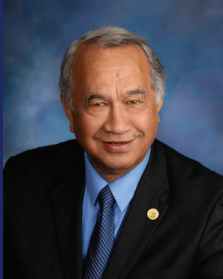


SENATOR GILBERT KAHELE

September 2013



Serving Hawai'i's
Senate District 1
Hilo



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For an electronic version of this newsletter, visit *Senator Kahele's page*
<http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/kahele.aspx>

A Message from Senator Kahele

Aloha mai kākou!

The summer has officially come to an end and as thousands of students and teachers across our state return to the classroom, please anticipate the busy roadways and our school crossing zones as they are usually filled with our keiki.

The end of the Labor Day weekend officially begins the transition into the fall holiday season and I am pleased at the accomplishments we made this summer. As I stated in my previous newsletter, Governor Abercrombie released over \$53 million in capital improvement funds specifically for our Hilo district.

These funds will go towards the future of our keiki, the health and welfare of our citizens and to a much needed aging infrastructure.

As we move toward the end of 2013, I will seek feedback from you and many other members of our community to help guide our policies and initiatives for the upcoming 2014 legislative session. I look forward to our conversations, welcome your ideas and encourage you to be part of our legislative process. Together we can make Hilo and our great State a better place to live, work and raise our families.

Hau'oli ka mana'o

Gilbert Kahele

Blessing and Grand Opening of University of Hawai'i at Hilo Hale 'Alahonua



On August 19, 2013 Governor Abercrombie, Senators Kahele and Solomon, Representatives Tsuji, Nakashima, and Onishi, Mayor Kenoi, Council Chair Yoshimoto, UH Regents Mizuno and Carlson, Chancellor Straney and Vice Chancellor Luoluo Hong collectively untie the maile at the entrance of Hale 'Alahonua.

The \$32.5 million Hale 'Alahonua residence hall located on Kawili Street fulfills the need for more on-campus housing by providing approximately 300 additional beds in suite-style residence halls. Hale 'Alahonua or "the breeze upon which the fragrance of earth is carried," spans 105,505 square-feet and features a trio of three-story residential wings comprised of two single-person bedroom suites measuring 324 square-feet that includes a common space with an entry area, sink and bathroom.

A 9,581 square-foot, one-story Student Life common area connects the three wings, two exterior courtyards, and features a laundry area, mailing facilities, study/conference rooms, a computer lab, recreational and TV lounge and two kitchens that provide residents with a "home away from home."

Hale 'Alahonua is a proven example of State and County governments along with the private sector working collectively and collaboratively to achieve a highly anticipated and much needed goal. The project which ordinarily would have taken 21 months to complete, took only 14 months from start to finish. It was definitely an ambitious timeline and an even more prosperous completion with classes starting exactly one week from the day. All of this would not have been possible without the unwavering commitment and dedication of all parties that made this monumental project a reality.



Updated Hawai'i State Senate Leadership & Committee Assignments

President: Donna Mercado Kim
Vice President: Ronald D. Kouchi
Majority Leader: Brickwood Galuteria

Majority Policy Leader: Les Ihara, Jr.
Majority Floor Leader: Will Espero
Assistant Majority Leader: Michelle Kidani

Majority Whips: Gilbert Kahele
Jill N. Tokuda
Minority Leader/Floor Leader: Sam Slom

AGRICULTURE (AGL)

Nishihara, Clarence K. (Chair)
Kouchi, Ronald D. (Vice Chair)
Dela Cruz, Donovan M.
English, J. Kalani
Thielen, Laura H.
Wakai, Glenn
Slom, Sam

COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION (CPN)

Baker, Rosalyn H. (Chair)
Taniguchi, Brian T. (Vice Chair)
Nishihara, Clarence K.
Wakai, Glenn
Slom, Sam

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS AND HOUSING (EGH)

Dela Cruz, Donovan M. (Chair)
Slom, Sam (Vice Chair)
Baker, Rosalyn H.
Chun Oakland, Suzanne
English, J. Kalani
Thielen, Laura H.
Wakai, Glenn

