

SENATOR DAVID IGE

February 2012



Serving Hawai'i's
Senate District 16

Encompassing the
following
communities:

Pacific Palisades

Pearl City

Waimalu

Upper Aiea

Aiea Heights



SESSION IN FULL SWING

ALOHA,

2012 has already proven to be an exciting year here at the Hawaii State capitol and in our community . With over 1,000 bills introduced during this legislative session, my colleagues and I have been busy at work examining and collaborating on the bills that we feel will impact our state for the better.

This session, my office and I are really trying to reach out to the constituents of the 16th district by getting involved in the social media scene. I encourage you to follow me on Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube to stay connected on what is going on here at the capitol and in our community. We want to use the medium of social networking to keep you involved in the political process.

If you have any issues you'd like to see addressed or if you have any community events or members that you would like to be recognized for their achievements, please free to contact me. All of my contact information is listed below and I look forward to another productive year serving as you senator.

Mahalo

David Ige

Capitol Tours Available

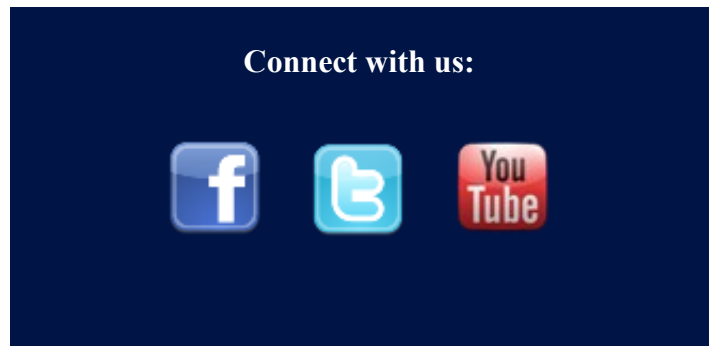


Throughout the session ... My staff and I would love to have you visit the historic Hawaii State Capitol. We've welcomed in students from all across our district and want to encourage you to come on down to observe or be part of our legislative process!



Contact Us

Hawai'i State Capitol Room 215
Phone: (808) 586-6230
Fax: (808) 586-6231
Email: sendige@capitol.hawaii.gov



Get Informed, Get Involved

The Hawaii State Senate is encouraging citizens to get informed and involved. There are many resources available on the web where citizens can get information right at their fingertips.

Website: www.capitol.hawaii.gov

The Hawaii State Legislature's website is the key portal for those wishing to get informed and involved in the legislative process. Some of the information and features of the site include:

- Contact information for current members of the Senate and House of Representatives
- Bill and resolution text and current status information
- List of upcoming committee hearings
- Daily downloads of bills, resolutions, committee reports, and other documents
- Online testimony submittal

Create an Account

You can also create an account with the Legislature and as a registered

user, you can track your own personalized list of bills and get e-mail notifications for legislative committee hearings.

Video Streams

The Legislature will be streaming selected committee hearings and the daily Senate and House floor sessions live over the Internet. Links to the live and archived audio and video streams are accessible from the website.

www.hawaiiisenatemajority.com

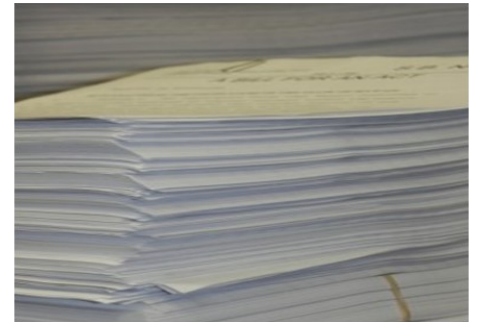
A link to the Hawaii Senate Majority Caucus website can be found on the Senate page of the Hawaii State Legislature's website. You can stay abreast of Senate Majority messages, press releases, and activities.

Public Access Room

The Legislature's Public Access Room (PAR) is located on the fourth floor of the State Capitol building, with knowledgeable and friendly staff to assist and educate citizens about participating in the legislative process. Staff assistance is available in person (Room 401, State Capitol Building), by phone (808) 587-0478, and by email (par@capitol.hawaii.gov).

You can also tune in and watch selected committee hearings and floor sessions on community television channels statewide. For the schedule, you can go to the broadcast link found on the Hawaii State Legislature's website.

Hawaii State Senate Introduces More Than One Thousand Bills



The Hawaii State Senate has introduced 1,072 bills on this second year of the 26th Legislative biennium. Wednesday, January 25, 2012 was the deadline for bill introductions. In the 2011 Session, Senators introduced 1,558 bills.

For more information on the bills and on the Legislature, go to <http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/>.

Hawaii State Senate Majority Caucus Priorities for the 2012 Legislative Session

Job Creation & Creating a Sustainable Economy

Creating jobs and putting people back to work is critically important. The Senate Majority created an aggressive \$500 million general-obligation bond-funded Capital Improvement Program (CIP) package aimed at investing and stimulating our local economy from all corners of the state. The program will create shovel-ready jobs for all trades in the construction industry – from carpenters to consultants. It'll put money in workers' pockets and give companies confidence to begin hiring again.

“It really is the Senate's attempt to get people back to work,“ said Ways and Means Chair Senator David Ige.

