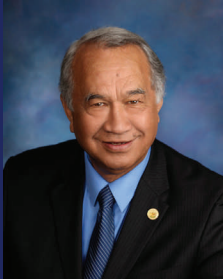


SENATOR GILBERT KAHELE

April 2013



Serving Hawai'i's
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<http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/kahele.aspx>

A Message from Senator Kahele

Aloha Mai Kākou!

As we enter the home stretch of the 2013 Legislative Session, I want to first and foremost thank you for the opportunity to represent the people of Hilo and also provide a brief overview of the session thus far.

The 2013 legislative session has past the halfway point and my colleagues and I have been working extremely hard for the residents of our great State. Having completed the first crossover and approaching the second, we are almost done with committee hearings on the roughly 380 bills that have been sent to our chamber from the House.

Important issues such as strengthening our local economy, creating jobs for our local people, investing in our public education system, reducing our energy costs, protecting our precious environment and drafting our State's budget are our top priorities.

Again, mahalo nui loa for your support. I sincerely appreciate your trust and confidence in me and I look forward to meeting you again to discuss how together we can make Hawai'i a better place for future generations.

Hau'oli ka mana'o

Education Week at the Capitol

March 18 - March 22



Senator Kahele in the Capitol Rotunda observing the keiki as they sing and play games.



Senator Kahele stopped by the book sale and purchased a few books for his grandchildren.



Free blood pressure checks were conducted by UH Hilo Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy students.

Monday, March 18th was 'Early Education in Hawai'i: What's at Stake?' with the Executive Office on Early Learning spearheading a talk story session with educational leaders and early learning advocates.

Tuesday, March 19th was hosted by the Hawai'i Public Charter Schools Network and its theme was "Flavors of Hawai'i Charter Schools." With over ten public Charter Schools on hand, representatives from each school held presentations for the legislators.

Wednesday, March 20th was UH Day. This year's theme was "Healthy People, Healthy Pets." The event included interactive exhibits by various UH campuses including the University of Hawai'i at Hilo Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy.

Thursday, March 21st the Friends of the Library of Hawai'i hosted a book sale. Of the many books on hand; cookbooks, travel, and fiction were amongst the popular choices.

Friday, March 22nd was Military in the Schools and Youth Engagement Legislative Hearing Day. JROTC Color Guard from four High Schools demonstrated their hard work and commitment in the Capitol Rotunda. Later that day, High School students from across the state including students from both Hilo and Waiakea High Schools had the opportunity to learn about the legislative process and testify before the Senate Committee on Education.

State Senators Honor our Constituents

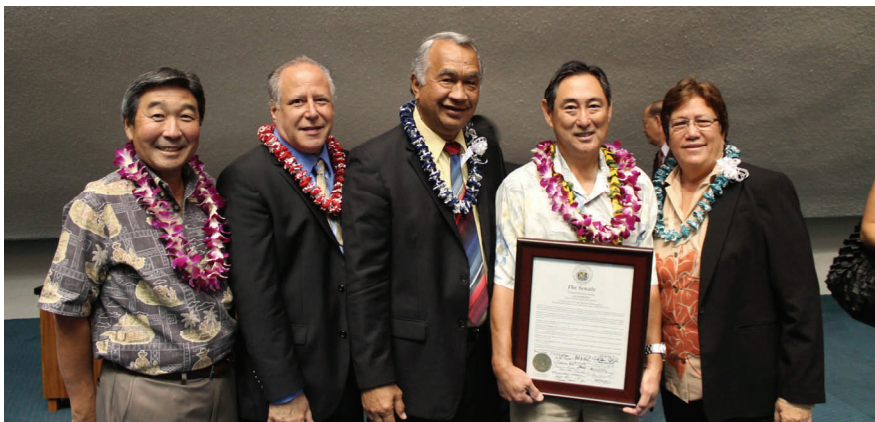


The Senate honored and commemorated the late Hawai'i County Councilmember Spencer Kalani Schutte during its floor session on Thursday, March 7th. Senators presented his family with a Certificate of Recognition for his advocacy and work to help the less fortunate.



With the 50th anniversary of the Merrie Monarch just a few days away, the Hawai'i State Senate honored this momentous occasion during its floor session on Friday, March 8th. Today, the festival is under the direction of the late Aunty Dottie Thompson's daughter Luana Kawelu and granddaughters Colleen and Kathleen Kawelu.

Senator Kahele presents a Senate Certificate to Colleen Kawelu on behalf of her mother and sister.



Big Island Candies President and Chief Executive Officer Allan Ikawa received a Certificate of Recognition from the Hawai'i State Senate on Thursday, March 14th for recently being awarded the Entrepreneurial Success Award for the State of Hawai'i. The award was part of the 2013 Small Business Administration's (SBA) Small Business Awards. The Entrepreneurial Success Award is given to a business that started small by SBA standards, then developed into a large successful business.

Year of General Aviation

Governor Neil Abercrombie has declared 2013 "*The Year of General Aviation*" making the State of Hawai'i the 48th state to officially recognize the importance of general aviation, including business aviation.

Before issuing the proclamation, Governor Abercrombie released more than \$100 million for various capital improvement projects throughout the state's airports including the Hilo International Airport.

With Governor Abercrombie's proclamation and the release of more than \$100 million in CIP's for Hawai'i airports, it is evident that the time has come for the University of Hawai'i at Hilo and Hawai'i Community College to produce a world class International Aviation Training Program. SB1221 a measure that I introduced this session would do just that.

PISCES Board of Directors and Hawai'i Aerospace Advisory Committee Nominees

Governor Abercrombie recently submitted twelve nominees for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Directors of the Pacific International Space Center for Exploration Systems (PISCES) and the Hawai'i Aerospace Advisory Committee (HAAC). All twelve individual Gubernatorial nominees were confirmed by the State Senate. Three of them were:

George Ariyoshi: Governor of the State of Hawaii 1973-1986. (PISCES)

Donald Straney: Chancellor of the University of Hawai'i at Hilo. (HAAC)

Peter Quigley: University of Hawai'i, Community Colleges, Associate Vice President Academic Affairs. He is also a technical advisor to the Aviation Exploratory Committee convened by Governor Abercrombie in 2012. (HAAC)



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