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MESSAGE FROM KALANI

It is crunch time at the Legislature, and we are busy with bills and resolutions. Now, the final bills are emerging, and many other bills are passing by the wayside.

As we work on current legislation, monies that we have requested and fought for are being released to address critical needs in our communities.

J. Kalani English

SENATOR J.KALANI ENGLISH

HAWAI'I STATE SENATE 7TH DISTRICT

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



SENATE HONORS TEACHERS OF THE YEAR



Excellence in education was recognized on March 20 in the Senate Chambers as Sen. English and colleagues honored the Hawai'i Department of Education's (HIDOE) 2018 Teacher of the Year recipients. The Teacher of the Year award is part of a prestigious national program that honors teaching excellence; and the overall Hawai'i State Teacher of the Year is chosen from one of the seven HIDOE districts and public charter school winner.

Sen. English honored Maui's teacher of the year, Francine Hughes. She is a resource teacher from the Maui District, which includes the Hāna-Lahainaluna-Lāna'i-Moloka'i

Complex Area. Hughes has over 20 years of DOE experience and is certified in elementary education with a Masters in educational leadership.

"It is always a privilege to honor hardworking educators who contribute to the education of our students," said Sen. English. "Francine Hughes is one of those educators whose shared leadership style successfully promotes collaboration and understanding of DOE initiatives."

Other honorees included:

Vanessa Ching, Hawai'i State Teacher of the Year

Amanda Fretto, Kauai District, Chiefess Kamakahahelei Middle School

Gregg Iha, Central District, Leilehua-Mililani-Waialua Complex Area

Erika Kaneo, Hawai'i District, Waiakeawaena Elementary School

Del Onaga, Windward District, Olomana School

Cristin Priolo, Public Charter Schools, School for Examining Essential Questions of Sustainability (SEEQS)

Naomi Salaveria, Honolulu District, Liholiho Elementary School

RETIRED UNITED STATES NAVY REAR ADMIRAL NEW DIRECTOR OF THE DANIEL K. INOUE ASIA-PACIFIC CENTER FOR SECURITY STUDIES (DKI APCSS)



The Daniel K. Inouye Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies (DKI APCSS) received Sen. English to its headquarters in Waikiki to meet the center's new director, retired United States Navy Rear Admiral (Adm.) Peter A. Gumataotao. A native of Guam, the Rear

Adm. comes to the DKI APCSS after serving over forty years in the U.S. Navy. Prior to his retirement on Nov. 1, 2017, Gumataotao served as deputy chief of staff to the Strategic Plans and Policy, Supreme Allied Command Transformation in Norfolk, Virginia.

Sen. English met with the new director to discuss future collaborations between Hawai'i, the University of Hawai'i, the East-West Center and the DKI APCSS on regional issues and partnerships throughout the Pacific.

"With an extensive career in the Navy and serving many years in the region, Rear Admiral Gumataotao brings a wealth of experience to his position as Director of the DKI APCSS" said Sen. English. "I look forward to future collaborations and working with him in bringing together partners and allies from across the Pacific."

For more information visit: <https://bit.ly/2uHiNZC>

The Daniel K. Inouye Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies is a Department of Defense institute that addresses regional and global security issues. Military and civilian representatives, most from the United States and Asia-Pacific nations, participate in a comprehensive program of executive education, professional exchanges and outreach events, both in Hawai'i and throughout the Asia-Pacific region.

The Center supports U.S. Pacific Command by developing and sustaining relationships among security practitioners and national security establishments throughout the region. The mission of DKI APCSS is to build capacities and communities of interest by educating, connecting and empowering security practitioners to advance Asia-Pacific security. It is one of the Department of Defense's five regional security studies centers.

BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB OF HAWAII YOUTH OF THE YEAR FINALIST

Hawai'i youth who are excelling both in and outside of the classroom were honored on March 15 on the Senate floor. This year's finalists for the Boys and Girls Club of Hawai'i's State Youth of the Year were recognized for their excellence in academics, volunteerism, and student involvement. These outstanding youths are valued members of their respective communities.

Caylie Peterson was honored as Maui's State Youth of the Year Finalist. She is a sophomore at King Kekaulike High School, where she maintains a 3.7 grade point average. Caylie has been a Boys and Girls Club member for six years and serves as a role model for the younger members. She is active in her school's Japanese Club and Drama Club and created her own business selling chili peppers, lemons and limes grown in her own garden.

"Caylie has impressed many in the community with her superb academic ability and entrepreneurial skills," said Sen. English. "I am proud of Caylie for all of her achievements and for being an outstanding example for all Maui students."

Listed below are the Maui and State Youth of the Year finalists:

State Youth of the Year Winner:

Shalain Maxin, Boys and Girls Club of Hawai'i

State Youth of The Year Finalist:

Caylie Peterson, Boys and Girls Club of Maui

Mia Dahl, Boys and Girls Club of Hawai'i Island

Hannah Bethard, Joint-Base Pearl Harbor, Hickam Teen Center

Cornelius Phillips, Schofield Barracks Youth Center

Boys and Girls Club Youth of the Year Honorees:

Jaenahleyn-Kaiola Kanaha (Lāhaina Clubhouse)

Kayla Kennedy (Makawao Clubhouse)

Makamae Naleieha (Central Clubhouse)

'Ōiwi Gormley (Paukūkalo Clubhouse)



**EAST-WEST CENTER
WELCOMES
DR. ROBERT UNDERWOOD**



Sen. English joined a crowd of students and faculty of the East-West Center (EWC) and the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa on March 20 to welcome Dr. Robert Underwood, a former Member of the United States Congress and the current President of Unibetsedāt Guahan (University of Guam). Dr. Underwood was in Hawai'i to attend the Pacific McREL Conference. His lecture that day was on the topic: Micronesian Waters: No Longer an American Lake.

