

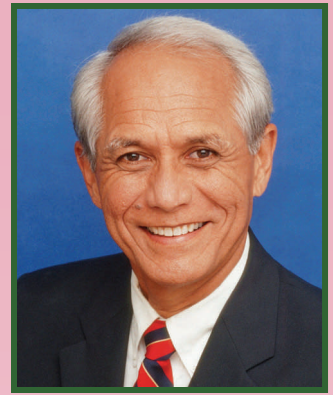
# Legislative Update from Senator Mike Gabbard

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**CHAIR**  
ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT

**MEMBER**

JUDICIARY AND LABOR  
TRANSPORTATION AND  
INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

**SENATE DISTRICT 19**

MAKAKILO, KAPOLEI, KALAELOA  
WAIKELE, VILLAGE PARK  
ROYAL KUNIA, HONOKAI HALE,  
WAIPAHU, AND KO 'OLINA

*Aloha,*

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to you and your ohana! The 2012 Legislative Session is just around the corner with Opening Day on January 18<sup>th</sup>. Please call me at 586-6830 or email me at [sengabbard@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:sengabbard@capitol.hawaii.gov) if you have any ideas for bills that you think should be taken up at the Capitol.

## "Listen Story" Meeting

My next "listen story" meeting will be held at the Kapolei Starbucks (next to the Chevron Station) on Saturday, January 14<sup>th</sup> from 9:00am to 10:00am.



## H-1 Lights Will Be Back On Soon

We recently got word that the Department of Transportation is moving forward with repairing the H-1 lights between Kunia and Makakilo, which have been out for a while because of copper wire theft. The contractor for the project will begin work in January and the completion date will be April 7<sup>th</sup>. The project had been planned for an October start date, but was pushed back due to APEC restrictions and the Christmas holidays. This will be a welcome relief for many of us West Oahu commuters who've endured darkness on the H-1 for way too long. The lights on the H-2 will also be repaired after the H-1 lights are completed.

## Roosevelt Avenue Finally Gets Repaved

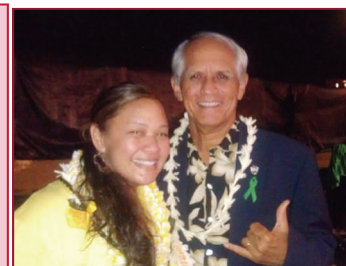
I'm sure you're as happy as I am to see that Roosevelt Avenue was repaved in record time last month. This is a huge relief for many of you (and me!) who have had to put up with outrageous, cavernous potholes for years. The complete project boundaries were from Kamokila Boulevard (western boundary) to the Geiger Road guardhouse. The contractor striped the pavement with temporary tape for now. The road will be finished with thermoplastic paint and reflectors in the weeks ahead. Mahalo to the Department of Transportation for getting this important project done.



*Senator Gabbard gave a tour of the State Capitol to Leeward District students who were attending the Secondary Student Conference on December 1<sup>st</sup>. In this photo, the students and Senator Gabbard posed in the Governor's Ceremonial Room. Pictured are (front row, left to right): Daylin Kuboyama of Ewa Makai Middle School, Larisha Timbresa-Richardson of Campbell High School, Arden Arreolla of Kapolei High School, Shanice Brown of Ilima Intermediate School, McErl Dave Andres of Ewa Makai Middle School, Shayna Deguzman of Ilima Intermediate, Joshua Ramos of Ilima Intermediate and (back row, left to right): Marcus Mateo of Waipahu High School, Shirell Bell of Kapolei High School, Mike Filomeno of Waipahu High School, Janel Valdez of Kapolei High School, Senator Gabbard, Kimberly Teehera of Waipahu High School, Cara Phillips of Waipahu High School, Rachel Capinpin of Campbell High School, and Kianna Teehera of Waipahu High School.*



*Senator Gabbard showed his support to Kea Davis-Milo at the Big Kokua Bash – An Extension of Life Concert at the Waterfront at Aloha Tower on November 12th. The event was a fundraiser for Kea who is a Makakilo resident and needs emergency surgery for a rare neurological disease called Moyamoya.*



