

LEGISLATIVE HIGHLIGHTS

Aloha,

The 2021 legislative session has concluded and I'm pleased to share some of the accomplishments and highlights.



During this past legislative session, I served as Chair of the Senate's Commerce and Consumer Protection Committee and Vice Chair of the Health Committee. My colleagues and I heard a number of important bills and resolutions that will benefit our local businesses, island families, health care industry, and our state's economy. A total of 2,867 bills were introduced and 193 bills were passed through the Legislature. Our Maui County legislative team also brought home over \$533 million in funding for capital improvement projects on Maui, Lānaʻi and Molokaʻi. These include funding for schools, roadways, harbors, airports, health care facilities, water supply systems, broadband technology, parks, and other infrastructure.

We extend a big mahalo to everyone who communicated with us during our virtual meetings and who reached out to us via email or phone. Despite the lack of in-person meetings due to COVID-19, we experienced a robust legislative session.

I'm honored to be able to serve the people of Maui County and I welcome hearing your ideas and concerns. Please email me at senbaker@capitol.hawaii.gov or call my office at 808-586-6070. My wonderful staff are available to assist as well.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Roz Baker".

Senator Roz Baker
6th District, South and West Maui

Mahalo for your feedback and support as together we work hard to make our island home a better place for all of us.

Notable CIP Funding for Maui County

More than \$533 million was set aside for capital improvement projects on Maui, Lānaʻi and Molokaʻi. Among the notable CIP funding projects (*funds are for Fiscal Year 2022 unless otherwise noted*):

- **Lahainaluna complex** – land, plans, design, construction and equipment for teacher housing – \$15,000,000
- **Lahaina Intermediate School** – play court improvements resurfacing – \$900,000
- **Baldwin High School** – electrical and ventilation upgrades – \$5,200,000*
- **Maui High School** – plan and design for field house – \$2,500,000
- **Maui Waena** – improve facilities and infrastructure – \$2,400,000
- **Puʻu Kukui Elementary School** – land acquisition – \$150,000
- **Wailuku Elementary School** – Parking lot improvements, electrical upgrades, AC and ventilation projects – \$7,350,000
- **Maui Health Systems** – patient room renovations and new bed systems for Maui Memorial Medical Center's intensive care units and COVID intensive care units – \$1,250,000*
- **Maui Health Systems** – design and Construction of needed renovations at Maui Memorial Medical Center – \$5,450,000 (FY 2022) and \$35,000,000 (FY 2023)
- **Maui Health Systems** – planning and design for proof of concept going forward – \$500,000
- **Maui Health Systems** – repairs at facilities (design, construction and equipment) – \$6,000,000 (FY 2022) and \$6,000,000 (FY 2023)
- **State Highways on Maui** – design and construction for guardrail and shoulder improvements \$2,000,000
- **State Highways on Maui** – for traffic operational improvements for existing intersections and highway facilities – \$1,600,000 (FY 2022) and \$1,600,000 (FY 2023)
- **Hana Highway bridge preservation** – \$12,500,000
- **Hana Highway rockfall mitigation** – \$2,000,000
- **Hana Highway improvements** – \$1,300,000 (FY2022) and \$4,000,000 (FY2023)
- **Waiale Road Extension** – \$35,000,000

Notable CIP Funding *(continued)*

- Na Wai Eha Land acquisition of 10,000 acres in West Maui to protect important forested watershed, native forest and water resources – \$9,300,000
- Watershed protection and ungulate fencing – \$2,800,000
- Kula Vacuum Cooling Facility critical repairs – \$160,000
- Pulehunui water source and system development – \$1,000,000
- Pulehunui improvements and infrastructure – \$17,000,000
- Upcountry Maui plans, Land acquisition, and design for well – \$1,000,000
- Kahului Harbor improvements – \$10,000,000 (FY2022) and \$63,000,000 (FY2023)

* ARPA (*American Rescue Plan Act*) funds



Roz speaks during a recent Governor Ige bill signing.



