



SENATOR NORMAN SAKAMOTO

• Salt Lake • Foster Village • Halawa • Kalihi • Moanalua • Aiea • Mapunapuna
Hickam • Aliamanu • Pearl Harbor • Pearl Ridge

April 2006

Legislative Update

We featured our Senate Bills in last month's newsletter. This month, we are highlighting our **House Bills** that crossed over to the Senate and were heard by the Senate Committee on Education and Military Affairs Committee. First Crossover is the deadline for all bills reported out of committee to be voted on by the full House or Senate and sent to the other chamber for consideration. We continue to advocate for supporting our schools and students by increasing the amount of funds to be allocated by the Weighted Student Formula (**SB 3195 SD2 HD1**), a model curriculum (**SB 3059 SD2 HD1**), and early childhood learning services (**SB 3101 SD2 HD1**).

Students

- **Vocational Agricultural Education** (HB 1843 HD1 SD1) provides for a comprehensive agriculture education program.

Administration

- **Health Services to Public School Children** (HB2961 HD1) establishes a federal revenue maximization program revolving fund for medicaid-eligible health services provided to public school children.
- **Emergency Appropriation** (HB2346) increases the amount appropriated for the Department of Education's electric bills. This increase is needed in the face of increased costs of electricity.
- **Emergency Appropriation** (HB2347) increases the amount appropriated for the Department of Education's student transportation program.

Parent / Community

- **Substance Abuse Programs** (HB1466 HD1 SD1) appropriates money for combating the crystal meth epidemic at the middle and intermediate schools.

Moanalua High School Performing Arts Center

With the support of Principal Galera, the school staff and community; Senator Sakamoto has introduced priority legislation for the planning, design, and construction for this project. The initial effort would be to commence the planning and design.

TOTAL: \$ 20,100,000

Teachers

- **Retired Teachers and Principals** (HB 1862 HD2 SD1) would allow the Department of Education to employ retired school teachers and administrators to work full time in areas with teacher shortages and to serve as mentors to new teachers.

Facilities / Repair & Maintenance

- **Repairs & Maintenance** (HB1891 HD2 SD1) provides additional funds to deal with the repairs and maintenance backlog in public schools.
- **New Schools Construction** (HB2182 HD1 SD1) creates a special fund for new school construction.
- **Facilities Alignment Commission** (HB2743 HD2 SD1) creates the commission for the purpose of deciding where new schools should be opened and older schools consolidated or closed. This is needed to deal with population shifts that results in overburdened schools in rural and suburban areas and underutilized schools in urban areas.

Learning

- **Early Childhood Education** (HB3237 HD2 SD1) creates the office of early learning within the Department of Education.

Military

- **Veteran's Newsletters** (HB 1879 HD1) Appropriates money for the Department of Defense to publish the Hawaii Veterans' Newsletter.
- **Homeless Veterans** (HB 2934) Authorizes the issuance of general obligation bonds to provide shelter to homeless veterans.

Schedule of Community Meetings

April & May 2006

Neighborhood Board Meetings

Aiea NB No. 20

Monday, April 10, 7:30PM

Monday, May 8, 7:30PM

Aiea Library Conference Room

Aliamanu/ Salt Lake/ Foster Village NB No. 18

Thursday, April 13, 7:00 PM

Thursday, May 11, 7:00PM

Aliamanu Middle School Cafeteria

Kalihi-Palama NB No.15

Wednesday, April 19, 7:00 PM

Wednesday, May 17, 7:00 PM

Kapalama Elem. School Cafeteria

Community Associations

Moanalua Gardens Community Association

Tuesday, April 4, 7:00 PM

Tuesday, May 2, 7:00 PM

Moanalua Middle, Room B1

Aiea-Pearl City Town Hall Meeting

EDUCATION

Junior Kindergarten

Monday, April 10, 7:00 PM

Pearl Ridge Elementary Cafeteria

Hawaii Medal of Honor

The Senate and House of Representatives will be convening in a joint session of the Legislature to award the Hawaii Medal of Honor. This ceremony is scheduled to take place on:

TUESDAY, APRIL 18, 2006

10:00 AM

House Chambers, State Capitol

The Hawaii Medal of Honor is awarded on behalf of the people of the State of Hawaii to an individual who has been killed in action while serving our country as part of the Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom. Recipients of the Hawaii Medal of Honor include members of the United Armed Forces, the United States military reserves, and the Hawaii National Guard, who are residents of the State of Hawaii, attended an educational in Hawaii, or was stationed in Hawaii by order of United States Department of Defense.

Families of the recipients of the Hawaii Medal of Honor from around the country have been invited to attend this very special ceremony to accept the medal.

Community News

Are you looking for a convenient way to get rid of clutter in your home? Let us help you recycle items in your garage and closet, while raising money for our children.

ALOHA AINA EARTH DAY

Moanalua-Salt Lake Clean Up

Fundraiser for Moanalua High School Athletics Program

Saturday, June 3, 2006

8:00AM to 2:00PM

These recyclable items will be accepted:

Scrap metal, appliances, pipes, beams, car parts, bicycles, beverage containers, newspapers, cardboard, old tires, car batteries, green waste, clothing and small household items that can be resold by Goodwill. **We will not collect anything with fluids.**

Please bring these items to the Moanalua High School Student Parking lot (near the Fire Station).

We will also come to your home for beverage container, bulky metal (stoves, refrigerators, dishwashers, etc.) or Goodwill pick up. For this service, you must call **Rep. Wakai's office at 586-6220.**



Top: Senator Sakamoto participating in Read Across America at Hickam Elementary School. Fifth graders of Mr. Darran Sakata's class were captivated by Senator's performance.

Senator Norman Sakamoto, Chair Senate Committee on Education and Military Affairs
Senator 15th District

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