



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



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SCAN ME



Aloha Neighbor,

It is with deep gratitude and a renewed sense of purpose that I begin my fourth legislative session representing District 37, serving Mililani, Mililani Mauka, Waipi'o Gentry, and Koa Ridge.

This year, I am advancing a **legislative package** shaped directly by your voices. At the center of my work are three urgent priorities:

- Strengthening **math proficiency** across Hawai'i so every student gains the skills needed to thrive and succeed.
- Protecting our keiki by establishing **safeguards around artificial intelligence technology** so innovation does not come at the expense of safety.
- Making our roads safer – especially around schools by **strengthening crosswalk laws** and accelerating Safe Routes to School projects.

I am also deeply humbled to continue serving as **Vice Chair of the House Education Committee** and as **Assistant Majority Floor Leader**. These leadership roles allow me to elevate the needs of Central O'ahu while helping guide thoughtful, responsible legislation for our entire state.

Behind every bill and every constituent we assist is a dedicated team. My staff and I are honored to serve you – answering your calls, addressing your concerns, and advocating fiercely for our community. Thank you for your trust.

Trish

Rep. Trish La Chica

FEBRUARY 2026 NEWSLETTER • WHAT'S INSIDE:



Taking Action: Central Oahu Kitchen



TLC's 2026 Legislative Bill Package



Updates from the State Capitol



Meet Rep. Trish La Chica's Staff!



Meet the Office of Representative Trish La Chica

Tiara Tenorio
Legislative Aide:
Handles communications, outreach, and constituent concerns.

Tosa Lobendahn
Office Manager:
Oversees staff, Rep's schedule, and keeps our office organized and running smoothly.

Alani Santana
Committee Clerk:
Manages Education Committee work and bill tracking.

RESOURCE PHONE NUMBERS

- **Abandoned Vehicles** (808) 768-2530
- **Adult Abuse** (808) 832-5115
- **Bulky Item Pick Up** (808) 768-3200
- **Child Abuse** (808) 832-5300
- **City Trees** (808) 971-7151
- **CrimeStoppers** (808) 955-8300
- **Dead Animals** (808) 768-9766
- **Domestic Violence Action Center** (808) 531-3771
- **Feral Chickens** (808) 768-4381
- **Homelessness Outreach** (808) 728-5034
- **Landlord-Tenant Hotline** (808) 586-2634
- **Park Maintenance** (808) 768-6940
- **Potholes, City** (808) 786-7777
- **Potholes, State** (808) 536-7852
- **Public Benefits - Snap, Financial Assistance, Medicaid** (855) 643-1643
- **Sidewalk Concerns** (808) 971-7151
- **State Tax Information** (808) 587-4242

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Taking Action

AINA Kitchen Network Breaks Ground



Last month, I joined state leaders for the groundbreaking of Hawaii's first **AINA Kitchen Network**—a statewide initiative to modernize school meal preparation through centralized regional kitchens—a major step toward healthier, **locally sourced** meals for our keiki.

When complete, this facility will serve up to **60,000 meals a day** to students across **Central and West O'ahu**.



HOW TO SUBMIT TESTIMONY

1. Go to capitol.hawaii.gov and log in (or create an account) using the button in the upper right corner.
2. Click **"Submit Testimony"** or find it under the "Participate" tab.
3. Enter the bill number (no spaces) and click "Continue."
4. Fill out the form—select your position, choose written or oral testimony, and type your testimony or upload your file.
5. Review carefully—you can't edit after submitting. Click "Submit Testimony."
6. Confirmation will appear at the bottom of the form. All testimony is public.



Need help? Scan the QR code to visit the [Help Page](#) on the Capitol website.

Legislative Updates

First Rounds of Hearings in the House Education Committee

The House Education Committee hit the ground running this session—**eight hearings** and **77 bills** reviewed so far. Serving as Vice Chair for my third session, I've had a front-row seat as we tackle teacher safety, student transportation, educator housing, AI literacy, and support for students experiencing homelessness. The mission stays the same: making sure every keiki in Hawai'i has what they need to succeed.