Our wonderful staff (from left): Allysen Manding (CPN committee clerk), Mary Kate Murray (office Manager who resigned at end of 2021 to devote full time to her law school studies), Roz Baker, and Alisha Leisek (committee staff 2021 and now my office manager).

Legislative Bill Highlights

Many important bills were passed by the Legislature that will greatly help our community. Governor David Ige had until June 21, 2021 to notify the Legislature of the bills he intends to veto. On July 6, 2021 any measure that the Governor has not signed or vetoed will become law. Below are highlights of some of these bills:

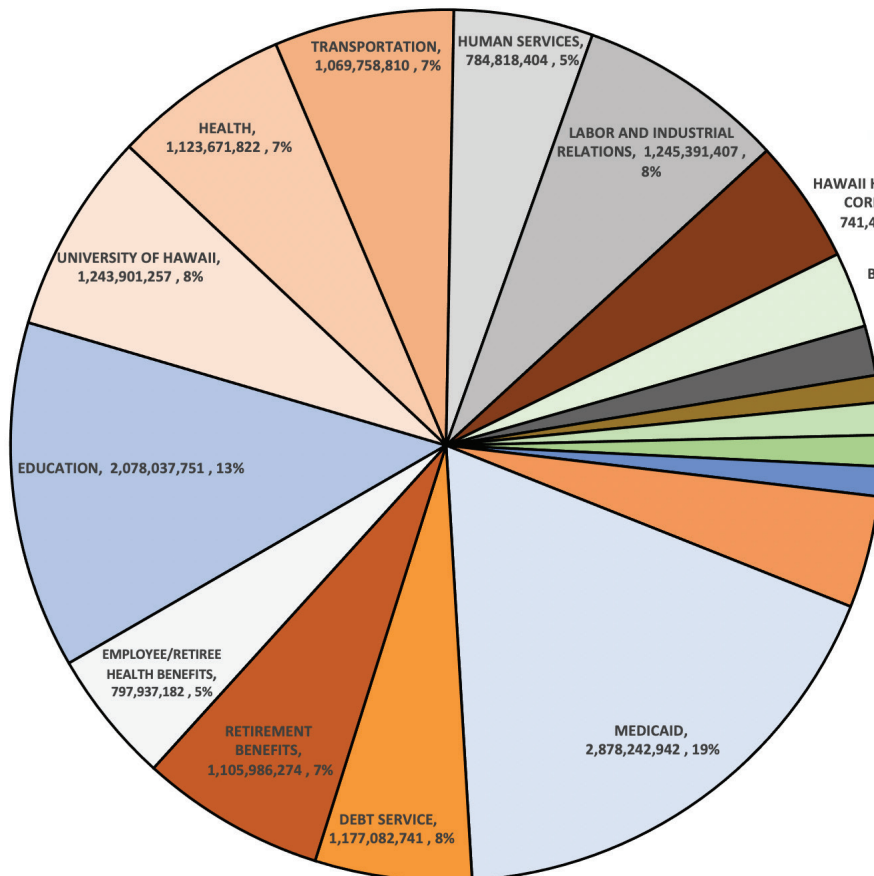
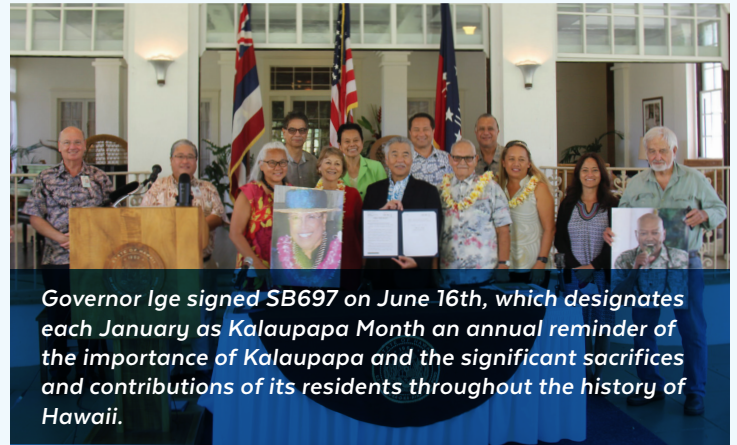
- **HB200, HD1, SD1, CD1** – Appropriates funds for the operating and capital improvement budgets of the Executive Branch for fiscal years 2021-2022 and 2022-2023.
- **SB159, SD1, HD1, CD1** – Includes an application for voter registration as a part of the application packets for a state ID card and a driver's license.
- **SB345, SD2, HD1, CD1** – Bans import for sale of any cosmetic that was developed or manufactured using animal testing performed in a cruel manner on or after January 1, 2022.
- **HB485, HD1, SD1, CD1** – Increases the rental motor vehicle surcharge tax by \$0.50, exempting those vehicles that have been stolen and unrecovered or have been totaled.
