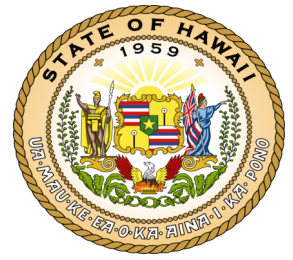




2020 Legislative Newsletter

District 14: Hanalei, Kilauea, Princeville, Anahola, Kapa'a, Wailua
Hawai'i State Capitol, Room 314
(808) 586-8435
repnakamura@capitol.hawaii.gov



Dear Friends and Neighbors:

The legislative session came to an abrupt halt in mid-March due to a positive case of coronavirus at the State Capitol in Honolulu. We resumed our work in mid-May to pass some important legislation that will:

- Allocate Federal CARE funds for immediate needs such as thermal scan equipment at our airports, testing, contact tracing, quarantine, and unemployment insurance software upgrades;
- Make over \$1 billion in cuts to the State FY21 operating budget, due to declining revenues, to adopt a balanced budget; and
- Provide \$28.7 million to the County of Kaua'i to address coronavirus needs, that could include food, utility, and emergency loans

The legislature plans to recess, then resume work in mid-June to address time-sensitive and coronavirus emergency legislation.

As we take steps to re-opening our economy, please know that the health of our residents is paramount. We must learn from other states and countries, use the best tests available, and be prepared for a potential surge in the fall. In the end, all experts agree that washing hands, wearing face masks, and practicing social distancing makes a difference. Mahalo for doing your part!

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact my office at (808) 586-8435 or email me at repnakamura@capitol.hawaii.gov. We're here to support you!

Mahalo nui loa,

Nadine

Helping to assemble face shields for the State Department of Health. Thanks to everyone for doing your part!



Speaking at the YWCA of Hawai'i Legislative Women's Caucus annual breakfast about upcoming legislation (January 2020).



Joining the Kaua'i Farm Bureau at the Agricultural Awareness Day at the State Capitol, that showcased Kaua'i's locally-grown produce and flowers! (February 2020)



Congratulating and honoring Kilauea Wildlife Refuge's Mike Mitchell at his retirement celebration. (January 2020)

COVID-19 Resources and Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's)

Unemployment Insurance/ PUA

- ⇒ For detailed instructions on how to file a claim, please follow the link online at: t.ly/XoSu
- ⇒ Unemployment FAQ Page: <https://labor.hawaii.gov/covid-19-eligibility-faqs/>
- ⇒ To contact the Unemployment Offices by phone dial: [762-5752](tel:762-5752) or [1-833-901-2275](tel:1-833-901-2275)
- ⇒ For self-employed, contractors, and gig workers who do not qualify for regular unemployment, you can apply for the Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) at: <https://pua.hawaii.gov/>



Conferring with Majority Floor Leader Dee Morikawa during the recent legislative session

Food and Family Assistance

- ⇒ The Department of Education continues to offer free DOE grab-and-go breakfast and lunch weekday service for children under 18. For up to date info and a list of locations, visit: hawaiipublicschools.org
- ⇒ You may be eligible for the **Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)** benefits. To determine eligibility and for application instructions, visit: <http://humanservices.hawaii.gov/bessd/snap/>
- ⇒ The Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Program (TANF) also provides families with financial assistance, childcare assistance, job preparation, and work assistance. For more information visit <http://humanservices.hawaii.gov/bessd/snap/>

Health Insurance

- ⇒ If you recently lost health insurance through your employer, you may be eligible for **Med-QUEST**. To determine your eligibility or to apply for online benefits, visit: medical.mybenefits.hawaii.gov Or apply over the phone by calling 1-877-628-5076
- ⇒ You may qualify for special enrollment through the Affordable Care Act due to recent unemployment or loss of employment-based health insurance due to COVID-19. Apply online at HealthCare.gov or call 1-(800) 318-2596

Rents, Mortgages & Eviction Moratorium

- ⇒ The Governor has issued a moratorium on any residential evictions for non-payment through May 31st. For more updated information visit: cca.hawaii.gov/ocp/landlord-tenant-faqs
- ⇒ The Hawaiian Homes Commission Authorized emergency postponement of DHHL mortgage payments. For more information, call: (808) 620-9500
- ⇒ For a list of land-lord tenant FAQs and other consumer resources, visit: <https://cca.hawaii.gov/ocp/covid19/>

Small Business Assistance

- ⇒ The Small Business Administration has several resources available to businesses that are experiencing hardship due to COVID-19. Visit sba.gov for more information
- ⇒ The CARES Act allocated \$250 billion to help small businesses through the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP). To find out more information on the PPP visit: <https://www.uschamber.com/report/guide-small-business-covid-19-emergency-loans>
- ⇒ The Hawaii Economic and Community Navigator provides information and additional resources for residents and business owners: <https://recoverynavigator.hawaii.gov/>



The Friends of Kalalau Trail, led by Mark Hubbard, do incredible maintenance work on the Hanakāpīʻai/Kalalau trail. Mahalo to all the volunteers who operate through rain or shine to assist in keeping the trail safe and beautiful for all of us!

Census 2020 Update

Census Bureau Adjusts Operations due to COVID-19

In light of the COVID-19 outbreak, the U.S. Census Bureau is adjusting 2020 Census operations. **Steps are already being taken to reactivate field offices beginning June 1, 2020.**

The Census determines how many House of Representative Seats and how much federal funding is allocated to each state. Together we can ensure that our state receives the resources it needs.

