

# Prevailing Winds

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**Isaac W. Choy**  
**State Representative**



**District 24 - Manoa, University, Moili'ili**

And we are off! The new fiscal year which began on July 1st has started and we are beginning the year with a bang! The state revenue collections for the first month of July is up by 16.6%. We budgeted for an eleven percent increase so we seem to be ahead of our budget.



*Tourism* is leading the way with a whopping 79% year over year increase, so if you see that person walking around Manoa trying to find Manoa Falls, give them a big hug and thank them.

*General Excise Taxes* are up 17% which indicates an upturn in business activity but personal income taxes are down which means that we are all working harder for less money. I better stop now...I remember at one of my town meetings I was accused of sounding like an accountant. Anyway, we are off to a good start, I hope I didn't bachi this.

#### **An old wise man once sang:**



"You never count your money while you're sitting at the table, there will be time enough for counting when the dealings done!" **Gun ba te!**

I attended two great conferences for state legislators, one right here in Hawaii and the other in San Antonio.

The first one, the **Council on State Governments West (CSG-West)** is represented by legislators from 13 western states. It was interesting to hear how other states are responding to their fiscal problems. States with natural resources like Wyoming, Montana, and Alaska are not really affected by the economic downturn. You will be pleased to hear that comparatively, we are pretty aggressive when dealing with our budget woes. Our legislators are acting responsibly to address our budget shortfalls.

The second one, the **National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL)** is known as the "Woodstock" for state legislators. This is where ideas from 6,000 legislators from around the country get vetted.

At both of these conferences, I attended and participated in most of the budget and state tax seminars. In the future, I hope to attend sessions on topics other than those relating to "budget, revenues and taxes."

Speaking of taxes, taxing of internet purchases is a very popular subject across the county. The revenue losses to the states are in the hundreds of billions of dollars now. I have always advocated that anyone doing business in our state should collect and pay our taxes. It is just a fairness issue for me. It is not fair that our local businesses who support our community, churches, schools, and other local organizations pay local taxes, and those who do business from outside our state, do not. The one thing we should all agree on is that we must support our local small businesses. If we allow our local businesses to perish, the consequences will be devastating. This subject of tax fairness will come up again in the next legislature and I am happy to discuss this topic with you if you are interested.

The rest of the year will be very busy as I am starting to put together a package of bills for the next legislative session. As always your input is very important, and if you have any good ideas to move Hawaii forward, please contact me.

Senator Brian Taniguchi, Councilmember Ann Kobayashi and I will be hosting the Manoa Legislative Town Meeting on Thursday, December 15, 2011 where we will be on hand to listen to your concerns and also your ideas for legislation for the upcoming 2012 legislative session.

If you and your neighbors are interested in forming a **Neighborhood Security Watch** group in Manoa and be part of the **Manoa Neighborhood Security Watch** program network, we will have a table at this town meeting with staff and Manoa NSW volunteers to answer your questions and help to guide and assist you.



*Aloha,*  
*Isaac W. Choy*

Hawaii State Capitol,  
415 S. Beretania Street, Room 323, Honolulu, HI 96813  
Phone: 808-586-8475 Fax: 808-586-8479  
Email: repchoy@capitol.hawaii.gov



Manoa NSW Members and their doggies wearing their bright yellow shirts joined Manoa Elementary School students, staff, parents, Farmers Hawaii Insurance staff, AARP and other groups holding safety signs to encourage safe driving habits at the entrance to Manoa Elementary School.

The Hot Spots Traffic Safety Program is sponsored by Farmers Hawaii Insurance.

# Manoa Hot Spots



## "8th Annual Community Clean-up" Aloha 'Aina Earth Day

**DATE:** SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2011  
**TIME:** 8:00 AM—2:00 PM  
**LOCATION:** KAIMUKI HIGH SCHOOL PARKING LOT  
 2705 Kaimuki Avenue

Recycling Community Clean-up & Fundraiser for:  
 KAIMUKI HIGH SCHOOL  
 KAPAHULU CENTER  
 MOILILI COMMUNITY CENTER

- Bring your recyclable waste
- Help the environment
- Turn trash into cash for the school/community



**CURBSIDE PICKUP AVAILABLE**  
 For District 24, call the office of Representative Isaac Choy at 586-8475

FLYER ATTACHED

SPONSORS: Congresswoman Colleen Hanabusa, Governor Neil Abercrombie, Senator Brian Taniguchi, Representative Isaac Choy, Representative Calvin Say, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Representative Scott Saiki, Mayor Peter Carlisle and Councilmember Ann Kobayashi, etc.

**ANNUAL**  
**MANOA CHRISTMAS PARADE**

**DATE:** SAT., DEC. 10, 2011  
**TIME:** 5:00 PM

**PARADE STARTS AT NOELANI ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AND ENDS AT MANOA GYM ROAD**

Sponsored by the East Manoa Lions & Manoa Jaycees



It's nice to have **ANNETTE LEE**, a senior at MidPac and also Senior Class President, spending her extra hours volunteering in our office during the interim. Thank you!

View My Newsletters, Bill Status & Documents, Legislative Information, House/Senate, Photos, Links:  
<http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2011/members/house/memberpage.aspx?member=choy>

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