

# SENATOR MALAMA SOLOMON WORKING FOR YOU

May 2013



## Mahalo, North Hawai'i! Together We Significantly Increased Jobs, Education, Infrastructure & Essential 'Safety Net' Funding

Working together, we are improving the quality of life in our District and throughout Hawai'i Island!

Many of our District Goals were met in the 2013 Legislature: Waimea District Park, Kahilu Theatre, Kohala Hospital, Waimea Middle, Honoka'a High and Kealakehe Schools, West Hawai'i Veterans Center, and Brantley Center. In fact, we brought home \$296+ million. This represents new jobs and job training, education and healthcare, roads, airports and harbor improvements, and vital "safety net" services for our keiki, kupuna and less fortunate.

We haven't seen this level of funding in this district in years – partly due to an improving economy, but more so due to our collective lobbying efforts. A special thanks to everyone who called, emailed or sent testimony supporting these important projects. You made a difference!

And there's more: The Governor released \$20 million to begin Palamanui construction (it was a battle but it's moving). He just released \$1 million to begin repair of Kamuela Vacuum Cooling Plant (essential to boost our district's food production), and the feds signed off on completing Kawaihae Small Boat Harbor. Also, we expect nearly \$4 million this year in improved federal reimbursements to North Hawai'i Community Hospital thanks to a bill we worked hard to pass last year.

As important, we made progress on addressing the financial crisis our state faces by passing a bill that protects our all-important AA bond rating. This is how we finance major infrastructure – schools, airports, roads, bridges, harbors, parks – and it creates good jobs. We also persisted on some controversial issues such as the high cost of electricity, the outrageous cost of interisland air transportation, and how to improve our university system. When you are pushing to resolve such huge complex issues, you will get lots of push back and we did, but that's what you expect of me – to get results that benefit our community.

I'm honored to be your Senator and welcome your input and questions – always.

Aloha and Mahalo nui loa,



Senator Solomon and Mary Begier of Hawai'i Island Chamber of Commerce

Governor nominees confirmed for Water and Land boards and commissions: James Gomes, Dennis Esaki, Carol Torigoe, Kamanamaikalani Beamer, Milton Pavao, Nathan Yuen and Judith Lemus.

Ted Sakai confirmed as Director of Public Safety



# As Chair of the Senate Committee on Water and Land, Our Kuleana is the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

The purview of the Department is broad and complex. The Department is comprised of Bureau of Conveyances, State Parks, Forestry & Wildlife, Boating & Ocean Recreation, Aquatic Resources, Historic Preservation, Conservation & Coastal Lands and has more than 800 employees, and is responsible for our water resources, endangered species, Hawai'i's historic and cultural sites, coral reefs, small boat harbors, fisheries management, dam safety, rock fall mitigation and natural disasters on our public lands. It encompasses 1.3 million acres of state land, 2 million acres of conservation land, and 3 million acres of ocean waters.

This session we focused on providing more services for State Parks to continue our commitment to protect and improve our robust natural resources. Over \$2 million dollars was appropriated for the improvement of our parks Statewide, repair and maintenance, electricity and lifeguards.

Our Committee's oversight is committed to protect, conserve, and manage Hawai'i's unique and limited natural, cultural, and historic resources for the benefit of our communities.



Leiomalama (Daughter),  
Senator Malama,  
Hulali Covington (Sister),  
and  
Pu'uwai (Grand niece)

## Hapuna Beach Park and Mauna Kea Land Lease Agreement between DLNR and County of Hawai'i



NEIL ABERCROMBIE  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII

STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
POST OFFICE BOX 621  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

April 24, 2013

WILLIAM J. AILA, JR.  
CHAIRPERSON  
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
COMMISSION OF WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

ESTHER KLA'AINA  
FIRST SPOUSE

WILLIAM M. TAM  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AGRICULTURE RESOURCES  
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION  
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES  
COMMISSION OF WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT  
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS  
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS  
ENGINEERING  
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
KAWAIAWA BUREAU OF CONSERVATION  
LAND  
STATE PARKS

Senator Malama Solomon, Chair  
Senate Water & Land Committee  
415 South Beretania Street, Rm 210  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Solomon:

Subject: Hapuna Beach and Mauna Kea State Recreation Areas

This is to confirm the Department of Land and Natural Resources commitment to negotiate in good faith with the County of Hawaii regarding the transfer of management of Hapuna Beach and Mauna Kea State Recreation Areas to the County regardless of the outcome of Senate Resolution 48 and Senate Concurrent Resolution 201.

We look forward to working with you to further enhance the management of these important resources.

Sincerely,

*William J. Aila, Jr.*  
William J. Aila, Jr.  
Chairperson



Dr. Taft E. Armandroff, Director of the W.M. Keck Observatory, with Senator Solomon and Governor Neil Abercrombie commemorating the 20th Anniversary of W.M. Keck Observatory's incredible contributions to mankind in the 21st century.



