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MESSAGE FROM KALANI

2021 has been the toughest year financially for the State and passing a balanced budget was no easy task. As we head into the closing days of the legislative session, I will continue to work with my colleagues to ensure that funds and resources are appropriately allocated to our district.

SENATOR J.KALANI ENGLISH

HAWAI'I STATE SENATE 7TH DISTRICT

HĀNA, EAST AND UPCOUNTRY MAUI,
MOLOKA'I, LĀNA'I AND KAHO'OLAWÉ

\$106,665,000 APPROPRIATED FOR DISTRICT 7 PROJECTS

Senator English's efforts during the Thirty First Legislature of 2021 has provided \$106,665,000 million in capital improvement project (CIP) funds allocated for Hawai'i State Senate District 7 in the final version of the State Budget (HB200) that passed out of the Senate and House conference committee on April 19.

These allocations include:

- **\$15,000,000** for King Kekaulike High School: Design and construction of a black box theater and supporting functions for existing performing arts center; ground and site improvements; and equipment and appurtenances.

- **\$12,500,000** for Hāna Highway Bridge Preservation: Construction for the implementation of the bridge preservation plan for Hāna highway in the vicinity of the Hāna preservation district, to include bridge rehabilitation and/or replacement.

- **\$10,000,000** for Makawao Public Library: Plans, design, and construction for improvements to the library building and property for expansion of library services and programs. The project will include parking and parking related improvements, ground and site improvements, equipment and appurtenances.

- **\$7,760,000** for Wai'ānapanapa State Park: Construction for state park improvements and other related improvements; ground and site improvements; equipment and appurtenances.

- **\$5,300,000** for Hāna Highway Improvement – Huelo to Hāna: Construction for improving, upgrading and/or repairing roadways, bridges, walls, drainage structures, guardrails, and other facilities on Hāna Highway.

- **\$2,800,000** for Watershed Protection and Ungulate Fencing: Plans, design, construction, and equipment for watershed protection and ungulate fencing.

- **\$2,000,000** for Hāna Highway Rockfall Mitigation – Huelo to Hāna: Construction to mitigate rockfalls and potential landslide areas along the slopes of Hāna Highway at various

locations.

- **\$1,300,000** for Pālā'au State Park on Moloka'i: Plans, design, and construction for state park improvements and related improvements in Pālā'au State Park. Project may include water system replacement improvements, comfort stations and sewer system, pavilion, picnic and facility, base yard and storage, roadway and parking, trail and pathway, security gate and barrier, Kalaupapa Lookout, and other related improvements.

- **\$10,000,000** for an Upcountry Maui well: Plans, land acquisition, and design for a water well and related improvements in Upcountry Maui.

- **\$880,000** for Hāna High and Elementary School: Design and construction for the renovation of the culinary arts facilities; replace termite damaged facilities, damaged equipment and meet Department of Health requirements.

- **\$554,000** for Ha'ikū Elementary School: Plans, design, and construction to maintain and improve facilities and infrastructure, including hazardous materials remediation. Project may include repair, replacement, renovation, or new construction of screens; repair, replacement, renovation, or new construction of buildings; ventilation improvements; ground and site improvements; and equipment and appurtenances.

- **\$160,000** for Maui Produce Processing Cooperative: Design and construction for critical repairs of the Kula vacuum cooling facility.

"Balancing the budget in the midst of an unprecedented economic recession was no easy task and I want to thank both the Senate and House Finance chairs for their leadership in working to get the bill passed," noted Sen. English. "The CIP funding allocated to our district in the State budget will play a critical role in helping to address the issue of aging infrastructure in our communities."

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SENATE PASSES THE STATE BUDGET BILL

The Hawai'i State Senate amended and passed **HB200**. Despite an original projected deficit of nearly \$2 billion, the Senate unanimously approved the bill, which includes \$1.6 billion in federal aid to the State from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) and \$15,991,265,341 in general funds for the fiscal biennium beginning July 1, 2021, and ending June 30, 2023.

