



BARBARA MARUMOTO

REPRESENTATIVE • 19TH DISTRICT

State Capitol Room 304, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Ph: 808 586.6310 • Fax: 808 586.6311
repmarumoto@capitol.hawaii.gov

2011 Legislative Wrap Up Report

Dear Friend:

After a difficult session dealing with state finances, we didn't have much luck with my traffic safety bills. A requirement for helmet use was not heard but another measure calling for an age restriction for all-terrain vehicles made it out of the House. The only trouble is that, while I wanted only those 18 years or older to ride or operate an ATV, the House bill required that one must at least 6 years old! I visited the Sand Island track where children as separated from

larger vehicles and helmets, chest protectors, boots & gloves are required. In addition, passengers are forbidden and the ATVs can be slowed down. But I am still wary that ATVs for 6 year olds can be cranked up to 25 mph and the American Academy of Pediatricians still opposes anyone under 16 using an ATV. We will continue to ride herd on these measures.

Although bills to help keep Kahala an attractive neighborhood fell short, one measure asking the City to help enforce residential covenants controlling land

use, maintenance and setbacks passed the House and almost made it out of the Senate. All bills are still alive for next session. Residents are still nervous that a museum could be established on Kahala Avenue.

We need your help to move these and other measures next year. Contact me for information, questions and details on these and other bills.

Aloha,

Barbara

Legislature Tackles Numerous Issues

A NEW GIRLS' LOCKER ROOM FOR KALANI HIGH SCHOOL!

Rep. Marumoto is happy to report that planning and design money for a new Girls' Locker Room is provided in the 2012-13 budget. \$800,000 is included for this \$8 Million capital improvement project (CIP), a federal Title IX requirement. Although operating funds (cash) are in short supply, bond funding (or borrowed money) is available to create construction jobs to help restore the economy.



2011 bills are still alive for the 2012 session but not for special sessions. Resolutions must be re-introduced.

Paper or Plastic? — What started out as an environmental measure to ban plastic bags morphed into a revenue measure. Two counties already have plastic bag bans. The stores there are relegated to using the more expensive and more environmentally-unfriendly paper bags. One neighbor island market said that paper bags were costing customers 12 - 17 cents each compared to much cheaper plastic. So the bill in final form was amended to call for a charge of 10

cents for each plastic OR paper bag, with 2 cents going to the stores to help defray the expense of keeping track and turning 8 cents over to the state.

The charge only covered checkout bags and there were exemptions for items such as wet foods and restaurant takeout orders.

The only good news about this bill is that customers could avoid this charge by bringing their own multi-use bag. This may work OK for supermarket checkout counters, but the bill pertained to ALL stores - department stores, gift shops, toy stores, etc. The bill did not make it out of conference committee, but may be resurrected next year. It could still use some modifications.

THE BUDGET — \$22 BILLION — The 2012-13 budget is larger because of higher debt service costs, end of federal

ISSUES continued on page 4

Rep. Barbara Marumoto Legislative Report

Tax increases rejected

ISSUES from page 1 stimulus funds, increased Medicare costs, salaries with no furloughs, and higher health insurance premiums. Because of \$232 million insufficient funds to pay bills before the end of the fiscal year on June 30, the Legislature will allow the Governor to dip into the Rainy Day, Hurricane and several other special funds. The total shortfall for the 2011-12-13 FY is estimated to be \$1.6 billion. Departments and programs must continue to function despite vacancies and budget cuts.

MARUMOTO: NO TAX ON PENSIONS! The Governor wanted pensioners to be taxed if individual income (AGI) reached \$37,500. Marumoto thought the amount too low and "almost cruel." The Legislature amended the bill to consider

taxing well-to-do pensioners with an AGI of \$100,000. However, at the end, with the Attorney General stating that the proposal might be unconstitutional, and strong opposition from many retirees and the AARP, the bill bit the dust.

Oh no! TAXES

— With a \$1.6M deficit, the Legislature raised taxes on auto registration, auto weight, incoming freight, stevedoring and subleases.

These taxes will increase Hawaii's cost of living. For those making \$100,000 AGI there will be caps on itemized deductions and a delay of the federal increase in the standard deductions and personal exemptions for two years.

No GENERAL EXCISE TAX Increase — Rep. Marumoto opposed a regressive GET increase to 5.5% on Oahu as it would adversely affect low and fixed income folks as well as small businesses the hardest and would also slow economic recovery. Republicans also fought increases in the liquor, soda, fuel taxes and opposed new and increased fees for Disability, EIS, DLIR, DBEDT, DCCA and DOTax services.