EDUCATION (EDU)

Tokuda, Jill N. (Chair)
Kidani, Michelle N. (Vice Chair)
Ruderman, Russell E.
Gabbard, Mike
Slom, Sam

ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT (ENE)

Gabbard, Mike (Chair)
Ruderman, Russell E. (Vice Chair)
Chun Oakland, Suzanne
Ihara, Jr., Les
Slom, Sam

HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS (HWN)

Shimabukuro, Maile (Chair)
Hee, Clayton (Vice Chair)
Galuteria, Brickwood
Kidani, Michelle N.
Slom, Sam

HEALTH (HTH)

Green, M.D., Josh (Chair)
Baker, Rosalyn H. (Vice Chair)
Chun Oakland, Suzanne
Nishihara, Clarence K.
Slom, Sam

HIGHER EDUCATION (HRE)

Taniguchi, Brian T. (Chair)
Kahele, Gilbert (Vice Chair)
Keith-Agaran, Gilbert S.C.
Ige, David Y.
Kidani, Michelle N.
Tokuda, Jill N.
Slom, Sam

HUMAN SERVICES (HMS)

Chun Oakland, Suzanne (Chair)
Green, M.D., Josh (Vice Chair)
Kidani, Michelle N.
Taniguchi, Brian T.
Slom, Sam

JUDICIARY AND LABOR (JDL)

Hee, Clayton (Chair)
Shimabukuro, Maile S.L. (Vice Chair)
Gabbard, Mike
Galuteria, Brickwood
Ihara, Jr., Les
Solomon, Malama
Slom, Sam

PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND MILITARY AFFAIRS (PSM)

Espero, Will (Chair)
Baker, Rosalyn H. (Vice Chair)
Galuteria, Brickwood
Green, M.D., Josh
Slom, Sam

TECHNOLOGY AND THE ARTS (TEC)

Wakai, Glenn (Chair)
Nishihara, Clarence K. (Vice Chair)
Ihara, Jr., Les
Tokuda, Jill N.
Slom, Sam

TOURISM (TSM)

Kahele, Gilbert (Chair)
Keith-Agaran, Gilbert S.C. (Vice Chair)
Ige, David Y.
Ihara, Jr., Les
Slom, Sam

TRANSPORTATION AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS (TIA)

English, J. Kalani (Chair)
Dela Cruz, Donovan M. (Vice Chair)
Espero, Will
Gabbard, Mike
Kahele, Gilbert
Keith-Agaran, Gilbert S.C.
Kouchi, Ronald D.
Solomon, Malama
Slom, Sam

WATER AND LAND (WTL)

Solomon, Malama (Chair)
Galuteria, Brickwood (Vice Chair)
Dela Cruz, Donovan M.
Ihara, Jr., Les
Ruderman, Russell E.
Shimabukuro, Maile S.L.
Taniguchi, Brian T.
Thielen, Laura H.
Slom, Sam

WAYS AND MEANS (WAM)

Ige, David Y. (Chair)
Kidani, Michelle N. (Vice Chair)
Chun Oakland, Suzanne
Dela Cruz, Donovan M.
English, J. Kalani
Espero, Will
Kahele, Gilbert
Keith-Agaran, Gilbert S.C.
Kouchi, Ronald D.
Ruderman, Russell E.
Thielen, Laura H.
Tokuda, Jill N.
Slom, Sam

Out and About....



Gov. Abercrombie and Senator Kahele attended a check presentation ceremony on August 19th at the Hawai'i Island Family Health Center. UnitedHealthcare awarded a \$250,000 grant to Hilo Medical Center.



On August 20th and 21st the Senate Committee on Ways and Means and Senate President Mercado Kim conducted site visits across Hawai'i Island and were updated on various projects, programs and concerns. Senators visited the Kona Airport, Kona Community Hospital, UH-Hawcc Palamanui site, Waimea Middle School, Pohoiki Swim Area and Boat Ramp, Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy research labs and modules to name a few.