The Senate draft of the State budget includes the following highlights:

Department of Agriculture:

- Adds \$800,000 to start the Pesticide Disposal Program.
- Adds \$800,000 ceiling increase for Water Infrastructure Loans.
- Adds \$600,000 in FY22 and \$500,000 in FY23 to pesticide disposal.
- Adds \$50,000 for Hemp Licensing Program.

Department of Accounting and General Services:

- Adds 5 permanent positions and \$836,550 each year for IT modernization for unemployment insurance system, disability compensation, financial management, child and family welfare, behavioral health, and state employee benefits system.
- Adds \$287,000 in FY22 for 2021 reapportionment for the Office of Elections.
- Restores \$629,777 in FY22 and \$259,554 in FY23 for the Office of Elections Voting System.
- Denies Aloha Stadium request for \$2,887,000 in FY22 for operating costs and structural assessment.
- Adds \$550,000 in FY22 and FY23 for insurance program for state risk management and insurance administration (ARPA)

Department of the Attorney General:

- Restores \$1,800,000 for the Career Criminal and Victim Witness Program to provide 24-hour hotline services and allow medical examinations to be offered on evenings and weekends to ensure the timely collection of evidence.
- Restores \$714,000 for the Sex Abuse Treatment Center to provide evening and week-

end services to victims.

Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism:

- Reduces \$27,357,559 in special funds for the Hawai'i Tourism Authority (HTA) and changes the means of finance for the remaining \$48,140,000 (using ARPA funds).
- Reduces \$950,000 for Strategic Marketing and Support.
- Restores \$66,231 in FY22 and \$132,462 in FY23 for Statewide Land Use Management.

Department of Budget and Finance:

- Pay the Annual Required Contribution (ARC)/Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) prefunding of \$378,368,000 in FY22 and \$338,079,000 in FY23.
- Adds \$160,020,792 in FY22 and \$153,659,250 in FY23 for payment of working capital (using ARPA funds).
- Adds \$93,248,158 in FY22 and \$122,625,227 in FY23 for debt service.
- Adds \$24,700,000 for health premium payments.
- Adds \$720,000 in FY22 and \$240,000 in FY23 for 'Iolani Palace. (using ARPA funds).
- Restores \$626,000 subsidy to Bishop Museum (using ARPA funds)
- Reduces \$9,076,579 each year for retirement benefits.

Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs:

- Increases ceiling by \$125,000 for server for data integration across divisions and departments.

Department of Defense:

- Adds \$329,096 for 7 temporary positions for the Lava Project.

Department of Education:

- Eliminates the Office of Strategy, Innovation and Performance and the Office of Information Technology Services to decentralize administrative support services to Complex areas.

- Adds \$5,124,000 in FY23 for repairs and maintenance.
- Adds \$5,000,000 for overtime for teachers to provide tutoring.
- Adds \$5,000,000 for teacher rental subsidy.
- Adds \$4,431,663 to restore defunded position from Act 9 (2020) for Special Education.
- Adds \$2,641,925 and 3 permanent positions for Charter Schools Commission and Administration.
- Adds \$1,000,000 for the Farm-to-School Program expansion.
- Adds \$1,000,000 in FY23 for School Facilities Agency.
- Adds \$249,239 for Early Learning Teachers.
- Adds \$400,000 for trauma-informed care services statewide.
- Add \$250,000 in FY22 for proof-of-concept High Core Program
- Add \$39,719,565 in FY22 and \$47,719,5665 in FY23 to fully restore and supplement for Indexed Complex Area Allocation
- Adds \$26,030,517 to partially restore defunded positions from Act 9 (2020) for the Weighted Student Formula
- Add \$3,000,000 for Alternative Learning Centers [
- Restores \$17,890,819 and 10 permanent and 2 temporary positions from program review reductions for School Support.
- Restores \$14,417,942 from program review reductions for Charter Schools.
- Restores \$11,226,819 from program review reductions for weighted student formula.
- Restores \$6,352,023 and 2 permanent and 4 temporary positions from program review reductions for Instructional Support.
- Restores \$5,239,467 and 16.5 permanent and 1 temporary positions from program review reductions for State Administration.
- Restores \$3,545,809 in FY22 and \$3,565,809 in FY23 from program review reductions for Public Libraries.
- Restores \$315,883 from program review for special education.

