



PRESS RELEASE

TO: Editor in Charge

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Kawananakoa to Run for State House

(Honolulu, Hawaii), June 6, 2008 – Quentin Kawananakoa announced he will be running for the State House of Representatives from House District 51 – Lanikai-Waimanalo. Kawananakoa made the announcement today at Enchanted Lake Elementary School.

Kawananakoa was born in the district and expressed his deep aloha for the residents of Lanikai and Waimanalo. “I was born here and lived here most of my life. Enchanted Lakes Elementary is where I went to Kindergarten, this is where I learned so much during my early years and this is where I now live and work. I want to give back to this community and serve the people in the capacity of State Representative.”

There are four major issues Kawananakoa will be stressing during this election:

Economy – “We need to take care of the district economy so people can live, work and play in their neighborhood. We need to shape our economic growth to ensure we maintain our residential lifestyle” Kawananakoa said. Kawananakoa believes Waimanalo holds great opportunity for our local agricultural industry to produce fresh healthy foods and be self-sustaining. “There is potential for a thriving agricultural industry that produces food for our entire State and I want to help increase that productivity” he added. He believes the pocketbook is the number one issue for his constituents and wants the people in the district to be able to stay on the Windward side, if they wish, to work and live.

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Education – Education should be administered at the local school level. Hawaii has a failed system of spending money without any results. In fact, our educational system has

failed our children and jeopardized their future. In the past five years spending has increased about one Billion dollars from \$1,464,539,692 in 2002 to \$2,402,018,490 in 2007. At the same time enrollment has dropped from 183,629 to 179,234. Currently, Hawai'i is rated 47th in the United States for student achievement levels. Kawananakoa said "The current leadership has had 30 years to reform our educational system and they have failed. We need a new approach that puts our resources at the school level in the classrooms and not in the administration in Honolulu."

Environment – "Kailua has always been the leader on protecting the environment and I want to help maintain that distinction" he said. "We have done so much to make Kailua, Kailua and must protect our fragile environment".

Energy – Energy is a major concern with increasing gas and electric prices. "Alternative energy is an issue I passionately support. Again, however, the legislative leadership has had 30 years to address the problem and has done virtually nothing. For decades Kawananakoa has been advocating for the use of alternative energy. Kawananakoa explained "it is a shame that we have not harnessed the abundant natural resources to satisfy our energy needs." Today, 90% of our electricity depends on burning coal and oil. And of that 90%, 99% comes from foreign sources. "Whether it is wind, wave, solar, geothermal, or OTEC (Ocean Thermal Energy Conversion) we could be completely energy sufficient and not dependant on the uncertainty of foreign oil prices."

There are other issues Kawananakoa would like to work on in the State House such as helping native Hawaiians improve their living conditions and working towards self sufficiency.

"We need change at our legislature. . .and change is not going to come from the current leadership. I will be a voice for change not opposition. I hope to work with all the legislators to effectuate the change our people and Hawai'i deserve." Kawananakoa said.

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Kawananakoa concluded "this District is my 'aina hanau, the place that I was born. I will always work towards improving the conditions for the people in our community and help to preserve the lifestyle that we all treasure."

Legislators and community leaders were excited about Kawanakoa's announcement. "Quentin will be a great asset to the State House and we will do all we can to help him" said Rep. Lynn Finnegan, Minority Leader of the State House. Senator Fred Hemmings added "Quentin Kawanakoa has the passion, intelligence and energy to represent this district well. I look forward to working with him on issues to help our district" Hemmings said.

Quentin Kawanakoa served in the State House from 1994-1998 and as Minority Leader he led the fight to defeat the biggest tax increase in the state. The district is currently represented by Tommy Waters who has decided to not seek reelection. Kawanakoa is married and has two sons.

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