



# SENATOR J.KALANI ENGLISH

HAWAI'I STATE SENATE 7TH DISTRICT

HĀNA, EAST AND UPCOUNTRY MAUI,  
MOLOKA'I, LĀNA'I AND KAHO'OLAWÉ



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## LEGISLATURE PASS BILLS SUPPORTING SENATE LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

State lawmakers passed bills addressing homelessness, health, climate change mitigation and aid to those impacted by the devastating floods throughout the State. The measures align with the **Senate Legislative Program** committed to at the beginning of the 2018 Legislative Session. The Program is made up of 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) that provide a framework for improving the quality of life now and for future generations.

an appropriation to the temporary commission on the 13th Festival of Pacific Arts to plan for the Festival of Pacific Arts to be held in Honolulu from June 11 to June 27, 2020. (SDG 17 – Partnerships for the Goals)

A week before final reading, Lawmakers passed **HB1900 HD1 SD1 CD1** the State Budget to expedite the passage of **SB192 SD1 HD1 CD1** that provides \$125 million in emergency funding to help areas devastated by flooding and also deposits more than \$80 million in tobacco settlement funds into the State's rainy day fund.

The Budget provides \$7.1 million to increase payments for foster caregivers; \$1.2 million for the Kupuna Caregivers program; and \$1.1 million for recruitment and certification of public school teachers; a \$28 million operating subsidy for the Maui Health System; \$500,000 to help local startups in the aquaculture industry; \$450,000 for the Hawai'i Assoc. of Conservation Districts to support environmental protection efforts; \$39 million for Rental Car Facilities at Daniel K. Inouye Honolulu International and Kahului International Airports.

At final reading on May 1, the Senate passed several bills that position the Legislature to be a national leader in environment and health.

## MESSAGE FROM KALANI

The Senate kept its promise by passing measures to address the impact of climate change, to protect our natural resources, and to encourage economic prosperity and culture in our State. What the Senate accomplished this Session is just one step towards creating a stronger, more sustainable island community, yet our work is not done. We will continue to strive to make our State a better place to live.



"The framework of the SDG's provided excellent guidance on how to link all of our bills," said Sen. English. "What we've been able to accomplish this Session is a template for the planet. The world is watching how Hawai'i is taking the lead in ensuring the protection and sustainability of our people, communities and natural resources while remaining economically prosperous on a global scale."

Among the bills lawmakers passed was **SB2693 SD1 HD1 CD1** a bill that was introduced by Sen. English. The measure makes

*continued on pg. 2*



# LEGISLATURE PASS BILLS SUPPORTING SENATE LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM CONTINUED

In passing **Senate Bill 2571 SD2 HD2 CD1**, Hawai'i is the first state in the nation to ban the sale of all sunscreens that contain oxybenzone and octinoxate, chemicals that scientific research has found to be toxic to coral. The bill delays the effective date of the ban until January 1, 2021 to allow for the reformulation of sunscreen to prevent further increase of skin cancer in Hawai'i. This measure is a step towards preserving the state's marine ecosystem which is both an important cultural foundation and an economic asset.

"In rural districts such as mine, the ocean continues to be a source of life and sustenance for many," said Sen. English. "SB2571 directly aligns with our legislative priority to support policies that aim to reduce pollution and enhance ocean-related management."

**Senate Bill 3095 SD1 HD1 CD1** restricts pesticide use within 100 feet of a school during instructional hours and it bans the pesticide chlorpyrifos. Hawai'i is the first state in the nation to prohibit the use of pesticides containing chlorpyrifos. The measure protects the State's children, elderly, and vulnerable individuals from the unintended impacts of large-scale agricultural pesticide use.

"Hawai'i will become the first state in the nation to ban the use of chlorpyrifos," notes Sen. English. "The community has voiced their concern regarding this particular measure and I am glad that we were able to address it through the passage of SB3095."

The Senate also passed a number of significant measures that address other priorities in the Senate Legislative Program, including Ending Poverty, Quality Education, Gender Equality, and Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions.

The bills include those that address homelessness and affordable housing, **HB1900 HD1 SD1 CD1**, also provides \$15 million to fund homeless programs and services such as Housing First, Rapid Re-Housing, and Family Assessment Centers. **HB2748 HD2 SD2 CD1** provides an unprecedented total of \$200 million into the Rental Housing Trust Fund (RHTF), to generate approximately 1,600 affordable rental housing units for families at or below 80 percent AMI; appropriates \$10 million into the Dwelling Unit Revolving Fund (DURF) for interim

construction financing of affordable housing project; and appropriates \$50,000 to prepare an assessment of housing needs for persons with low or no income. Additionally, HB2748 expands the general excise tax exemption for construction of 24,000 affordable rental units for families at or below 140 percent AMI. The exemption will increase from \$7 million (enacted in 2017) to \$30 million per year and will be extended from 2022 to 2030. This exemption is valued at \$360 million over 12 years. **SB2401 SD2 HD1 CD1** and **SB2027 SD2 HD1 CD1** provide a total of \$34.7 million to fund 'Ohana Zones and support medical services for the homeless statewide.



**SB2990 SD2 HD2 CD1** Relating To Paid Family Leave. Requires the legislative reference bureau to conduct a sunrise analysis of the impacts of and best framework for the establishment of paid family leave. Requires a report and proposed legislation be submitted to the legislature by 9/1/2019. Appropriates funds.

**HB1489 HD1 SD2 CD1** prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex, including gender identity or expression, or sexual orientation, in any state educational program or activity, or in any educational program or activity that receives state financial assistance.

