

HAWAII Energy Marketers Association Report



Robert Hood
HEMA President



go to www.wpma.com/hawaii

Resource Summary

Aloha United Way Maui Relief Fund
Support of partner agencies, such as Maui Food Bank, the Red Cross and the Salvation Army
<https://ignite.stratuslive.com/auw/get-involved/donate/mauirelief>

Hawaii Community Foundation Maui Strong Fund
Community resilience with resources for disaster preparedness, response, and recovery
<https://www.hawaiicommunityfoundation.org/maui-strong>

American Red Cross of Hawaii
Donations/Food/Shelter
<https://www.redcross.org/local/hawaii/get-help.html>

Kanu Hawaii
Donations/Crisis Aid
<https://www.kanuhawaii.org/maui-wildfire/>

Salvation Army Hawaii
Donations/Food
<https://hawaii.salvationarmy.org/>

Maui Food Bank
Food
<https://mauifoodbank.org/>

Pastele House
Food
<https://www.facebook.com/p/Pastele-House-Maui-LLC-100063574994076/>

Hannibal Tavares Community Center
Shelter
<https://www.mauicounty.gov/Facilities/Facility/Details/124>

In His House of Restoration
Shelter
<https://www.inhishouseofrestoration.org/>

Maui High School Gym
Shelter
<https://mauihigh.org/>

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
Disaster Assistance
<https://www.fema.gov/disaster/4724>

Department of Health Maui Community Mental Health Center
Health Care Services
mauiwellness@doh.hawaii.gov

Maui Humane Society
Animal Care
<https://www.mauihumanesociety.org/>

Additional Resources

- Maui Fires – Donations, Fundraising, Volunteering, Shelters, etc.
- Maui Fire, Flood and Disaster Relief Group
- Maui Fires People Locator

I encourage you to provide any other suggestions regarding community efforts – large or small - underway in Maui that should also be considered.



Lahaina Maui

It has been a heartbreaking time in Hawaii with the tragic loss of lives, homes, and businesses on Maui due to the recent wildfires. This tragedy has impacted so many of our fellow citizens in ways never before imaginable. The fact that Hawaii is an island state more than two thousand miles from the mainland only compounds the impact of this disaster. We are immensely grateful for the outpouring of support from the communities of Maui, Hawaii’s other islands, and the remainder of the United States.

Very shortly after the wildfires, HEMA companies provided for the vital delivery of fuel to West Maui, which ensured that both the communities’ citizens and the first responders received the fuel needed for their generator systems and recovery efforts. Initially, fuel was available through the filling operations at Maui County-designated facilities. Subsequently, retail operations were restored by generator at two facilities that weren’t destroyed by the fire, which provided further fueling optionality for both first responders and residents remaining in West Maui. In addition, HEMA Members shared their insight during an informal call regarding available resources for impacted employees and other Lahaina residents to quickly secure essential needs. Finally, HEMA

companies have provided resources to the early efforts of recovery and will endeavor to do more throughout this long process.

There is incredible loss in life and property, but not in spirit. We take great pride in our state’s heritage and aloha culture, and we will rebuild even stronger than before.

Please note that both HEMA and WPMA now have a link on their websites providing a summary of organizations offering significant services for the impacted residents of Maui.

On a personal note, having noted communication with some of these organizations in the last few weeks, I have been deeply moved by their hard work and compassion to ensure each impacted resident secures housing and essentials as quickly as possible.

Legislative Update

The 2023 Legislative Session adjourned on Thursday, May 4, which included more than 3,100 bills being introduced. Governor Josh Green shared his legislative priorities in January, which included housing, homelessness, the cost of living, climate, environment, and mental health. Ultimately, 274 pieces of legislation were approved by the Legislature: 142 House bills and 132 Senate bills. The Governor had until July 11 to sign, veto, or allow a bill to become law without his signature, and he applied his veto pen to 11 bills passed during the 2023 legislative session.

HEMA monitored many bills during this legislative session, while also providing thoughtful written testimony to the Committees’ Leadership and Members regarding a few proposed bills that were of particular interest. Our communication served to both engage with our elected officials, while providing them with our insight regarding the legislation’s needlessness and/or possible unintended consequences. The proposed bills on which HEMA provided testimony didn’t progress through their respective Committees, as summarized below:

- i. **Relating to Consumer Protection**, that would have required environmental warning labeling at each retail fuel dispenser – HEMA noted the very sufficient current warning labeling required at fueling dispensers.
- ii. **Relating to Fair Scheduling**, that would have required employers to provide shift scheduling a minimum of ten days in advance or to pay twice their hourly wage – HEMA noted the limitations to businesses’ scheduling that would have an impact on operations.
- iii. **Relating to Family Leave**, that would have lowered the employers’ threshold (for its number of employees) requiring family leave insurance, while it would have also extended the period of family leave – HEMA noted the significant additional cost to small businesses that may also effectively be passed through to consumers.

- iv. **Relating to Paid Sick Leave**, that would have required companies to provide a certain minimum amount of leave, in addition to supplemental leave under certain circumstances – HEMA noted that certain companies already provide some leave and that requiring all companies to provide in addition to offering supplemental leave would place yet additional financial burdens on companies operating in Hawaii.

Hawaii Government

Following the 2022 elections, the Democrats remained in control of the Hawaii Legislature, with 23 Democrats and 2 Republicans in the Senate and 45 Democrats and 6 Republicans in the House. The political balance is unlikely to change too much, however with it being a Presidential election year, coupled with the challenges facing the state considering this year’s fire tragedy, it is possible there may be some unanticipated election outcomes in 2024.

HEMA Officers

During HEMA’s Special Meeting of its Members this past July, the Officers to serve for the next two-year term through June 2025 were elected.



Al Chee - elected as HEMA’s First Vice President. Al has nearly 30 years of industry experience and is currently the Vice President of Retail Marketing and Community Relations for Island Energy Services. He previously served in various capacities at Chevron that included legislative, regulatory, public affairs, and community engagement responsibilities.

Casie Bui – elected as HEMA’s Second Vice President. Casie has nearly 20 years of industry experience and is currently the Director of Sales Operations and Marketing for Aloha Petroleum.



Robert Hood – “As HEMA’s current President, I am the Vice President of Operations for Aloha Petroleum. I have approximately 30 years of industry experience, which includes Operations, Technical Services, and Real Estate/M&A. I certainly look forward to working collaboratively with HEMA’s Members and WPMA’s Leadership on industry initiatives providing a mutual benefit for our Members and our industry’s Customers.”