Projects to be considered will focus on smaller repair and maintenance projects to address aging infrastructures and to extend the useful life of existing state-owned assets and facilities. Projects will also include those that address health and safety code concerns. These are not newly identified projects. Rather it's a plan to eliminate projects that have been backlogged. Funding will be provided throughout State departments. The permitting, approval and procurement process in both the private and public sectors to facilitate expedient movement would be streamlined and/or simplified to ensure that government is able to provide services to the public in the most efficient manner.

The Senate Majority is committed to supporting the entrepreneurial and creative spirit of Hawaii's people. Investing in citizens will amount to contributions to our State that far outweigh the investment. With this jolt in the economy, the safety net would be improved, with a wide range of social and educational services would be provided.

Sustainability and Renewable Energy

When it comes to sustainability and renewable energy, the Senate Majority will continue to strive to make Hawaii a model for the rest of the country by continuing the Hawaii Clean Energy Initiative. The Senate Majority will make it a priority to develop sustainable and renewable energy strategies and initiatives throughout our state facilities. The Senate will work to increase energy efficiency and reduce energy consumption at state facilities, such as schools, hospitals, and state office buildings.

Retooling Government

In the area of technology, the Senate Majority Caucus package calls for investing in the State's information technology infrastructure in order to improve government and to better serve the public. The investment in IT upgrades aims to increase productivity, making government more efficient

People and Children

As a result of strengthening the economy and putting more people back to work, the safety net would be secured and all basic needs of all citizens would be met. The Senate will also continue its strong support for education. From Hawaii's youngest keiki to wisest kupuna, ensuring access to the highest quality educational opportunities will remain a top priority, which will make them competitive in the global economy.

Legislature Passes Several Conference Bills

The following bills have passed in both the Senate and House Chambers:

Senate Bill 809 increases University of Hawaii (UH) authorization to issue revenue bonds from a total principal amount not to exceed \$200 million to a total amount not to exceed \$300 million to fund UH construction projects, which would stimulate the economy and generate construction jobs. Upon passage of the bill, UH will query the campuses to compile a listing for the use of the appropriation and plans to start projects no later than Spring 2012. One of the projects that will benefit is the Culinary Institute at Kapiolani Community College, which will finally be able to begin construction.

Senate Bill 239 allows the University of Hawaii's John A. Burns School of Medicine (JABSOM) to continue using the Hawaii Tobacco Settlement Special Fund for the school's operational expenses. Extending the life of the fund would result in supporting the school's mission of training physicians.

House Bill 608 appropriates state funds to The Queen's Medical Center to perform kidney and liver transplants and to the National Kidney Foundation of Hawaii to maintain its chronic kidney disease management program. The sum appropriated, which are subject to dollar-for-dollar private matching funds include: \$1.5 million to the Queens Medical Center to support services to perform kidney and liver transplants in Hawaii, and \$300,000 to the National Kidney Foundation of Hawaii to maintain its chronic kidney disease management program. Governor Abercrombie signed the bill into law, Act 1, on February 11, 2012.

Senate Bill 2012

The Hawaii State Senate is united in support of Senate Bill 2012. Garnering bipartisan support, Senate Bill 2012, also known as “The Invest in Hawaii Act of 2012,” is an aggressive general obligation bond-funded \$500 million Capital Improvement Program (CIP) package aimed at creating jobs by investing and stimulating our local economy from all corners of the state.

With Hawaii experiencing the lowest interest rates on record and significant savings made from the State’s most recent bond authorization and issuance, now is the time to invest in our State. The program will create shovel-ready jobs for all trades in the construction industry – from carpenters to consultants. According to conservative estimates by the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism’s (DBEDT) job multiplier, this measure could create or sustain more than 5,000 jobs.

“Investing now in needed State capital projects will have a direct positive impact on our economy. With interest rates at a historic low, there has been no better time to make a significant investment in our State’s Infrastructure”, said Sen. David Y. Ige, chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means.

Projects to be considered will focus on repair and maintenance projects to address aging infrastructures and to extend the useful life of existing state-owned assets and facilities. Projects also include those that address health and safety code concerns.

Another priority of the bill is to develop sustainable and renewable energy resources, such as photovoltaic technology. Investing in renewable energy and upgrades to information technology initiatives throughout schools, hospitals, and office buildings will ultimately lead to cost savings and a reduction of the State’s carbon footprint.

In order to expedite the backlogged repair and maintenance projects, Senate Bill 2012 would make revisions to the State’s permitting, approval and procurement process. As a result, the accelerated process would get workers off the bench and on the job immediately, putting more money in workers’ pockets. With this jolt in the economy, the safety net would be improved and a wide range of social and educational services would be provided.

Connect with Senator Ige!

Three easy ways to stay connected with Senator David Ige. Find and follow him on the following social media pages:



www.facebook.com/senatordavidige

Senator Ige will be updating his page with highlights from the session, news in the community and a recipe every Monday by a member of his staff.



www.twitter.com/senatordavidige

Follow Senator Ige on Twitter for updates on the Ways and Means Committee and the status of bills throughout the senate



www.youtube.com/senatordavidige

Senator Ige’s You Tube channel features speeches given by the Senator on the Senate floor, opinion pieces on key legislation, and other highlights from the capitol.

Pearl City Little League Opening Ceremonies



On January 28, Senator David Ige returned to the mound where he grew up playing baseball in the Pearl City Little League. The opening ceremonies were held at Pearl City Recreation Center Field. Senator Ige was joined by State Representatives Mark Takai and Roy Tokumi.

