

THE SOUTH MAUI CAPITOL REPORT

STATE HOUSE DISTRICT 11

KIHEI, WAILEA, MAKENA

REPORTING FROM THE CAPITOL



A MESSAGE FROM
REP. KANIELA ING

Aloha Neighbor,

After four months of tireless work in Honolulu, this year has seen some huge wins for South Maui and our island as a whole.

First, I became our State's youngest chairperson, which drastically boosted our influence at the Capitol. I then worked to save Maui's only hospital, lower taxes for food, set a 100% renewable energy goal for our State, end smoking on beaches, and start construction of our *new high school*.

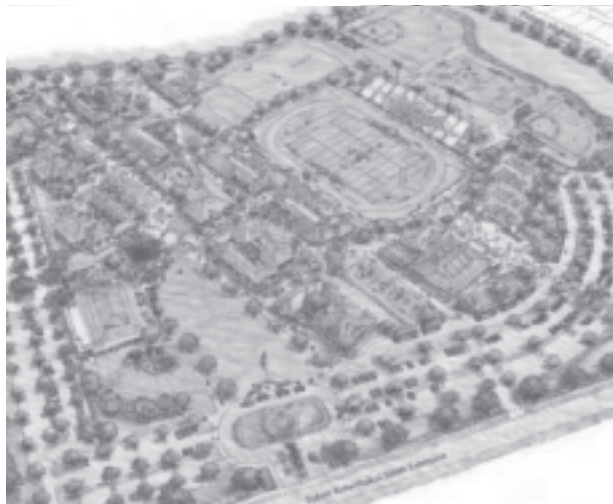
It was a rewarding session, but it sure feels great being back home in South Maui. Feel free to contact me with any way I can help you. Thank you so much for the continued honor and privilege of serving you.

Truly Yours,

Representative Kaniela Ing

Our high school will be the State's first that is 100% renewable energy powered (net-zero), featuring a stadium and Kihei's first gym. I fought to secure funding in 2013, and the DOE will soon break ground.

(pictured: conceptual plans for our new high school in South Maui)



New High School Breaking Ground this Fall!

It's been a long time coming, but our new high school will finally break ground in Kihei this September or October. It will set an example of responsible development as our State's first 100% renewable energy powered (net-zero) school.

With your help, I successfully secured funding for a new South Maui high school during the 2013 legislative session. We succeeded because of positive relationships with my colleagues and the stacks of testimony that you sent the House Finance Committee from the tear-and-sent postcard I sent to you.

Our next battle was to convince the Governor to release the funds we allocated. Navigating the DOE is never easy, and the abrupt administration change made it even harder. After months of talks, the Governor released funds to begin groundwork for the high school this July, with enough construction funds to welcome in our first wave of students already set for subsequent release. Through our prudent planning, the school will end up costing taxpayers less than expected.

Following our high school, what smart-growth project should we focus on next?

Facebook, Twitter or Instagram me for the most efficient communication. And you can always call or email me directly.



In our Community



Kaniela snaps a "senior selfie" with a few attendees of Maui County's Senior Day, right before the Elvis impersonator took the stage.



Kaniela with a giant dog at Kihei Fourth Friday #K4F. Find him there or at his weekly coffee hour at the Pi'ilani Starbucks.

In the News



Kaniela sharing one of his common sense bills with the media. HB1129 has prompted HPD and MPD to no longer allow police to carry firearms while intoxicated.



As the new Chair of Ocean, Marine Resources, and Hawaiian Affairs, Kaniela oversaw many measures. One new law requires brief Native Hawaiian Law training for all major State board members.

In the Budget

Kaniela Brought Home Much Needed Infrastructure Funds for South Maui

Rep. Ing fought for more than just our high school (see cover) and legislation (see insert):

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------|---|------------------------------|
| ● KAHO'OLAWE EDUCATION CENTER | \$500,000
<i>Allocated</i> | ● LOKELANI INTERMEDIATE | \$842,000
<i>Released</i> |
| Planning and design for an alternative to a proposed hotel near Kihei Boat Ramp. | | Classroom renovations, re-roofing, replaced fire alarms, perimeter fencing. | |
| ● KIHEI BOAT RAMP | \$200,000
<i>Released</i> | ● KAMALI'I ELEMENTARY | \$170,000
<i>Released</i> |
| Dredging and jetty repairs. | | Covered playcourt, A/C and IT upgrades. | |
| ● MAUI HIGH SCHOOL | \$4,915,000
<i>Allocated</i> | ● KIHEI ELEMENTARY | \$330,000
<i>Released</i> |
| Bandroom expansion and new weight room. | | A/C and network upgrades. | |
| ● MAUI RACEWAY PARK | \$2,000,000
<i>Allocated</i> | ● MAKENA STATE PARK | \$50,000
<i>Released</i> |
| General park improvements | | Parking, site, and drainage improvements | |

@repkanielaing
#OurRepresentative

YOUR VOICE: I want to know what you think. Facebook, Twitter or Instagram me for the most efficient communication. And you can always call or email me directly.

