



STATE SENATOR

Brandon Elefante

He, Him, His

DISTRICT 16

Proudly serving: 'Aiea, 'Aiea Heights, Hālawā, Pearlridge, Newtown, Royal Summit, Waimalu, Waiau, Momilani, Pacific Palisades, and Pearl City



Aloha Friends and Neighbors,

The 2025 Legislative Session is officially underway! Opening Day took place on January 15th at the State Capitol, marking the start of an exciting and productive biennium. Mahalo to everyone who joined us in Room 217 to share your thoughts and concerns as we begin our work for the community.

The State Legislature has introduced a total of 3,172 bills this session, with the Senate introducing 1,669 bills. I have personally introduced 43 bills, focusing on key community concerns and policy initiatives, including:

- **Public Safety:** Increase penalties for firework violations and enhance enforcement measures (SB222, SB227, SB476), as well as stricter penalties for excessive speeding (SB97).

- **Education:** Implement a financial literacy course in our education system (SB91) and provide free lunch for all students in our public school system (SB86, SB221).
- **Healthcare & Emergency Response:** Ensure automated external defibrillators (AEDs) are installed in all state buildings, including public schools (SB92).
- **Corrections Reform:** Restrict the use of solitary confinement in correctional facilities and improve reentry support for incarcerated individuals (SB104 SD1, SB224).
- **Environmental & Infrastructure:** Expand recycling programs for electric vehicle batteries and lithium-ion batteries (SB103 SD1, SB391) and secure capital improvement project funds for our district (SB390).

These legislative initiatives reflect my ongoing commitment to improving public safety, strengthening education, and enhancing our community's overall well-being.

SINCE OPENING DAY



Pictured are Senator Elefante and members and community advocates of the Kēiki Caucus.

Kēiki Caucus Conference

Senator Elefante joined the fellow members of the Kēiki Caucus as they shared their legislative packet for this session.

The State of the Judiciary Address

It was an honor to attend Chief Justice Mark E. Recktenwald's final State of the Judiciary address. As he retires after years of dedicated service, we express our sincere gratitude for his leadership and the work of the Judiciary staff for Hawai'i.

Pictured to the right are Sen. Elefante and Chief Justice Mark E. Recktenwald.



Chamber of Commerce Hawai'i

Throughout the third week of January, we were honored to welcome students as they walked around the capitol to engage with legislators and discuss policies for the upcoming calendar year.

Pictured to the left are Senator Elefante and Chamber of Commerce Hawai'i students.



17

February

UPCOMING EVENT

President's Day

State government offices will be closed to observe President's Day.

CONTACT US

(808) 586-6230

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Hawai'i State Capitol, Room 217

Follow Senator Elefante on Instagram

@SenElefante



RESOURCE AT THE CAPITOL

Public Access Room (PAR)

The Public Access Room (PAR) at the Hawai'i State Capitol offers free resources and expert guidance to help the public engage with the legislative process, providing workspace, training, and materials in a non-partisan setting. PAR is accessible in person, online, and by phone!

Call: (808) 587-0478
Email: par@capitol.hawaii.gov
Website: lrb.hawaii.gov/par

Visit: State Capitol Room 401
Hours: M-F 8am - 5pm

Note: The capitol entrances are open from 7am - 5pm; an ID is required for entry

Funding Releases

We are excited to announce the recent releases of Capitol Improvement Project funding for:

\$2,200,000 **\$1,389,000**

to finance the design and construction for new office area and health room for **Alvah A. Scott Elementary School**.
to finance the construction to renovate medical classroom for **Pearl City High School**.



Pictured are Senator Elefante and PCH Bowling Team member, Jordan Yamamura.

Pearl City High School Bowling Teams Senate Honorary Certificate

Congratulations to the Pearl City High School Bowling Teams for their remarkable wins at the 2024 HHSAA State Bowling Championships!

Senator Elefante proudly presented them with a certificate for their dedication and teamwork. The Girls' Team, coached by Millie Gomes, earned their **2nd consecutive state title**, while the Boys' Team, led by Tony Madrona, secured their **14th championship**. Their success inspires the entire community—**great job, go Chargers!**

Hawai'i State Teachers Association Legislative Day

Senator Elefante met with members of HSTA to talk about key legislation for the upcoming session.

The main priorities discussed were teacher hazard pay and free school meals for students.

Pictured are Sen. Elefante and HSTA members.



The Children's House

Students and faculty from Children's House came to visit their State Capitol.

Sen. Elefante addressed the students and shared his insights and history of the Senate Chambers.

Pictured are Sen. Elefante, Sen. Henry Aquino, and Children's House students.

HELPFUL CONTACTS

City & County Departments & Agencies

- Emergency** 911
- Non-Emergency** Dial 911 & say "non-emergency"
- Abandoned Vehicle Reporting** (808) 768-2530
- Complaints (City-Related)** (808) 768-4381
- City Refuse & Recycling Services** (808) 768-3200
- Graffiti Hotline (HPD)** (808) 723-3475 or 911
- HART Hotline** (808) 566-2299
- Pothole Hotline** (808) 768-7777
- Satellite City Halls Information** (808) 768-4325
- Senior Citizen Information** (808) 768-7700
- Sewer Line Problem** (808) 768-7272
- Street Line Markings** (808) 768-3638
- Traffic Signal Malfunction** (808) 768-8387
- Honolulu City Council** honolulu.citycouncil.org
- City & County of Honolulu** honolulu.gov

Honolulu 311

Honolulu 311 is the official mobile app and online platform for the City & County of Honolulu, Hawai'i. It offers a free and user-friendly platform for reporting issues like potholes, broken streetlights, cracked sidewalks, illegal dumping, and vandalized signs.

Smartphone App: Honolulu 311
Website: honoluluhi.citysourced.com

Aloha United Way 211

211 Community Resource Specialists assist with food, housing, utilities, SNAP pre-screening, substance abuse, mental health, transportation, domestic violence, legal and financial aid, as well as support and care programs for kēiki and kūpuna.

Call: 211
Text: (877) 275-6569
Chat: auw211.org

RESOURCES

Hawai'i CARES 988

Hawai'i CARES 988 connects individuals to behavioral health services through a coordinated and responsive system of care for crisis intervention, substance use treatment and recovery, and mental health concerns.

Call/Text: 988
Chat: hicares.hawaii.gov

State Departments & Agencies

- Attorney General** (808) 586-1500
- Child Support Enforcement** (808) 692-7060
- Commerce & Consumer Affairs** (808) 587-3222
- Department of Defense** (808) 733-4246
- Department of Education** (808) 784-6200
- Department of Health** (808) 586-4400
- Department of Taxation** (808) 587-4242
- Department of Transportation** (808) 587-2150
- Hawai'i State Ombudsman** (808) 587-0770
- Human Services** (808) 586-4997
- Information Practices** (808) 586-1400
- Labor & Industrial Relations** (808) 586-8844
- Legal Aid Society of Hawai'i** (808) 536-4302
- Long Term Care Ombudsman** (808) 586-7268
- Office of Hawaiian Affairs OHA** (808) 594-1835
- Hawaiian Homelands DHHL** (808) 620-9500