

February, 2013

Holomua

moving forward

House District One · Hāmākua · North Hilo · Rural South Hilo · Kaumana

Volume 6, Issue 1



Mark M. Nakashima

Chair

Labor and Public Employment

Member

Committee on Education

Committee on Higher Education

Committee on Public Safety

Committee on Transportation

Contact Information:

Hawaii State Capitol, Room 406
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Telephone:

(808) 586-6680

Neighbor Island Access dial
974-4000 then extension 6-6680
followed by the pound (#) key
after the recording.

E-mail Address:

repnakashima@capitol.hawaii.gov

Visit Mark's capitol website for
updates on bills and other
legislative activities.

[http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/
memberpage.aspx?
member=nakashima](http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/memberpage.aspx?member=nakashima)



Friends from the ILWU Hawaii Division stop by the office on opening day to wish me luck. (From l - r) Frankie Pang, Ernesto Ballo, Gary Labrador, Franco Longakit, Rep. Mark Nakashima, George Martin, Francine Molina, Juanita Pedra, Clyde Silva, Melecio Eugenio, Jr.

Dear Friends,

Thank you for the opportunity to once again serve as your voice in the House of Representatives. This year is one of change and as the song goes, "Everything Old is New Again". Even during my short tenure in the House, it became very obvious that there was a growing chasm within the majority Democrats and we were becoming a "House divided." Thus after 14 years as Speaker of the House, Representative Calvin Say was succeeded by former Speaker Emeritus Joseph Souki of Maui. The Old/New Speaker was elected on a platform of transition that seeks to utilize the best talents of all members of the House.

Under Speaker Souki's leadership, I have been given the privilege of serving as Chair of the House Committee on Labor and Public Employment. In this new role, I have jurisdiction on many bread and butter issues impacting our families, such as minimum wage, sick leave, worker's compensation, unemployment insurance, and collective bargaining, just to name a few.

Should you have any questions or concerns regarding bills moving through the legislature, please feel free to contact me.

Aloha and Best Wishes,

Mark Nakashima

2013 Bills Introduced

This year, I continue my efforts to create a more self-sufficient Hawaii. Since my election to the House in 2008, I have supported a platform that includes energy self-sufficiency, agricultural sustainability, and economic independence.

ENERGY SELF-SUFFICIENCY

Renewable energy on Hawaii Island will bring us independence from the unpredictable nature of the world oil market and will mean that our number one export from the Big Island will not continue to be money. Annually, we export approximately \$1 billion to pay for our energy needs.

Geothermal energy is the most promising base energy for our electrical needs on the island. It shows promise to bring down our cost of electricity by at least 50% making it a reliable and stable source of low cost energy far into the future.

Hydrogen fuel cell vehicles have great promise to do the same for our transportation needs. With the price of gas this week hitting \$5 a gallon in some US markets, we must find a better alternative to wean off of fossil fuel.

House Bill 450 relating to hydrogen fueling stations. In order to further develop the capability of Hawaii Island and the State to harness renewable energy for ground transportation, I proposed this measure to require the Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism (DBEDT) to establish a hydrogen fueling station

demonstration project in qualifying counties. The hydrogen will be produced from renewable sources of energy, such as geothermal, wind or solar. This can be easily achieved as hydrogen electrolysis does not need to have a supply of firm energy to work.

Auto manufacturers from around

I am working with the Director of Labor and Industrial Relations, Dwight Takamine, to create an Agriculture Workforce Development Board. The Board's purpose will be to support the development of an Agricultural Workforce pipeline to encourage K-12 students to pursue studies in agriculture at the community colleges



Our future: University of Hawaii Hilo Student Association (from l-r): Michael Sado, Fernando Baños, Kyle Kumashiro, Rep Nakashima, Shadi Obeidi, Robyn Taniguchi, Joyce Auau, Yuri Zhuraw, Erika Jardin, Jed Doronio.

the world are preparing for a 2015 release of consumer model hydrogen fuel cell vehicles and having the infrastructure in place by then will be key to insuring that Hawaii will play a big role in the effort.

AGRICULTURAL SUSTAINABILITY

We keep talking about the need to be agriculturally sustainable, but at the same time, the Department of Education is cutting agricultural programs and is no longer "growing" farmers.

In an attempt to reverse this trend,

and the university.

