



# Caring for Each Other

DISTRICT 12

Ala Moana, Kakaako,  
McCully, Moiliili,  
Sheridan, Waikiki

## A MESSAGE FROM SENATOR MORIWAKI

**A**loha! The 2022 Legislature, which began on January 19, is well underway. We introduced 64 bills to improve our district and make government more efficient and effective. Many of these bills are moving. The Senate bills have crossed over to the House and vice versa. I encourage you to track measures that you care about on [capitol.hawaii.gov](http://capitol.hawaii.gov); and submit testimony

when they come up for committee hearing(s). In this newsletter I highlight some of the bills introduced to address challenges that you've identified. I also include other legislation, government news, and community happenings. You can also see updates in my weekly e-message.

Mahalo for your kokua in caring for each other!

*Shan*



**“We introduced 64 bills to improve our district and make government more efficient and effective.”**



Members of the state Senate Women's Caucus pose in front of the statue of Queen Liliuokalani after Opening Day: (L-R) Senator Inouye, Senator DeCoite, Senator Baker, Senator Kidani, Senator San Buenaventura, Senator Kim, Senator Moriaki, Senator Acasio, and Senator Misalucha.



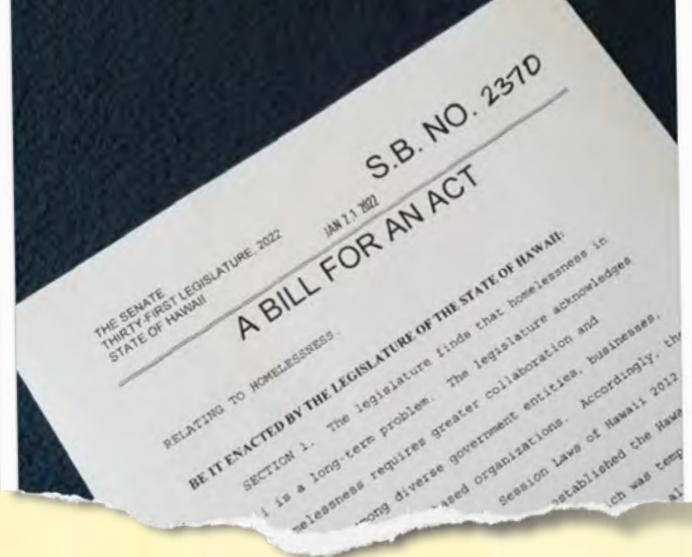
On the Senate floor with Senate President Ronald Kouchi.



Senator Moriaki with staff, Heather (left) and Kaley (right), on opening day.

## OPENING DAY

On January 19, 2022 the 31st Session of the Hawaii State Legislature started. Our opening session was a combination of in-person and online participation as we tried our best to keep everyone safe. We look forward to working together for legislation that speaks for our community!



## HOMELESSNESS & AFFORDABLE HOUSING

We heard you -- homelessness is the State's number-one problem and we need to find long-term solutions to end it. That's why I called together an informal group of state, county and community agency leaders committed to ending homelessness. We worked to identify the needs and possible solutions. The result was a number of measures to address homelessness on a statewide level. With House district partners Speaker Scott Saiki and Representative Adrian Tam, we are working to pass these bills:

### **SB2370 / HB1648**

Establishes a permanent Office of Homelessness and Housing Solutions with a focus on long-term stable funding and staff to identify needs, gaps, innovative homeless and housing solutions, including a data clearinghouse, to prevent and end homelessness.

### **SB2372 / HB1649**

Requires state agencies to identify and report on vacant land for potential use to build affordable housing.

### **SB2373 / HB1650**

Creates a program in prisons that helps individuals prior to release with reentry, rehabilitation, employment, and housing to prevent them from becoming homeless.

### **SB3368 / HB1744**

Funds building permanent supportive housing to address the needs of chronically homeless individuals and families.

### **SB2374**

Extends and augments the Ohana Zones pilot program for affordable housing at the county level, including programs such as HONU which offer transitional shelter and services to homeless.

### **SB2811 / HB1858 & SD2723 / HB1859**

Establishes and funds housing for low income residents.

## DISTRICT LEGISLATION

Our weekly e-newsletter polled you to identify concerns and issues; and also invited interested residents to join in crafting legislation to address them. Sixty-one volunteered and met with Rep Tam and me. The result: bills on excessive noise, homeless, crime, and sea level rise. Rep Adrian Tam (Waikiki), Speaker Scott Saiki (Kakaako/McCully-Moiliili) and I introduced and are working to pass these bills (*in addition to homelessness and affordable housing*):



Representative Tam and I welcome new commander Major Randall Platt at "Coffee with Cop".



Kaka'ako Citizens Patrol.



Sign waving in Waikiki for Pedestrian Safety Month.

### Noise Pollution

#### **SB2124 / HB1854**

This is a comprehensive regulatory and enforcement bill that establishes maximum permissible noise levels in various zones, enables police to measure noise level and cite for violations; and stiffens penalties, including revocation of liquor licenses, for violations of noise levels.

#### **SB2125 / HB1855**

Increases maximum allowable liquor commission fines from \$2000 to \$5000 for bars and clubs. This would deter establishments from knowingly violating excessive noise and other liquor rules.

#### **SB2127 / HB1545**

Creates a noise pollution task force within the Department of Health to investigate noise pollution and provide recommendations on how to better regulate excessive noise pollution throughout the State.

