



January 7, 2022

Aloha!

Aloha, Friend.

My staff and I have deeply appreciated our partnership in serving our mutual communities in '21 and look forward to working with you and your fellow Neighborhood Board members again this year.

When I was sworn into the two-year 117th Congress on January 3, 2021, I knew '21 would be another difficult year. The continuing COVID-19 pandemic, economic uncertainty, worsening inequality, climate change, an unstable world and more were all compounded by deepening political division. The January 6th attack on our Capitol, the Afghanistan withdrawal, inflation, COVID conflicts and a new variant, and destructive weather and the Navy water system crisis back home were just some of the additional challenges the year brought. But the role of our government is to overcome challenges and forge the best path forward for us all.

My mission as your U.S. Congressman remains to: (1) contribute to national leadership for our country and world; (2) assure that Hawaii's needs are addressed by our federal government; and (3) assist you with your individual concerns.

The year brought some successes. We passed a third major COVID emergency assistance measure with federal COVID aid to Hawai'i topping \$20 billion. We passed the largest-ever \$1 trillion bipartisan infrastructure package, which will bring some \$3 billion to Hawai'i. And I continued to use my positions and relationships in Congress, especially on the House Appropriations Committee, to focus on the needs of Hawai'i and the Pacific. But so much more remains for 2022, from COVID to restoring full public confidence in our drinking water. In all of this I must remain fully connected with you as members of your Neighborhood Board.

I invite you to my website at <http://case.house.gov> for more information, offer my assistance with your questions and needs and ask for your continued input. I will also continue my regular open talk story community meetings, hopefully in person again soon. As we look for the opportunities and confront the challenges of 2022 together, my staff and I will continue to be here for you and the communities we both share and represent.

Hawaii's Congressional Delegation and Red Hill

Since the advent of the Navy water system crisis, I have joined my Hawai'i Congressional delegation colleagues - Congressman Kaiuli'i Kahele and Senators Brian Schatz and Mazie Hirono – along with Hawaii's elected leaders and communities in addressing the multitude of related issues, from helping our directly-affected 'ohana, to identifying and fixing the source of the contamination, to advocating for the suspension and defueling of Red Hill. I want to update you on my efforts.

The Navy has suspended operations at Red Hill following calls to do so from Governor David Ige and all four of our Hawai'i Congressional delegation members. In addition, our Governor has issued an emergency order to suspend operations at least until the Hawai'i Department of Health can certify the water as safe again.

My Congressional delegation colleagues and I released a joint statement calling on the Navy to fully comply with the state's order and begin the process of planning and executing the safe removal of fuel from the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Tanks in order to protect Oahu's drinking water. For the full statement, please visit

<https://case.house.gov/news/documentsingle.aspx?DocumentID=736>.

Please also see our other statements on this crisis on my website at

<https://case.house.gov/news/documentquery.aspx?DocumentTypeID=27>.

Gearing Up For the Fiscal Year 2023

Since January 2019, I have served on the House Committee on Appropriations, a critical committee for our state as Appropriations is directly responsible for federal discretionary spending of some \$1.4 trillion throughout our country annually. Appropriations' funding responsibilities cover all federal efforts, including agriculture, defense, veterans, science, energy, environment, justice, homeland security, labor, health and human services, education, transportation and housing programs. Further information about my Appropriations Committee can be found at <https://appropriations.house.gov>.

We are currently in the process of wrapping up the Fiscal Year (FY) 2022 appropriations, but my office and I are already well into preparing for FY 2023. As a member of Appropriations, I will again be directly submitting requests for funding for federal programs and projects benefiting Hawai'i for inclusion in future appropriations bills. I ask that you please submit any requests that you may have for federal programs that help our Hawai'i. All requests must be submitted to my office by February 25, 2021 to ensure they are considered for the FY 2023 (October 1, 2022 – September 30, 2023) appropriations bills. You can find more information and the request form on my website at <https://case.house.gov/services/appropriations-requests>.

Charter School Students Win App Challenge

To help start of the New Year, I announced the winners of my 2021 Congressional App Challenge for Hawai'i's First Congressional District during a virtual reception with the winning students – a team from DreamHouse, a public charter school in 'Ewa Beach.

Jaylen Rabago, Kaden Hieger, Aureanna Inay and Zaydi Willis won with their app – Nani – which means beautiful in Hawaiian. They describe Nani a dress-up game that can be played on a computer and is created for young children to play. It encourages keiki (kids) to connect with their culture in a fun way. You can view their winning app at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jth6JuEDP4w>.

The Challenge is a great opportunity for our local students to focus their skills and creativity on developing, testing and analyzing new applications

*Mahalo nui loa,
Ed Case*

P.S. Please sign up for my regular e-newsletter [here](#).

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