



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



Hawai'i State Capitol
 415 S. Beretania Street, Room 441
 Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Office of Rep. La Chica
 808-586-6150
replachica@capitol.hawaii.gov

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 @reptrishlachica



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SCAN ME



Dear Neighbor,

I hope you and your 'ohana are doing well – and that you stayed safe through the Kona storm earlier this month. March has been a busy one, both at the Capitol and here in our community. We've hit the halfway point this session, with bills now crossing over between chambers. A few priorities I've been working hard on are making real progress – you'll find updates inside.

Here in the district, I had the chance to visit classrooms during our short recess for Read Across America, celebrate a big anniversary for Walk with a Doc - a beloved community wellness program, and hear directly from many of you about what's happening in our neighborhoods. Your calls, emails, and tips make a difference – mahalo for staying connected.

Lastly, I hope you'll take a moment to fill out our mid-session legislative survey. I'd love to hear what issues matter most to you as we head into the second half of session.

As always, please don't hesitate to reach out. I'm here to help.

With warmest aloha,

Trish La Chica
 Representative, House District 37
 Assistant Majority Floor Leader
 Vice Chair, Committee on Education

Trish ♥



REP. TLC'S EARTH DAY DRAWING CONTEST

Submit Your Art!

What does a Greener Hawai'i look like to you?
Calling all young artists in District 37! In honor of **Earth Day**, we want to see your vision for a greener neighborhood. What would a more sustainable **Mililani Town, Mililani Mauka, Waipi'o Gentry, or Koa Ridge** look like through your eyes? Whether it's waste reduction or composting, community clean ups, more trees and green spaces, community gardens, energy and water conservation, or something we haven't even thought of yet. This is your chance to dream big and show us what protecting our 'āina means to you!



On the back of your drawing, please include:

- Your name
- Your age/grade
- Your school
- A parent/guardian contact (phone or email)

PRIZES: 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners will be invited to **Art at the Capitol Day** on April 17th and have their artwork displayed!

WHO CAN ENTER: All K–12 students in District 37
DEADLINE: Entries must be received by Tuesday April 14th, 2026
ARTWORK SPECS:

- Standard letter size: 8.5" x 11"
- Digital artwork is welcome but must be printed
- Any medium (crayons, markers, colored pencils, paint, etc.)

HOW TO ENTER

Mail your **Rep. Trish La Chica** – 415 S. Beretania St., Room 441, Honolulu, HI 96813

MARCH 2026 NEWSLETTER • WHAT'S INSIDE:



Your Voice Matters: Mid Session Survey



TLC in the Community



Updates from the State Capitol



Taking Action: Constituent Services

Mid-Session Legislative Survey

Please share your input to help me understand community support on key issues we're watching at the Capitol. Responses are kept confidential. Don't miss your chance to be heard! You can mail this back or take our survey online at <https://bit.ly/2026midsession>

Scan to take the Online Survey:



Please cut out & mail to:
Representative Trish La Chica
415 S. Beretania St., Rm 441, Honolulu, HI 96813

Name:

Email:

Neighborhood:

- Mililani Town Waipio Gentry
 Mililani Mauka Koa Ridge

1. TRAFFIC SAFETY & DANGEROUS DRIVING (SB2459, SB2812, SB2991)

Traffic fatalities remain a concern in Hawai'i. These bills would crack down on dangerous driving by holding repeat and impaired drivers accountable, making it harder for them to get their licenses back after serious offenses, and helping keep unsafe drivers off the road. Do you support strengthening laws to hold repeat and impaired drivers accountable and improve roadway safety?

YES NO UNSURE

2. PEDESTRIAN & CROSSWALK SAFETY (SB2695)

Pedestrians make up a growing share of traffic fatalities in Hawai'i. This bill would require drivers to stop and remain stopped once a person enters a crosswalk and is in or near their lane, and increase penalties for violations, especially in school zones. Do you support stronger pedestrian safety laws?

YES NO UNSURE

3. CONVEYANCE TAX CHANGES (SB3028/HB2049)

The conveyance tax is a fee paid when real estate is sold in Hawai'i, based on property value. This bill would increase taxes on higher-value homes (over \$2.1 million) and decrease them for lower-value homes, with revenues directed toward affordable housing, infrastructure, and the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands. Do you support adjusting conveyance taxes in this way?