Welcoming Keiki to the Capitol

One of the best parts of legislative session is welcoming young people to the Capitol. We've had students from across the state visit—including keiki from **Hawai'i Tech Academy**, a public charter school—to see democracy in action and learn how laws are made. My office gave them a tour of the Hawaii State Capitol and I introduced them during House floor session. If you'd like to schedule a visit with my office, or a group tour of the Capitol, please reach out to my office!



TLC's 2026 Legislative Package

My 2026 legislative package reflects **our community's concerns and priorities**. Sign up to submit testimony, track progress and find hearing dates by scanning this QR code:



EDUCATION	HAWAII' NUMERACY HB178	Creates a statewide math coaching program to support teachers and help more Hawaii students build strong foundations in math.		
	CHARTER SCHOOL PILOT HB1783	Launches a pilot program to build three new public schools through public-private partnerships in high-need communities.		
	SFA CIP DATABASE HB1778	Creates a public database to prioritize school repairs and modernization using data.		
	SHARED FACILITIES PILOT HB1786	Opens public school fields and courts on weekends for community use - no fees or permits required.		
	DYSLEXIA SCREENING HB1784	Adds K-3 dyslexia-sensitive screening and early reading supports.		
	FREE LUNCH IN 5 YEARS HB1779	Provides free school meals to all DOE students beginning in the 2029-2030 school year.		
	FREE BUS ACCESS HB1780	Provides free bus passes to students who qualify for free or reduced-price lunch.		
PUBLIC SAFETY	SCHOOL BUS CONTRACTS HB1785	Gives the DOE flexibility to hire a new contractor when the current contractor fails to provide school bus service for five or more consecutive school days.		
	CHARTER SCHOOL MEALS HB1561	Extends free school meals to public charter school students from families earning up to 300% of the federal poverty level.		
PUBLIC SAFETY	LAWMAKER SECURITY HB2184	Automatically keeps legislators' residence addresses and phone numbers confidential in public databases unless requested.		
	SPORTS OFFICIAL SAFETY HB2185	Makes assaulting a sports official a class B felony and authorizes the Attorney General to represent officials in civil proceedings if they've been assaulted or threatened.		
	CROSSWALK SAFETY HB2186	Requires drivers to stop and remain stopped for pedestrians in crosswalks, strengthens penalties, provides heightened protections for blind and visually impaired pedestrians.		
	SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL HB1499	Authorizes that project funds for Safe Routes to School are spent on time by setting deadlines for counties and returning unused money for other projects.		
CONSUMER PROTECTION	WORKPLACE VIOLENCE HB2455	Provides employees who are victims of workplace violence or threats to paid leave for safety-related legal actions such as seeking restraining orders or meeting with law enforcement.		
	AI HEALTHCARE CLAIMS HB1787	Restricts the use of AI in health insurance decisions and requires a licensed health care provider to independently review all adverse actions before they are issued.		
	AI SAFETY FOR MINORS HB1782	Protects minors from harmful AI chatbots by requiring disclosure that they're interacting with AI, banning manipulative design practices, and establishing penalties for violations.		
	MEDICAL DEBT HB2187	Protects Hawaii residents by prohibiting medical debt from being reported to or maintained by consumer credit reporting agencies.		
	TENANT REPORTS HB2188	Allows renters to use one tenant screening report for multiple applications, saving them from paying repeated screening fees to different landlords.		
OTHER BILLS	AI DEEPFAKES SAFETY HB2607	Protects individuals from having AI used to create fake images, audio, or video of them without consent—updating Hawai'i's right of publicity law to explicitly cover AI-generated deepfakes.		
	HEAT PUMP WATER HEATER HB1785	PORTABLE SOLAR DEVICE REGULATION HB2609	GLP-1 WEIGHT-LOSS DRUG ACCESS HB2456	DISTRICT 37 CIP HB2610