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MESSAGE FROM KALANI

Our Senate has been partnering with other Legislative bodies in the Pacific to exchange expertise and ideas. We are grateful to our neighbors for sharing their issues with us, and we look forward to working with them in the future.

We are in Hurricane Season now, and I ask each and every one of you to be prepared. By being prepared, we can all stay safe during a natural disaster.

J. Kalani English

SENATOR J.KALANI ENGLISH

HAWAI'I STATE SENATE 7TH DISTRICT

HĀNA, EAST AND UPCOUNTRY MAUI, MOLOKA'I, LĀNA'I AND KAHO'OLAWĒ



SENATE PARTICIPATES IN EXCHANGE WITH THE FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA

As part of the Hawai'i State Senate's partnership with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) – Pacific Office and the Strengthening Legislatures in Pacific Island Countries Project (SLIP), Senate staffers, Sharon Lum Ho and Jacob Aki participated in a legislative committee exchange session on September 13 with members of the National Congress of the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) in Pohnpei, FSM.

The Honorable Wesley Simina (Speaker of the FSM Congress), Ambassador Ryoichi Horie (Japan Ambassador to the FSM) and Mr. Jean- Raphael Giuliani (UNDP – Pacific Office) formally opened the exchange session by providing brief remarks on the SLIP project and the intended goals of the exchange session.

Dr. Robert Underwood provided the keynote address for Session 1: Political leadership, Congress work and sustainable development in the Pacific. He highlighted his experience as Guam's delegate to the U.S. Congress from 1993-2003. Dr. Underwood also spoke on topics of leadership and the development of the Pacific territories.



The Hawai'i State Senate facilitated Session 2: Committee System; Committee Functions and Roles of the Chairman and the Committee Clerk. Sen. English provided the opening address for the session via video conference and greeted the members and staff of the FSM Congress. Ms. Lum Ho and Mr. Aki presented information about the legislative committee process in the Hawai'i State Legislature.

Top - FSM Exchange Session presenters. From L to R: T. Lam Dang, Jacob Aki, Dr. Robert Underwood, Sharon Lum Ho, Liwiana Ramon Ioanis and Jean-Rapahel Giuliani. Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia. September 13, 2018.

Above - Sen. English addresses members of the FSM Congress via Facebook Messenger. Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia. September 13, 2018.

HAWAII STATE SENATE FSM CONGRESS EXCHANGE SESSION CONTINUED

The exchange session concluded with a productive open dialogue between the presenters and the members of the FSM Congress.

"I'm very pleased that the Senate was able to participate in this exchange session with members of the FSM Congress and UNDP" said Sen. English. "This partnership provides a unique venue for the Hawaii State Senate, the FSM Congress and others to share best practices, exchange information and collaborate on how we can help one another improve legislative processes throughout the Pacific. I look forward to a continued partnership with UNDP and the SLIP project."

The Strengthening Legislatures in Pacific Island Countries Project is a three-year project that focuses on strengthening six legislatures in the Pacific – Fiji, Samoa, Vanuatu, Solomon Islands, Republic of Marshall Islands (RMI) and Federated States of Micronesia (FSM). The project seeks to provide support to Parliaments in six countries to become more effective and efficient through strengthening the work of their committees related to legislation and oversight and building the capacities of legislators and professionalism of staff. For more information, visit <https://bit.ly/2IkDbD2>



FSM Congress Speaker Wesley Simina with Japanese Ambassador Ryoichi Horie during the exchange sessions's opening ceremony at the FSM Capital. Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia. September 13, 2018.

OCTOBER 5 PROCLAIMED AS "ENERGY EFFICIENCY DAY"

On October 5, clean energy-related organizations and partners across the country will rally together to promote the importance of generating energy savings. The State continues to lead the charge as the Governor officially proclaimed October 5 as "Energy Efficiency Day."

Hawaii has become a global model for clean

energy and sustainability by becoming the first State to commit to a 100 percent renewable energy portfolio standard by the year 2045 and a reduction in electricity consumption by 4,300 gigawatt-hours (GWh) by 2030; the first State to adopt the Paris Climate Accord; and the first State to enact a 100% carbon neutral goal.

