



Meeting colleagues after being sworn into office in April 2011. Pictured (from left to right) are Speaker Calvin Say, Kauai Representative Jimmy Tokioka, Representative Sharon Har, and Representative Ken Ito.

### Meet Gini Kapali, Office Manager

Gini Kapali recently accepted the position as Rep. Kawakami's Office Manager at the State Capitol. Ms. Kapali recently relocated to Oahu from Kauai to be closer to her children and grandchildren. However, her passion for government work drew her back into public service and the desire to contribute to the future of Kauai.

"I look forward to have Gini as part of my team as she brings a wealth of experience and the spirit of Kauai, specifically our district, to the State Capitol," said Kawakami.

She was born and raised on the North Shore of Kauai and is a graduate of Kapaa High School. Her career spans almost 30 years in the County of Kauai serving as a department head in aging, transportation and economic development and served on non-profit boards and community based committees. She recently completed her work as the Community Relations Manager for Kuku'ula Development Company. Gini can be reached at my office by calling 808.586.8435 or g.kapali@capitol.hawaii.gov.



### "The 5 things I learned from my mother:

*First, always say thank you.*

*Second, never judge, only God can judge.*

*Third, try to always forgive— even though it's the hardest thing to do.*

*Fourth, always leave a place or person better off than when you found them.*

*And, Fifth, the only time it's okay to look down on someone is when you're picking them off the ground, after they've fallen."*

—Rep. Derek Kawakami during his invocation speech on the House Chamber floor on April 27, 2011.



Rep. Kawakami with his family on the day he's sworn into office.

### PUBLIC ACCESS ROOM

Within the Capitol Building is the Public Access Room ("PAR"). It is dedicated to clarity and public participation in the legislative process. The staff can assist with bill drafting, measure tracking, submitting testimony, and accessibility to broadcasts of hearings and events. For more information call: (808) 587-0478, or visit: [www.hawaii.gov/lrb/par](http://www.hawaii.gov/lrb/par).



# REPRESENTATIVE DEREK S. K. KAWAKAMI

Twenty-Sixth Legislature  
House of Representatives, State of Hawaii  
District 14: East and North Kauai

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### KEEPING IN TOUCH

If you want to share your concerns or need assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me:

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Calling from Kauai :  
274-3141, then 6-8435# after dial tone  
Calling from Oahu:  
(808) 586-8435  
Facsimile:  
(808) 586-8437

### Staying Connected with Social Media



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### Aloha kakou!

I wanted to extend my deepest aloha and gratitude to you and your family. The importance of family and home has taken on a whole new meaning to me since I started serving as your State Representative. The short time I have spent at the Capitol has further reminded me of the reasons that I am serving — to be a voice for the people back home and to make a better life for my two children, your children and generations to come.

After being nominated by the Kauai Democratic Party, I was appointed by Governor Neil Abercrombie to serve in the position left vacant by our long-time representative, Hermina Morita, upon her appointment to the Public Utilities Commission. I humbly thank her for the many years of the utmost dedication and passion in her representation of District 14, and wish her much success in her new position.

The short time I have spent at the Legislature has been a challenging yet rewarding experience so far. I am honored to represent you with honesty, integrity, ha'aha'a (humility) and na'au pono (a deep-seeded sense of justice).

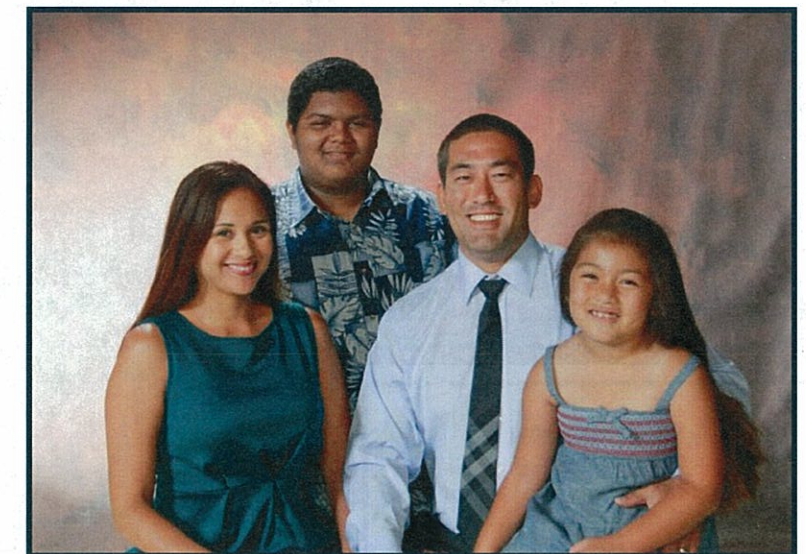
It is important for me to stay connected and keep pulse of what is happening in the community and to understand what matters to you most. Please feel free to stop by and talk story, call, or email me with any questions or concerns. Every voice matters.

