



**Representative
Lauren
Matsumoto
Serving You in District 45**

Aloha friends and neighbors!

Please visit my website and fill out the 2021 Community Survey today at www.repmatsumoto.com.

While it may have looked different than in years past, I hope you had a wonderful Thanksgiving Holiday. As we continue in the Holiday season and prepare for 2021, I have been reflecting on this past year. I began the 2020 legislative session with high hopes and expectations of everything I wanted to accomplish. Unfortunately due to COVID-19 and various other unforeseen circumstances, many projects were put on the back burner. I found myself needing to be flexible and pivot at a moment's notice in order to take care of my family, our community and the Capitol office. Saying this year did not go according to plan is an understatement.

My hope for all of you this Holiday season is to find joy in the midst of difficult circumstances. I also want to encourage you that I will be working incredibly hard this next legislative session to ensure our state moves forward on the road to recovery, not only from the virus, but from the economic downturn we have experienced because of it.

This is a critical time in our state's history, so don't forget to fill out my 2021 Community Survey! There's still time to make your voice heard. Your ideas, thoughts, and concerns about the most important issues facing our state and community are vital toward my job as your state legislator. Please visit my website and fill out the 2021 Community Survey today at www.repmatsumoto.com

Many of you and your families are having a hard time due to all of the COVID-19 restrictions and economic difficulties. My sincerest hope and prayer for this next year and legislative session is to start to rebuild and restore our economy and our communities that have been broken down. In the meantime, I know many of you have struggled to attain your unemployment benefits. If you would like help with this please do not hesitate to reach out to my office. While I am not in charge of the unemployment office or the decisions they make regarding each account, my goal is to help expedite the process so that you are able to get the information you need. Please send an email to repmatsumoto@capitol.hawaii.gov detailing where you are currently at in the process of filing for unemployment. Please also make sure to include your full legal name and the last 4 digits of your social security number. Once we have this information my office will inquire on your behalf with the unemployment office.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! And as always, please don't hesitate to contact my office if you have any questions or concerns about happenings in our community. You can reach me at (808) 586-9490 or at repmatsumoto@capitol.hawaii.gov.