- **HB552, HD1, SD2, CD1** – Facilitates the transition to 100% clean ground transportation in the state by establishing a goal to transition all state-owned, light duty motor vehicles to zero-emission vehicles by end of 2035.
- **HB566, HD1, SD1** – Adds coercive control between family or household members to the pilot program to strengthen state and county responses to domestic violence and increase violator accountability.
- **HB599, HD1, SD1, CD1** – Clarifies that community associations may conduct meetings remotely and authorizes condo associations to use virtual meetings and electronic or mail voting during a state of emergency.
- **SB589, SD2, HD2, CD1** – Establishes the UH Cancer Center in statute as the cancer research center of Hawai'i.
- **SB615, SD1, HD2, CD1** – Lexi's Law seeks to mitigate fatalities and traumatic brain injuries on Hawai'i's roadways by strengthening helmet safety laws as they relate to mopeds and motor scooters that are rented.
- **SB764, SD1, HD1, CD1** – Permanently disqualifies any person from diving a commercial motor vehicle for life and without possibility of reinstatement if the person uses a commercial motor vehicle in the commission of any felony involving severe forms of trafficking in persons.
- **SB939** – Establishes June 19 of each year as Juneteenth in recognition of the history and legacy of slavery in the United States and in honor of the significant roles and contributions of African Americans in the history of the United States.

