

# Representative Lauren Cheape Matsumoto

JANUARY 2020 • MILILANI-WAIIPIO  
NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD MEETING

District 45 - Mililani • Kunia • Schofield • Wheeler • Waiialua •  
Mokulē'ia

## Aloha friends & neighbors!

The 2020 Legislative session is now underway and I'm excited to share my bill package with you. This year's bill package is the result of the community's feedback to last month's issues survey. Thoughtful responses highlighted some of our community's biggest issues, including the high cost of living, environmental stewardship, and access to education.

Please don't hesitate to contact my office if you have any questions, concerns, or would like to receive assistance submitting testimony!

*Lauren Cheape Matsumoto*  
Lauren Cheape Matsumoto

## 2020 Bill Package

### Cost of Living

#### HB 1827: Expand Refundable Food/Excise Tax Credit

Increases the food/GET tax credit to \$330 for minimum wage earners and expands it up through middle income earners.

#### HB 2056: Earned Income Tax Credit

Makes the state earned income tax credit refundable and permanent.

#### HB 2239: Dependent Care Flexible Spending Accounts

Allows taxpayers to spend pre-tax dollars on dependent care expenses including daycare, after school programs, and in-home care, reducing total taxable income.

#### HB 2240: Income Tax Reduction

Eliminates the income tax for those earning minimum wage or less and reduces rates up through middle income earners.

#### HB 2241: Exempt Food, Medical Services, and Feminine Hygiene Products from the General Excise Tax (GET)

Makes food, medical services, and feminine hygiene products tax-free.

#### HB 2242: Child Tax Credit

Creates a tax credit for each taxpayer's dependent children, starting at \$500/child for minimum wage earners.

### Education & Early Learning

#### HB 2064: Tax Credit for On-Site Childcare Facilities

Creates a tax credit for businesses with on-site childcare facilities.

#### HB\*: Early Childhood Education Scholarships

Creates a scholarship program for UH early childhood education students who commit to teach three years in an EOEL classroom.

#### HB\*: School Repair Subaccounts

Allocates dedicated funds each year to school principals for minor repair and maintenance projects that don't require a permit or EIS.

### Environment

#### HB\*: Airplane Pamphlet

Requires airlines to give a pamphlet to visitors with information about protected species, hiking & ocean safety, emergency contacts, and more. The pamphlet will be distributed alongside the agricultural declaration form.

#### HB\*: Environmental Impact Statement Website

Creates a central, user-friendly website for state and county EIS hearings, notices, and reports.

\*These bills don't yet have a number.

Please contact my office or visit [capitol.hawaii.gov](http://capitol.hawaii.gov) for updates.



 (808) 586-9490

 [RepMatsumoto.com](http://RepMatsumoto.com)

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## COMMUNITY EVENTS

**Friday, January 31**

USO Pathfinder Networking Event  
USO Schofield Barracks  
2:00pm to 4:00pm

**Friday, February 7**

You Grow Girl! Celebrating Hawaii Women in Agriculture  
Ko Hana Rum Distillery  
6:30pm to 9:30pm

**Monday, February 10**

Wellness Workshop  
Mililani YMCA  
6:30pm to 7:30pm

**Wednesday, February 12**

Mililani High School Drama Storybook Theater  
Mililani Public Library  
1:30pm to 2:00pm

**Saturday, February 15**

Mililani Jam  
Mililani Town Center  
11:00am to 2:00pm

**Saturday, February 22**

Promville 2020 Pop-Up Event  
Mililani Town Center  
10:00am to 6:00pm

## Baby Noelle is Here!



I'm excited to announce that Noelle Kealohilani Matsumoto was born on Christmas Day at 5:22 pm measuring 21 inches and weighing 7 lbs 10 oz.

She was the most special Christmas present that we could have asked for, and she shares a birthday with my grandmother Carol Cheape!

Mom, dad, big brother Noah and baby are doing great!

## Community Updates

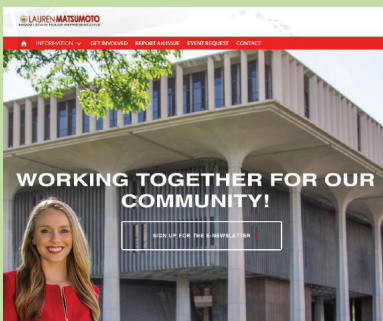
### 2020 Legislative Session Opening Day

This year's opening day was a whirlwind of meetings, observing passionate demonstrations, and enjoying great food from my colleague's communities. I also signed some great legislation that's being introduced in the Women's Legislative Caucus and Kupuna Caucus packages.



I was also able to meet with students from both my alma maters! Students from the Mililani High school student council spent some time asking great questions about my job as a legislator and you might catch me on 'Olelo being interviewed by a Mililani Middle student!

## SIGN UP FOR OUR E-NEWSLETTER AND MORE AT [REPMATSUMOTO.COM](http://REPMATSUMOTO.COM)!



On RepMatsumoto.com, you can use the "Report an Issue" feature to request a service or report a problem in the community. We will send you email notifications regarding the progress of the resolution of your reported issue and also inform your city councilmember and state senator.

Sign up for our [e-newsletter](#) for periodic updates regarding legislation and happenings around the community! You may also find helpful contacts and helpful links that are useful in resolving issues. Internship applications for interested high school and college students are also available on RepMatsumoto.com!