

SENATOR GILBERT KAHELE



Serving Hawai'i's
Senate District 1 - Hilo
Majority Caucus Leader
Chair, Committee on Tourism
and International Affairs



April 2015

A Message From Senator Kahele

Aloha mai kakou,

Most recently Hawai'i's State Senators recognized the Polynesian Voyaging Society and the 12 living crew members from the Hōkūle'a's maiden voyage to Tahiti in 1976. It is the first time all living members of the Hōkūle'a's original crew were together since its inaugural voyage. For more information on the Polynesian Voyaging Society and the Mālama Honua Worldwide Voyage, please visit: www.hokulea.com

We are in the final weeks of the 2015 Legislative Session and things are moving very quickly. For up to the minute details you can visit the Capitol website at: www.capitol.hawaii.gov to track daily changes to bills as they progress through conference committees.

Hau'oli ka mana'o,

Gilbert Kahele



(L to R) Senator Kahele, Dr. Ben Young, Penny Rawlins Martin, Gordon Pi'ianai'a, Kimo Lyman, Francis Kainoa Lee, Snake Ah Hee, Ben Finney, Ph.D. (seated), Senator Galutaria, Billy Richards, Senator English, John Kruse, Buffalo Keaulana, Shorty Bertelmann, Nainoa Thompson and Senate President Kim

Aloha Exchange Club of East Hawai'i



The Aloha Exchange Club of East Hawai'i recognized two very deserving men in a ceremony on March 19, 2015. Officer Kelly Moniz, a 10-year veteran of the Police Department assigned to the Area I Vice Section in Hilo, was honored as "Officer of the Year" and Inspector Kyle Vares, who is instrumental with the Hawai'i Fire Department's role in reviewing construction documents for fire code compliance, fire investigations, and site inspections to assure the safety of occupants in our businesses and schools was recognized as "Fire Fighter of the Year."

Senator Kahele, along with the Hawai'i State Senate, also extended their congratulations and expressed the Senate's appreciation of all their hard work in keeping our community safe.

Iwo Jima



The Battle of Iwo Jima was a major battle in which the United States Armed Forces landed and eventually captured the Island of Iwo Jima from the Japanese Imperial Army during World War II. This five-week battle comprised some of the fiercest and bloodiest fighting of the War in the Pacific of that time period. The battle was immortalized by Joe Rosenthal's photograph of the raising of the U.S. flag (top left photo) on Mount Suribachi by five U.S. Marines and one U.S. Navy battlefield Hospital Corpsman. This took place on the fifth day of the 35-day battle. Senator Kahele had the privilege of attending the Reunion of Honor Commemoration on Iwo Jima on March 21, 2015. As a former marine, it was his way to pay homage to the many American and Japanese soldiers who were in this ferocious battle.

Military Intelligence Service Veterans of World War II

The Military Intelligence Service Veterans of World War II reunited to mark the 70th anniversary of the conclusion of the war in the Pacific and to honor the memory of the fallen. In the photo are the veterans that were recognized and honored by the Senators during their floor session on March 27, 2015.



(L-R) Veterans honored: Andrew Sato, Kenzo Kanemoto, Robert Honke and Norman Hashisaka

The Alzheimer's Association Aloha Chapter

The Alzheimer's Association Aloha Chapter serves all of the Hawaiian Islands. Their mission is to eliminate Alzheimer's disease through the advancement of research; to provide and enhance care and support for all affected; and to reduce the risk of dementia through the promotion of brain health. Senator Kahele attended the Alzheimer's



Association event at the State Capitol on March 17, 2015.

Senator Kahele met Ashley Studerus, a representative of the organization.

A Day at the Capitol

The State Council on Development Disabilities hosted their 14th annual Day at the Capitol event on Thursday, March 12, 2015. This event provided an opportunity for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and family members to participate in the legislative process by meeting the legislators to discuss issues and concerns relating to them, attend relevant public hearings, and tour the State Capitol. Senator Kahele hosted the group from Hawai'i Island where he was able to talk to them about different issues and concerns relating to intellectual and developmental disabilities.



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