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SENATE PASSES THE STATE BUDGET BILL

Office of the Governor

- Adds \$53,000 in FY22 for the 175th Washington Place Anniversary.

Department of Hawaiian Home Lands:

- Adds \$7,000,000 ceiling increase for NAHASDA Federal Funds – planning and development for Hawaiian Homesteads.

Department of Human Services:

- Adds \$5,400,000 in FY22 for General Assistance payments to maintain \$388 a month payment for 6,675 individuals (using ARPA funds).
- Adds \$750,000 in FY22 and FY23 for State Rent Supplement Vouchers that provide up to \$500 a month to cover rental costs for 280 households (using ARPA funds).
- Increase federal fund ceiling by \$16,433,850 in FY22 and \$16,429,850 in FY23 for rental assistance services.
- Adds \$12,374,692 in FY22 and \$34,069,588 in FY23 for Medicaid payments.
- Adds \$10,800,000 each year for Homeless Services (using ARPA funds).
- Restores \$6,333,798 for TANF Client Services Contracts.
- Restores \$832,000 in FY22 and FY23 for In-Community Youth Programs and contract services (using ARPA funds).
- Restores \$520,000 in FY22 and FY23 for mental health services at Hawai'i Youth Correctional Facility (using ARPA funds).
- Restores \$134,000 in FY22 and \$1,137,000 in FY23 for KOLEA maintenance and operations (using ARPA funds).

Department of Human Resource Development:

- Adds \$257,775 in FY22 and \$526,250 in FY23 for Worker's Compensation Claims.
- Adds \$225,000 in FY22 for Unemployment Insurance Benefits for State employees.

Department of Health:

- Adds \$7,300,000 to the general fund for Tobacco Prevention Programs.
- Adds \$35,906,000 for Hawai'i Healthcare

Systems Corporations operation subsidy (using ARPA funds).

- Adds \$6,180,433 in FY22 for Hawai'i State Hospitals operation subsidy (using ARPA funds).
- Adds \$11,585,000 for Maui Health Systems operating subsidy (using ARPA funds).
- Adds \$9,887,137 for Emergency Medical Services (using ARPA funds).
- Restores \$2,687,824 in funding for Kūpuna Care and the Aging Disability Resource Center.
- Restores 4 permanent positions and \$152,856 to preserve the Office of Language Access.
- Merger of Food Safety and Drug Branch to Food Safety Branch.

Department of Labor and Industrial Relations:

- Adds \$312,445,695 in FY22 and \$407,554,305 in FY23 for the new Unemployment Insurance loan (ARPA (using ARPA funds).
- Adds \$431,937 in FY22 and FY23 for the Disability Compensation Program's technology modernization maintenance (ARPA)
- Adds \$70,000,000 in FY22 and \$35,000,000 in FY23 for the new Unemployment Insurance call center.
- Adds \$13,153,920 for FY22 and \$10,000,000 in FY23 for the Unemployment Insurance Interest Payable.
- Restores \$1,043,780, 1 permanent position and 4 temporary positions for the Office of Community Services.
- Restores \$315,242 and 6 permanent positions for the Civil Rights Commission.

Department of Land and Natural Resources:

- Adds \$2,231,420 and 33 permanent Enforcement Officers, 6 permanent Administrative Support positions and 2 permanent Education and Program Specialists for Conservation and Resource Enforcement.
- Adds \$1,459,440 and 30 previously defunded positions for Conservation and Resources Enforcement.
- Adds \$875,000 for FY22 for Rapid 'Ōhi'a Death response.

- Restores \$3,110,946 for the Native Resources and Fire Protection Program.