We scored big wins for South Maui, started construction for our new high school, and I have been active in our community ever since session ended. But another primary part of my job is shaping **policy** that best serves your interests.

Here are some of our bold ideas:



NEW TAX CUTS FOR FOOD

Cutting taxes is not common in Hawaii or in any Democratic legislature for that matter, but I successfully fought to cut your taxes where it matters most, for the people who need it most: in your grocery bill.

As we all know, grocery shopping is getting more expensive every year. Added to the fact that we ship over 90% of our food from the mainland, our 4.5% general excise tax is tacked on to every stage of the transaction, from the manufacturer/supplier, to the wholesaler, retailer, to you. By the time the Times cashier rings you up, you would have likely paid what would be equivalent to a 12% sales tax in other states.

SB555 allows working class individuals who make \$30,000 or less a year or households earning \$50,000 or less a year to file for a tax credit on food. If you qualify, do not forget to file!

In addition, I voted against various measures that would have increased fees and taxes. I also voted for a State Earned Income Tax Credit, earned family leave, and funding for Kupuna Care to families who do not take advantage of welfare. I also fought fiscal responsibility by restoring our Rainy Day Fund and paying down our retiree debts.



A 100% RENEWABLE FUTURE

Hawaii is uniquely positioned to lead the world away from fossil fuels because of our abundance of sunlight, geothermal, wind, and hydro energy resources. Every goal we have set so far, we have not only met, but we blew past them, swimmingly. This year, we decided to take a huge leap forward.

Hawaii became the first state in the nation to set a goal of achieving 100 percent renewable energy by 2045 (HB623).

We also became the first in the nation to require a state university to establish a goal of becoming net-zero in energy use by January 1, 2035 (HB 1509).

Without doubt, the future of energy is in distributed generation, particular with rooftop solar. However, many renters and condo owners cannot install solar. SB1050 created a community-based Renewable Energy Program to allow these residents to invest in off-site PV systems.

For instance, starting 2016, if you live in a condo next to a Safeway with a big roof, you could enter a deal with them to link to their solar and save on your electricity bill. I will continue fighting to lower your utility bills and in turn, help save our planet!



Rep. Kaniela Ing actively volunteers in our community, like here, getting watered at Kihei EL School Garden. You can also find him at his bimonthly town-hall meetings and biweekly coffee hours at Pi'ilani Starbucks.

YOUR VOICE: America is the only industrialized nation without paid family leave. Should Hawaii join the three states that do?





ONLINE VOTER REGISTRATION

Over the past few decades, we have trusted the Internet to make payments, manage our credit cards and bank accounts, even with our mortgages and stocks. However, government and civics have not kept pace. This year, I fought to implement Online Voter Registration and modernize our tax system in the interests of civic engagement and fiscal responsibility.

Every year hundreds of thousands of dollars fall through the cracks because of the State's outdated tax collection system. This is a disaster both for government and the people it represents. By modernizing our tax system, government services will be more efficient with less pressure to raise taxes.

Our outdated voter registration model, which relies on mail and a printed 10,000-page book called the voter roll moving between islands, disenfranchises young voters while overworking poll workers. This is why I fought to implement online voter registration. I am pleased to announce the website is now up and running. It's especially handy to check and update your address and information to avoid Election Day confusion. Check it out yourself at <http://elections.hawaii.gov/>!

SAVING MAUI'S ONLY HOSPITAL

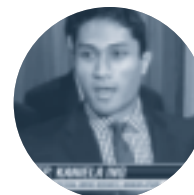
Maui Memorial hospital is Maui's only full service health care facility, thus we are obligated to do all we can to make sure it thrives.

Unfortunately, Maui's hospital has been running a growing deficit. After years of painful emergency funding, we decided to take long-term actions towards a more sustainable model that will protect jobs and critical healthcare services for our island's residents.