"As the most fossil fuel dependent State in the nation, we have reached the point where it is time to seriously look at alternative energy resources for our islands," said Sen. English. "Over the past few years, our clean energy policies and programs have become a national model in efficient management of energy resources while simultaneously protecting the environment. It's important for us to continue to look at new ways to be smarter about managing our energy resources while limiting wasteful habits."



Pluggy, Hawaii's mascot, makes an appearance during the "Energy Efficiency Day" proclamation ceremony in the Governor's office. Honolulu, HI. September 28, 2018.

HAWAII ESTABLISHES SISTER-STATE RELATIONSHIP WITH GOA, INDIA



The Governor, signed a historic agreement with delegates from Goa, a state in India, which is Hawaii's first sister-state relationship with a jurisdiction in India. The Director of Art and Culture, Gurudas Pilarnekar, signed on behalf of the Goa state government. September 28, 2018.

Under an agreement facilitated by the State Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT), the Governor signed a historic agreement on September 28 with delegates from Goa, a State in India, to establish a sister-state relationship. This is Hawaii's first sister-state relationship with a State in India.

"This sister-state relationship is significant because it allows for the promotion of tourism and an increased opportunity for economic, social and cultural exchanges between the two States," said Sen. English. "I look forward to a continued relationship with Dr. Raj Kumar, President of Indian-America Friendship Council (Hawaii chapter) and the Gandhi International Institute for Peace, who has been instrumental in this historic agreement and has facilitated many exchanges between the people of Hawaii and Goa, India."

CHANGING THE HAWAII STATE CONSTITUTION

On the November 6th ballot, you will be asked two questions:

1) Should the Constitution be changed to authorize the Legislature to establish, as provided by law, a surcharge on investment real property to be used to support public education?

2) Should there be a Constitutional Convention to consider other ways in which the Constitution might be changed?

Pursuant to **Article XVII, Section 1** of the Hawaii State Constitution, there are two ways to propose changes to the Constitution: 1) By proposal adopted by the Legislature; or 2) By proposal recommended by a Constitutional Convention (ConCon). Regardless of the method, the voters must ratify any proposed change. This means that the proposed change will appear on a ballot, and registered voters will be able to decide whether or not a change should be made to the Constitution.

Article XVII, Section 3) gives the Legislature the authority to propose changes to the Constitution by passing a bill. The bill follows the same legislative process as other bills until the last stage, where there are two methods allowing for final passage: 1) The bill must obtain a two-thirds vote on final reading in each chamber, which cannot take place until after the governor receives at least ten days' written notice that the bill is in its final form. The notice gives the governor the opportunity to object to or support the proposed revisions or amendments. 2) Otherwise, a bill proposing amendment passes if it receives a majority vote in both chambers at two successive sessions. In this case, notice to the governor is not required.

When a bill proposing a change to the Constitution is passed by the Legislature, it does not go to the governor for signature. Instead,



Delegates from the 1978 Hawaii State Constitutional Convention. Courtesy of Hawaii State Archives.

the question is put on the next general election ballot for the people to vote "yes" or "no." The exact question to be posed to voters must be stated in the bill.

The Constitution specifies how legislatively proposed amendments are publicized. The full text of the bill must also be available on the day of election at each polling place. Voters can also access the bill status webpage of the proposed amendment, for Question 1 click: www.capitol.hawaii.gov/measure_indiv.aspx?billtype=SB&billnumber=2922&year=2018

Article XVII, Section 2 of the Constitution also provides for constitutional amendments via proposals made by a Constitutional Convention ("ConCon"). Proposals put forward by a ConCon are submitted to voters on the ballot in the form of a question consisting of one subject that can be answered by voting "yes" or "no."

