



Aloha Friend:

I want to update you on some of my activities as I work on the many challenges facing us at home and abroad, and as always, I ask for your continued guidance.

At home, our Hawai'i is recovering after enduring the worst storm to batter the islands in 20 years. I am working alongside my partners in the Hawai'i Congressional delegation to have the federal government come to our aid, just as we have done time and time again when we secured critical assistance to deal with emergencies in the past, including the Lahaina wildfire, the COVID-19 pandemic and the fuel spill at Red Hill.

Meanwhile, I continue to work to ensure that Congress fulfills its legal obligation when it weighs whether our nation should become involved in conflicts including the war in Iran, while I carry out my duties though my key assignment on the Appropriations Committees as Congress undertakes the arduous task of assembling the Fiscal Year 2027 bills to fund the federal government and its many programs and services. Finally, I will always make it a priority to assist those who have a concern or an issue with Social Security, Veterans Affairs, immigration, the Internal Revenue Service or any other federal agency.

Floods. Our Hawai'i of course suffered back-to-back generational storms with severe flooding and other damage statewide. I first join in expressing deep gratitude to our armed services, our state and local first responders, non-profits, and volunteers, our communities, my federal, state and county government partners, and really all of us for pulling together to see us through. This is the best of who we are.

My role in these disasters, as with past disasters including COVID, Red Hill and Maui, is to assure that our federal government is doing everything it can and should to assist us. I especially work through my membership on our House Appropriations Committee's Subcommittee on Homeland Security, responsible for overseeing and funding federal disaster relief, through the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and otherwise. That has been my full focus this month in seeking FEMA assistance for the well over one billion dollars of estimated damage from the storms.

As part of that effort, I joined my Hawai'i Congressional delegation colleagues in urging the President to support Governor Green's request for a declaration of a major disaster, which is the first step in gaining major FEMA and other federal disaster assistance. See our letter [here](#). If you or yours have any specific questions or needs, please contact me at ed.case@mail.house.gov or (808) 650-6688.

Mayor Blangiardi and his team at the City and County of Honolulu continue to support O'ahu residents with clean up and recovery efforts. If you or your family was impacted by the Kona low flood and need help, information on available resources can be found at www.oneoahu.org.

Iran Update. While the President will at times refer to the conflict with Iran as an "excursion" there can be no doubt in everyone else's mind that this is in fact a war which, under our Constitution, only Congress has the exclusive authority to declare war. The United States Congress did not authorize our country going to war with Iran, and at this writing there is no information to indicate that Iran was going to attack our country.

In response to this issue, I cosponsored resolutions directing the President to remove U.S. military forces from hostilities in Iran unless explicitly authorized by Congress or to defend the U.S. from an imminent attack, and I voted in a resolution that directed the President to halt the current Iran war unless and until authorized by Congress. Unfortunately, the measure failed in the House by a vote of 212 to 219.

I did support the President's waiver of the Jones act for shipping between U.S. ports of oil, natural gas, fertilizer and other energy commodities.

I stated that this is a no-brainer response to rapid increases in gas and other fossil fuel products from severe disruptions in international energy markets resulting from the Iran war. To even have to waive the Jones Act to try to hold down skyrocketing fuel and other energy costs is a blanket admission of the Jones Act's crippling effects on our economy, especially Hawai'i and the other non-continent parts of our country (island territories and Alaska) that are wholly dependent on shipping.

If you or someone you know plans to travel abroad, it is recommended to sign-up for the Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP) with the U.S. State Department at [Home | MyTravelGov](#). This free service for U.S. citizens and nationals traveling abroad makes it easier for the nearest U.S. embassy or consulate to contact you in an emergency. Consular information for Americans in the Middle East can be viewed at [Middle East | Travel.State.gov](#).

Appropriations Update. At this time of any year, my primary focus is our annual appropriations process, as my House Committee on Appropriations, responsible for federal funding and on which I am serving my eighth year, puts together our budget for the upcoming fiscal year. Top issues include continuing funding for major Hawai'i efforts like responding to the recent flooding across our islands, closing Red Hill, rebuilding Lahaina, helping support our state's small business and working with my state and county government and community partners to minimize the deep damage of the administration's budget initiatives.

I just finished submitting over 600 funding requests for Fiscal Year 2027 (starting October 1, 2026) covering a wide range of critical issues for our state. This includes the Native Hawaiian Housing Block Grant Program, housing counseling assistance programs, the Community Health Centers Program, Older Americans Act programs, the Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund, Marine National Monuments funding that will support our own Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument, and Violence Against Women Act Programs.

As my Committee works to determine how to fund these and other requests submitted by nearly every other Member of the House, we are starting to shift to our oversight role. Over the next few weeks, we will review the President's budget request to determine what we think should be the funding levels for federal agencies and programs. We will hold hearings where we take testimony from officials, examine agency justifications and assess funding needs for discretionary spending, which totals around \$1.6 trillion dollars

Results of Anonymous Online Survey. I deeply appreciate the many responses to my March 1st survey about the War in Iran, not only the answers to each question but the individual comments, all of which I read. These responses are invaluable guides for my actions and decisions in Congress, and they assist me greatly in reviewing my performance to date and confirming areas for further focus and improvement. Here are the results of my last survey.

Does the President require authorization of Congress for these attacks on Iran?

1. Yes - 71.86% (3,595)
2. No because of an imminent threat of attack by Iran on our country - 14.47% (724)
3. No because the President does not require Congressional authorization for these attacks - 13.67% (684)

Should we continue or stop these attacks on Iran?

1. Continue - 36.24% (1,739)
2. Stop - 63.76% (3,060)

If you believe we should continue, what are our objectives/when should we stop? (Please check all that apply.)

1. When Iran's nuclear infrastructure is destroyed - 72.55% (1,779)
2. When Iran's missile infrastructure is destroyed - 58.85% (1,443)
3. When the Iranian government is replaced - 51.39% (1,260)
4. When Iran ceases retaliatory strikes - 54.69% (1,341)

5. When Iran ceases supporting and funding terrorism - 67.70% (1,660)

Congressional Art Competition, Each spring, a nation-wide high school arts competition is sponsored by the Members of the U.S. House of Representatives. The Congressional Art Competition began in 1982 to provide an opportunity for members of Congress to encourage and recognize the artistic talents of their young constituents. Since then, over 650,000 high school students have been involved with the nationwide competition.

The Competition is open to all high school students in my Urban Honolulu District. The over-all winner of our district's competition will be displayed for one year in the U.S. Capitol. The exhibit in Washington will also include artwork from other contest winners nation-wide. I am now accepting submissions for the 2026 Congressional Art Competition. Please see the requirements and submission guidelines on my web site at <https://case.house.gov>. The deadline to submit artwork to be considered in this year's competition April 24, 2026.

There is much more on my website at case.house.gov. Or please email me at ed.case@mail.house.gov or call me at (808) 650-6688.

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