



Senator
J. KALANI ENGLISH

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MESSAGE FROM KALANI

We begin the 2014 Legislative Session with the introduction of 1,127 Senate bills and 1,185 House bills for consideration. We are now conducting hearings and things are moving fast. The Senate has established an online bill tracking system and I encourage you to use this tool to track items of interest to you.

Go to <http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/> and follow the instructions there to review bills, committee reports, submit testimony, and to have emails sent to you when bills you are tracking are scheduled for a hearing.

J. Kalani English



THE HAWAI'I LEGISLATURE CONVENES



Top: Current and former Senators pose for photos at Opening Day Ceremonies in the Senate Chamber. Middle: Sen. English with Former Gov. George Ariyoshi. Below: Former Sen. Joe Tanaka, Sen. English, Sen. Roz Baker, Lt. Gov. Shan Tsutsui, Former Sen. Avery B. Chumbley, Sen. Gil Keith-Agaran. Jan. 15, 2014.

Article III, Section 10 of the Hawai'i Constitution states that the Legislature must convene annually in regular session at 10 a.m. on the 3rd Wednesday in January. This year was no exception, the legislature began work at 10 o'clock in the morning of January 15, 2014, without the usual gathering of family, friends and supporters on the Senate chamber floor.

The business of the day included commemorating Hawai'i's 55th Anniversary of Statehood and Honoring Hawai'i's Former Senators. Both House and **Senate commemorative yearbooks** were made chronicling legislative history. The yearbooks memorialize the work of previous legislators and is the first compilation of important policy issues from every legislative session since statehood.

Prior to the adjournment of the first day of the 60 working days of session (excludes Saturdays, Sundays, holidays and designated recess days) Senate Bills 2001-2130 were introduced. After session, Sen. English greeted family, friends and well-wishers in his office. "In a year with a projected budget surplus, I look forward to a very productive and successful session where much will be accomplished," said Sen. English.



To download the Senate commemorative yearbook, visit: <http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2014/docs/SenateYearBook.pdf>

OPENING DAY HIGHLIGHTS



Senator English enjoyed visits with keiki, union members and a variety of constituents from his District on Opening Day. Jan. 15, 2014.

2014 MEASURES INTRODUCED BY SENATOR ENGLISH

Sen. English is the primary introducer of the following 36 bills. To view all bills by Sen. English as first primary and primary introducer as well as co-sponsor go to: http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/MemberFiles/senate/english/Documents/English_2014_Bill_Introduction.pdf

- SB 2725** Appropriates funds for capital improvement projects in the 7th senatorial district.
- SB 2726** Allows all-terrain vehicles to be driven on any street if the ATV is being used as farm equipment and if the operator and passengers wear safety helmets.
- SB 2727** Authorizes the Department of Transportation to extend the term of an airport concession, and to modify and amend the terms of any concession contracts.
- SB 2728** Clarifies that the legislature has the authority to determine a public trail.
- SB 2729** Prohibits the operation of a motor vehicle while using a mobile electronic device. Deems a violation to be a traffic infraction. Takes effect retroactive to 5/20/2013.
- SB 2730** Permits driver licensing reciprocity between Hawai'i and foreign countries.
- SB 2731** Establishes a car-sharing vehicle surcharge tax.
- SB 2732** Sets a minimum fine of \$100 for driving or parking a vehicle on a bicycle lane or pathway.
- SB 2733** Legalizes the personal use of marijuana in a specified quantity.
- SB 2734** Provides that each county has the power to establish compassion centers for the dispensing of medical marijuana.
- SB 2735** Establishes a civil violation for possession of one ounce or less of marijuana that is subject to a fine of \$100.
- SB 2736** Establishes labeling requirements for any food or raw agricultural commodity sold in the State that contains a genetically engineered material.
- SB 2737** Requires a biotech company that sells a genetically engineered organism to provide written disclosure of possible risks from the use of such an organism.
- SB 2738** Prohibits the planting of a genetically engineered seed or plant part in an open field.
- SB 2739** Mandates the department of agriculture to take precautionary measures to prevent the adverse effects of biotechnology and genetic engineering.
- SB 2740** Establishes the instructional office of Hawaiian studies.
- SB 2741** Clarifies that a state art museum be established on each of the islands of Kaua'i, Hawai'i, Lana'i, Maui, and Moloka'i.
- SB 2742** Establishes the Pacific-Asia institute to address the region's risks from natural and man-made hazards and to develop solutions for sustainable economic growth within the region.