If a majority of the ballots cast on this question is "yes" (blank votes are tallied as no votes), there will be a ConCon. The Legislature determines how many delegates are to be elected and how much money is provided for one. Once established, the ConCon determines its own organization, sets its own rules, and serves as its own judge of its elections. If any proposed constitutional revisions are agreed upon at the ConCon, the proposed amendments would appear on a ballot and the voters would decide whether the Constitution should be changed.

HAWAII'S ONLINE VOTER REGISTRATION

You can now register to vote, update your existing voter registration, confirm your voter registration address or request to vote by mail online.

You will need: your current Hawaii Driver's License or Hawaii State ID Card and your Social Security Card.

Visit <https://olvr.hawaii.gov/>

IMPORTANT GENERAL ELECTION DATES

Voter Registration Deadline:
October 9, 2018

**Early Walk-In Voting/
Late Registration:**
October 23-November 3, 2018

Mail Ballot Request Deadline:
October 30, 2018

General Election:
November 6, 2018



Sen. English and Leona Nomura at Hawaiian Commercial & Sugar Company site visit. Pu'unene. September 27, 2018.

FUNDS RELEASED FOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

\$1,200,000 in funds were recently released to provide design and construction funds for various improvements to mitigate roadway safety and drainage concerns on Dept. of Hawaiian Homelands property in Kula.

\$250,000 in funds were recently released for additional plans to provide roadway supplementary roadway capacity along Hana Highway, in the vicinity of Pā'ia.

J. KALANI ENGLISH
Senate Majority Leader

COMMITTEES

Vice Chair, Senate Committee
on Labor

Member, Senate Committee
on Hawaiian Affairs

Member, Senate Committee
on Transportation and Energy

Member, Senate Committee
on Ways & Means



Hawai'i State Legislature
Bill Status and Documents
www.capitol.hawaii.gov/

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LĀNA'I CELEBRATES KOSRAE LIBERATION DAY

On September 8th of each year, the Kosrae community on Lāna'i gathers at the softball field to celebrate Kosrae Liberation Day. This year marked the 10th year that the community has celebrated this event important event.



The State of Kosrae is an island and one of four States of the Federated States of Micronesia. Kosrae and Lāna'i are geographically similar, both have dense vegetation and steep mountains that keep the islands largely undeveloped.

After World War I, Kosrae came under the control of the Empire of Japan. During the Japanese South Pacific Mandate of 1914 to 1945, extensive economic development occurred. The Japanese fortified the island during World War II, but no battles took place there. On the island of Kosrae, Liberation Day is a significant holiday commemorating the day U.S. forces liberated Kosrae from Japanese occupation. It's been celebrated since 1946, when World War II ended.

In 1945, the United States administered the island as part of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands (TTPI). From the 1960s US aid and investment

increased. During this period, Kosrae was administered as one of the municipalities of the Pohnpei District. In 1977, it became a separate District. When the Micronesian Constitution was defeated in the TTPI districts of Palau and the Marshall Islands, Kosrae joined the districts of Yap, Chuuk and Pohnpei to form the Federated States of Micronesia.

Lāna'i's Kosraean community consists of about 100 people, who are unified by a common culture. Each village on Kosrae has its own way of celebrating Liberation Day. On Lāna'i, the community eats traditional Kosraean food. The main dishes consist of a taro, fish and pork as well as fresh fruit. Everyone sings songs, which is a major part of the celebration. These songs bring back the memories of the past, especially the years during the war.

"Celebrations such as the event on Lāna'i reminds us of how important our homeland is to each and every one of us," states Sen. English. "Whether on Lāna'i or on the island of Kosrae, on Sept. 8 a common bond existed across the Pacific between the Kosraean people by their history and culture."

CSPAN CITIES TOUR: HAWAII WEEKEND – OCTOBER 6-7

In August, two C-SPAN Cities Tour producers visited Hawai'i to produce individual segments for Book TV (on C-SPAN 2) and American History TV (on C-SPAN3). The programming that was recorded on O'ahu and Maui will air during a special feature Hawai'i Weekend – October 6-7 to a national audience.

For more information, visit:
<http://www.c-span.org/citiesour>

