, Congress and the Biden Administration passed another relief package for Americans impacted by the pandemic. The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 delivered much-needed financial support. This federal assistance helped ease the financial strain on our State, and much of this funding has been allocated through the more than 250 bills that the Legislature passed and sent over to the Governor to sign into law. Out of the 2,820 bills introduced this year, 265 measures ultimately passed. Below are some of the bills and critical funding that passed this year. To learn more about these bills and other bills that passed, please visit www.capitol.hawaii.gov for more information.

Funding Our Critical Programs and Services (Highlights)

\$2,594,198	Early College Program: offers over 400 classes for 43 high schools statewide
\$2,482,554	Hawai'i Keiki Program: promotes healthy keiki and reduces the number of absences statewide
\$2,380,000	Restoration of sex assault treatment service contracts to continue 24/7 stabilization information
\$14,971,239	HIV prevention and care services
\$3,924,691	Prevention services for the Tuberculosis Branch
\$22,417,662	Early Intervention services
\$3,200,000	Developmental Disabilities services
\$1,500,000	Office on Aging: services for senior centers
\$500,000	Additional funding for the Rent Supplemental Program for low-income families
\$5,400,000	Additional funding for General Assistance payments for TDI to maintain current level of benefits
\$14,300,000	Continued homeless services, including Housing First Program, Rapid Re-housing Program, Home-
\$1,739,179	Restoration of 57 critical Child Protective Services positions
\$31,035,000	Cash support for childcare
\$3,129,000	Hawai'i Promise Program to support higher education

Safety and Protection

PHOTO RED LIGHT IMAGING DETECTOR

Provides funding for a Photo Red Light Imaging Detector Systems pilot program (traffic red light camera program) **HB766**

PAYDAY LENDING REGULATION

Transitions the payday lending market in the State away from deferred deposit transactions and establishes a framework for providing new, viable installment loan transactions. **HB1192**

EVICITION MEDIATION

Establishes a balanced procedure of mediation for landlords and tenants related to eviction proceedings in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. **HB1376**

Kupuna Services

DEMENTIA TRAINING

Authorizes the development and provision of dementia training for first responders. **HB 1283**

PREVENTING SENIOR EXPLOITATION

Requires certain securities industry professionals to report instances of suspected financial exploitation of elders and vulnerable adults. **HB940**

Equity for All

AUTOMATIC VOTER REGISTRATION

Makes an application for voter registration part of the application process for a state identification card and driver's license. **SB159**

HEALTHY FOOD INCENTIVE PROGRAM

Removes the \$10 per visit, per day cap on the dollar-for-dollar match received by Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program beneficiaries under the Hawai'i Healthy Food Incentive Program. **SB512**



BROADBAND SERVICES

Establishes the Broadband Infrastructure Grant Program to award grants to applicants to extend deployment of infrastructure used to provide broadband service to unserved and underserved areas of the State. **HB1191**

Climate Change Adaptation

SEA LEVEL RISE DISCLOSURE

Requires the seller of a residential real estate property to disclose if the property lies within the sea level rise exposure area. **SB474**

EV CHARGING REBATE PROGRAM

Establishes the Electric Vehicle Charging System Rebate Program. Reallocates funds from the barrel tax for the installation of electric charging systems. **HB1142**

CLEAN TRANSPORTATION

Establishes clean ground transportation goals for state agencies to achieve a one hundred percent light-duty passenger car zero-emission fleet by December 31, 2030, and a one hundred percent light-duty motor vehicle zero-emission fleet by December 31, 2035. **HB552**

SEA LEVEL RISE ADAPTATION

Requires the Office of Planning to identify existing and planned facilities that are vulnerable to sea level rise, flooding impacts, and natural hazards; assess a range of options to mitigate the impacts of sea level rise to those facilities; and submit annual reports. Amends the Hawai'i State Planning Act to include sustainable development, climate change adaptation, and sea level rise adaptation as objectives for state facility systems. **HB243**

EARLY EDUCATION

Authorizes the DOE to establish a public prekindergarten program, establishes the Hawai'i Early Childhood Educator Stipend Program to address shortage of early childhood educators, allows early learning programs and preschool programs to use available classrooms for public preschool programs statewide, and gives priority for entering the Preschool Open Doors Program to children who miss the cutoff date to enter kindergarten. **HB1362**

Supporting Our Keiki

TRAUMA-INFORMED CARE

Establishes a Trauma-Informed Care Task Force in the Department of Health to develop and make recommendations for trauma-informed care in the State. **HB1322**

FARM TO SCHOOL

Establishes a programmatic goal for the Department of Education that at least 30 percent of food, as measured by food costs, served in public schools must consist of locally sourced products by 2030. **HB767**

GREEN JOBS YOUTH CORPS PROGRAM

Prioritizes work and training opportunities for young adults to help address the unemployment impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and support economic diversification. **HB1176**