As I begin my first year as your representative, I want to thank you for the privilege of serving you, and I look forward to what lies ahead.

My best wishes go out to you and yours.

Malama Pono,

Representative Derek S. K. Kawakami



"Aloha from my family to yours!"

## Session Highlights: The Budget

At the start of the session, the primary challenge of the legislature was how to rectify a \$1.3 billion deficit, after facing and closing a \$2.1 billion deficit in 2009 and another \$1.2 billion in 2010.

As in 2009 and 2010, the legislature achieved a balanced budget this year through a combination of budget cuts and increasing revenue. Over half of the deficit was closed by making cuts to the state budget, and we avoided having to raise the general excise tax (GET) which would have seriously impacted every resident and business in the state.

### HB200: Details of the State budget

The budget covers the next two years and appropriates \$5.4 billion in General Funds (\$11 billion in All Means of Financing) for FY2012, and \$5.5 billion (\$10.9 billion in All MOF) for FY2013. This state biennium budget is based on the Council of Revenues projection equating to a \$1.3 billion deficit. In order to close the gap, the legislature made over \$600 million in cuts, passed revenue generating bills totaling around \$600 million, and found over \$200 million in budget lapses and other adjustments.

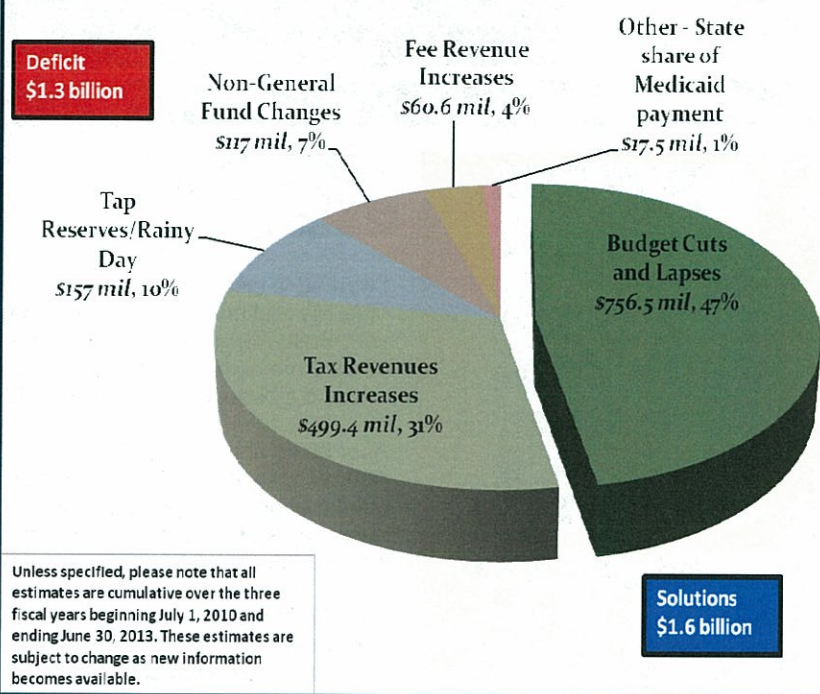
Included in the cuts are labor savings of \$88.2 million in each year of the biennium due to state workers taking a 5% pay cut. In addition, the legislature passed **HB575 Extension of salary cuts** which extended a 5% pay cut for state legislators, judges, the governor, lieutenant governor, and department heads and deputies.



Midweek Kauai April 2011

"You can take the boy out of Kauai, but you can't take Kauai out of the boy."

### How the Budget was Balanced



"It was the hardest decision each of us were faced with. We had to cut from nearly every area and had to ask everyone to make sacrifices. But the decisions we made were the right ones and will build towards a brighter future." — Rep. Kawakami

### Addressing Economic Challenges

Some of the major budget and tax revenue bills passed this session include:

**SB120 Non-general fund transfers** - Transfers \$40 million from special funds to the general fund.

**SB570 Tax deduction** - Eliminates the state tax deduction for high income individuals, temporarily limits itemized deductions for high income individuals, and delays the standard deduction increase for low-income filers. Generates \$113.5 million.

