

Report No. 3 (week ending March 9, 2001)



Senator J. Kalani English Senate District 5 Wailuku-Upcountry-Kahului

With this Report No. 3 issuing on March 9, we are at day 29 of the 60-day session. Yesterday, we voted on 428 Senate bills which will now make the crossover to be heard in the House of Representatives.

Likewise, the House of Representatives voted on 223 House bills which now move to the Senate, including the State Biennium Budget (see more on the budget bill, House Bill 200, House Draft 1 later in this Report).

Many of you have been calling to ask the status of bills you support. Thank you for your calls. It gives us a chance to visit, and we appreciate hearing your views and suggestions.

Mahalo!

## **CONTACT INFORMATION**

Senator J. Kalani English 5<sup>th</sup> Sen. District: Wailuku-Upcountry-Kahului Hawaii State Capitol 415 So. Beretania, Rm. 205 Honolulu, HI 96813 587-7225 or 587-7226 phone | 587-7230 fax To call toll-free from Maui, dial 984-2400, listen to the message, wait for the dial tone and then press 77225 and #

To email: senenglish@capitol.hawaii.gov

## VISITING THE LEGISLATURE ON-LINE

Visit the legislature on-line, <a href="https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov">www.capitol.hawaii.gov</a> and you'll have 24/7 access to information on bills and hearings, 24 hours a day and 7 days a week.

If you know the number of the bill you are tracking, click "Status and Documents".

You will see the following:

# 2001 Legislative Session Bill and Resolution Status, Text, and Committee Reports

Enter bill numbers separated by commas, with **NO SPACES** 

Ex: HB22,SB5,HR3,SCR47



- b Show Status
- Show Text
- Show Committee Reports

I recommend you click on "Show Text" and "Show Committee Reports". Then, you'll be able to read the bill and any amended versions, as well as the committee report discussions.



Waihe'e School students and teachers visit the Senate Chamber.

## **Strong Support from Maui County Council**

Five of the 40 bills I introduced this Session have survived the critical deadline known as first crossover, including two with strong support from the Maui County Council, Senate Bills 190 and 796.

S.B. 190, SD1 would allow the counties of Maui, Kauai and Hawaii to publish public notices in publications chosen by their directors of finance.

Currently, counties must use the publication services of an organization chosen by the state comptroller that provides weekly notices.

Leaving the selection to the counties will allow the flexibility to publish public notices in daily newspapers in a more timely fashion than they are presently able under the current schedule.

S.B. 796, SD1 provides the State, counties, and lifeguards immunity from liability against damages arising from the acts or omissions of lifeguards while performing emergency lifeguard services. The original language of the bill provided broader protection to the State and counties for their public beach park operations, and held public beach users more accountable for their own risky behavior.

These bills are now with the House of Representatives. We will need to work to have them heard by the House.

#### STATE BIENNIUM BUDGET

The Senate will soon take its turn at reviewing the State's Biennium Budget and continue the review process begun earlier in the House of Representatives.

HB 200, HD1 cut out certain programs proposed by the administration, such as the Governor's Kaka'ako aquarium, and funded priority items of the House.

The Senate will look to do the same, cutting where it seems prudent and spending, like the House, in the areas of education and health care for the underserved.

The proposed capital improvement program (CIP) lists projects statewide costing \$626 million in fiscal year 2002 and \$176.2 million for fiscal year 2003, including:

### Maui Highways CIP Projects (partial listing)

- Kihei-Upcountry Highway \$800,000 design for a new 2-lane highway from Kihei to Upcountry Maui
- Kahului Airport Access Road \$500,000 design for a portion of the new access road to Kahului Airport from the vicinity of Puunene Avenue to Hana Highway
- Traffic Operational \$1,000,000 Improvements to Existing Intersections & Highways design & construction for miscellaneous improvements necessary for improved traffic operation, including eliminating constrictions, modifying and/or installing traffic signals, constructing turning lines, acceleration and/or deceleration lanes, and other improvements



Maui's HSTA members meet with Senator English.

### One Size Does Not Fit All

Mahalo to liquor commissioners Frank Silva of Maui, Janice Pakele of Hawaii and Eric Honma of Kauai and Hotel Association executives Terryl Vencl and Murrary Towill. They quickly responded with testimony when we issued the alert on Senate Bill 900.

The measure was intended to address concerns of communities, particularly those in urban areas, to deal with the effects of liquor establishments in their neighborhoods.

As originally drafted, the bill's definition of "premises" would have jeopardized outdoor activities like luaus and poolside cocktails.

The testifiers' efforts were well-received, and we averted a liquor license nightmare for our hoteliers. Good catch!