

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Senator Laura Thielen

DISTRICT 25: KAILUA - WAIMANALO - HAWAI'I KAI

September 2018



*Aloha
Hawaii Kai!*

September is National Preparedness Month, and even though the hurricane missed us,

we are a more prepared community in its wake.

Natural disasters destroys homes and crops, bankrupt businesses, and shatter our sense of safety. Thank you to everyone for taking Hurricane Lane seriously and going above and beyond to prepare.

As always, don't hesitate to contact me for any legislative questions.

Mahalo,

Laura

TWO CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSALS ON NOVEMBER'S BALLOT

There will be two proposals on the ballot this year for you to vote in addition to voting on candidates. You decide:

1. ***Shall the legislature be authorized to establish, as provided by law, a surcharge on investment real property to be used to support public education?***

If voters approve this constitutional amendment the legislature will come back the following year and pass a law which would define "investment real property" and set the rate of taxation. Voters are being asked to decide whether to give legislature the authority to tax property to support education.

2. ***Shall there be a convention to propose a revision of or amendments to the Constitution?*** Hawaii's

Constitution mandates that at least once a decade, the people of Hawaii have the right to require a State Constitutional Convention.

HAWAII DATA BOOK 2017

The Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT) has released the 2017 edition of the "State of Hawaii Data Book"; available at:

dbedt.hawaii.gov/economic/databook/.

"The Data Book is the most popular item on the DBEDT website, and this year marks the 50th edition," said DBEDT Director Luis P. Salaveria.

FILING A CONSUMER COMPLAINT

You can file a complaint or investigate a business with the Hawaii State Department of Commerce Consumer Affairs (DCCA), Consumer Protection Division. Their website is cca.hawaii.gov/ocp/. For further information you can call the Consumer Resource Center at 587-4272.

You can also file a complaint or investigate a business with the Better Business Bureau, a non-profit organization with a mission of building marketplace trust. You can find the Better Business Bureau website at, <http://www.bbb.org/hawaii/>.

When you have experienced a business with questionable practices there is a chance you are not alone.



THE 37th ANNUAL HONOLULU CENTURY RIDE Sunday, September 30, 2018

Please be aware on Sept 30th there may be some lane closures causing traffic to be a little slower in the morning hours to accommodate the Honolulu Century Ride. I encourage everybody to be vigilant of cyclists when driving, not just on race day but throughout the year.

Go to www.hbl.org for more information or to register. All proceeds help Hawaii Bicycling League make Hawaii's roads safer for everyone, whether driving, riding or walking.



How to Access Government Records



Code for Hawai'i and the Civil Beat Law Center for the Public Interest announced a new free service for individuals seeking government records.

UIPA.org offers a simple way to submit public records requests in Hawai'i. UIPA, or the Uniform Information Practices Act, is Hawai'i's public records law.

A user can track all of his or her requests through the portal. Users receive a notification when a new response arrives from an agency, and a reminder when a request is not resolved in a timely manner.

Users can search requests made by others and may find what they need. Users can also research how an agency has responded to records requests in the past in order to write a better and more focused request.

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