Legislative Bill Highlights (continued)

- **HB940, HD2, SD1** – Authorizes the delay of disbursements and transactions in situations of suspected financial exploitation of elders and vulnerable adults, mandates reporting and immunity for good faith reporting.
- **SB970, SD2, HD2** – Increases access to healthcare by authorizing establishment of a physician/patient relationship via telehealth so long as the physician is license to practice medicine in the State.
- **HB975, HD1, SD1** – Adds immunity from civil and criminal liability for individuals who provide information or assistance in child abuse investigations.

- **HB1102, HD1, SD2** – Prohibits the intentional release of balloons inflated with gas lighter than air.
- **HB1191, HD2, SD2, CD1** – Facilitates deployment of last-mile broadband infrastructure in unserved and underserved areas of the state.
- **HB1192, HD1, SD2, CD1** – Establishes a framework to provide a new, viable installment loan instrument to assist working families and individuals who may not have a checking or savings account or credit card to pay for emergency and/or recurring expenses. It repeals the current statute authorizing “payday” loans.

For additional information on these measures and the others that were passed or considered during the 2021 Legislative session, please go to the website www.capitol.hawaii.gov.



Fiscal Year 2022 All Means of Financing

\$16,129,396,071

HAWAII HEALTH SYSTEM CORPORATION	741,464,495	5%
BUDGET AND FINANCE	452,946,722	3%
PUBLIC SAFETY	297,540,439	2%
BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM	214,603,539	1%
ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES	193,447,966	1%
LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES	185,570,499	1%
JUDICIARY	177,900,433	1%
DEPARTMENTS LESS THAN 1%	670,631,205	4%

LESS THAN 1%	FY2022 TOTALS	%
DEFENSE	103,470,791	0.642%
CHARTER SCHOOLS	106,950,406	0.663%
ATTORNEY GENERAL	102,285,053	0.634%
COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS	93,821,564	0.582%
HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS	53,635,438	0.333%
PUBLIC LIBRARIES	42,541,076	0.264%
AGRICULTURE	52,389,942	0.325%
LEGISLATURE	41,542,814	0.258%
TAXATION	31,871,076	0.198%
HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT	26,032,612	0.161%
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR	3,550,536	0.022%
OFFICE OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR	955,793	0.006%
OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS	8,684,104	0.054%
SUBSIDIES	2,900,000	0.018%
TOTAL	670,631,205	4.16%

Legislature Finalizes State Budget

On April 19, 2021, the Hawai'i State Legislature passed House Bill 200, which appropriates funds for the operating and capital improvement budget of the Executive Branch for fiscal years 2021-2022 and 2022-2023. Budget highlights include:

Department of Agriculture

- \$806,418 to transition the Agricultural Loan Division to general funds.
- \$3,619,378 to transition programs funded by the Agricultural Development and Food Security Special Fund to general funds.
- \$4,024,637 in general fund savings from converting (68) positions for the Plant Industry Division to special funds.
- \$491,278 to transition the Agribusiness Development Corporation personnel to general funds.
- \$96,979 in special funds to support the non-agricultural park program.
- \$25,000 for the Queen Bee program.
- \$100,000 in American Rescue Plan funds for fiscal year 2022 for floriculture and ornamental industries.

Department of Accounting and General Services

- Consolidates the King Kamehameha Celebration Commission with the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts.
- \$626,000 in American Rescue Plan funds for Bishop Museum.
- Consolidates Office of Enterprise Technology Services programs for efficiency and resource alignment.
- \$836,550 in special funds and (5) positions for IT modernization efforts.
- \$4,400,000 in fiscal year 2022 and \$1,000,000 in fiscal year 2023 in American Rescue Plan funds for Aloha Stadium operations and structural engineering assessment.
- \$548,412 to restore funding for (10) critical accounting division positions.
- \$153,967 to restore (1.5) positions and funding for the Office of Information Practices.
- \$500,000 for fiscal year 2022 in federal funds for a voting system contract.
- \$302,925 to restore funding for (8) Office of Elections positions.
- \$80,000 for fiscal year 2022 and \$84,000 for fiscal year 2023 in American Rescue Plan funds for past performance database.
- \$550,000 in American Rescue Plan funds to supplement the State Risk Management and Insurance program.
- \$720,000 in fiscal year 2022 and \$240,000 in fiscal year 2023 in American Rescue Plan funds for 'Iolani Palace.

Department of the Attorney General

- \$2,380,000 to restore sex assault treatment purchase of service contracts to continue 24/7 stabilization information and referral services, case management, counseling services, and late-night services.
- \$870,000 and (9) positions to establish the complex litigation, fraud, and compliance unit which will focus on civil and criminal cases and fraud and ethics violations within government.
- \$531,325 to change the means of financing for the Medicaid fraud control unit to investigate and prosecute Medicaid fraud and patient abuse or neglect in health care facilities, or board and care facilities.
- \$400,000 reduction for the Automated Fingerprint Information System yearly loan payments.

Department of Budget and Finance

- \$313,680,042 for the repayment of a working capital loan.
- \$93,248,158 in fiscal year 2022 and \$122,625,227 in fiscal year 2023 for debt service payments.

Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism

- Consolidates the Land Use Commission, the Office of Environmental Quality Control, and the Office of Planning to create the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development.
- Consolidates personnel from the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations' Research and Statistics Office and the Hawai'i Tourism Authority's Tourism Research Office into the Research and Economic Analysis Division to centralize state research functions.
- \$750,000 for the Film and Creative Industries Special Fund.
- \$50,000 in American Rescue Plan funds for Creative Lab programs.
- \$187,908 to restore the executive director and executive secretary for the Hawai'i Technology Development Corporation.
- \$800,000 in revolving funds to restore funding for the executive director and (3) positions for the Hawai'i Community Development Authority.
- \$50,000 for GIS Enhancement programs.
- \$4,000,000 in American Rescue Plan funds for Economic Planning and Research.

Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs

- \$122,093 for a staff attorney to address increased consumer fraud cases due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- \$700,000 for fiscal year 2022 and \$1,050,000 for fiscal year 2023 for repairs to the King Kallkaua building.

Commerce and Consumer Affairs (continued from previous page)

- \$3,500,000 for fiscal year 2022 and \$500,000 for fiscal year 2023 for upgrades to critical business registration systems.
- \$700,000 for fiscal year 2022 and \$1,050,000 for fiscal year 2023 to increase the ceiling for the compliance resolution fund.

Department of Defense

- \$130,500 and (3) general laborer positions for the veteran's cemetery.
- \$612,797 in general funds to retain the Hilo Youth Challenge Academy.
- \$143,896 in general funds to restore salaries to three positions at the veteran's cemetery, including the Cemetery Operations Manager and Veterans Services Counselor.
- \$194,050 in general funds for the veteran's cemetery for vault liners and travel funds for counseling services to veterans.
- \$250,000 in general funds for siren maintenance.
- Creates new program ID's for the Hawai'i Army and Air National Guard and the Hawai'i Emergency Management Agency.

Department of Education

- \$2,594,198 for the Early College Program which offers over 400 classes for 43 High Schools statewide.
- An additional \$2,482,554 for the Hawai'i Keiki Program, promoting healthy keiki and reducing amount of absences statewide.
- \$1,026,797,623 in general funds for school-based budgeting funding for classrooms.
- \$401,006,367 in general funds for special education.
- \$7,073,037 in general funds for the Early Learning program.
- \$240,000 of general funds to be recurring for radio frequency technology equipment For Public Libraries.
- Transfers (159) positions and \$11,638,427 from the State Administration: Office of Information Technology Services to the School Support.
- \$325,241 for the Challenger Center.
- \$50,000 for the Career and Technical Education/Office Assistant Program.
- \$4,431,663 to restore defunded positions from Act 9 (2020) for Special Education.
- \$468,424 for Teacher Improvement Services.
- \$3,000,000 for fiscal year 2022 and \$6,000,000 for fiscal year 2023 to expand Alternative Learning Programs.
- \$400,000 for Trauma-Informed Care Services.
- \$249,239 for (7) permanent positions for Early Learning teachers.

- Transfer the Office of Information Technology Services to program for School Support.
- Transfer the Office of Strategy, Innovation and Performance from general funds to ESSER funds.

Department of Hawaiian Home Lands

- \$901,292 to restore (14) important Hawaiian Home Lands positions.

Department of Human Resources Development

- \$307,775 in American Rescue Plan funds for fiscal year 2022 and \$635,350 for fiscal year 2023 for workers' compensation claims.
- \$275,000 in American Rescue Plan funds for fiscal year 2022 for unemployment insurance payments.

Department of Human Services

- \$500,000 for fiscal year 2022 in American Rescue Plan funds for additional funding for the Rent Supplement Program for low income families.
- \$5,400,000 in American Rescue Plan funds for fiscal year 2022 for additional funding for General Assistance payments for temporarily disabled individuals to maintain the current level of benefits.
- \$14,300,000 in American Rescue Plan funds for continued homeless services including the Housing First Program, the Rapid Re-housing Program, the Homeless Outreach Services and Civil Legal Services, and the Stored Property and Debris Removal Service.
- \$1,739,179 to restore (57) critical Child Protective Services positions.
- \$31,035,000 for fiscal years 2022 and 2023 in American Rescue Plan funds for cash support for childcare.