House Bill 749 relating to workforce development. HB749 would establish the Hawaii Agriculture Workforce Advisory Board, which would help support the local agricultural industry by securing the employment pipeline from school to farm. This would be achieved through the support of school gardening programs, the Future Farmers' of America, and Agriculture teacher in service training.

Another necessary resource for farming is the availability and development of prime agricultural lands. Toward this end, I am

working with community members to begin taking active stewardship of Waipi'o Valley to insure that this precious resource is available for many generations to come.

House Bill 414 relating to Waipio Valley. HB 414 establishes the Waipi'o Valley Advisory Commission that will work to insure the long term integrity and preservation of one of our most treasured valleys. This commission will provide the stewardship to oversee the best interests of the community, agriculture, and natural habitat. It will also implement the findings of the Mauna Kea Soil and Water Conservation District study to stabilize the stream banks at key locations in the valley.

ECONOMIC INDEPENDENCE

Energy, agriculture, and astronomy are just a few of the industries that have a home on the Big Island and will benefit from the ability to hire from a pool of home-grown scientists and technicians who should be very qualified to fill these well paying positions.

For the past several years, I have been working to develop a STEM training program so that students in our K-12 system can fulfill their higher education needs at the Hawaii Community College or University of Hawaii at Hilo. To encourage this opportunity, I have proposed the creation of the Hawaii Island Technology Exchange (HITEX).

House Bill 750 relating to the Ha-

waii Island Technology Exchange Institute. To be successful in the twenty-first century global economy, Hawaii must position itself as a leader in science and technology, in particular, the development, transfer, and commercialization of technology. HB750 will establish the Hawaii Island Technology Exchange Institute at the University of Hawaii at Hilo through a collaboration between UH Hilo and Hawaii Community College.

Also, in order to attract more businesses and employers to Hawaii Island, it is critical that we have the appropriate infrastructure, such as health care, available to our residents and employees alike.

House Bill 417 relating to the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation. This measure provides funds for the interdisciplinary medical residency program for Hawaii Island. Studies show that one of the best ways to attract medical doctors is

having them complete their residency locally and this program is an investment in just that. Once in full force, 12 doctors a year will be trained in the local residency program.

Tracking measures

You may track measures on your own by accessing the Hawaii State Legislature website at www.capitol.hawaii.gov. Use the "Measure Tracking" button in the center of the website. This will direct you to create an account that will help you track measures. There are also search boxes in the left column that make it simple and convenient to find bills, hearing notices and submit testimony.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please contact me via email at repnakashima@capitol.hawaii.gov or by telephone at 974-4000 extension 6-6680.



Rep. Nakashima's 2013 legislative staff from l-r: Lyle Fujikawa - Legislative Assistant, Lance Kobashigawa - Committee Clerk, Jana Carpio - Legislative Assistant, Lori Hasegawa - Office Manager and Karim Troost - UH Intern



Representative Mark Nakashima

415 S. Beretania Street, Room 406
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Presorted
Standard Mail
U.S. Postage Paid
Honolulu, HI
Permit No. 169



The Legislative Report

Capital Improvement Wishlist

The following items were included in HB 1379, Related to capital improvement projects for the benefit of the First House District:

Haaheo School safety improvements Haaheo Road sidewalk	\$ 60,000	Kapulena County agricultural park water infrastructure	\$ 5,000,000	Department of Hawaiian Homes Land Water system for pastoral leases, Honokaia.....	\$ 250,000
Paauiilo School safety improvements Hauola Road sidewalk	\$ 89,000	North Hawaii Education and Research Center, building renovation for culinary and nursing studies.....	\$ 6,700,000	Honokaa pool safety improvements and renovations	\$ 2,000,000
Honokaa High Gym lighting	\$ 100,000	Office of Mauna Kea Management summit road improvements	\$ 500,000	Hakalau community center, health and safety improvements	\$ 55,000
		Hale Hoola long term care facility, Elder Care and Alzheimer's Patient unit	\$ 600,000	Laupahoehoe point road safety improve- ments	\$ 4,000,000
				Hawaii Island adult care center	\$ 3,500,000



The new University Village Phase I at University of Hawaii at Hilo is the result of a \$32 million appropriation by the Legislature in 2011 and will include approximately 300 student housing units in apartments and suite style rooms opening this summer.