

SENATOR BRICKWOOD GALUTERIA

January
2011



Serving Hawaii's
Senate District 12

Encompassing the
following
communities:

Waikiki

~

Ala Moana

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Kaka'ako

~

Downtown

~

Chinatown

~

Palama



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Hau'oli Makahiki Hou! Happy New Year!

The Senate Majority is hard at work preparing for the convening of the 26th Legislature. Although the House has not yet organized, the House Finance and Senate Ways and Means Committees have started their departmental budget briefings and discussions on how the Administration and the Legislature will address the upcoming budget deficit.

I welcome Senators Maile Shimabukuro, Malama Solomon, and Gilbert Kahele on their appointments to the Senate. Senator Shimabukuro joins us after serving eight years in the State House of Representatives, Senator Solomon formerly served 16 years in the Senate, and Senator Kahele is the former Hawaii County Police Commission Chair.

I look forward to serving the residents of Senate District 12 as Majority Leader and Chairman of the Hawaiian Affairs Committee.

Please contact my office if you have any suggestions for legislation in the upcoming 2011 legislative session.

Opening Day

“ Section 10. The legislature shall convene annually in regular session at 10:00 o'clock a.m. on the third Wednesday in January. ”

The 26th Legislature will be convening on **Wednesday, January 19th at 10am**. I invite you and your family to come down to the State Capitol to participate in the Opening Day festivities.



@SenGaluteria



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WAIKIKI



KAKA'AKO/ALA MOANA



DOWNTOWN



CHINATOWN



PALAMA



WHAT A DIVERSE COMMUNITY!

Meeting With Cabinet Appointees

Because many directors/ chairpersons will inherit less-than-ideal departments due to significant budget reductions over the years, the Legislature will work collaboratively with the Abercrombie-Schatz Administration to ensure that we're still able to provide adequate government services to the public.

Recently, Governor Abercrombie has concluded the announcement of all his cabinet appointments. The Senate will need to confirm all Gubernatorial appointments during this legislative session. Confirmation hearings will begin once Session gets underway.

Senators have been meeting the appointees to discuss priorities for their respective departments and identify areas we can work together.

Department	Appointee
Accounting and General Services	Bruce Coppa
Agriculture	Russell S. Kokubun
Attorney General	David M. Louie
Budget and Finance	Kalbert Young
Business, Economic Development and Tourism	Richard Lim
Commerce and Consumer Protection	Keali'i S. Lopez
Defense	MG Darryll Wong
Hawaiian Home Lands	Alapakai Nahale-a
Health	Dr. Neal Palafox
Human Resources Development	Sunshine Topping
Human Services	Pat McManaman
Labor and Industrial Relations	Dwight Takamine
Land and Natural Resources	William J. Aila, Jr
Public Safety	Jodie Maesaka-Hirata
Taxation	Fred Pablo
Transportation	Glenn Okimoto

Communications Efforts of the Senate

My responsibility as Majority Leader includes coordinating the communications efforts of the Senate. This includes the development of a robust communications plan that will seek to increase citizen participation in the legislative process and to ensure that the public is better informed of the happenings of the State Senate.

As social media emerges as a popular communications medium, we want to ensure we are able to harness the full potential of all communications resources that are available for use. To help the Senate Majority achieve these goals, we have hired a Social Media Specialist who will be assisting the Senate Majority incorporate the use of social media sites (i.e. Facebook, Twitter, Youtube) to help Senate Majority members engage with the public and to develop some means of disseminating information.

A perfect example of the utilization of social media is Senator Jill Tokuda's hosting of a "Twitter Town Hall" (a virtual town hall meeting) on an appointed Board of Education. We will be looking to incorporate new ideas such as these during the upcoming session. You can read more about it at www.hawaiisenatemajority.com.

You may log onto the Hawaii Legislature website at www.capitol.hawaii.gov to track legislation, submit testimony, and follow along with what's happening. The Public Access Room (www.capitol.hawaii.gov/lrb/par) is a great resource for anyone interested in learning more about government. They provide many services to the public including training on the legislative process.

Legislative Urban Caucus Update

PROPOSED LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVES FOR 2011

The Honolulu Urban Caucus, comprised of State Senators, Representatives, and City Council Members, appreciates that a solution to homelessness must be a multifaceted team effort, coordinated between federal, state, local governments, private sector, community and service providers.

We have looked at all sides of this issue and find that:

- First and foremost, there is the cost to human beings who find themselves without a home and subjected to much degradation and hardship as a result;
- Second, the cost to the community as a whole whose businesses, property, and sense of security are affected; and
- Third, the cost to government, which ultimately pays for services provided in the forms of healthcare, law enforcement, and other emergency services utilized at a far greater rate by the homeless population than by the general public.

We have met regularly over the last year to gather information from community stakeholders, service providers, business representatives and other interested parties. We learned that the issue of homelessness has no quick fixes, and the most successful solutions adopted by other jurisdictions were implemented through well formulated plans executed by a lead governing body. King County in Washington State is implementing a 10-year plan that appears to be the most comprehensive of those across the nation. As such, we propose to incorporate several of its more successful features and to tailor specific initiatives that fit Hawaii's unique culture and circumstances.

We propose to begin with the following legislative action items in the 26th Legislature, 2011; and in the 2011 Honolulu City Council. We are currently in the process of drafting bills on the following initiatives:

- Landlord Liaison Project
- Hawaii Interagency Council on Homelessness
- 2-1-1 homeless care coordinator
- Special fund to provide opportunities for private sector matching funds
- Homeless job training programs
- Identify an initial site for building "Housing-First" facilities
- Expand the Uses/Purposes of Existing Special Funds for Housing

If you are interested in supporting the Urban Caucus (i.e. writing testimony), please contact Francis Choe of my staff at 586-6470.

For Your Information

Hawaii State Legislature Bill Status and Documents

You may sign up for Hearing Notices via e-mail, review legislative packages, conduct research on bills, and submit testimony at
www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2011

Hawaii Senate Majority

To follow along with what the Senate Majority Caucus is doing this session, please log onto
www.hawaiisenatemajority.com

Public Access Room

The Public Access Room provides numerous services and resources that are made available to the public. The following are a few of the services that are made available:

- large-print reading materials
- Complete copy of the Hawaii Revised Statutes and annual updates, including Session Laws
- Dictionaries in various languages and almanacs
- Computers and office supplies to prepare testimony for Legislative hearings
- Information sheets on various topics

www.hawaii.gov/lrb/par



hawai'i public access room