Respond Online

To respond online on your computer, smartphone, or tablet visit:

www.my2020census.gov

Respond By Phone

You have the option of completing the questionnaire by phone.

To begin, call: 844-330-2020

Respond By Mail

Most households received their invitation to respond to the Census in March. Officials will begin visiting homes that haven't responded to the 2020 Census after June 1.

2020 Session Bills

Although many of the bills I introduced were moving forward, the Coronavirus disrupted our Session. I will continue to pursue these bills in the future:

- Classifying our 911 dispatchers as first responders, since their work goes beyond their current clerical designation.
- Giving adults who are on Medicaid, including the disabled and elderly, access to preventive dental care. Currently only emergency dental care is covered by Medicaid.
- Giving low and moderate-income students who attend a four-year University of Hawai'i campus the ability to have a free tuition if they pursue degrees in worker shortage areas: Teachers, Social Workers, Health Care, and Engineering. Students who graduate are required to work in the State of Hawai'i for three years, otherwise the grant converts to a loan.
- Creating a Self-Help Homeownership Revolving Fund to promote affordable self-help housing, whereby residents are required to work every week to build their own homes. Affordable three-bedroom, 1.5 bath homes built by Kaua'i Habitat for Humanity have mortgages of \$240,000, which I consider truly affordable.
- Giving the State and County three additional years to spend 2018 Flood relief funds.
- Giving the Police Chief the authority to delegate parking citations to county employees, such as a meter maid or park ranger.

Kūhiō Highway Improvements

I'm excited about two new highway transportation projects:

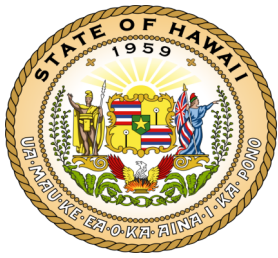
- The Kapa'a Stream bridge replacement and new roundabout at Kūhiō Highway and Mailihuna Road, which is now underway; and
- An additional southbound lane on Kūhiō Highway, between the southern terminus of the Kapa'a bypass road and the Wailua River fronting Coco Palms. Construction will begin this summer.

The Kaua'i delegation has also secured funds for the widening of Kūhiō Highway from Wailua River to Hanama'ulu by either adding a southbound lane on the existing highway or along the cane haul road.

We also continue to work with the State Department of Transportation to pursue contraflow on Sundays and holidays, since we all know how bad traffic backs up through town on these days.

Congratulating Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) honorees Bob Kunioka (30 years of service) and Dorothy Kunioka (25 years of service). (Feb. 2020)





Representative Nadine K. Nakamura
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District 14 Capital Improvement Projects

Projects And Funds Recently Released By Gov. Ige

Kūhiō Highway.....\$4,857,000

To finance planning and design to add a Southbound lane from Wailua Bridge to Kāpule Highway in Hanamaulu

Kapa‘a Elem. School Library.....\$2,500,000

To finance the design and construction of the interior of the new library building

Kapa‘a High School.....\$500,000

To finance the design and construction of an outdoor pavilion and wash stations for the new Agricultural Learning Center

Samuel Mahelona

Memorial Hospital..... \$1,400,000

Design and construction funds to upgrade the electrical system at SMMH

District 14 Approved Capital Improvement Projects

Education

Kapa‘a High School.....\$2,550,000
To Fix the Parking Lot, Driveway, and Drainage System between Kapaa High School Gymnasium and the Boys and Girls Club

Kapa‘a High School.....\$450,000
Design for Architectural Barrier Removal

Kilauea Elementary School.....\$325,000
Construction to Repair and Resurface Cracked and Peeling Outdoor Playcourt

Health

Samuel Mahelona Memorial Hospital.....\$1,400,000
Design and Construction to Renovate the CT Scan Room

Samuel Mahelona Memorial Hospital.....\$1,300,000
CT Scanner, Design and Equipment to Purchase and Install CT Scanner

Samuel Mahelona Memorial Hospital.....\$500,000
Plans, Design, Construction, and Equipment for Environmental Impact Statement, Project Management and Coordination

Facility Improvements

Anahola Sports Complex.....\$500,000
Plans and Design for a 50 Acre Sports Complex in Anahola; To Include Gymnasium, Baseball Fields, Regulation Size Rodeo Arena and Stable

Kilauea Water Systems.....\$3,120,000
Design, Construction, and Equipment for Chlorination Facilities and Other Related Improvements

Kilauea Gymnasium.....\$2,100,000
Plans, Design, and Construction to Upgrade Kilauea Gym to a Category 3 or Category 4 Hurricane Shelter

Transportation

Kūhiō Highway.....\$2,000,000
Guardrail and Shoulder Improvements Includes Construction for Installing and/or Upgrading of Guardrails, End Terminals, Transitions, Bridge Railings, Bridge Endposts and Crash Attenuators, and Reconstructing and Paving of Shoulders

Kūhiō Highway.....\$2,200,000
Land Acquisition and Construction for Slope Stabilization at Lumahai Hillside

Kūhiō Highway Improvements.....\$92,001,000
Hanamaulu to Kapaa Land Acquisition, Design, and Construction for Congestion Relief in the Vicinity of Kapaa, Including Widening of Sections of Kuhio Highway

Kūhiō Highway.....\$501,000
Intersection Improvements at Kolo Road/Kalamania Road Design for Intersection Improvements, Which May Include Signalization or Roundabout Solutions

Although our session was cut short, I want to thank my Office Manager Ben Viernes, Legislative Aide Ty Shiramizu, and Committee Clerk Alanna Bauman (all Kapa‘a High School graduates) for their incredible work this session.

