

SENATOR

**DONNA  
MERCADO  
KIM**



PROUDLY SERVING DISTRICT 14

KAPALAMA · 'ĀLEWA · KALIHI · KALIHI VALLEY · FT. SHAFTER · MOANALUA GARDENS & VALLEY · RED HILL

## KALIHI-VALLEY COMMUNITY REPORT

### Aloha Neighbors & Friends!

The past month of the legislative session has been filled with bill hearings and informational briefings. Beyond legislative commitments, addressing community concerns remains a top priority. The legislative crossover has occurred on March 8th and 372 bills from the Senate crossed over to the House of Representatives. Additionally, 374 bills from the House have come to the Senate for further discussion. This gives the public another opportunity to testify on bills before final decision making. You can track bills and submit testimony at [www.capitol.hawaii.gov](http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov). The Legislative session is progressing, and bills are advancing!

Mahalo,

## Women's History Month



### Bill Crossover

This legislative session, 372 out of the 1,437 Senate bills introduced have crossed over to be considered by the House.

Here are a few that might be of interest:

#### SB 227

Creates a division within the Department of Law Enforcement to focus on enforcement of illegal fireworks.

#### SB 1324

Repeals all allowable uses of consumer fireworks by minors and increases penalties for their illegal use and sale.

#### SB 438

Bans the construction of hazardous waste facilities near or above significant aquifers and on high-quality farmland.

#### SB 1545

Eliminates the legislative exemption from nepotism restrictions in public employment.

#### SB 1216

Aims to reduce noise pollution from vehicles by strengthening regulations against noisy mufflers and exhaust systems.



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**March 12, 2025**

# Community Events and Updates

## Telehealth @ Your Library

**When:** March 22 from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm

**Where:** Kalihi-Palama Public Library

**Contact:** 808 832-3466

Learn about Telehealth and how to connect with a Telehealth doctor. Visit the library to meet with a Telehealth Navigator who will help patrons answer any questions and more. The Navigator will also be available to provide one-on-one help in connecting patrons to telehealth appointments and doctor's telehealth portal. This pilot project is a partnership between the Hawaii State Public Library System, the Hawaii State Department of Health and the Pacific Basin Telehealth Resource Center.



## Teen Table

**When:** March 28 from 2:30 pm to 3:30 pm

**Where:** Kalihi-Palama Public Library

**Contact:** 808 832-3466

Join your local public library in the Teen Loft. Each Teen Table event will do a craft or other mellow activity. All materials will be provided. Program is suitable for those in Grade 5 - 12. Limit is 10 people and is on a first-come, first-served basis. This upcoming event will feature a color-by-sticker activity.



## Support your Local Library

Over the past year, I've used my community report to highlight and promote local library events. As a legislator with a strong focus on education, I recognize that libraries provide essential resources for both students and the broader community.

Libraries are much more than just a place for books; they are vibrant hubs for community engagement. From hosting bonsai shows to offering space for meetup groups, libraries foster connections and bring people together in meaningful ways.



**March 12, 2025**