



2001 End of the Year Wrap-up (The week ending December 28, 2001)



Senator J. Kalani English

Happy Holidays to all, and I hope the season finds you in good spirits. In regards to our last report, Frances T. Hong of Wailuku wrote, *“Thank you for sending me the Third Special Session Report for the weeks ending October 26, 2001. I surely appreciate the report because it keeps me up to date on the bills and the status of each.”* I wish to thank Frances for the feedback, and I welcome such comments, questions and concerns from all my constituents.

As of November 3rd, 2002, because of the recent reapportionment, my current 5th District (Wailuku, Kahului, and Upcountry Maui) will change to the 6th District (Upcountry Maui, Ha’iku, Hana, Moloka’i, Lana’i, Kaho’olawe). While my constituency will change to the predominately rural areas, I will continue to serve all of the people of Maui county.

Contact Information:

Senator J. Kalani English
Hawaii State Capitol
415 So. Beretania, Rm. 205
Honolulu, HI 96813
Telephone: 587-7225 or 587-7226
FAX: 587-7230

To call toll-free from Maui, dial 984-2400, listen to the message, wait for the dial tone, and then press 77225 and #.

Email: senenglish@capitol.hawaii.gov

Website: <http://www.KalaniEnglish.com>



Creation of Emergency

Environmental Workforce:

Thanks to the Research Corporation of the University of Hawaii (RCUH) on its rapid implementation of this program.

As a result of the dengue virus, a number of government and community groups have been attempting to clean up and remove possible mosquito-breeding sources such as abandoned cars, blocked drains and other garbage. Now, through RCUH, a centralized source of information, planning and implementation is available that systematically organizes a trained labor force capable of targeting and eradicating the sources of the dengue virus. Because of Maui’s unique partnerships and quick organization, we were able to secure over a hundred positions for Maui county, more than half of the entire program.

The purpose of the environmental workforce is not only to stop the spread of dengue fever, but also to eradicate miconia and other invasive species, and to control the coqui frog and fire ant populations. Hopefully this emergency workforce will continue to be an ongoing program in Hawaii’s future to control and eradicate all harmful species that threaten our fragile environment.

I have worked with Mayor Apana’s office to coordinate these efforts on the

islands of Maui, Moloka'i and Lana'i. While the program encompasses the entire county, the Hana-based foundation '*Ohana Makamae, Hana Family Resource Center*, has been selected to administer the program because the highest concentration of dengue and miconia is in the Hana area.

I hope to continue funding for this unique program in the next Session, and ask for your support of this important project.



Did You Know:

According to the most recent State of Hawaii *Report of the Ombudsman* (Report #32), while it is universally recognized that breakfast provides the essential nutrients that prepare students to learn, not all public schools serve breakfast.

Supported by Federal funds, students whose families meet certain eligibility criteria are supplied free breakfast and lunch each day. When one such student progressed to middle school, he was only allowed a free lunch. When the parent inquired as to why the student now only received a free lunch when in his previous elementary school he received both breakfast and lunch, a Department of Education (DOE) administrator explained that schools are only required to participate in the program "to the extent possible". While most schools serve breakfast, this school did not—besides the regular lunch, such schools may choose to serve a mid-morning lunch instead of breakfast, but because students are entitled to only one free lunch a day, the student had to choose between the two lunches. The DOE administrator would prefer that all schools serve breakfast, but did not have the power to enforce it.

Due to the Ombudsman's inquiry into the matter, when researching DOE files, the DOE administrator discovered a

court-sanctioned consent agreement that arose because the DOE had failed to expand the breakfast program to all needy schools. For all non-participating schools, the DOE agreed to conduct an annual survey of the parents where at least 25% of the students are eligible for free or reduced-price lunches. The breakfast program had to be implemented if the parents of either 45 students or 10% of the students enrolled responded that they wanted breakfast to be served at that school.

When the DOE administrator brought the consent agreement to the middle school's attention, the school conducted the survey and received 120 positive responses. The school began serving breakfast within a few months.

Congratulations to the diligent parent who took the time and effort to address the problem head on. This exemplifies how one person can make a difference in changing our system.



Congratulations to the following organizations in the 5th District awarded grants from the **State Foundation on Culture and the Arts:**

☛ **Hui Noe'au, Inc.**

Visiting Artist Program with Exhibits
\$19,211

ArtWORKS! For Youth
\$33,702

☛ **Maui Academy of Performing Arts**

Arts Education & Performance
Programs
\$18,696

Studio Hamakuapoko
\$2,833

☛ **Maui Arts & Cultural Center**

Partnering for Arts and Education
\$35,645

☛ **Maui Symphony Orchestra & Festival**

Maui Chamber Music Festival
\$5,308

Music for Life!
\$12,284

Blessings to you and your family in 2002!