



SENATOR Ewa Beach to Lower Waipahu

WILL ESPERO



Community Legislative Newsletter

ENB
January 2007

KAIMILOA ELEMENTARY

Serving as a member of the Kaimiloa Elementary School Facility Inspection Team, Senator Espero has helped improve the condition of its facilities. Kaimiloa, meaning "Seeker of Knowledge", has started on the process of correcting all of the items the team identified and the remedies are moving quickly ahead.

By being a part of the team, Senator Espero was able to provide insight and practical experiences for enhancement, helping make Kaimiloa a great place for positive learning. Requested by Senator Espero in this coming session's CIP are classroom building improvements.



Second graders with teacher Sharon Nakatani from Kaimiloa Elementary School visit Senator Espero.



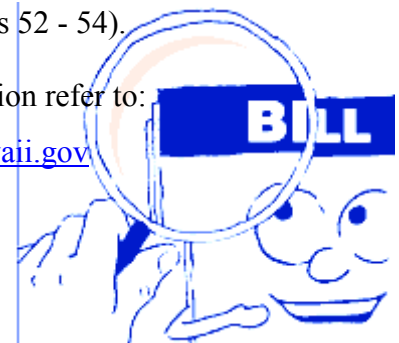
Members of Our Lady of Perpetual Help church and Senator Espero deliver donated gifts and necessities to the State's homeless transitional shelter at Kalaeloa the day before Christmas.

OPENING DAY

Please join us for the official commencement of the twenty-fourth State legislative session which will convene at the Senate and House chambers at the State Capitol, starting at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, January 17. Live television cover will be featured on Olelo Public Access Cable (Channels 52 - 54).

For further information refer to:

<http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov>





Ewa Neighborhood Board, Chair Kurt Fevella, and other board members pose with Mayor Hanneman and Councilmember Cachola at the signing of the rail transit legislation.

There are 444 open seats on Oahu's 32 neighborhood boards. Candidate application forms are available at the City Clerk's office and the Neighborhood Commission Office at Honolulu Hale, the Neighborhood Commission Office at Kapolei Hale and all satellite city halls. The form can also be downloaded from the following website:

http://www.honolulu.gov/nco/2007_candidate_application_form.pdf

Candidate applications must be postmarked or hand-delivered to the Neighborhood Commission Office at Honolulu Hale, 530 S. King St., by January 16, 2007.

Councilmember Rod Tam, Representative Gene Ward, and Senator Espero join members of the Hawaii Chinese Tourism Association for a holiday dinner meeting.



Senator Espero with Mayor Hanneman and members of the West Oahu Economic Development Association at the signing of Bill 79 which establishes a rail transit system for Oahu.

Pending is the decision to serve either the airport or Salt Lake, and if the route will go to the Ewa plains through the planned North-South Road or take a less-expensive route along Farrington Highway that bypasses Ewa.



PUBLIC SAFETY



A large crowd turned out for the joint informational briefing hosted by the Committee on Public Safety, Chair Senator Espero and the Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs, Chair Representative Evans.

About 130 people gathered at the capitol to discuss "How we can improve our prison system."



Waiawa Correctional Facility was visited by Representative Cindy Evans and Senator Espero.

UH WEST OAHU



Gene Awakuni Chancellor of the University of Hawaii 'i—West O'ahu (UHWO) discussed the master plan for the development of the future campus in Kapolei with Senator Espero.



Vivian Nguyen, owner of Lovely Nails II in Ewa Town Center, discussed business concerns with Senator Espero.

BILL PASSED

Below is information on a bill introduced by Senator Espero that establishes a limu management area along the shoreline in Ewa Beach and provides an exception for native Hawaiian gathering rights.

Posted by the The Honolulu Advertiser on: Wednesday, January 3, 2007

New law on limu picking to affect Ewa Beach shore

EWA BEACH — A new law that makes it illegal to pick limu from the Ewa Beach shoreline over the next 42 months, finally took effect earlier this week.

Act 241, which was signed into law by Gov. Linda Lingle last summer, will prohibit the removal of the Hawaiian seaweed from now through the first six months of 2010. Starting at 6 a.m. on July 1, 2010, however, people may once again pick the seaweed, up to one pound per day and only during the months of July, November and December of each year. During all other months, the prohibition on limu picking will be in effect.

According to Peter Young, chairman of the Department of Land and Natural Resources, the purpose of the law is to preserve the limu supply in the Ewa Limu Management Area, which extends 150 feet seaward from the gunnery range to the boat ramp on Muumuu Street.

Under the new law, no person — including those with commercial fishing licenses — will be allowed to pick, gather or harvest limu from within the management area. However, a person who has obtained a special permit from the DLNR may pick the seaweed for purposes of replanting only.

"The Department of Land and Natural Resources supported this legislation, which was developed over several years with the involvement of the Ewa Beach community in a public process," Young said.

"The community told us that they noticed the limu population of native seaweeds — such as ogo and limu manauca — was decreasing, due to heavy picking pressure. We worked with these residents to establish a management area and a plan to give the resources a break for several years to regenerate. After that, seasons will be allowed during the year during which limu can be picked. The rest of the year will be a closed season."

The law is posted on the Division of Aquatic Resources Web site located at [http:// www.hawaii.gov/dlnr/dar/ announce.htm](http://www.hawaii.gov/dlnr/dar/announce.htm).

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