



October 7, 2026

Aloha!

Aloha, Friend.

As we enter the last quarter of 2026 and the last three months of the current two-year 119th Congress, I would like to update you on some of my work in Congress for our country, our Hawai'i, and our mutual constituents. I also want to extend my sincere mahalo to all of our Neighborhood Board members who serve throughout my First Congressional District for continuing to be my full partners in assisting our communities.

Working On Career Paths For Our Young People. In September I joined the celebration to open the first-in-the-nation Manufacturing and Engineering Education Reimagined for All (MEERA) lab situated at Mililani High School. This is part of the solution to developing the next generation of highly-skilled, highly-paid, critical industrial workforce especially for our national defense. MEERA is part of the Defense Department's Industrial Base Analysis and Sustainment (IBAS) program which my Defense Appropriation's Subcommittee supports and funds. Coincidentally, our panel had a field hearing in California just a week before the lab opening in which we talked about strengthening our workforce to support the needs of the industries that support our nation's defense.

Strengthening Our Resilience Against Natural Disasters. While I work with my partners in our Hawai'i Congressional delegation to ensure that the President promptly approves the Governor's requests for major disaster declarations in the wake of the series of natural disasters that have struck our state, I have also worked to build our resilience against

future storms and the impacts of climate change. Every two years, Congress considers the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) to authorize projects which the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers either builds or studies. I was able to garner four such projects, to include upgrading our most critical port that we rely on for the more than 90 percent of goods shipped to Hawai'i – Honolulu Harbor. For more on my efforts, please go to my website at [Rep. Case water projects](#).

Preventing The Spread Of Invasive Species. Working with the Delegate from Guam, Congressman Jim Moylan, I secured passage in the U.S. House of our legislation to strengthen federal efforts against destructive invasive species, which is critical for both of our island homes, and even more so in the aftermath of natural disasters to both Hawai'i and Guam which worsen the spread of invasive species. For more on our work, please see [Invasive Species "Strike Teams"](#).

Recognizing Our Amazing Youth. Each year I shared with you those who I recognize for their award-winning work in both my annual Congressional App Challenge and Congressional Art Competition. I also celebrate those rare few who earn one of the most prestigious awards created by Congress. This year, I joined Jessica Lee at her Punahou School campus to present her the Congressional Award – Gold Medal, along with my own Special Congressional Recognition Certificate. This is Congress' own award recognizing initiative, service, and achievement in America's youth. In the last 23 years, only seven Hawai'i youth have earned the top Gold Award. For more information on the Congressional Award, go to <https://www.congressionalaward.org/>.

Each year I also have the privilege of nominating Hawaii's youth for an appointment to the U.S. Military Academy, U.S. Naval Academy, U.S. Air Force Academy, or U.S. Merchant Marine Academy, which is a distinct and rare honor. Acceptance of an academy appointment requires at least a nine-year service obligation, including four years at an academy and five years of active duty service.

The deadline to request my nomination to attend a United States military service academy for the class beginning in Summer 2027 is approaching. Nomination packets must be postmarked no later than Friday, October 9, 2026. Applicants are encouraged to consult the eligibility requirements and application instructions available on my website at <https://case.house.gov/services/service-academy-nominations.htm>. Additional inquiries may be directed by email to hi01.academy@mail.house.gov or by calling our Honolulu District Office at (808) 650-6688.

Lastly, I am a strong believer that first-hand experience is the best way for our young leaders to understand the intricate working of our federal government, and of Congress in particular. I am currently recruiting college-student interns in both my D.C and Honolulu offices for Spring 2027. More details and eligibility requirements can be found at <https://case.house.gov/services/internships.htm>.

There's much more on my efforts at case.house.gov. I look forward to continuing our work together to ensure that our community's voices are heard and concerns are met by our federal government wherever and however possible. Please contact my district office in Honolulu at (808) 650-6688 or ed.case@mail.house.gov if my team and I can ever be of assistance to you or your community. We're here to help.

*Mahalo nui loa,
Ed Case*

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