State Senators tour the new Hawaii State Hospital with representatives from the State Department of Health and Hospital representatives.

Department of Health

- \$681,202 in American Rescue Plan funds for perinatal support services.
- \$1,702,729 for fiscal year 2022 and \$702,729 in fiscal year 2023 in American Rescue Plan funds for perinatal support and family planning services.
- \$4,684,584 in general funds and \$10,286,655 in federal funds for HIV prevention and care services.

Department of Health (continued from previous page)

- \$3,924,691 in general funds for the tuberculosis branch to maintain prevention services.
- \$4,305,833 million in general funds for staffing and \$6,180,433 in American Rescue Plan funds for operating expenses for the new Forensic Building at the Hawai'i State Hospital.
- \$19,774,284 in general funds and \$2,643,378 in federal funds for Early intervention services.
- \$469,262 in general funds for the Office of Language Access retaining the office as a stand-alone program within the Department of Health.
- \$475,769 in general funds for the State Health Planning & Development Agency retaining office as a stand-alone program within the Department of Health.
- \$4,305,833 for fiscal years 2022 and 2023 for Hawai'i State Hospitals Personal Services.
- \$3,200,000 for fiscal years 2022 and 2023 for Developmental Disabilities.
- \$1,500,000 in American Rescue Plan funds for fiscal year 2022 for the Office on Aging for purchase of services for Senior Centers.

Department of Labor and Industrial Relations

- \$700,252,391 in fiscal year 2022 and \$5,091,175 in fiscal year 2023 in American Rescue Plan funds to repay the loan principal and interest of the unemployment insurance program.
- \$2,082,490 in fiscal years 2022 and 2023 to restore the Office of Community Services.
- \$3,110,000 in American Rescue Plan funds for the Disability Compensation Division modernization.

Department of Land and Natural Resources

- \$2,000,000 in boating special funds for harbor facilities repair and maintenance.
- \$1,459,440 for (30) new conservation and resource enforcement officers statewide.
- \$1,646,475 to restore the Youth Conservation Corps Program to provide youth with environmental stewardship opportunities.
- \$750,000 for the Bureau of Conveyances to digitize and preserve recorded land documents and maps.
- \$875,000 for fiscal year 2022 in American Rescue Plan funds for rapid ohia death research, outreach, and response.
- \$1,000,000 for fiscal year 2022 in American Rescue Plan funds for repairs to the sea urchin hatchery used to raise sea urchins to control invasive algae.
- \$866,315 for fiscal year 2022 and \$2,866,315 for fiscal year 2023 ceiling increase for the Land Conservation Fund.
- (8.5) permanent positions for engineers for the Water and Land Development.
- \$3,110,946 in general funds for FY22 for the Native Resources and Fire Protection Program.

- \$2,548,290 in American Rescue Plan funds to Conservation and Resources Enforcement.
- \$2,000,000 ceiling increase for the Boating Special Fund for Ocean Based Recreation.

Department of Public Safety

- \$500,000 retained for re-entry contract services, which supports individuals who are re-joining the community.
- \$1,376,000 for hepatitis C treatments.
- \$27,468,151 of general funds in the Healthcare Division.
- \$9,095,579 to restore funding for defunded positions.
- \$676,222 of general funds for the CVCC (Crime Victim Compensation Commission) The first time the state has assisted funds since 2003.

Department of Taxation

- \$99,756 for the establishment of the new Quality Control Office for Supporting Services.
- \$3,033,832 in American Rescue Plan funds for the tax system modernization post warranty maintenance, professional services and document imaging.
- \$30,000 for Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Federal Grant.