"It is a pleasure to welcome Dr. Underwood back to Hawai'i," said Sen. English. "His expertise in education, regional political issues, indigenous concerns and cultural change is highly regarded throughout the Pacific region and it is an honor to have attended his lecture on this major issue."

To view Dr. Underwood's lecture go to: <https://goo.gl/P25CwW>

**FUNDS RELEASED
FOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT
PROJECTS**

\$578,000 was released for the design of closing the construction and demolition debris landfill, animal carcass pit and copper burn area at the Kalaupapa Settlement on Moloka'i.

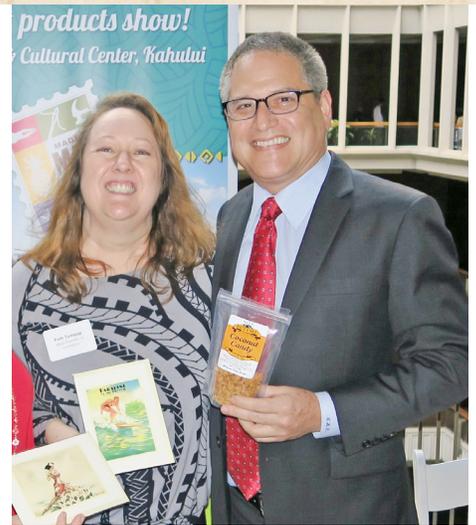
\$5,000,000 in funds were also released for the construction of Phase 2C of Hāna Highway improvements from Huelo to Hāna.

MANUFACTURER'S DAY AT THE CAPITOL

Legislators, including Sen. English were able to touch, taste, and talk with local businesses during the annual Manufacturing Day at the State Capitol on March 19. Locally based companies were able to showcase their Made-in-Hawai'i products through exhibits that were free and open to the public. This was also an opportunity for businesses to discuss initiatives to grow Hawai'i's economy.

Sherry Menor-McNamara, CEO of the Chamber of Commerce Hawai'i said, "I want to thank Sen. English and the other Legislators who attended the 2018 Manufacturer's Day at the Capitol. They were able to meet Hawai'i's entrepreneurs and see firsthand the diverse products that are being manufactured locally."

"Local businesses play a vital role in Hawai'i's diverse economy" expresses Sen. English. "Manufacturer's Day allowed us as legislators to interact with local business leaders to hear about their initiatives to grow Hawai'i's economy."



J. KALANI ENGLISH
Senate Majority Leader

COMMITTEES

Vice Chair, Senate Committee
on Labor

Member, Senate Committee
on Hawaiian Affairs

Member, Senate Committee
on Transportation and Energy

Member, Senate Committee
on Ways & Means



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HOW TO REACH US

Hawai'i State Capitol, Room 205
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813
ph 808-587-7225
fax 808-587-7230

From Maui, toll free 984-2400 + 77225
From Moloka'i and Lāna'i,
toll free 1-800-468-4644 + 77225
e-mail: senenglish@capitol.hawaii.gov

To receive this newsletter by
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english4@capitol.hawaii.gov

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**SENATE HONORS AWARD-WINNING
ENTERTAINER MELVEEN LEED**

The Senate recognized Melveen Ku'uleipuanani Leed on March 27 for her incomparable career in music and entertainment, one that spans more than five decades and garners world-wide acclaim.

Melveen Leed, known as "da tita," began her long and illustrious career performing as a keiki on Moloka'i for family and friends. She grew to become an internationally acclaimed performer, while remaining true to her roots as a Hawaiian entertainer and local icon.

Melveen was honored with nine Nā Hōku Hanohano Awards, she is a five time recipient of the Female Vocalist of the Year, and was presented with their Lifetime Achievement Award in 2005. She has recorded 28 albums in 18 different languages, and last year she was inducted into the prestigious Hawaiian Music Hall of Fame.

Melveen was most recently honored at the Pan Pacific Southeast Asian Women Association of Hawai'i for her outstanding achievements that span a lifetime. The Association cites her accomplishments in entertainment, indigenous issues, philanthropic work, and for serving as a positive role model for young people in the Pacific and worldwide.



LEGISLATIVE HIGHLIGHTS



Clockwise from top: Sen. English meets with the Pā'ia Community Association to discuss the proposed Pā'ia Bypass Road. March 13, 2018.

Moloka'i and Lāna'i students participate in Kick Butts Day at the Capitol. March 20, 2018.

Sen English; Melanie Ide, CEO of Bishop Museum; Board member Tim Johns, and Rep. Lynn DeCoite attend a presentation at the Bishop Museum in Honolulu. March 27, 2018.

Early childhood advocates visit Sen. English during Early Childhood Day at the Capitol. March 23, 2018.

