

FROM THE OFFICE OF

# SENATOR STANLEY CHANG

East Honolulu Community Newsletter

August 2025

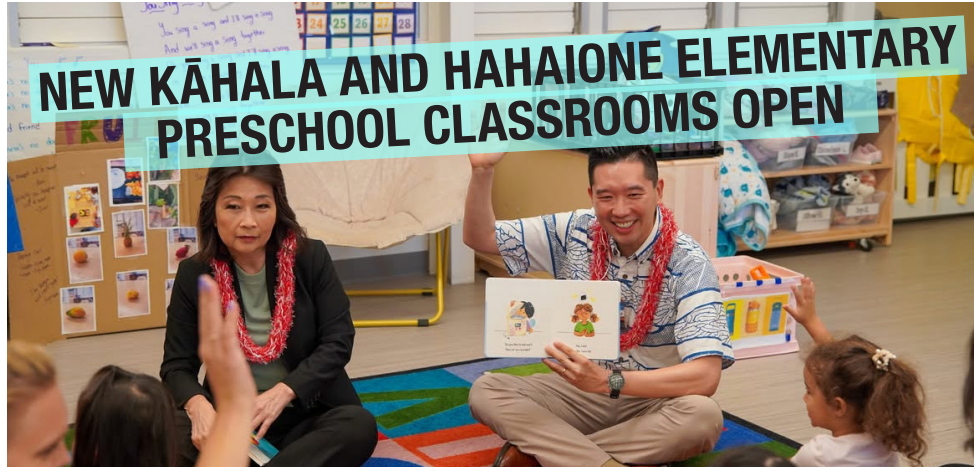


Image Credit: Lieutenant Governor's Office

The Executive Office on Early Learning (EOEL) has opened the application for EOEL Public PreK classrooms for the upcoming year. This year, 25 new classrooms have opened across Hawai'i. The EOEL Public PreK program is a free, state-funded pre-kindergarten program, provided in collaboration with the Hawai'i Department of Education (HIDOE), that offers children aged 3-5 a high-quality education.

The program focuses on physical, social, and emotional development, as well as cognition, language, and literacy. Their mission is to provide every keiki with an equal education, regardless of their socioeconomic background, with the ultimate goal of providing free access to Pre-K across Hawai'i by 2032. Fifty new Pre-K classrooms will open over the next two years, creating around 1,000 new seats for keiki by 2026.

Each classroom will serve up to 20 students with at least 2 teachers. Priority is given to children who belong to the following categories:

- Children in foster care
- Children who are experiencing

homelessness or unstable housing

- Children from families earning no more than 300% of the federal poverty level or who receive Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) and/or Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- Children experiencing at-risk situations that may impact development and learning
- Children eligible for special education services under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), whose least restrictive environment is general education
- Children who are learning English as a second language

This year, multiple classrooms are opening at Kāhala and Hahaione Elementary Schools. Applications are open and accepted on a rolling basis for children aged 3-4. To apply, children must be 3 by July 31<sup>st</sup>.

To learn more or to apply for the EOEL Public PreK program, please visit [earlylearning.hawaii.gov](http://earlylearning.hawaii.gov) or contact EOEL at (808) 784-5350.

## ► CALL US

808-586-8420

## ► EMAIL US

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## ► HANDY CONTACTS

State Pothole Hotline  
808-586-7852

City Pothole Hotline  
808-768-7777

State Homelessness  
[gov.homelessness@hawaii.gov](mailto:gov.homelessness@hawaii.gov)  
808-586-0193

City Homelessness  
[complaints@honolulu.gov](mailto:complaints@honolulu.gov)  
808-768-4381

Abandoned Vehicles  
808-733-2530

Building Permits  
808-768-8000

Poison Control  
800-222-1222

Trash Collection  
808-768-3200

Street Light Repair  
808-768-5300

Domestic Abuse  
Hotline  
800-799-7233

Public Assistance  
Information Line  
855-643-1643

Image Credit: Squamish Nation



## SENATOR CHANG LEADS HAWAII HOUSING DELEGATION TO VANCOUVER AND D.C.

Senator Chang is hosting a delegation trip to Washington, D.C., and Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, from August 2 to 9, 2025. These cities were chosen because they are undertaking some of the most innovative and exciting housing initiatives in North America. Hawaii stands to benefit greatly by learning from and potentially adopting these models.