#### **SB2382**

Prohibits cabarets (that stay open until 4am) in residential apartment mixed use districts in the Waikiki special district.



POLITICO magazine feature: "The Battle to Save Waikiki Beach" - Featuring our bill asking for \$800,000 to develop a community based comprehensive adaptation plan for Waikiki.

## Sea Level Rise & Conservation

### **SB2725 / HB1672**

Expands use of special improvement district (e.g. Waikiki) funds beyond business development; to improve environmental conditions and provide community benefits

### **SB2724 / HB1669**

Establishes a working group to develop a Waikiki adaptation and resilience plan to address climate change and sea level impacts.

## Crime

### **SB2687 / HB1580**

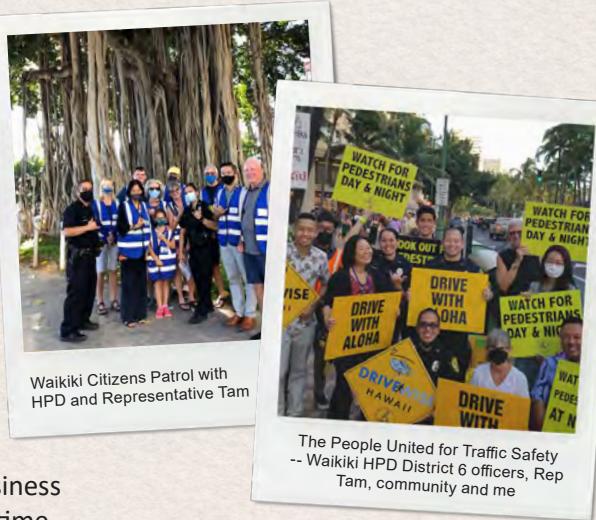
Allows remote testimony of out-of-state witnesses.

### **SB2126**

Increases fines from \$100 to \$300 for installation of illegal, enhanced noisy mufflers.

### **SB2686 / HB1502**

Geographically bans repeat offenders with 4 or more misdemeanors in the same business district for a specific period of time.



## GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY

As the Chair of the Senate Committee on Government Operations (GVO), we examine and hear legislation relating to government operations, procurement, state facilities, and technology. We reviewed 212

bills referred to our committee – reflective of a lot of concern about how government could run more efficiently. Some of the bills came from a special committee on accountability that I chaired during the interim. They deal with expediting and streamlining procurement of services, goods, and construction. Doing work faster and more transparently serves us more cost-effectively.



## KUPUNA

Representative Troy Hashimoto and I co-convene the legislature's Kupuna Caucus, composed of lawmakers, organizations that serve seniors, and concerned citizens. The Caucus introduces and advocates for legislation that helps seniors. The following are bills we introduced this session:

### **SB2680 / HB1823**

Enhances the Our Care Our Choice Act by giving more options to people seeking medical aid in dying.

### **SB2679 / HB1822**

Extends the driver license renewal period from two years to four years for drivers 70-80 years of age.

### **SB2676 / HB1824**

Adds staff to the Office of the Long-Term Care Ombudsman that advocates for health, safety, welfare, and the rights of residents in long-term care facilities.

### **SB2678 / HB1825**

Expands the State Health Insurance Assistance Program which provides free, local, one-on-one, unbiased Medicare counseling.

### **SB2677 / HB1826**

Establishes a long-term rental assistance pilot program for individuals over 62 years old who are homeless or at imminent risk of becoming homeless.

### **SB2461 / HB1730**

Adds funds to the Healthy Aging Partnership Program to help seniors with exercise and other healthy activities.

### **SB2462**

Uses tobacco settlement funds to expand the Kupuna Care and Kupuna Caregivers Programs (Note: *We have always believed that some of the tobacco settlement fund should go for kupuna services but this was not one of the caucus priorities*).



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# DISTRICT CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT

Over the past three legislative sessions we have advocated for capital improvements for our district. We continue to seek funding for needed projects. This year we are requesting the following:



## McKinley High School

**\$18 MILLION** for athletic complex improvements, including bleachers, locker rooms, stadium and field lighting, related facilities, ground and site improvements, and equipment.

**\$1.5 MILLION** for painting of buildings A through F, and H.

## Ala Wai Elementary School

**\$150,000** for walkway widening.

## Washington Middle School

**\$2.2 MILLION** for campus-wide telecom upgrades.

**\$8 MILLION** for a new 21st century band facility and needed sewer relocation.



## Jefferson Elementary School

**\$1.12 MILLION** for campus-wide telecom upgrades.



## Kaahumanu Elementary School

**\$300,000** for cafeteria improvements.



## Waikiki Master Plan Improvements

**\$1.85 MILLION** for improvements along Waikiki Beach in the Sheraton-Halekulani, Royal Hawaiian, and Kuhio Beach sectors, including sand restoration, refurbishment of derelict groins, construction of new groins, offshore dredging, and beach sand replacement.



## Ala Wai Small Boat Harbor

**\$4.3 MILLION** for replacement of existing gravity sewer lines, pump station, and force mains.

**\$3.3 MILLION** for resurfacing and striping of existing access roads and parking areas.



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## WE'RE HERE FOR YOU

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### GET ON OUR WEEKLY EMAIL MESSAGE:

If you're not getting our e-message, email us at: [senmoriwaki@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:senmoriwaki@capitol.hawaii.gov)

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