

HAU'OLI MAKAHIKI HOU!

January 2015



Serving Hawai'i's
Senate District 1 - Hilo
Majority Caucus Leader
Chair, Committee on Tourism
and International Affairs



A Message from Senator Kahele

Aloha!

I would like to wish you and your families much happiness and good health in the coming new year!

The 2015 legislative session will open on January 21st, and although the legislative process is fast paced and can be overwhelming at times, I encourage each and every one of you to participate in the legislative process. As more individuals participate in the legislative process, public policy is more diverse rather than shaped by well-resourced individuals.

One of the great insights of Kamehameha the Great was his recognition of the duty of our government to respect and preserve the right of all citizens to enjoy safety and security in their lives. Malamahoe kanawai, the 'Law of the Splintered Paddle,' now codified in our state constitution, stands as a unique and living symbol of our state's concern for public safety. But we must be willing to take that further and see safety and security in a broader light. Whenever we look at capital improvement projects throughout our communities, we must realize that we are witnessing more than simply another construction project. Rather, this is a reflection of our government's commitment to the safety and quality of life for our residents. Whatever economic challenges our state may be facing at this moment, we must continue to invest in our communities. No single community should be asked to shoulder the burden of inadequacy. Beyond that, our continued commitment to capital improvements helps move our economy forward, injecting cash into the marketplace and keeping our people on the job.

In conclusion, I will work hard for all of you as the Senate Majority Caucus Leader and Chair of the Senate Committee of Tourism and International Affairs during this 28th Legislative session. As always, my office and staff are always open, we welcome your ideas and encourage you to be part of the legislative process. Wishing you all a very prosperous New Year!

Hau'oli ka mana'o,



Opening Day

*Senator Gilbert Kahele
cordially invites you to visit his*

*Senate office following the
Opening Day Ceremony*

*On Wednesday, the 21st of January
Two-thousand and fifteen, 12 noon
Hawai'i State Capitol, Room 213*

*The Opening Day Ceremony will begin at
10:00 am in the Senate Chamber. Guest
seating in the Senate Gallery will be available
on a first come, first served basis.*

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For an electronic version of this newsletter,
visit Senator Kahele's webpage:
<http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/kahele.aspx>

How to Check the Status of a Bill

If you would like to check the status of a particular bill, please visit the Capitol's website at:
<http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/>

Enter your bill number in the "Bill Status/Measure Status" box, located on the upper left side.

Below is an example of a status sheet from last year's legislative session. The status sheet provides a wealth of information about each bill.

By clicking on the bill number on the very top, you will be able to view the most current version of the bill.

Below the bill number will be a brief summary of the bill, followed by the progress of the bill.

On the right hand column, you will be able to view all versions of the bill, committee reports, testimonies submitted, as well as the hearing notices.

When a bill is scheduled for hearing, a "Submit Testimony" button will appear to the right of the bill number. By clicking on this button, you will be able to submit your testimony.



NCSL Fall Forum

Hawai'i Senators briefly met with United States Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx after his discussion on the current state of transportation funding.

L to R: Majority Leader Senator English, Transportation Chair Senator Nishihara, Secretary Foxx and Tourism Chair Senator Kahele.

2015 Legislative Calendar

- January 21st Opening Day.
- January 23rd Last day to introduce all packages of bills except for the administration's (State Executive Branch).
- January 26th State of the State Address. Last day to introduce the administration's package of bills (State Executive Branch).
- January 27th One-day recess.
- January 28th State of the Judiciary Address.
- January 29th Last day for bill introductions.
- January 30th Last day for organizations to submit grant and subsidy requests to the Legislature. One-day recess.
- February 11th One-day recess.
- February 26th - March 4th Mandatory 5-day recess.
- March 6th Filing deadline for First Decking. Last day to deck non-budget bills for Third Reading in the originating body.
- March 9th One-day recess.
- March 11th One-day recess.
- March 12th First Crossover. Last day for Third Reading of bills in the originating body.
- March 13th Last day to introduce substantive resolutions.
- March 16th Filing deadline for budget bills.
- March 18th Last day for Third Reading of budget bills in the originating body.
- April 9th First Crossover for concurrent resolutions. Last day to pass concurrent resolutions to the non-originating body.
- April 10th Filing deadline for Second Decking. Last day to deck bills that were amended by the receiving (non-originating) body.
- April 13th One-day recess.
- April 15th One-day recess.
- April 16th Second Crossover. Last day for Third Reading of bills that were amended by the receiving (non-originating) body. Disagree. Last day to disagree with the other body's drafts of bills.
- April 24th Deadline for transmitted of final form of Constitutional Amendments to Governor.
- April 27th Second Crossover for concurrent resolutions. Last day to pass concurrent resolutions that were amended by the receiving (non-originating) body.
- April 30th Last day to file non-fiscal bills to deck for Final Reading.
- May 1st Last day to file fiscal bills to deck for Final Reading.
- May 4th One-day recess.
- May 6th One-day recess.
- May 7th Adjournment Sine Die.