



## The Senate

STATE CAPITOL  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Senate Communications: Jacob Aki 808-586-6261

### GOVERNOR RELEASES \$1,800,000 FOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT AT KANU O KA 'ĀINA NEW CENTURY PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL

**Honolulu, Hawai'i** – The Governor recently released \$1,800,000.00 in capital improvement project funding (CIP) to finance plans, design, construction, and equipment for the completion of a multipurpose building for Kanu o ka 'Āina New Century Public Charter School, Multipurpose Building, in Waimea, Hawai'i.

“I'd like to thank Governor Ige for releasing funding to finance plans, design, construction, and equipment for the completion of a multipurpose building, including a certified commercial kitchen space, athletic space, and performance space, for Kanu o ka 'Āina New Century Public Charter School, in Waimea, Hawai'i.” said Senator Lorraine R. Inouye (District 4 – Hilo, Hāmākua, Kohala, Waimea, Waikōloa, Kona). “I am particularly pleased that the release of these CIP monies will include financing for the plans, design, and construction for a new commercial kitchen space. Students and families of the Waimea community deserve and will greatly benefit from a new commercial kitchen. A certified commercial kitchen will go a long way in ensuring food security for the Waimea community.”

Kanu o ka 'Āina is one of seventeen Hawaiian focused charter schools located in various communities throughout the state with larger Native Hawaiian populations. Established in 2000, Kanu o ka 'Āina is housed on Department of Hawaiian Home Lands in rural Waimea on Hawai'i Island. The pandemic wreaked havoc on economic stability and food security of the families of Kanu o ka 'Āina students, as first one, then both parents lost employment when the hotel industry shut down. For the first time, this peaceful community was burdened with basic survival issues as well as keeping loved ones safe from harm. To assist with food insecurity issues, Kanu o ka 'Āina applied for and received CARES funding to provide weekly beef distributions for four public schools in the community.

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