## Battleship Missouri Memorial a Leader in Recycling

I presented a certificate from the State Senate with fellow legislators, Rep. Aaron Johanson and Senator Glenn Wakai, to Michael Carr, the President of the Battleship Missouri Memorial, on November 16<sup>th</sup>. The Battleship Missouri Memorial was recognized for winning Reynolds Recycling's 3rd Annual Green Leader Award for their outstanding recycling efforts. As you know, the Battleship Missouri has served her nation with distinction through three wars, with the service and devotion of her crews spanning three generations. Today she stands proudly as an international icon of strength for freedom and the site and symbol of the formal ending of World War II. The Battleship Missouri Memorial began a recycling program in 2006 to focus on recovering and recycling water bottles that are given out to visitors coming to the memorial. Since then, the Missouri has recycled more than 500,000 beverage containers. This has removed more than 13 tons of recyclable material from Honolulu's waste stream and prevented it from entering our landfills. By recycling that much plastic, it is estimated that the Missouri has saved more than 91 cubic yards of landfill space.



*Senator Gabbard presented a certificate from the State Senate with fellow legislators, Rep. Aaron Johanson and Senator Glenn Wakai, to Michael Carr (President, Battleship Missouri Memorial) on November 16th. The Battleship Missouri Memorial was recognized for winning Reynolds Recycling's 3rd Annual Green Leader Award for their outstanding recycling efforts. Pictured (L to R) are Rep. Johanson, Senator Gabbard, Michael Carr, and Senator Wakai.*



*Senator Gabbard pondered the historical importance of the Battleship U.S.S. Missouri where Japan formally surrendered on September 2, 1945, marking the end of World War II, on November 19th. The statue next to him commemorates the iconic kiss shown in newspapers throughout the nation.*

*Wayland Baptist University, Hawai'i campus caters to the working people of our state*

## Wayland Baptist University's Fall Graduation

I made remarks and presented honorary certificates at the Wayland Baptist University graduation ceremony at Calvary Chapel of Honolulu on November 5<sup>th</sup>. This year's class included 16 receiving Master's degrees, 54 receiving Baccalaureate degrees, and 2 receiving Associate degrees. Wayland Baptist University exists to educate students in an academically challenging, learning focused, and Christian environment for professional success, lifelong learning, and service to God and humankind. It has served the people of the United States since 1908 and has been in Hawai'i for the past 32 years. Wayland Baptist University, Hawai'i campus caters



*Senator Gabbard made remarks and presented honorary certificates at the Wayland Baptist University graduation ceremony at Calvary Chapel of Honolulu on November 5th. Pictured (L to R) are Dr. Veryl Henderson (Executive Director/Treasurer, Hawai'i Pacific Baptist Convention); Dr. Bobby Hall (Executive Vice President and Provost- Wayland Baptist University, Plainview Campus); Rep. Ty Cullen; Senator Gabbard; and Dr. David Howle (Executive Director, Campus Dean, and Professor of Religion, Hawai'i Campus).*

to the working people of our state, so most classes are taught in the evenings. On-line classes are also offered for flexibility. In addition to the traditional Bachelor's and Master's degrees, the school offers their unique Bachelor of Applied Science Program with more than 166 different specializations related to a student's work experience. Most of the student body is from the military, but the civilian population is growing as well. Their graduates include military hailing from all branches, including the reserves, officers from the Honolulu Police Department, teachers, business people, and health care professionals. The University recognizes ACE accredited specialization and gives students a management core that allows them to transfer these skills to the civilian world if they leave the military.

## Drive Safe 4 Ewa/Kapolei “Live & Let Live” Focus on Road Safety

We kicked off the 2011 Drive Safe 4 Ewa/Kapolei “Live & Let Live” campaign at the Kapolei Police Station on December 3<sup>rd</sup>. This is the 5<sup>th</sup> time my office has participated on the organizing committee for this important traffic safety event. If you’re not familiar, this campaign is a month-long event dedicated to encouraging safe driving around the Christmas Holidays, a time when crashes, drunk driving, and road fatalities are at their peak. Drive Safe 4 Ewa/Kapolei is in its 8<sup>th</sup> year and the Live and Let Live campaign has been a tradition for the last 27 years. For the past two years, the two campaigns have joined together to “drive home” an even more powerful statement about the deadly consequences of carelessness on the road. You might have seen the severely crashed cars (usually looking just like mangled piles of metal and glass) that are placed at busy intersections as a startling reminder of what can happen as a result of drinking and driving. This simple yet memorable technique is coupled with several sign waving days that have community and youth participation. The focus is on increasing awareness of the dangers of speeding, as well as, reckless and intoxicated driving in communities from Ewa to the Waianae Coast.



