

Working for You...
AND THE STATE OF HAWAII

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz

HAWAII STATE SENATE - DISTRICT 22
Mililani Mauka • Wahiawā • Whitmore Village • Waip'ō Acres • Wheeler • Poamoho



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Majority Whip

Vice Chair: Committee on Ways and Means; Committee on Transportation and Energy

Member: Committee on Education



You can view Senator Dela Cruz's senate website at www.capitol.hawaii.gov.



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Senate Bill to Fund Wahiawa General Hospital Moves Forward

The Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Health passed SB1308 which appropriates funds to support operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services for Wahiawa General Hospital (WGH). The bill also authorizes general obligation bonds so WGH can complete needed improvements to the current facility.

Last session, WGH requested \$6 million from Legislature for emergency bridge funding as it develops a sustainability plan. The hospital ultimately received \$2.5 million and has encumbered \$2.375 million through an ongoing contract with the Hawaii Department of Health.

This year, WGH is requesting a one-time appropriation of \$3.9 million for operating dollars and nearly \$4 million in capital improvement funds. The hospital will need an additional two years of bridge funding so it can address its debt and uncompensated care.

The board of directors and executive management will have to work diligently to develop a plan that will ensure that WGH can become sustainable. According to the Department of Health, the hospital's long-term viability should involve substantial partnerships with private sector health systems, and a facility model that focuses on emergency medical services and long term care. Consultant reports shared with the department corroborate similar assumptions. WGH will have to seriously consider which services must be eliminated for its financial situation.

Although the hospital may lose services, partnerships with the Wahiawa Center for Community Health, an emerging federally qualified health center, may preserve certain services for the Central Oahu region.

I look forward to working with my colleagues to secure bridge funding for Wahiawa General Hospital.

Working for you!

Working with the Leilehua Alumni and Community Association, we helped raise over \$11,000 to replace computer equipment that was stolen from Wahiawa Middle School. Mahalo to Hawaiian Electric Company, Buzz's Original Steakhouse, Alakona Corporation, Tanioka's Charity Foundation and all individual donors who generously contributed to Leilehua Alumni and Community Association's fundraiser!



District 22 Funding

I am pleased to announce that the Governor has released funding for the following capital improvement projects:

Solomon Elementary School

- \$14,531,099 for campus wide improvements to meet minimum standards for safety, quality, accessibility, and design