



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



SCAN ME



**Aloha Neighbor,**

It's hard to believe we're approaching the **final** weeks of the **2026 legislative session**. As we head into conference committee, this is where the real negotiations happen, as both the House and Senate convene on the remaining 21% of bills still alive.

In this newsletter, we're including updates on current district investments that are included in the budget bill, pending final passage. We're also pushing for the passage of the strongest **AI safety protections for minors bill** in the country along with a few more priority bills.

In and out of the Capitol, I've been supporting events and causes events that bring District 37 together and strengthen policy for the State.

**Mahalo for your continued trust as we work hard to get through the remaining weeks of Session!**

In service,

*Trish*

Rep. Trish La Chica

Assistant Majority Floor Leader

Vice Chair, Committee on Education



**APRIL 2026 NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD DIGEST**



Legislative Updates



Capitol Events



Capital Improvement Projects



Community Updates

# Legislative Updates

We're in the home stretch! **311 Senate bills** and **277 House bills**, or about **21% of total bills introduced** are headed to conference committees, where House and Senate members will negotiate final language before sending bills to the Governor. We are our bills including companion bills that are going to conference, including resolutions introduced by Rep. La Chica:

## Bills

<b>SFA CIP DATABASE - SB2550</b>	Creates a database to prioritize school repairs and modernization using data.
<b>SHARED USE FACILITIES PILOT - SB2550</b>	Opens public school fields and courts on weekends for community use.
<b>SCHOOL BUS CONTRACTING - HB1785</b>	Gives DOE flexibility to modify bus contracts when a contractor fails to provide service.
<b>WORKPLACE VIOLENCE PAID LEAVE - HB2455</b>	Entitles employees who are victims of workplace violence or credible threats to paid leave for safety-related legal actions such as TRO's.
<b>AI CHATBOT PROTECTION - HB1782</b>	Protects minors from harmful AI chatbots by requiring disclosure that they're interacting with AI.

## Resolutions

<b>EMTALA EMERGENCY CARE - HR5/HCR6</b>	Affirms Hawai'i hospitals must provide life-saving emergency care, including abortion to patients under federal law.
<b>HOUSING ACCESSIBILITY FOR KŪPUNA - HR172/HCR182</b>	Requests a study on condo accessibility barriers to help kūpuna and residents with disabilities age in place.
<b>KAIAPUNI EDUCATION ACCESS - HR171/HCR181</b>	Requests a DOE action plan for a K-12 Hawaiian immersion school in Kapolei and addressing the gap in Kaiapuni access.
<b>IMAGE-BASED ABUSE PROTECTIONS - HR85/HCR93</b>	Requests a working group to review and strengthen Hawai'i's legal protections for survivors of image-based sexual abuse, including AI-generated deepfakes.
<b>FARMER-TO-INSTITUTION - HR86/HCR94</b>	Urges DOE and Agriculture to align farmer supply with the AINA Kitchen Network rollout.
<b>AEDS IN STATE BUILDINGS - SR79/SCR87</b>	Encourages requiring AEDs in all state-owned buildings and expanding training programs.

## D37 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS (IN HB1800 HD1 SD1)

\$1.25M

Mililani Public Library Renovation

\$19M

Mililani Educator Housing + Future Sites

\$1.3M

Koa Ridge Elementary School Planning

\$30M

School Kitchen Upgrades for the Leilehua-Mililani-Waialua Complex

\$3M

Mililani High School Covered Play Court & Support Facilities

\$3M

UH West O'ahu Campus Improvements



TAKE MY MID-SESSION SURVEY!

Please share your input to help me understand community support on key issues we're watching at the Capitol.

Scan to take the Online Survey:



# Capitol Events



## Alcohol Awareness Rally

On Apr. 17<sup>th</sup>, I was proud to sponsor GOALS Hawai'i's Alcohol Awareness rally at the Capitol to spread the message and raise awareness on the harms caused by drunk driving, underage drinking and alcohol abuse.

I had the opportunity to speak alongside legislators, advocates, and families who stood shoulder to shoulder for a cause that touches so many lives across our state.



## Art at the Capitol

On April 17<sup>th</sup>, the Capitol came alive for Art at the Capitol, and family friendly evening celebrating art, music, dance, and culture.

We were honored to be visited by **Christine Valles** the artist who created one of Rep. La Chica's favorite pieces in the office – *For Tastes There Are Colors*.



## 2026 Legislative Talent Show

**The La Chiclets.** Our two kids, Foggy and Ricki returned to the Capitol Auditorium with their very own parody of "GOLDEN" – a heartfelt tribute to the lactose intolerant experience. The kids were delighted to perform for the audience and let's just say the performance was... explosive.



**Congratulations to our Earth Day Art Contest Winner, Naomi Koga, 8<sup>th</sup> grade, Mililani Middle School!**

Our office collected submissions from K-12 students who shared their vision for a greener O'ahu. Naomi's art is on display at the Hawai'i State Capitol.

# 80 Years of US-Philippines Diplomatic Relations



On **April 9th**, I joined the House-Senate **Filipino Caucus** in Governor Green's ceremonial room to commemorate 80 years of diplomatic ties between the United States and the Philippines. **Co-Chairs Rep. Greggor Ilagan** and **Sen. Rachele Lamosao** led the ceremony, where a joint House and Senate certificate was presented to the **Philippine Consulate** and **Congressman Angelo Marcos Barba of Ilocos Norte**. **Eight decades** of shared history, culture, and partnership, that is a bond we feel deeply right here in Hawai'i. **Mabuhay!**

## Community Updates

### CORP Site Clean Up

Good news from **Patsy T. Mink Central O'ahu Regional Park** – the storm debris is gone. In just **18 days**, roughly **3,000 tons** of storm debris (that's about 6 million pounds – the weight of 1,500 cars!) hauled in from Waialua was sorted and fully removed from the temporary storage site by **April 9th**.



**BEFORE: March 28, 2026**



**AFTER: April 7, 2026**

According to the **Department of Environmental Services**, baseline soil testing has been completed and no unsafe levels were found. The City is now moving into the restoration phase – post-operation soil testing, irrigation repairs, and replanting of grass are all part of the plan before the site is returned to full public use. **Mahalo** to the commercial haulers and city crews who worked around the clock to get our park back on track.



### Mililani YMCA 5k Fun Run

Our office had so much fun hosting a booth and bucket toss game at the **6th Annual Mililani YMCA 5K Fun Run** – and yes, Rep. La Chica laced up and ran it too! It was a beautiful morning to be out in the community, connecting with neighbors and cheering on runners of all ages. **Mahalo** to the **Mililani YMCA** for putting on such a great event, and to everyone who stopped by our booth!