YES NO UNSURE

4. CAT STERILIZATION REQUIREMENTS (HB1736)

This would require cats over five months old to be spayed or neutered unless the owner registers them as an unsterilized ("intact") cat, with limited exceptions. Do you support requiring cat owners to spay or neuter their cats after five months to help prevent overpopulation?

YES NO UNSURE

5. IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT & COMMUNITY PROTECTIONS (SB2057, HB1839, HB1870, SB3322)

These bills limit cooperation with federal immigration enforcement, require people to be informed of their rights (such as the right to remain silent and speak to an attorney) in their language, restrict enforcement in places like schools and hospitals, and increase law enforcement transparency. Do you support these protections?

YES NO UNSURE

6. TAX BREAKS & WORKING FAMILIES (SB3125, HB2306)

To address budget challenges, the Governor proposed pausing all planned tax cuts. Instead of a full pause, the Legislature is considering tax relief that helps working families (like childcare and food credits), while increasing taxes on the highest income earners. Do you support this approach to protect working families while asking top earners to pay more?

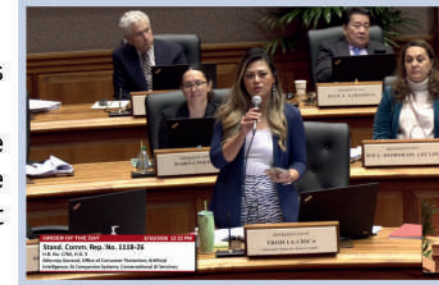
YES NO UNSURE

Other bills/issues you would like Rep. La Chica to consider:

Updates from the State Capitol

A.I. Chatbot Protection for Minors

HB1782 passed 3rd reading and has crossed over to the Senate! As AI technology becomes more embedded in our keiki's daily lives, we need guardrails in place to protect minors from harmful interactions.



Crosswalk Pedestrian Safety

I spoke with Hawai'i News Now about my bill to strengthen pedestrian safety at our crosswalks. Our Senate companion **SB2695** has crossed over to the House and we're keeping the momentum going.



TLC in the Community

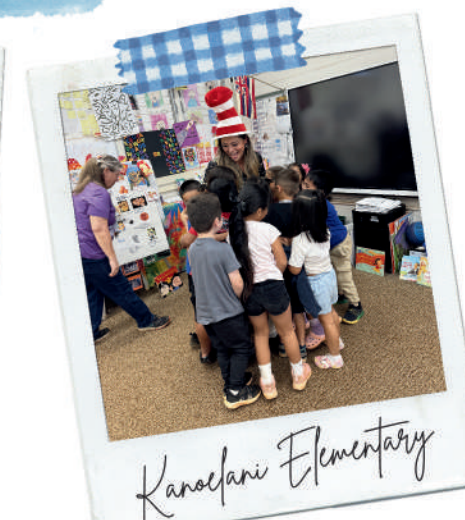


Walk with a Doc

Our **Office Manager Tosa Lobendahn** celebrated 10 years of Walk with a Doc on O'ahu and recognized **Dr. Theresa Wee** for a decade of community wellness. Congratulations, Dr. Wee!



Kipapa Elementary



Kanoelani Elementary

Read Across America

Part of my five-day recess was spent reading with keiki across four District 37 schools! Mahalo to all the incredible teachers who welcomed us into their classrooms:

Lehua Elementary, Mililani Uka Elementary, Kipapa Elementary, Kanoelani Elementary

Taking Action

CONSTITUENT SERVICES

Mililani Break-Ins

On **March 11** at around **4:00 AM**, HPD arrested three individuals connected to a series of vehicle break-ins across **West O'ahu, including 'Ewa Beach, Kapolei, Makakilo, and Mililani**. Mahalo to everyone who contacted our office about the break-ins in Mililani. **If you see anything else please report to HPD by calling (808) 723-8800 (Pearl City) or (808)723-8700 (Mililani).**



Kipapa Gulch Updates



Kipapa Gulch is looking better thanks to our multi-agency effort to clear four encampment sites. Mahalo nui loa to **Hawai'i DOT, HPD, Kealahou West O'ahu, and the U.S. Army Garrison Hawai'i** for their collaboration in making this happen.

A reminder to our community: **illegal dumping is a \$1,000 fine**. If you see anyone dumping household rubbish in our gulches or public spaces, please report it to HPD.



WE ARE HERE TO HELP

Tosa Lobendahn is our Office Manager and handles communications and constituent services.

Contact us at: replachica@capitol.hawaii.gov
808-586-6150