
Honoring
RICHARD ONISHI
Distinguished Alumnus



Hilo High School Class of 1972

After graduation, Richard served in the U.S. Army before returning to Hilo, where he began his career in computer systems working for KTA Superstores.

He graduated from the University of Hawaii Hilo with a Bachelors degree in Business Administration and worked for the County of Hawaii as its information systems analyst for over 20 years. During this time, Richard also served as a lecturer at UH Hilo for eight years.

Today, Richard represents State House of Representatives District 3, which stretches from South Hilo to Punalu'u. He currently chairs the House Committee on Tourism and is a member of the committees for Education, Higher Education, Veterans Military & International Affairs & Culture and the Arts, and Intrastate Commerce. Richard is widely recognized as a key proponent of public-private approaches to agriculture and fiscal legislation.