In addition to showcasing crashed cars and sign waving about road smarts, the 2011 campaign included a poster contest for students from James Campbell, Kapolei, Nanakuli and Waianae high schools that my office spearheaded. The contest involves teenagers in the campaign in a creative way to encourage them to consider how drinking and driving, or other reckless activities behind the wheel, can affect not only the driver, but his or her passengers, family members, and others on the road. This year’s talented winners were Candace Farris (Kapolei High junior) in first place, Zaneta Woods (James Campbell High senior) in second place, Saaga Tuono (Nanakuli High sophomore) in third place, and Deseree Borges (Waianae High sophomore) in fourth place. Each of these students received a cash award from the Waianae Military Citizens Advisory Council and certificates from the State Legislature, which I and other legislators presented to them at the event.

Here are the dates for the sign-waving portion of the campaign if you’d like to participate:

- \* December 6, 2011, 7:00am - 7:45am - Kapolei High School fronting Kapolei Parkway and Fort Barrette Rd.
- \* December 9, 2011, 3:30pm – 4:30pm – Fort Barrette and Farrington Highway



**Senator Gabbard led a legislative delegation on a listening tour of Moloka’i on November 2nd to hear residents’ thoughts on the proposed wind farm for the island. Pictured (L to R) are Susan Kodani (District Director for Congresswoman Mazie Hirono), Rep. Denny Coffman, Senator Gabbard, Senator Kalani English, Marcus Helm, and Kanoho Helm.**



**Senators Mike Gabbard and Kalani English talked story with Aunty Jan of Moloka’i during a legislative listening tour of Moloka’i on November 2nd.**

## Energy Saving Tips for the Holidays!

As the chair of the Senate Energy and Environment Committee, I feel obligated to pass the following information on to you. I found these energy saving tips on the web and thought they might help your family save some money this holiday season.

### Switch to LED Christmas Lights

LED Christmas lights use 90% less electricity than regular Christmas lights, and can be purchased for around \$10 a strand.

### Use Fiber Optic Decorations

Fiber optic trees and decorations are the ultimate in energy efficiency. In most cases, they use a single light bulb located in the base of the unit to light the entire decoration – now that's energy smart and budget smart!

### Limit the Time Lights are On

Wait until dark to turn on your Christmas lights; then, turn them off before you go to bed. Six hours or less of daily use is a good goal to aim for. Do you have trouble remembering to turn your lights on and off? Then, set a timer, and forget about it.

### Turn Off Room Lights When the Tree is Lit

The lights on your Christmas tree should provide more than enough lighting to navigate around the room.

### Decorate with Candles

Christmas lights are nice, but so are candles. Set up luminaries along your walkway and lit candles throughout your home to achieve a beautiful holiday glow, without adding to the electric bill.

### Unplug Phantom Energy Users Before You Go On Vacation

TVs, DVD players, computers, printers, radios and many other electronics use energy even when they aren't turned on. Unplug these items before you go on vacation, and enjoy the energy savings.

### Buy Energy Star Electronics

Energy Star certified electronics – TVs, DVD players, VCRs and cordless phones use up to 60% less electricity than their non-certified counterparts. Visit [energystar.gov](http://energystar.gov) for a list of qualifying models, and shop smart.

### Take a Walk to See the Christmas Lights

Leave the car in the driveway this year when you go out to look at Christmas lights. A walking tour of your neighborhood will be just as fun, and won't use any gas.



*Senator Gabbard, Senator Kalani English, Rep. Mele Carroll, and Rep. Denny Coffman participated in a listening tour of Lana'i on November 2nd to hear what residents think about the proposed wind farm for that island.*

## APEC Clean Energy Forum

Governor Abercrombie signed an agreement with Mr. Yu Ping, Vice Chairman of the China Council for Promotion of International Trade (CCPIT) on November 13<sup>th</sup> to pursue mutual interests in clean energy development. The Letter of Intent was signed by both parties just hours after the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Hawai'i-China CEO Forum "Transforming to Clean Energy" which I attended at the State Capitol. This is an important step in keeping our state at the cutting edge of clean energy development internationally.



*Senator Gabbard led a legislative delegation on a listening tour of Lana'i on November 3rd to hear from residents about the proposed wind farm. Joe Felipe, Shop Steward for ILWU, offers testimony to (L to R) Senator Kalani English, Senator Gabbard, Rep. Cynthia Thielen, Rep. Mele Carroll, and Susan Kodani of Congresswoman Mazie Hirono's Office.*