



*Trish* **LACHICA**  
 STATE REPRESENTATIVE • DISTRICT 37  
 MILILANI • WAIPI'O GENTRY • KOA RIDGE



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SCAN ME



### HAWAI'I CHILD AND DEPENDENT CARE TAX CREDIT

Tax season is right around the corner! The Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit provides income support for working parents or caregivers who pay for child or dependent care. Qualifying expenses include: before and after school care programs, preschool, daycare, home health care. For more info visit: [tax.hawaii.gov](http://tax.hawaii.gov)

#### Maximum Amount of Credit by Income Level

Household Hawai'i Gross Income	Percentage of Expenses	Maximum Credit for 1 Qualifying Dependent	Maximum Credit for 2 or More Qualifying Dependents
\$1 - \$25,000	25%	\$2,500	\$5,000
\$25,001 - \$30,000	24%	\$2,400	\$4,800
\$30,001 - \$35,000	23%	\$2,300	\$4,600
\$35,001 - \$40,000	22%	\$2,200	\$4,400
\$40,001 - \$45,000	21%	\$2,100	\$4,200
\$45,001 - \$50,000	20%	\$2,000	\$4,000
\$50,001+	15%	\$1,500	\$3,000

#### Aloha Neighbor,

As we begin this new year, I want to express my heartfelt gratitude for the opportunity to serve our community once again as your State Representative. It's an honor to represent District 37 and work together to make our home an even better place to live.

I'm excited to share that this year, I have the privilege of serving as part of the House leadership team as the **Assistant Majority Floor Leader**. I will also continue as **Vice Chair of the House Committee on Education**, focusing on issues that impact our keiki's future, health, and safety.

As someone raising a family here in Mililani, I understand the challenges of Hawaii's high cost of living. Please share your feedback in our **Cost of Living Survey** in this newsletter - your feedback helps me understand how affordability impacts us all and how I can advocate for better solutions at the Capitol.

Thank you for your trust and support. Together, we can build a brighter future for our community.

With Aloha,  
  
 Rep. Trish La Chica



### JANUARY 2025 NEWSLETTER • WHAT'S INSIDE:



Affordability and Cost of Living Survey



TLC in the Community



Taking Action: Community Updates



District 37 Affordability and Cost of Living Survey – WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

**Aloha!** Your input will guide my work on affordability and cost of living.

Responses are confidential and will shape legislative priorities.

Please fill out, cut and mail back this survey to:

**Office of Representative Trish La Chica,**  
415 S. Beretania St., Rm 441, Honolulu, HI 96813

Or answer the survey online:  
<https://bit.ly/D37-COL-Survey>



Name:

Email:

**Neighborhood:**

Mililani Town       Waipio Gentry

Mililani Mauka       Koa Ridge

**1. State Government's Efforts on Cost of Living**

How effective do you feel Hawai'i's state government has been in addressing cost of living issues so far?

Very Effective      Neutral      Very Ineffective

**2. Commitment to Staying in Hawai'i**

How confident are you that you and your 'ohana can continue living in Hawai'i for at least the next five years?

Very Confident      Neutral      Very Unconfident

**3. Navigating Cost of Living**

How confident is your 'ohana in managing Hawai'i's cost of living with available resources and support?

Very Confident      Neutral      Very Unconfident

**4. Safety for Keiki**

How confident are you in the safety, education, and future opportunities for Hawai'i's keiki?

Very Confident      Neutral      Very Unconfident

**5. Top Affordability Challenges**

Please number the following affordability challenges in order of priority, with **1 being the most important** affordability challenge for you and your 'ohana and **8 being the least important**:

Childcare       Healthcare       Utilities       Transportation       Other:

Housing (buy or rent)       Insurance       Food & Groceries       Education costs

**6. Top Policy Change**

If you could change **one thing** through legislation to make it easier for you and your 'ohana to stay in Hawai'i, what would it be and why?

**7. Additional Comments and Feedback:**

*TLC in the Community*



We're wiping out graffiti! Rep. La Chica and HPD joined forces to clean up graffiti around Waipi'o Gentry. Mahalo nui to all the volunteers who worked so hard to make our community beautiful!



We loved ringing in the New Year with our community at the annual Mililani Pineapple Drop. Wishing you all a joyful and prosperous year ahead!



**Tree-rific!** Rep. La Chica worked with the City's Division of Urban Forestry to replant **11 new trees** along Anania drive replacing the young trees that were vandalized and cut down two years ago.

*Taking Action*

**CONDO INSURANCE TALK STORY**



Mahalo to everyone who joined us on Dec. 3rd to address the rising home and condo insurance costs impacting residents across our district and state.

We're grateful to experts Alex McLaury (Alkeme Insurance), Gordon Ito (Hawaii Insurance Commissioner), and Lorie Sides (DCCA Real Estate Branch Condo Specialist) for sharing their insights and to all our residents for their thoughtful input as we work toward affordable solutions for our community.

View the Speaker Presentations at:  
<https://bit.ly/d37-condo>



**KIPAPA GULCH UPDATE**

We've received reports of the homeless encampment restarting in Kipapa Gulch. We are actively addressing it. Homeless outreach services are ongoing with Kealahou West Oahu providing support.

We're also working with the U.S. Army Garrison Hawaii and the Hawaii Department of Transportation to tackle this issue. Mahalo for your patience and understanding.

**WE ARE HERE TO HELP!**

Our office takes great pride in working on various issues important to our community. If you need assistance, please contact our office:

[replachica@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:replachica@capitol.hawaii.gov)

reprishlachica.com  
808-586-6150



Meet Rep. La Chica's Staff: (L-R): Kez, Erin, Rep. La Chica, and Erika