



# AIEA COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

# COMMUNITY UPDATE

Representative Aaron Ling Johanson

**District 31 • Moanalua, Foster Village, Aiea, Lower Pearlridge, Fort Shafter, Red Hill, Aliamanu •**

Aloha Neighbors,

The 2021 Legislature adjourned this most recent session last Thursday. When the session started in January, there were many unknowns and uncertainties as we were still in the middle of the pandemic and a significant budget deficit. This year, despite the challenges of the pandemic, my colleagues and I were able to pass some meaningful legislation that will have a lasting positive impact on our communities. please don't hesitate to contact my office via email at [repjohanson@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:repjohanson@capitol.hawaii.gov) if you have any questions, concerns, or need assistance. Please stay safe and take care!

Mahalo, 

## LEGISLATIVE WINS FOR OUR COMMUNITY

This session, the Legislature passed more than 200 out of nearly 3,000 introduced bills. Inspired by our Aiea community and our neighbors, I authored the following bills that passed this session:

### **COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT IN THE STADIUM DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT OVERSIGHT (HB1348)**

This measure adds two members from the surrounding communities, including one from the Aiea community, to the Stadium Authority, the governing entity over the Stadium Development District. This allows the communities surrounding the stadium district to have direct input over the district's development.

### **COMMUNITY AND CONDO ASSOCIATION GOVERNANCE IN EMERGENCIES (HB599)**

There is a large amount of condominiums in the Pearlridge and surrounding areas. COVID-19 has brought about social distancing and drastically changed the way required meetings are held. Condominium and community associations are now able to hold meetings remotely by electronic means, and vote electronically under this measure to preserve the governing continuity.

### **LENDING REFORM FOR THOSE IN NEED (HB1192)**

There are a large number of payday loan establishments in Aiea, who lend money with paychecks as collateral. This measure converts the traditional payday loan system into an installment process which allows people access to short term installment loans when needed, at lower interest rates and fees. By reforming the payday loan system, it will allow people access to loans when needed, but still be able to keep their paychecks, thereby breaking the cycle of debt.

### **SAFER SKIES AND REGULATING HELICOPTERS AND SMALL AIRCRAFT (HCR81)**

Our community is often concerned with the increased disruption by tour helicopters over the Pearl Harbor area. Air traffic is traditionally the jurisdiction of the Federal Aviation Administration. We have been working with Congressman Ed Case's office to support his legislation on better regulation of the tour helicopters and the disruption they bring to our community. Congressman Case has introduced legislation in the United States House of Representatives that would provide states with more of a say in governing their airspace.

# HAWAIIAN ELECTRIC MORATORIUM TO END MAY 31, 2021

The end of the moratorium on disconnections for nonpayment – May 31, 2021 – is fast approaching. Hawaiian Electric customers with a past due balance are urged to set up a payment plan that can stretch installments over many months.

While the moratorium's end will not trigger immediate disconnections, customers who have set up payment arrangement are not subject to Hawaiian Electric's disconnection process and late fees are waived while on a payment plan. Requesting a payment arrangement is easy – and a new 18-month plan is now available for residential customers. Go to [hawaiianelectric.com/paymentarrangement](http://hawaiianelectric.com/paymentarrangement) to see plan options and submit a request.

Keeping customers connected is a top priority for Hawaiian Electric. Residential and smaller commercial customers behind on payments who do not make contact with Hawaiian Electric may have their balance automatically enrolled in a 12-month payment plan starting in July to avoid disconnection. Those customers will receive a notice with their bill when the payment plan starts that explains how the arrangement works.

Bills for customers on payment plans – auto-enrolled or by customer request – will include the current charges, plus the installment amount. The installment amount will differ for each customer. For instance, If the customer's past due amount is small, the installment amount will also be a small fraction of the bill. However, if a customer has not made any payment toward their account over this past year, the total monthly bill could more than double.

Customers experiencing hardship related to the COVID-19 pandemic are encouraged to seek government and nonprofit agency assistance. Hawaiian Electric does not administer these programs, but it works with many of these agencies. See a listing of resources at [hawaiianelectric.com/COVID19](http://hawaiianelectric.com/COVID19).

## IN OUR COMMUNITY



Clockwise (L to R): 1) Representatives Kong & Johanson and Senator Misalucha join AHS PTSO to serve a teacher appreciation breakfast; 2) Joining Kumu Keola for AHS's 1st graduating class of Hale Haola; 3) Presenting Claire Tamamoto with the Community Heroes Award; 4) Senator Misalucha & Representatives Johanson and Kong reaching out to Aiea restaurants about our SBA Restaurant Revitalization Town Hall.