University of Hawai'i

- \$27,326,848 for fiscal year 2022 and \$32,926,848 for fiscal year 2023 in general funds to restore reductions to the University of Hawai'i budget.
- \$1,000,000 in American Rescue Plan funds to offset lost revenue at the Waikiki Aquarium.
- \$3,129,000 in American Rescue Plan funds and general funds in each fiscal year for the Hawai'i Promise Program.
- \$1,200,000 in American Rescue Plan funds for UHERO for economic analysis.
- Create new program ID for the UH Cancer Center.
- \$3,098,055 for the UH Cancer Center.
- \$485,376 and (7) permanent positions for UH Systemwide Support to consolidate Human Resources offices.
- \$2,200,000 for UH Systemwide Support.
- \$164,394 and (2) permanent positions for computer science pathways at UH West O'ahu.

Governor Ige supports action to suspend salary increases. The suspension of salary increases was inserted into SB1350, SD1, HD2, CD1 which Governor signed into law as Act 14 on May 17, 2021. The deferral was for an additional 18 months or until January 1, 2023.



Governor's Office: Bills Update

On June 21, 2021, Governor David Ige informed the Legislature (via GM No. 1158) of his intent to veto 28 bills approved by the Legislature. Refer to these bills on right.

The Governor has until July 6 to send any veto messages to the Legislature. Then it would be up to the House and Senate whether to convene to vote to override a gubernatorial veto. It will take a two-thirds vote of both the House and Senate in order for the Legislature to override a veto. If a veto is overridden, the bill would become law. If a veto is not overridden then the bill dies and would be the subject of the vetoed bill would need to be taken up in the 2022 session, to address the Governor's concern. Both the Senate and the House are considering whether to reconvene to address any vetoes. If there needs to be only minor changes to a bill to address the Governor's objections, those could be accomplished during a special session following the veto message.

**For the latest updates, visit the
Legislature's website
www.capitol.hawaii.gov.**

HB53 SD1 CD1	Relating to State bonds
HB54 HD1 SD1 CD1	Relating to State budget
HB58 HD1 SD1 CD1	Relating to State funds
HB200 HD1 SD1 CD1	Relating to State budget
HB338 HD1 SD1	Relating to the Judiciary
HB465 HD1 SD1	Relating to collective bargaining
HB515 HD1 SD2	Relating to Department of Education
HB546 HD2 SD2 CD1	Relating to education
HB572 HD1 SD1	Relating to Hawaii Emergency Management Agency
HB613 HD2 SD2 CD2	Relating to education
HB663 HD1 SD1	Relating to the Game Management Advisory Commission
HB774 HD1 SD2 CD1	Relating to Development Districts
HB817 HD2 SD2	Relating to agriculture
HB862 HD2 SD2 CD1	Relating to State government
HB895 SD1	Relating to credit for time of detention prior to sentence
HB1284 HD2 SD2 CD1	Relating to the Department of Human Services
HB1296 HD1 SD2 CD1	Relating to State funds
HB1299 HD1 SD1 CD1	Relating to non-general funds
SB140 SD2 HD2 CD1	Relating to community development
SB153 SD2 HD1 CD1	Relating to the statewide traffic code
SB263 SD2 HD2 CD1	Relating to economic development
SB404 HD2 CD1	Relating to electioneering communications
SB589 SD2 HD2 CD1	Relating to the University of Hawai'i
SB639 SD1 HD1 CD1	Relating to Courts of Appeal
SB807 SD2 HD2 CD1	Relating to education
SB811 HD1 CD1	Relating to the Department of Education
SB1387 SD1 HD2 CD1	Relating to microchip identification
SB1409 SD2 HD1 CD1	Relating to training in native Hawaiian rights



Mahalo Kalani

Our fondest aloha to our long-time colleague from Hana, Senator J. Kalani English, on your retirement. Our state and our island's communities are stronger thanks to your leadership, dedication and public service in the Hawai'i State Legislature and on the Maui County Council. We feel truly blessed to have had the opportunity to work closely with you through the years. Our best wishes to you and your 'ohana as you focus on your health and healing.

We extend a warm aloha to State Rep. Lynn DeCoite, (D, Lāna'i-Moloka'i-Pa'ia-Hana), whom Governor Ige appointed to fill the seat of Senator English, who resigned due to complications from COVID-19.