ANIMAL BILLS

— Unfortunately no bills passed that shut down disreputable dog breeders, but a resolution calling for a determination whether dog breeders should be registered did survive. Fortunately a bill requiring pet stores to sell only spayed and neutered dogs didn't pass.



Legislators tour Kahuku windmills.

GAMBLING — Bills to legalize gambling included bingo on Hawaiian Home Lands, shipboard gambling, and a single casino in Waikiki. During a conference committee the casino bill was clumsily stuffed into a bill entitled Aloha Tower. "No dice," said committee members.



The AARP asked legislators to donate brown rice for the homeless

Paid for by the House of Representatives



Rep Marumoto addresses the House



Honolulu Junior League Provisional Members



Hawaii 5-0 Cast Members with Producers and Legislators



American Association of Retired Peoples (AARP) Rally



Joint Ways & Means and Finance Committee Budget Briefing

Bill	Description	Pass	Fail
Education			
	Reduces Board of Education to 10 members including a non-voting student	P	
	Extra time for schools to meet minimum instruction hour	P	
	Financial & management audit of the DOE		F
	Allows all superintendents to make 100% of the superintendent’s salary	P	
	Extend Tobacco settlement money for UH Medical School		F
Environment/Energy			
	10 cents for paper or plastic checkout bags at all stores		F
	Regulatory framework for cable wind energy from Lanai		F
	PUC study for payment of energy saving devices through utility bills	P	
Economy/Business			
	Sole proprietors exempt from purchase of workers comp insurance	P	
	Allow bingo, casino, lottery, shipboard gambling		F
	Task Force to recommend legislation to establish a state bank		F
	Temporary mortgage foreclosure dispute resolution program and moratorium on non-judicial foreclosures	P	
	State purchase of a slaughterhouse at Campbell Memorial Park		F
Government			
	Extend 5% pay cuts for officials in executive, judicial and legislative branches	P	
	Civil Unions for same sex & heterosexual couples	P	
	Fund public employee collective bargaining contracts		F
	Fewer benefits for government employees hired after July 1, 2011	P	
	End reimbursement to public employees for Medicare Part B premiums		F
	Commission to work for a Native Hawaiian convention — Mini-Akaka Bill	P	

Bill	Description	Pass	Fail
Crime/Judiciary			
	Requires helmets on two-wheeled vehicles and all-terrain vehicles		F
	Extends media shield law for 2 years regarding revelation of sources	P	
	Fix DUI ignition interlock law		F
	Pay legal claims against the state		F
	Public Safety Dept. to plan reopening of Kulani Correctional Facility		F
Taxes			
	Income tax on pensions		F
	Auto weight fee increase	P	
	Auto registration fee increase	P	
	Increase in fuel tax		F
	Repeal GET exemptions and charge 4% GET on certain businesses	P	
	For higher incomes: repeal state income tax deduction, cap itemized deductions, delay increase of standard deduction & personal exemptions	P	
	Film studio & digital media tax credit		F
	Research & development tax credit for qualified high tech firms		F
	Increase general excise tax (GET) 1%		F
	Establish tax framework for online purchases		F
	Increase liquor tax to 20% and soda tax to 10 cents		F
Health/Human Services			
	Allow physician-assisted suicide		F
	Allow one medical marijuana compassion center in State for specific ailments		F
	Transfers medical marijuana program from Public Safety to Health Dept.		F
	Requires hospitals to provide rape victims with emergency contraception services		F
	Use of Budget Stabilization “Rainy Day” funds for welfare services	P	

CIP Projects
(Capital Improvement)
Totals rounded to the nearest thousandth

PUBLIC SCHOOLS

KAIMUKI MIDDLE School:

- Project: Replace Air Conditioning Equipment Building H.
➤ Cost: \$10,828 in Fiscal Year (FY) 2012

- Total Amount For School Over The Biennium: \$10,828

WILSON ELEMENTARY School:

- Project: Renovate Restrooms 1st floor Building C.
➤ Cost: \$20,070 in FY12

- Total Amount For School Over The Biennium: \$20,070

KALANI HIGH School:

- Project: Design For Girls’ Locker Room/Shower Building Per Title IX Requirements.
➤ Cost: \$800 thousand in FY12

- Total Amount For School Over The Biennium: \$800 thousand

Total Amounts For Public Schools:

- FY12: \$830,898
- FY13: \$0
- Biennium: \$830,898

HOSPITALS

LEAHI Hospital:

- Project: Upgrades The Dietary Electrical System And Emergency Generator
- Total Amount For Hospital Over The Biennium: \$820,000

GRAND TOTAL
FOR DISTRICT:
Biennium: \$1.65 Million