The trip will be themed around finance and transit-oriented development. The delegation will study two of North America's most efficient housing finance programs, including Montgomery County, Maryland's Housing Production Fund and the \$4 billion BC Builds program, the largest new social housing initiative in recent decades.

A highlight of the trip is the delegation's visit with the Squamish Nation, whose 11-tower, 6,000-unit Sen'ákw development will be the largest Indigenous-led housing development in Canadian history. This development is projected to generate revenue for the indigenous nation for decades to come.

By studying the most successful social housing projects in North America, Hawaii can take a significant step forward in solving the housing crisis. Stay tuned for a trip report. For more information, contact the Office of State Senator Stanley Chang at **(808) 586-8420**.

Image Credit: Hawai'i Tourism Authority



## APPLICATION OPEN TO JOIN THE HAWAII TOURISM AUTHORITY BOARD

The Hawai'i Office of Boards and Commissions is seeking individuals to join the advisory board of the Hawai'i Tourism Authority (HTA). The HTA is a state agency affiliated with the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT) that manages tourism in Hawai'i.

The HTA advisory board will comprise 12 members, with at least one member from each county in Hawai'i. A minimum of 6 members should be knowledgeable about accommodations, transportation, retail, entertainment, or attractions, and at least 1 member will represent an entity impacted by tourism. Additionally, at least 1 member should be knowledgeable of Hawaiian cultural practices.

To apply to serve on the advisory board, visit the Governor's Boards and Commissions portal at [boards.hawaii.gov/apply/apply-for-a-board](https://boards.hawaii.gov/apply/apply-for-a-board).

The Hawai'i Tourism Authority represents Hawai'i globally and seeks to sustainably manage the state's tourism, balancing the economy, environment, community, and cultural needs with the tourism industry. For more information on the HTA, visit their website or connect with them on Instagram, Threads, Facebook, and X @HawaiiHTA.

The Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism works to create a Hawaiian economy that is diverse, competitive, and productive. It serves as a hub for economic data, business development opportunities, energy and conservation information, as well as foreign trade advantages. For more information on the DBEDT, visit [dbedt.hawaii.gov](https://dbedt.hawaii.gov).

# Consumer Education provided by State of Hawai'i

The State of Hawai'i Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs (DCCA) helps to protect Hawaii's consumers and business community. The DCCA investigates alleged violations of consumer protection laws by taking legal action to stop deceptive business practices.

You can file a complaint about misconduct by licensed or registered professionals and entities, as well as allegations of unlicensed or unregistered activity occurring in Hawai'i, with the DCCA.

The DCCA also provides Hawai'i with consumer education materials. Some of the topics include, but are not limited to:

- Scam protection
- Landlord-tenant information
- Identity theft
- Emergency preparedness
- Insurance help
- Energy usage
- Business information

The DCCA's goal is also to promote fair and honest business. It investigates alleged violations of consumer protection laws by taking legal action to stop deceptive business practices.

For more consumer education resources, visit [cca.hawaii.gov/education](http://cca.hawaii.gov/education).



