

# SENATOR GILBERT KAHELE



Serving Hawai'i's  
Senate District 1 - Hilo

Majority Whip

Chairman,  
Committee on Tourism



October 2014

## A Message from Senator Kahele

**Aloha!**

This 27<sup>th</sup> Hawai'i State Legislature continues to be a very productive session despite incredibly difficult pressures and obstacles. However, despite extreme fiscal challenges, much is accomplished in a powerful, forward moving ways, as I continue to work for **YOU**, Island of Hawai'i and the State of Hawai'i.

Specific capital improvement (CIP) appropriations that have been authorized for our district. These projects will go far in boosting the economy of the First Senatorial District and creating needed employment for our residents.

\$1,800,000 - HHSC, Hilo Medical Center, Acute Hospital Renovations (renovation of patient rooms, bathrooms and offices spaces) for construction and Works of Art special fund.

\$156,000 - Department of Agriculture's Hilo Plant Industry Facility, greenhouse and other buildings repairs and improvements.

\$170,000 - Hawai'i County Economic Opportunity Council (HCEOC), Hawai'i Island, Capital Improvement Grant. HCEOC is a private, nonprofit organization established in 1965 under provisions of the Federal Economic Opportunity Act of 1964. Its purpose is to prevent, alleviate, and eliminate poverty in Hawai'i County by mobilizing and channeling private and public resources into anti-poverty actions, to stimulate new and effective approaches to the solution of problems, to strengthen communication, mutual understanding, planning, coordination and implementation of anti-poverty programs in the community, and to educate children and youth to become responsible, contributing adults in society.

\$29,000,000 - Systemwide Health, Safety and Code Requirements, statewide. Projects at UH Hilo include a lead roof replacement of Hale Kehau, a Kawili Street Pedestrian overpass, an emergency shelter, traffic safety improvements at Panaewa Farms, sidewalk/crosswalk upgrades at Kapiolani and Lanikaula streets, and emergency generators.

\$10,000,000 - Minor CIP projects for Campuses of the Community College System, statewide. Renovation of storage space to science lab/classroom at Hawai'i Community College.

Mahalo for your continued support. Please call if I can be of assistance, and Hau'oli Ka Mana'o,

*Gilbert Kahele*



Hawai'i State Capitol, Room 213

Phone: (808) 586-6760

Toll Free From Hawai'i Island: 974-4000 ext. 66760

Email: [senkahele@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:senkahele@capitol.hawaii.gov)

For an electronic version of this newsletter, visit Senator Kahele's webpage

<http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/kahele.aspx>

## Hilo PONY All Stars 2014 PONY World Series Champions

Senator Kahele was honored to offer his congratulations on behalf of the Hawai'i State Senate to the players and coaches of the Hilo PONY All Stars. Their long journey to the PONY World Series Championship title was a result of hundreds of hours devoted to practicing and perfecting their skills. But the ability of those individuals to function as a team and having coaches to lead and guide them is how success was truly achieved.

**Congratulations** on a well-deserved championship title! Players: Micah Bello, Jaisten Cabatbat, Dallasj Duarte, Bryce Furuli, Kahale Huddleston Jr., Curren Inouye, Joey Jarneski, Kainalu Kahapea, Noah Kalaola-Richardson, Reese Mondina, David Nakamura, Ryan Ragual, Eric Riveira, Zack Riveira and Trayden Tamiya. Head Coach: Stacey Jarneski. Assistant Coaches: Darren Tagawa, Troy Tamiya and Duke Waiki.



### Pilina Awards

During the Japan-Hawai'i Legislators Friendship Association (JHLFA) meeting, Pilina Awards were presented to businesses who play an integral role in solidifying the unique common bonds of Hawai'i and Japan's cultures through educational programs and events or their promotion of Hawai'i as a visitor destination.

The honorees were: JHTA (Japan Hawai'i Travel Association); Honolulu Japanese Chamber of Commerce; Japanese Cultural Center of Hawai'i; Kintetsu International Hawai'i Company/Pan-Pacific Festival; HIS-Ekiden; JALPAK – Hula Ho'olauna Aloha; and JTB Hawai'i-Honolulu Festival.

There was a special recognition of Consul General of Japan Toyoei Shigeeda for his vision and leadership in bringing the JHLFA meeting to Honolulu where decision makers from both Japan and Hawai'i had an opportunity to share ideas.



*Mike McCartney, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Hawai'i Tourism Authority offers his congratulations to Consul General Shigeeda.*

### DHHL Announces a Pilot Program to Finance Packaged Home Construction on Vacant Lots

Details of a new pilot program was announced to Big Island homesteaders on September 13th by the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL). Under this program, DHHL will finance the cost of the materials for a packaged home and the homesteader in turn will cover the cost of a home construction loan. The packaged homes will average \$130,000 and the homesteader will be responsible for a monthly mortgage of \$300.

The goal of this project is to give homesteaders an opportunity to build a home on their vacant lot. DHHL is in the process of qualifying 100 homesteaders in Keaukaha and Kalama'ula on Moloka'i. DHHL has partnered with HPM Building Supply and Honsador Lumber to provide the packaged homes and the expertise to help the homesteaders through the process. DHHL will be utilizing federal funds it received under the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act or NAHASDA to fund the \$29 million pilot program.



*Governor Neil Abercrombie, DHHL Director Jobie Masagatani, community leaders and construction industry representatives.*