



Senator  
J. KALANI ENGLISH

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### MESSAGE FROM KALANI

We are now one third of the way through the 2012 session and we as legislators remain busy with various hearings and meetings. Bills are now moving to their final Committee referral in accordance with our legislative deadlines.

In this issue, we help to train the new parliament for the Republic of the Marshall Islands. We later welcome the newly elected Marshall Islands President Christopher Loeak and his delegation on their inaugural visit to the State of Hawai'i. We discuss internet and cable opportunities for the Hana area with Bob Barlow, President and CEO of Oceanic Cable as well as congratulate Hawaiian Airlines at an award ceremony for their green efforts.

*J. Kalani English*

# SENATOR J. KALANI ENGLISH

HAWAI'I STATE SENATE • 6TH DISTRICT  
HĀNA • EAST & UPCOUNTRY MAUI • MOLOKA'I • LĀNA'I • KAHO'OLAWĒ



## UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME TAPS SEN. ENGLISH TO TRAIN NEW MARSHALL ISLANDS GOVERNMENT

In late January, Senator English was invited to speak and share his knowledge at an Induction Seminar for Senators of the new Nitijela (Parliament) for the Republic of the Marshall Islands. The Induction Seminar was intended to support the newly elected legislature by identifying how to better use parliamentary procedures to support improved delivery of Government services.

The workshop was organized by the Nitijela Secretariat, with support from the United Nations Development Programme, (UNDP) Pacific Centre. Sen. English and Charmaine Rodrigues, Pacific Regional Governance Advisor for UNDP, facilitated the Induction Seminar. The UNDP is the United Nations' global development network, an organization advocating for change and connecting countries to knowledge, experience and resources to help people build a better life. The UNDP exists in 177 countries working with them on their own solutions to global and national development challenges.

The Republic of the Marshall Islands' Induction Seminar provided opportunities for Nitijela Members to share knowledge, experiences and ideas on how to effectively use the parliamentary process to move the national development goals



*President Christopher J. Loeak meets with Sen. English to discuss U.S.- Marshalls Policy in Majuro, Marshall Islands. Jan. 26. 2012.*



*Charmaine Rodrigues, UNDP Pacific Regional Governance Advisor and Sen. English facilitated the Induction Seminar for Senators of the new Nitijela (Parliament) of the Marshall Islands. Jan. 25, 2012.*

## MARSHALL ISLANDS PARLIAMENT CONTINUED

## LONG AWAITED FIBER OPTIC CABLE COMING TO HANA



*Sen. English; President Christopher Loeak; David Capelle, Nitijela Speaker and Charmaine Rodrigues in Majuro, Marshall Islands, Jan. 25, 2012.*

of the Republic of the Marshall Islands.

The Induction seminar was attended by both Ministers and Senators of the new Nitijela, formed after general elections held last November. The seminar covered technical procedural issues such as the law-making process, committee oversight and making motions. Members were also updated on a range of key issues, including climate change, human rights, youth and HIV/infectious disease.

"I was honored to have the opportunity to share our knowledge on the democratic political process with our brothers and sisters across the Pacific," said Sen. English.



*Sen. English and Charmaine Rodrigues in Majuro, Marshall Islands. Jan. 25, 2012. For more information visit UNDP Communications Specialist Shobhna at: <http://www.undppc.org.fj/>*

After hearing numerous complaints about cable and internet disruptions in Hana, Senator English met with Bob Barlow, President of Oceanic Time Warner Cable earlier this month to find out what exactly was going on.

Mr. Barlow explained there was an intermittent technical problem which was extremely difficult to identify that impacted both video and internet connections. He believes the issue has now been resolved and was happy to include that Hana may soon get increased internet speeds as Oceanic has begun the initial engineering plans to replace their current microwave system and install fiber optic cable.

"At the time Oceanic began servicing the Hana area, the difficulty of the terrain coupled with Hana's remote location made microwave the only viable option. Unfortunately this technology limits the broadband speeds and services Oceanic can deliver," says Bob Barlow, "The Broadband Opportunities Technology Program stimulus money the State of Hawaii recently received has made it possible to finally bring fiber optic cable to Hana."

Mr. Barlow also noted that the improvements accompanying the installation of the new cable will mean that Oceanic will not only be able to significantly improve the reliability of their system



*Sen. English discusses Hana cable issues with Bob Barlow, President and CEO of Oceanic Cable and Ku'uhaku Park, a representative for Oceanic Cable. Feb. 2, 2012.*

servicing Hana, but will also be able to deliver all the services that other areas of Maui have been able to receive. Additional video channels including more High Definition services and Digital Phone service will be available. More importantly, Oceanic's Road Runner broadband service will replace microwave.