Image Credit: State of Hawai'i DCCA

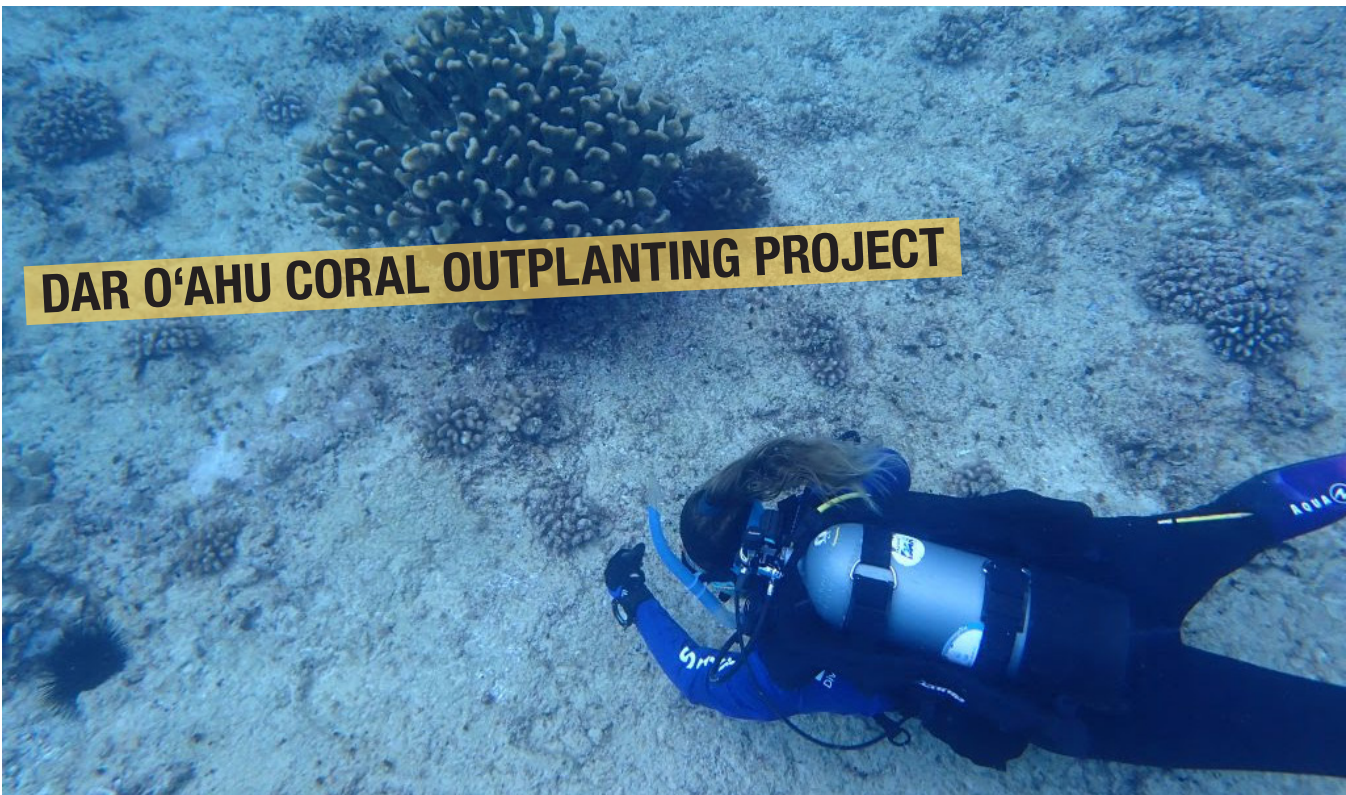


Image Credit: Hawai'i Division of Aquatic Resources (DAR)

Coral reefs are irreplaceable components of the ecosystem that provide food, jobs, and coastal protection. However, many of the world's coral reefs are in danger due to climate change. Hawai'i is home to approximately 65 species of coral, with many of them endemic to the islands. Coral reefs take a tremendous amount of time to grow, making their restoration difficult and the need to protect them stronger.

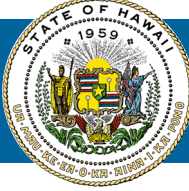
The State of Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR), Division of Aquatic Resources (DAR) is the agency responsible for the protection and management of Hawai'i's coral reefs. The DAR has initiated the process of growing and planting more coral on the islands and has selected the sites for O'ahu's Coral Outplanting project.

The sites chosen that were chosen include the following:

- Waikīkī Marine Life Conservation District
- Kewalo Pipe
- A secondary site at Maunalua Bay (offshore Hawai'i Loa Ridge/Kawaikui Beach Park)

These nearshore sites will help restore the island's reefs, as well as allow residents and visitors to learn more about O'ahu's coral reefs and experience their restoration in action. The project will help to grow and plant 80–100 nursery-grown corals at these sites by the end of 2026.

For more information about the project, please visit [dlnr.hawaii.gov/coralreefs/hcrn/coral-restore-proj](https://dlnr.hawaii.gov/coralreefs/hcrn/coral-restore-proj).



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