Hearings with Vice Chair Maile Shimabukuro.



Leiomalama performs her Great Grandfather Pono Beamer's Ku'u Hoa on Opening Day.

## Budget passed—\$270 Million earmarked for Projects in our District

- **\$2.5 million;** Waimea District/Regional Park (matched by \$2.5 million from Hawai‘i County).
- **\$1.5 million;** Kahilu Theater; Plans, design, construction for improvement of existing facilities.
- **\$6.5 million;** Pu‘uanahulu Shooting Range Facility; Plans, design, construction for the shooting range facility.
- **\$30K;** Brantley Center, Inc., Hawai‘i; Plans, design, construction for renovations of existing facilities in Honoka‘a.
- **\$300K;** West Hawai‘i Veterans Center; Plans and design for site selection for a new Veteran’s Center in West Hawai‘i.
- **\$5 million;** Waimea Middle School; Plans, design, construction for a new 9-classroom Science-Technology Building.
- **\$1 million;** Honoka‘a High School; Plans, design, construction for covered bleachers and other athletic facility improvements.
- **\$300K;** Kealakehe High School; Design for upgrades to an all-weather and synthetic track.
- **\$2.4 million;** University of Hawai‘i; Palamanui Campus Phase I; completion, ground and site improvements.
- **\$2 million;** University of Hawai‘i-Hilo; Office of Mauna Kea Management; Design and construction for infrastructure improvements.
- **\$600K;** North Hawai‘i Education and Research Center; Renovations for Nursing and Culinary buildings.
- **\$2 million;** Waimea Irrigation System Improvements; Design and construction for improvements.
- **\$4.4 million;** Lower Hāmākua Ditch Watershed Project; Design and construction for improvements.
- **\$70 million;** Kona International Airport, Terminal Expansion Phase I
- **\$37.5 million;** Kona International Airport, International Arrivals and Security requirements.
- **\$1 million;** Mamane Street; Honoka‘a; construction improvements to intersection and sidewalk from Lehua Street to Plumeria Street, provide a pedestrian connectivity between town and North Hawai‘i Education Research Center and State long-term care and emergency room.
- **\$27.7 million;** Queen Ka‘ahumanu Highway Widening; Construction for widening of Queen Ka‘ahumanu Highway to a four lane divided highway from the vicinity of Kealakehe Parkway to the vicinity of Keāhole Airport.

## Significant Legislation passed this Session

**SB454 Relating to Water Pollution: Gray Water: Irrigation Land Management (Solomon) :** To encourage the widespread use of gray water in the interest of water conservation.

**SB757 Relating to Agriculture: Future Farmers of America Program; Appropriation (Solomon):** Appropriates funds to the Department of Education to reinstate the Future Farmers of America Program to educate and support youth in agricultural careers.

**SB1280 Relating to the Issuance of Special Purpose Bonds to Assist a Seawater Project (Solomon):** Authorizes the issuance of special purpose revenue bonds to assist in a seawater air conditioning district cooling system.

**HB417 Relating to the Hawai‘i Health System Corporation (Nakashima):** \$1.8 million for FY14 for the interdisciplinary Hawai‘i Health Systems Corporation Primary Care Training Program at Hilo Medical Center.

**SB106: Relating to Aging; Alzheimer’s Disease; Task Force (Chun Oakland):** Establishes a position for an Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementia Services coordinator and establishes the Task Force on Mobility Management to support the State’s elderly population.

## Significant Resolutions Passed

**SCR172;** Tasking the County of Hawai‘i to continue negotiations with private lessee of State land to obtain a public easement and proceed with its plan for the Waimea Trails and Greenways Trailhead and County Park.

**SCR173;** Requesting the Department of Land and Natural Resources and the State Foundation on Culture and Arts to assist the Friends of Lili‘uokalani Gardens in its preparations to commemorate the centennial of the death of Queen Lili‘uokalani and the establishment of the garden she fostered.

**SR84;** To request Hawai‘i’s Congressional Delegation to propose amendments to the Airline Deregulation Act to exempt Hawai‘i from the United States’ preemption of the state economic regulation of interstate air transportation, to address the high cost of inter-island air travel.

**SR136;** Requests the Governor establish a working group to discuss strategies for the development and expansion of geothermal energy and technology.

Kalani Schutte ‘Ohana  
with members of the Senate.





**Senator Malama Solomon, Ph.D.**  
**415 South Beretania Street**  
**Room 210**  
**Honolulu, HI 96813**

## **Honoka'a High School Jazz Band at Tamarind Park in Honolulu**



**Serves on the following Committees:**  
**Water and Land, Chair**  
**Commerce and Consumer Protection**  
**Transportation and International Affairs**  
**Tourism and Hawaiian Affairs**

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