

# SENATOR GILBERT KAHELE



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



March 2015

## A Message From Senator Kahele

Aloha mai kakou,

We are almost half way through the 2015 Session. The Senate voted on measures on Tuesday, March 10th and the bills that passed will make the crossover to be heard in the House of Representatives. More than 325 bills passed the Senate.

Likewise, the House of Representatives voted on 534 House bills which now move to the Senate, including the State Biennium Budget (click on link for more on budget bill, [HB500](#)).

Many of you have been calling to ask the status of bills you support. Thank you for your calls. It gives us a chance to visit, and we appreciate hearing your views and suggestions.

If there is anything we can do for you, please do not hesitate to ask. As always, my office and my team are here for you, the constituents of Hilo.

Hau'oli ka mana'o,

HE POHŌ, O KE AKAMAI NO KE HANA A NUI.

*Problems happen.  
Use wisdom and skill to deal with them.*

## Hawai'i Says NO MORE!



More than a dozen of Hawai'i's leading government and non-profit organizations announced a new statewide initiative, Hawai'i Says NO MORE, in an effort to raise visibility, create awareness, encourage conversation and break the social acceptance surrounding domestic violence and sexual assault. In our state, 50,000 women are survivors of domestic violence and another 67,000 of sexual assault. On average, 500 women seek shelter everyday in Hawai'i.

In order to show their support for this cause, the Senators stood together to Say NO MORE during the legislation session on March 11, 2015. They are encouraging others to download the Hawai'i Says NO MORE Challenge sign from the website, write why they are saying NO MORE to domestic violence and sexual assault and upload a "selfie" with their sign to their social media with the hashtag:

**#HawaiiSaysNOMORE**



# Hilo High School Foundation Distinguished Service Awards

Senator Kahele flew back to Hawai'i Island to attend the 2015 Hilo High School Foundation Distinguished Service Awards event. He was honored to present Senate certificates to Margaret Oda, Gerald DeMello, Kazuma

Hisanaga (posthumous), and Renee Shindo (posthumous) on February 11, 2015. The Hilo High School Foundation was formed in 1990, with the purpose of creating and maintaining an endowment fund that would fund educational programs and activities at Hilo High School that would not or could not be funded from State of Hawai'i funds. The Foundation annually provides the school with the interest earnings for distribution to programs. A committee designated by the Principal solicits and reviews proposals from faculty for new and innovative programs that benefit the educational experience of Hilo High School students.



Senator Kahele shaking hands with one of the honorees and long time friend Gerald DeMello.

## Japanese Community Association of Hawai'i

Senator Kahele attended the 43rd Shinnen Enkai and Installation Banquet on Sunday, January 25, 2015 at the Hilo Naniloa Hotel Crown Room for the Japanese Community Association of Hawai'i (JCAH).

The JCAH was chartered in 1974 and their membership includes 420 families. Their mission is to encourage, promote and implement programs and activities for the welfare and betterment of the community; to promote and preserve Japanese culture, and to foster harmony and fellowship within its membership in the County of Hawai'i.

Senator Kahele with First Lady Jean Ariyoshi and Governor George Ariyoshi; who spoke on the theme of "Gaman," which means patience, endurance, and perseverance in Japanese.



## Senate Leadership



(L to R) First Row: Senator Kahele, *Majority Caucus Leader*; Senator English, *Majority Leader*; Senator Tokuda, *Ways and Means Chair*; Senator Kim, *President*; and Senator Taniguchi, *Majority Whip*. Second Row: Senator Ihara, *Majority Policy Leader*, Senator Espero, *Vice President* and Senator Green, *Majority Floor Leader*.

## Photos From Opening Day



Senator Kahele's 'Ohana



Governor David Ige



Lieutenant Governor Shan Tsutsui



Chief Justice Mark E. Recktenwald



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