**SB2046 SD1 HD1** prohibits the manufacture, importation, sale, transfer, and possession of bump fire stocks, multi-burst trigger activators, and trigger cranks. (SDG 16 – Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions)

**HB2071 HD2 SD2 CD1** establishes a statewide standards board to recommend certification and de-certification requirements for state and county law enforcement officers who carry firearms and badges and have arrest authority.

**SB2939 SD2** (Act 005) requires the PUC to establish performance incentive and penalty mechanisms that directly tie electric util-

ity revenues to the utility's achievement on performance metrics. (SDG 11 – Sustainable Cities and Communities)

**HB2739 HD1** (Act 002) establishes a regulated process under which an adult resident of the State with a medically confirmed terminal disease and less than six months to live may choose to obtain a prescription for medication to end the patient's life. Imposes criminal sanctions for tampering with a patient's request for a prescription or coercing a patient to request a prescription. (SDG 3-Good Health and Well Being)

Voters will decide in November how to support public education with **SB2922 SD1 HD1** which proposes amendments to the Constitution of the State of Hawai'i to authorize the Legislature to establish, as provided by law, a surcharge on investment real property to support public education.

Hawai'i also joined six other states to allow a mentally capable, terminally ill adult with six months or less to live, the freedom to make their own end-of-life decisions, with the earlier passage of **HB2739**, that was signed into law (Act 002) on April 5, 2018.

With the exception of SB2922 and HB2739, these bills are now enrolled to the Governor for his approval or veto.

A complete list of the bills that have passed final reading is available at [www.capitol.hawaii.gov](http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov). To view the 2018 Senate Legislative Program, visit [www.hawaiisenatemajority.com](http://www.hawaiisenatemajority.com).

## FUNDS RELEASED FOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

**\$500,000** was released to Hāna Health for a new expanded health facility to serve the community of Hāna, Maui.

**\$100,000** in funds were released for design to replace and rehabilitate various bridges along Hāna Highway.

**\$1,580,000** was released for the construction of the new office storage facility at Kaunakakai Harbor on Moloka'i.



## SENATE CONFIRMS HAMMAN MAUI DISTRICT COURT JUDGE

The Hawai'i Senate voted on April 25 to consent to the appointment of Kirstin M. Hamman to the District Court of the Second Circuit (Maui). Hamman fills the vacancy created by the retirement of the Honorable Keith E. Tanaka. Hamman has been serving as a per diem District Court Judge in the District Court of the Second Circuit since 2014, while continuing her private law practice specializing in family law and special education law. She previously served as a Legislative Attorney in the Maui County Office of Council Services. Hamman has been actively involved in the community throughout her career, including service with the Maui County Bar Association and the Council of Parent Attorneys and Advocates, and has been a member of the Maui County Commission on Children and Youth since 2016.



*Maui Senate Delegation welcomes Judge Kirstin M. Hamman to the Maui Court of Second Circuit. April 25, 2018.*

Hamman received her Bachelor of Arts from the University of Hawai'i West O'ahu. She earned her Doctorate of Jurisprudence from the William S. Richardson School of Law at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa and was admitted to the bar in 1997.

"I applaud her proficiency, expertise, and knowledge as an attorney and judge," noted Sen. English. "Ms. Hamman is also known for her fairness and kindheartedness which adds to her qualification to serve as a Maui Circuit judge."



*Senator English welcomes the new Director General of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office, Ambassador Michael Tseng. April 17, 2018.*

## REJUVENATED PACIFIC ISLANDS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (PIDP) AT THE EAST-WEST CENTER



*Sen. English meets with the leadership from the Center for Pacific Island Studies and the East-West Center. From L to R: Dr. Tarcisius Kabutaulaka, Dr. Terence Wesley-Smith, Sen. English, President Richard Vuylsteke, Gretchen Alther and Scott Kroeker. April 17, 2018.*

The East-West Center (EWC) announced a forward-looking plan to substantially recast and rejuvenate its longstanding Pacific Islands Development Program (PIDP) at its Board meeting on April 16. The Program was established as an informal venue for direct engagement between Pacific Islands leaders and scholars engaged in practical research to benefit the region. Over the years PIDP has conducted research in a wide variety of areas, including tuna management, disaster preparedness, private sector development, post-conflict reconciliation, as well as pursuing a wide variety of capacity building, democracy promotion, and high-level dialogue activities. Sen. English is an alumnus of the East-West Center.

The plan includes increasing the number of staff that supports PIDP and lays out efforts to secure additional funding to support and expand its operations. One near-term priority is to secure funding to reinstate PIDP's well-regarded online news service, the Pacific Islands Report. The goal is to have a new and improved PIR enhanced with more commentaries and analyses from researchers and other experts in the region.

"The PIDP has played an intergral role in helping the EWC achieve its mission of promoting and maintaining strong relationships throughout the Pacific region," said Sen. English. "I am pleased that EWC President Richard Vuylsteke and the leadership there have decided to rejuvenate the program and look forward to working with them in future collaborations."



*Sen. English, Sen. Baker, Councilwoman Sugimura, DOT Director Jade Butay and Sen. Keith-Agaran at the Honoapi'iiani Highway Realignment Phase 1B-2 Blessing Ceremony in Lahaina. April 15, 2018.*



J. KALANI ENGLISH  
Senate Majority Leader

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on Labor

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on Hawaiian Affairs

Member, Senate Committee  
on Transportation and Energy

Member, Senate Committee  
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Bill Status and Documents  
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SPRING FESTIVAL HIGHLIGHTS



26TH ANNUAL  
EAST MAUI  
TARO FESTIVAL  
April 21, 2018



Maui County Ag Festival April 7, 2018



HA'IKŪ HO'OLAULE'A & FLOWER FESTIVAL April 14, 2018

