# LAUREN CHEAPE MATSUMOTO



#### Mililani Neighborhood Board Newsletter

District 45 Mililani • Wheeler • Schofield • Waialua • Mokulē'ia • Kunia



Aloha Neighbors and Friends,

I hope that 2016 has been a prosperous, healthy, and productive year for you so far! With the Legislative session now behind us, I look forward to spending more time with the residents of our district and seeing you at our various events around town.

With the Legislative Session now concluded, conference committees having adjourned, and the surviving bills having been voted on, it is my pleasure to update you on what's been going since our adjournment. Earlier this year, I had the honor of introducing a bill, HB 1902, that further criminalizes and gravely punishes those who are convicted of sex trafficking crimes. On July 5th, I, along with co-sponsors of this bill, watched as Governor Ige signed my bill into law. Through measures like these I certainly hope that we can educate and protect our community of the real dangers of sex trafficking. We also just recently wrapped up special session, where the legislature was called back to revisit measures affecting healthcare on our neighboring islands.

Even though session doesn't reconvene for another few months, my office remains busy at work addressing the district's needs. During this interim period we plan on hosting meetings and town halls throughout the district. In fact, my office has kept me pretty involved. Last week we met with the Future Farmers of America organization, where these young professionals gain the necessary training to further our already growing agricultural sector in Hawaii. I also had the pleasure of serving on a panel for the National Association of Commissions for Women's 46th Annual Conference. There we talked about how women can get involved with politics, the role of women in government and the tools that we can use to motivate the next generation of women leaders. All in all, I plan on staying in tune with our community and sharing all the progress we have made as a state.

If you have any questions about anything going on either in our community or at the Capitol, you can contact me by email at RepMatsumoto@Capitol.Hawaii.gov, or by telephone at (808) 586-9490, or you can also stop by our office at the Capitol (Room 303). I always look forward to seeing and hearing from you!

Mahalo,

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#### Contact Us

Please feel free to contact my office with any questions, comments, or concerns you may have. For event requests or for more information, please visit our website.



RepMatsumoto@Capitol.Hawaii.gov



(808) 586-9490



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#### School Supply Drive



As a member of the Salvation Army Echelon Board, I have worked with the board on selecting Waialua Elementary school as one of the recipients of our Back to School—School Supply Drive. Students with the most need will receive a backpack filled with school supplies and a pizza party.

**July 2016** 

## Special Session Summary

On Monday, July 11<sup>th</sup>, Governor Ige vetoed a series of seven bills, one of which concerned the benefits that are to be paid out to the employees of three Maui area hospitals. The hospital's transition from public to private left many employees who had invested in these benefits in a difficult situation. On Tuesday, July 12th, the House and Senate reconvened and over the next several days successfully voted to override the Governors veto, thereby preserving the benefits that those employees had bought into. The House vote to override was 43 to 3.

## **Around our Community**





With Representative Della Au Belatti (left)

I was honored with the opportunity to speak at the 46th Annual Conference of the National Association of Commissions for Women. There we talked about how women can get involved with politics, the role of women in government and the tools that we can use to motivate the next generation of women leaders.

With Jackie Tichepco (left) and Jeff Yamaguchi (right) from Future Farmers of America.

I was privileged with addressing FFA teachers from around the state as they discussed new methods of expanding our already prosperous agricultural industry. Having been raised around farms my entire life, I welcome these professionals in expanding