Aloha Friends and Neighbors,

On opening day I felt a great sense of optimism that I could work with all of my colleagues to address the many issues that are a priority of the 16th Senatorial District. I immediately began working with my staff to identify effective ways to communicate with constituents and gather feedback on the important state issues being addressed at the Capitol. Your responses and comments have been very informative and have helped guide me as I had to make important decisions about how to vote - and what issues I would champion this legislative session.

I introduced twenty-four bills this year covering a large breadth of subject matters from mental health and social services, building codes, vehicle and transportation safety, fireworks, and Capitol Improvement Projects (CIP’s).

I am very happy to report that my primary CIP’s were approved and included into the 2023 Budget. They are $7M to ‘Aiea High School for a new synthetic athletic field and track, $4M to Pearl City High School for lighting, electrical improvements, and equipment for the Nakasone Performing Arts Center, $500k to ‘Aiea Elementary School for an outdoor gathering area including a stage, associated seating, and other necessary infrastructure, $2.2M to Alvah A. Scott Elementary for a new office area and health room, and $1M to Pearl City Highlands Elementary for plans, design and construction for electrical upgrades and equipment.

I am also happy to report that Senate Bill 497 – my bill relating to commercial vehicles passed out of the legislature and now goes on to the Governor for his signature. I would also like to thank Transportation, Culture and Arts Chair Chris Lee, and Water & Land Chair Lorraine Inouye for signing onto my bill as co-sponsors. This measure prohibits certain commercial vehicles over 10,000lbs from driving in the left lane on roadways with three or more lanes in the same direction.

Other bills that I co-sponsored that passed the legislature and are awaiting the Governor’s signature are Senate Bill 1267 - Relating to Protective Orders. This bill expands the jurisdiction for where positions for domestic abuse protective orders/temporary restraining orders may be filed. Senate Bill 1166 – Renewal of Driver’s Licenses. Allows for the renewal of driver’s licenses online in addition to by mail. Senate Bill 968 – Relating to Transportation. Requires the Department of Accounting and General Services to collaborate with the Department of Transportation to develop, implement, administer, and manage a program to enable parking stall sharing among public employees of the state and a pilot project to provide bicycle storage lockers at facilities where parking is made available to public employees.

I remain steadfastly committed to open and inclusive representation and I strongly encourage everyone in our communities to become personally involved in the legislative process. If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact my office. My staff and I are always available to assist you.

Mahalo for your continued support, it is truly an honor to be your voice in our state legislature.
On April 13 my fellow legislators and I honored and congratulated ‘Aiea resident, Bandmaster Michael D. Nakasone on receiving the Al and Gladys Wright Distinguished Legacy Award. What a career he’s had! From an illustrious 36-year career in Hawai’i’s public schools, to being invited to perform in the Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade, and the Ginza Parade in Tokyo, to the induction into the National Band Association Hall of Fame of Distinguished Conductors in 2020, Bandmaster Nakasone’s impact on music education in Hawaii’s public schools is invaluable. We wish him and his ‘ohana continued joy of music and success in hitting the high notes in all of their endeavors.


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Attorney General Anne E. Lopez

The Senate Committee on Judiciary voted to advise and consent Anne E. Lopez for the position of State Attorney General. Anne is also a constituent of District 16.

Pearl Harbor Historic Trail Cleanup

A big mahalo to all the volunteers (over 300 people) and to all the Pearl City and ‘Aiea elected officials who dedicated their time to clean up the Pearl Harbor Historic Trail! We collected 4.79 tons of ‘opala, 22 tires, and 8.24 tons of metals.