2014 MEASURES INTRODUCED BY SENATOR ENGLISH CONTINUED

OPENING DAY HIGHLIGHTS

- SB 2743** Authorizes a portion of the conveyance tax to be paid into the Kaho'olawe rehabilitation trust fund.
- SB 2744** Amends the exemption from the civil service laws for contracts with qualified community rehabilitation programs applies per contract.
- SB 2745** Prohibits retailers from imposing credit card surcharges in certain instances.
- SB 2746** Requires that electronic copies are acceptable for all purposes as intended by the particular statute that references an original document.
- SB 2747** Requires the DOT, DHHL, and DLNR to submit to the counties information on parcels located within a subdivision.
- SB 2748** Requires the bills of telecommunications carriers to contain only charges for products and services that are authorized by the consumer.
- SB 2749** Provides that a county may not prohibit, based upon proximity to a county sewer system, the use of an otherwise authorized individual wastewater system.
- SB 2750** Establishes licensure for colon hydrotherapists and colon hydrotherapy establishments.
- SB 2751** Exempts the operation of concessions for wireless and communication services and for advertising from the public concession bidding process.
- SB 2752** Proposes a constitutional amendment to require the senate to make the determination to retain justices and judges instead of the judicial selection commission.
- SB 2753** Makes an appropriation for invasive species response and control, and outreach and education related to invasive species.
- SB 2754** Authorizes the issuance of special purpose revenue bonds to assist Princeton Energy Group with the financing of the planning, design, and construction of a renewable energy project with energy storage technology on the island of Moloka'i.
- SB 2755** Authorizes the issuance of special purpose revenue bonds to assist Pacific Power Group, LLC, to assist a utility serving the general public with electric energy enterprises.
- SB 2757** Establishes a revolving fund to provide loans to counties, state agencies, or private developers for infrastructure improvements. Makes appropriations.
- SB 3007** Provides the Director of Health with greater flexibility in creating rules to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the State.
- SB 3008** Authorizes the issuance of special purpose revenue bonds to assist Anaergia Inc. with the development of facilities for renewable non-fossil fuel energy production in Maui.
- SB 3009** Increases the minimum age to eighteen years to drive a moped. Requires a moped driver of any age to wear a safety helmet securely fastened with a chin strap.
- SB 3062** Requires the department of transportation and the University of Hawai'i to complete negotiations and execute an agreement to relocate the University of Hawaii marine center no later than July 1, 2015 and specifies that the current lease shall be terminated on that date.



*Top: Keiki pounding poi.
Middle 1 & 2: Maui Union members
with Sen. English.
Bottom: Sen. English and Atty. Gen.
David Louie. Jan.15, 2014.*

**J. KALANI ENGLISH
HAWAII STATE SENATE
7TH DISTRICT**

COMMITTEES

**Chair, Senate Committee
on Transportation and
International Affairs**

**Member, Senate
Committee on Agriculture**

**Member, Senate Committee on
Economic Development, Govern-
ment Operations and Housing**

**Member, Senate Committee on
Ways and Means**



**Hawaii State Legislature
Bill Status and Documents**

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STATE OF THE STATE ADDRESS



Governor Neil Abercrombie presented his fourth State of the State on January 21, 2014 by highlighting the State's \$844 million surplus. Therefore, the State is in a better position to expand funding for preschool, provide tax relief for seniors and increase minimum wage.

Some of the Governor's proposals for the 2014 Legislative Session includes: raising the minimum wage by \$1.50 to at least \$8.75 by January 2015; giving tax exemptions to seniors 65 and older with an adjusted gross income (AGI) of \$25,000 and \$35,000 for seniors who are heads of households, or \$45,000 for seniors joint filing (this will affect about 25,000 seniors); creating State-funded preschool; expanding access to early childhood education to 4-year-olds who will be affected by a change in the kindergarten entry age; providing \$8 million to increase support for families through the Preschool Open Doors program; preserving open spaces at Turtle Bay, supporting a Thirty Meter Telescope and endorsing initiatives to fund invasive species programs.

The Senate will consider the initiatives proposed by the Governor, while taking a cautious approach to the budget, and is committed to working with his administration and its House counterpart to do what's in the best interest of the people of Hawaii'i.

Prior to the State of the State address, the Senate and House unveiled their **joint majority package**, which focuses on protecting seniors and the environment. The last time a joint majority package was unveiled was during the 2008 session. The significance of the joint package is that the included bills are considered to have statewide importance and the commitment of the majorities of both chambers.



*The Hawaii'i State Legislature honours Deputy Director General Jessica Lee of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Honolulu at a farewell banquet. Taiwan Consul General V. C. Chu also in attendance. Building stronger relationships with Taiwan is important to Hawaii'i's economy.
L-R: House Speaker Joe Souki, Jessica Lee, Sen. English.
Jan. 27, 2014*



*The Senate held a Congratulatory presentation for Boston Red Sox baseball star Shane Victorino of Maui. The commendation ceremony recognised The Shane Victorino Foundation which supports under-served youth in communities across the U.S.
Jan. 28, 2014*