**SB754 Repeal GET exemptions** - Repeals various GET business exemptions for 2 years. Generates \$393.5 million.

**SB1186 TAT and HTA Cap** - Caps the counties' share of the Transient Accommodations Tax (TAT) until 2015 generating \$40.4 million. Caps the TAT going to the Hawaii Tourism Authority generating \$34.9 million.

**HB1039 Rental Vehicle Surcharge** - Increases the rental vehicle surcharge. The first year of the increase goes to the General Fund. Generates \$60 million.

### Funded projects in our District

More than 50 Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) have been initiated as part of the Governor's New Day Works Projects to create jobs and stimulate the economy. More than \$300 million will be infused in our local economy for projects, which include modernizing our airports, schools, and repairing roads and infrastructure. Kauai legislators fought hard to ensure many of these projects will be on the Garden Island.

Here are some projects funded in our neighborhood:

<b>Kapaa</b> Kapaa Elementary School	\$6,000,000
Design, construction and equipment for a new library	
<b>Kapaa Bypass Road</b>	\$23,000,000
Plans and construction for new bypass road	
<b>Kapaa Elementary School</b>	\$28,000
Replace Classroom Modulars	
<b>Kapaa High School</b>	\$1,542,000
Reroof; replace windows; renovation of existing Science lab, upgrades to all work stations and safety equipment	
<b>Kapaa Library</b>	\$122,000
Fire alarm installation; upgrade electrical	
<b>Kauai Friendship House</b>	\$376,000
Repair and maintenance improvements	
<b>Kapahi</b> Kapaa Homestead	\$4,200,000
Pipeline replacement	
<b>Hanalei/ Haena</b> Hanalei River	\$1,000,000
Plans, design and construction to upgrade, repair and reinforce Hanalei River breach	
<b>Lumahaui Hillside</b>	\$2,500,000
Slop stabilization, land acquisition, design and construction	
<b>Wainiha</b>	\$11,200,000
Replacement of Waioli, Waipa and Waikoko Stream Bridges; land acquisition, design and construction	
<b>Hanalei and Wainiha</b>	\$1,300,000
Steel tank and booster pump renovations	
<b>Haena State Park</b>	\$550,000
Improvements	
<b>Hanalei Bay</b>	\$350,000
Highway shoreline protection	
<b>Napali Coast</b>	\$900,000
Park and Trail Improvements	
<b>Wailua</b> Wailua Houselots	\$3,300,000
Water Main Replacements	



Rep. Kawakami with the "Kauai Divas" for the Ha'ena to Hanalei run/walk on June 4, 2011. Next year's 32nd annual event will be held on Sat., June 2, 2012.

### Design work for Kuhio Highway to start

Governor Neil Abercrombie has released Capital Improvement Project funds to begin the work on the Kuhio Highway, Retaining Walls at Lumahaui and the Wainiha Phase 2 (Bypass Road). Phase 1 of the project will consist of slope stability analysis and roadway stabilization from Milepost 5.0 to Milepost 5.17 and Phase 2 to construct a new bypass roadway from Milepost 5.20 to Milepost 5.55. The first \$500,000 has been released to begin the design work. DOT estimates that the total project costs to be 4.5 million with an projected completion date of 2014.

### Legislation protecting lifeguards, firefighters

Representative Kawakami hit the ground running from the moment he was sworn in at the Hawaii State Capitol. He serves as the Vice Chair of the Energy and Environmental Protection Committee and is a member of the Finance Committee, Housing Committee, and Water, Land, and Ocean Resources Committee.

As the former President of the Hawaii State Association of Counties, Representative Kawakami requested legislation to protect our lifeguards and firefighters in the performance of their duties by increasing the penalties for assault on them to a class C felony. With the help of the House and Senate leadership, the Kauai County Council, Dr. Monty Downs President of the Kauai Lifeguard Association; and Fire Chief Robert Westerman of the Kauai Fire Department, the Representative was able to shepherd **Senate Bill 1025** through its final passage.

"This measure is extremely important to the Counties and the State as it protects those who are in charge of protecting us," said Kawakami. "This is the least we can do for our local heroes."