Department of Public Safety:

- Adds \$330,000 for the Hawai'i Correctional System Oversight Commission.
- Adds \$676,222 in FY22 for the Crime Victim Compensation Program. The commission assists violent crime victims with funds to pay for medical costs, counseling costs, lost wages and funeral expenses not covered by other sources.

Department of Taxation:

- Adds \$3,033,832 for maintenance of the Tax System Modernization.
- Adds \$227,500 for FY22 and \$22,500 FY23 for the Tax Review Commission.

Department of Transportation:

- Adds \$35,000,000 in FY22 and \$49,000,000 in FY23 for Highways Special Maintenance.

University of Hawai'i:

- Adds \$3,000,000 for UH Cancer Center.
- Adds 2 permanent positions and \$164,394 for computer science pathways through Early College.
- Adds \$2,600,000 for UH Mānoa Athletics and \$400,000 for UH Hilo Athletics.
- Adds \$1,300,000 for the Hawai'i Promise Program
- To minimize impacts to our university and community college students, faculty and staff, the Senate draft:
- Adds \$15,600,000 in FY22 and \$3,533,247 in FY23 and \$12,880,000 in FY22 and \$16,946,753 in FY23 in general funds for UH Manoa to restore program review reductions (ARPA)
- Adds \$23,000,000 in FY22 and FY23 from program review reductions for the UH Community Colleges.

House Bill 200, House Draft 1, Senate Draft 1 now heads to conference committee for further consideration

J. KALANI ENGLISH Senate Majority Leader

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MOLOKA'I LIBRARIAN NAMED ONE OF 2021 SCHOOL LIBRARIANS OF THE YEAR



Diane Mokuau, a librarian at Moloka'i High and Intermediate since 2002, was selected as a 2021 School Librarian of the Year. This is the sixth year that School Library Journal has presented this award that is sponsored by Scholastic Book Fairs. The award recognizes K-12 school library professionals for outstanding achievement and exemplary use of technology and services to foster multiple literacies.

She not only serves as librarian at her school but she also created the Moloka'i College and Career Tour Club that helps students visit the East and West coasts for college tours.

This annual activity (on hold during the pandemic) has made students and their families, who have never left the small island, realize they are capable of going to college.

Diane is also credited with growing the Moloka'i Services Cadre, comprised of librarians, a principal, and staff from public, school, and Native Hawaiian libraries. The cohort support one another in a range of activities including weeding collections, sharing technology resources, and exchanging programs across the island.

From 2014 through 2019, Diane coauthored a million dollar grant from the federal government to develop the Moloka'i LIVE21st Century Learning Center, which provides homework assistance and enrichment activities to middle school students.

"I extend my aloha and congratulations to Diane on being selected for this prestigious award," said Sen English. "Her dedication, commitment and passion for serving our communities does not go unnoticed and I am grateful that our Moloka'i students are able to benefit from her many years of service."

FUNDS RELEASED FOR CAPITOL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

\$1,276,000 was awarded to Majkus Construction, LLC for the re-roofing, renovations, and installation of new gutters and downspouts at Lāna'i High and Elementary School.

\$106,665,000 APPROPRIATED FOR DISTRICT 7 PROJECTS CONTINUED

\$2,550,000 for Kula Hospital: Plumbing and electrical lighting system improvements and patient room renovation.

\$500,000 for Lāna'i Community Health Center: Fire alarm system upgrade.

\$15,166,000 for Keokea-Waiohuli Homestead: Plans, design construction, land acquisition and equipment for phases 2B and 3.

\$300,000 for Moloka'i Veteran's Center: Plans, design, construction and equipment.

\$1,150,000 for Kualapu'u Elementary Charter School: Plans, design, equipment and installation for play shades and age appropriate

play equipment, safety surfacing, fencing, ground and site improvements.

\$6,000,000 for Moloka'i High School: Renovation of gymnasium.

\$1,345,000 for Ho'olehua Water System: Equipment and supplies.

\$18,000,000 for Pulehunui Water Source and System Development: Plans and design for water source.

\$2,400,000 Hāna Highway: Design, construction for installing and upgrading guardrails and reconstructing and paving shoulders.