After meeting with Mr. Barlow, Sen. English invited Mr. Barlow to visit Hana to ensure that he is aware of how much of an impact the installation of the fiber optic cable will have on the community. Mr. Barlow said he looks forward to visiting Hana in the near future and is excited about getting this project completed as soon as possible. Preliminary engineering has begun on the fiber route and the project is projected to be completed in the first half of 2013.



*Sen. English meets with Kupa'a No Lana'i and the Friends of Lana'i in his office on their visit to the Capitol. Feb. 15, 2012.*

## REPUBLIC OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS PRESIDENT MAKES INAUGURAL VISIT TO HAWAII

Newly elected Republic of Marshall Islands (RMI) President Christopher Loeak and First Lady Anono Lieom Loeak made their inaugural visit to Hawaii on February 2, 2012. President Loeak and his delegation met with Governor Neil Abercrombie as well as other state officials. While meeting with officials, President Loeak discussed issues relating to the Compact of Free Association and reaffirmed the RMI government's commitment towards a mutually beneficial outcome on these significant issues.

"I would like to thank the people of Hawaii for their hospitality during my visit," said Republic of Marshall Islands President Christopher Loeak, "Hawaii is such a beautiful place and we can see why many of our residents have chosen to make their home here. I thank the people of Hawaii for opening their hearts



*Sen. English, President Christopher J. Loeak, Tony deBrum, Minister in Assistance and Sen. Wakai. Feb. 2, 2012.*

to them and for their generous compassion."

"This was a wonderful opportunity to strengthen ties with the government of the Republic of the Marshall Islands as well as forge a relationship with their newly elected president," said Senator J. Kalani English, Chair of the Senate Committee on Transportation and International Affairs.

*(Left) The Marshall Islands Delegation: Bruce Kijiner, Aide to President Loeak; Christopher deBrum, Chief of Staff; Sen. English; President Christopher Loeak; Governor Abercrombie; Tony deBrum, Minister in Assistance and Noda Lojkar, Marshall Islands Consul General, State of Hawaii'i. (Below) The Marshall Islands Delegation meets with Governor Abercrombie and Sen. English on their first official visit to the State of Hawaii'i.*



## SENATOR SPEAKS AT FORUM ON MICRONESIAN ISSUES IN HAWAII

Sen. English was among several notable panelists at a forum named, "Micronesian Connections." Held on February 16th, the forum was sponsored by the University of Hawaii'i at Manoa's Ethnic Studies Department and Center for Pacific Island Studies.

"The ideal in the United States is non-discrimination, however putting it into practice is the challenge," said Sen. English, "There are so many productive members of the Micronesian community and it's unfortunate that the negative stories are the ones that gain attention."

Students discussed personal stories of struggles and discrimination while experts in the fields of health, housing and education discussed the status of the Micronesian community.

Sen. English has been active with the Micronesian community. Prior to being elected to the Hawaii State Legislature, Senator English worked for the Federated States of Micronesia at the United Nations in New York.

Sen. English has been a strong supporter of the Center for Pacific Island Studies over the years. The Center serves as both an academic department and a place that brings together people and resources to promote an understanding of the Pacific Islands.

"The Center for Pacific Island Studies is a great place to begin discussion on how the community can improve the perception of Micronesians," said Sen. English.



*Sen. English speaks at a forum discussing Micronesian issues in Hawaii'i. Feb. 16, 2012.*

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**SEN. ENGLISH CONGRATULATES  
HAWAIIAN AIRLINES AT AWARD CEREMONY**



Senate Committee on Transportation and International Affairs Chair, J. Kalani English applauded Hawaiian Airlines for earning the first-ever aviation based carbon credits. Hawaiian Airlines reduced its carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions by nearly 22,000 metric tons over the past six years using an innovative, eco-friendly engine washing technology developed by Pratt & Whitney.

"I congratulate Hawaiian Airlines for being a leader in the aviation industry through this significant achievement in being environmentally friendly," said Sen. English, "Hawaiian has demonstrated great efforts in being progressive in its green initiatives."

A carbon credit is a verified means of measuring the reduction of industrial CO2 emissions from the environment, with one credit equal to the removal of one ton of CO2. Hawaiian Airlines' earning of carbon credits has been quantified and certified under the Verified Carbon Standard, the world's leading independent standard for the measurement and verification

of greenhouse gas emissions and the creation of carbon credits.

The engine washing technology has saved the company more than 2.5 million gallons of fuel, along with an estimated 26,000 gallons of water that would have been used with traditional washing methods. Hawaiian Airlines' engine washing program is part of a broader continuous effort to mitigate high fuel costs and their impact on its customers.

Hawaiian Airlines implements green initiatives, including recycling of waste materials and use of renewable and biodegradable resources in onboard meal packaging and utensils.

"Future generations will definitely benefit from what Hawaiian Airlines is doing today to be earth-friendly," said Sen. English.



*Sen. English with Mark Dunkerly, President and CEO of Hawaiian Airlines and Governor Neil Abercrombie. Feb. 13, 2012.*

