



# Gil Riviere®

House District 46 - North Shore

GilRiviere.com

## Gil Gets it Done!

WITH YOUR HELP, GIL WILL BE AN EVEN GREATER ADVOCATE FOR OUR DISTRICT.

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Mokuleia, Waialua, Haleiwa, Kawaiiloa, Pupukea, Sunset Beach, Kawela, Kuilima, Kahuku, Laie, Poamoho, Schofield, Wheeler, Kunia Camp.

**Gil Riviere Has a Proven Track Record of Success Leading:**

*Keep the North Shore Country • Waialua Little League*

*Let's Surf Coalition • Neighborhood Board Traffic Committee*



To the residents of the North Shore:

Over the next few months, I would like to share some of my thoughts about current issues and I hope you will share your thoughts, both positive and negative, by calling me at 220-2280 or emailing [Gil@GilRiviere.com](mailto:Gil@GilRiviere.com).

Sincerely, Gil Riviere

### Education

Education reform has been bandied about since statehood and it was no secret that Hawaii ranks low in educational achievement when compared to other states, but then along came Furlough Fridays to demonstrate another tragic fault in our school system.

Although charter schools, with less centralized decision making, remained open, the vast majority of our public schools were closed for 17 days last year. Accounting for approximately 40 percent of the State's General Funds, we have to ask where does all the education money go and what are the priorities?

Indeed, where does all the money go? A full audit of the Department of Education has not been completed since 1973, when it was noted how the large, centralized system lacked accountability and responsibility. Sadly, the picture is even more cloudy today.

The Department of Education, Board of Education, three unions, the Legislature and the Governor all have strong, often contradictory influences on our school system. In other words, there is blame enough for everyone, but responsibility rests with

nobody.

Key elements of needed reform would be: movement of fiscal and personnel decisions away from the central bureaucracy and towards local school boards; empowerment and accountability of principals; lump sum budgeting; removal of the Legislature from micro-managing education; and reliable accounting practices to monitor where the money goes and how effective it has been used.

Education reform will only happen when the public demands it and holds their Legislators and the DOE accountable for results. With Furlough Fridays fresh in our minds, maybe the time for real reform has arrived.

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