HB1075 authorizes the Maui Regional Board to enter a 25-year lease with a private nonprofit corporation, which have shown to be more efficient than the state.

During deliberation, I made sure to listen to employee unions' concerns about jobs. I advocated for conditions in the bill to lock-in earned benefits and freeze lay-offs. But even for the union's sake, we had to act quickly because Maui Memorial's CEO was threatening \$28 million in jobs cuts to break even in the upcoming fiscal year.

Both Hawaii Pacific Health and Kaiser Permanente Hawaii have expressed interest in becoming the new managing partner, and talks are underway.



Rep. Kaniela Ing has great relationships with his colleagues, which is how he became the youngest chairperson in our State's history. Here he explains his plan to incorporate video conferencing for neighbor island testimony.





"The children of HC&S employees breathe the same air as everyone else, and no one wants to see a neighbor lose their job. We all want to keep Maui green, so let's move forward together."

(pictured: Rep. Ingerus perusing the Hawaii Revised Statutes while drafting a bill)

A Win-Win Plan to Save HC&S, End Caneburning *A&B's CEO wants to end sugar, let's unite to keep Maui green*

As a fourth-generation Mauian of mixed heritage, I am a direct product of our plantation history. I grew up with cane burning as a way of life with many of my friends depending on the salaries that HC&S provided their families.

However, HC&S is struggling. It is facing an \$11 million annual deficit with its sugar operation, and people are raising questions about the health and environmental impacts of cane burning. Stop Cane Burning's lawsuit and Alexander and Baldwin's (HC&S's parent company) recent shareholder announcement that it is looking to end sugar has made it clear: our state's last sugar plantation is in jeopardy.

We cannot stand by and let 750 jobs disappear and our green valley turn to dust or concrete. It's time for our leaders to decide what will come will replace sugar to avoid the devastating lose-lose fates of Pioneer Mill and 'Ewa plantations.

It's time we stop fighting and start planning. Many residents support HC&S because of its many benefits to our community and feel that we should put up with the cane burning, while many other residents want to end cane burning and believe that profits should not trump health.

I am working on a plan to address both sides. First, identify the most problematic plots to convert first. Secondly, ramp up and modernize meteorological reporting to better predict and call-off the type of burn that happened on May 27. Third, incentivize no burn harvesting and diversified agriculture like sunflowers for biodiesel, kalo for food, and hemp for its many uses.

The goal is to set policy and Important Agricultural Land credits so that agriculture is more profitable than development. That way, conversion will ensue naturally without draconian laws or job losses.

If we truly work together in earnest, Maui's central valley can remain green, and HC&S can continue to stimulate our local economy, no matter what happens to the sugar industry.

As A&B plots its future, the people of Maui should understand that it is plotting ours too. This announcement should be seen as a call for unity between segments of our community that are too often at odds. It should be seized as an opportunity to reaffirm our understanding of aloha 'aina and the inescapable interdependence of each person who participates in our local economy. It should serve as a parlay between cane-burning activists and industry employees.

If the end of sugar is imminent, the most important decision Maui's leaders are tasked with is what lies ahead. No matter where you stand on cane burning, it is time we move forward together. ■



REPRESENTATIVE KANIELA ING

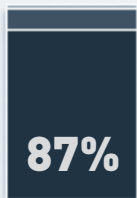
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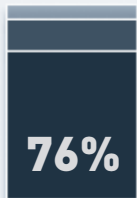


Poll Results: You Have Made Your Concerns Your Priorities

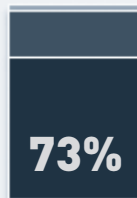
**PESTICIDE
BUFFERZONES**



**HOSPITAL
PARTNERSHIP**



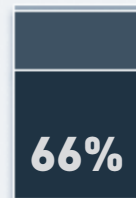
**RECREATIONAL
MARIJUANA**



**SUPERPAC
DISCLOSURE**



**DELAY TAX CUT
FOR VERY RICH**



I will remember your stances during the 2016 legislative session. Look out for the next poll soon!

**for details and figures of the 2015 poll, please refer to my past mailer or email me at the address below.*

YOUR VOICE: What are your main concerns for the upcoming 2016 legislative session?



@repkanielaing
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YOUR VOICE: I'd like to hear from you!
Facebook, Twitter or Instagram me for the most efficient communication. And you can always call or email me directly.