



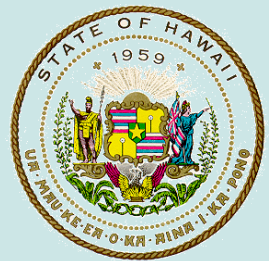
SENATOR MICHELLE KIDANI

District 17 Mililani ~ Mililani Mauka ~ Waipi'o ~ Waipi'o Gentry

Vice Chair of Ways and Means; Vice Chair of Education

Vice Chair of Public Safety, Military and Intergovernmental Affairs

Member, Hawaiian Affairs Committee



April 2011

Report

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Happy Spring from Senator Kidani



Aloha,

As we fast approach the end of Session the Senate is not slowing down. On April 12th, the Senate passed out the Budget with our amendments. We were able to cut spending while making every effort to keep priorities such as Education intact.

We now begin the conference process with less than a quarter of the bills that we started with in the beginning of Session. Conference is when both the House and Senate sit down to negotiate differences in a bill in order to come to an agreement on those differences. I have been assigned to over 60 conference bills and plan on being very busy. After negotiations all legislation must be finalized and forwarded to the Governor for his consideration by the last day of our 2011 session, Thursday, May 5, 2011.

With the projection on March 10th by the Council on Revenues Hawaii faces a budget deficit of nearly \$1 billion over the next two year. The Legislature's priority and greatest challenge will be to preserve essential Services for the public while balancing the state budget. Many have urged the state to cut deeper into the budget before raising taxes or fees. Many have also asked that we continue to fund programs that help our elderly and our needy.

In 2010 the state closed the \$1.2 billion deficit by half by cutting many programs and services. Because of this many of our State and City services have been cut to the bone as told in recent articles about long lines at the Department of Health for birth records and Marriage licenses and long lines at Satellite City Hall. We now have to concenter other alternatives than simply cutting more of our state services. I am still open to ideas that will preserve our way of life while being fiscally responsible.

On a brighter note, last month I was proud to honor our very own Hawaii Five-0

television series featuring our beautiful island, congratulating them on a very successful first season. Some of the television stars and CBS producers and Vice President was in attendance to receive honors and kudos. We focused on the kind of revenue that shows like Hawaii Five-0 bring to our island State.

My staff and I also held 2nd FoodBank fundraiser brining out total donation to over \$1,100 as an office. We also participated in the annual Easter Basket donations to HIS.

As we are in our final days of Session your comments and suggestions are always welcome. Please feel free to visit me at my office or contact me by phone, fax, or email. Thank you for your continued support.

Me ke Aloha Pumehana,

Michelle



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Bottom L-R:

Mia Kim, Daniel Dae Kim, Glenn Geller, Senator Kidani, Peter Lenkov, Rep. Takai, Alex O'Loughlin, Rep. C. Lee, Paul Zbyszewski

Top Row:

Diana Jackson, Jessica Petelle, Angela Laprete, Al Harrington, Jeffrey Downer, Brad Turner, Erika Kauffman.



Hawaii Five-0 and Film Industry Honored

On March 31st Senator Kidani recognized and commended CBS as well as the cast and crew of Hawaii Five-0 for an excellent and successful first season. The original Hawaii Five-0 ran for 12 seasons from 1967 through 1980.

On September 20, 2010, CBS launched their most highly anticipated new show of the 2010 season on the 42nd anniversary of the original 5-O. The new Hawaii 5-0 became a hit domestically and internationally almost instantly. Fortunately for Hawaii the new show once again focused attention and millions of dollars of free advertising to our state.

The creative industries division of the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism is a vital part of driving the State's creative economy.

Its sectors include the arts, culture, music, film, television, digital and new media. Combined, the creative industries division contributed over \$4,000,000,000 to the State's gross domestic product in 2008 and 2009.

The film industry sector generated almost \$60,000,000 in tax revenue since the creation of the motion picture, digital media, and film production income tax credit.

The creative industries, particularly film and television productions, go to great lengths to hire locally and invest in training and workforce development of island based

personnel.

The three television series and one independent feature film that recently filmed in Hawaii in 2004-North Shore, Hawaii, LOST, and Tides of War- had crews consisting of 85 to percent Hawaii residents. More recent blockbuster productions, such as Tropic Thunder, Pirates of the Caribbean 4, and Hawaii Five-0, also have made use of a significant number of local talent and crew.

Senator Kidani urged the Senate to support the film, television, and digital media industries for the following reasons. First, these industries infuse significant amounts of new money into the economy, which is dispersed across many communities and businesses and benefits a wide array of residents.

The creative industries also creates skilled and high-paying jobs, have a natural dynamic synergy with Hawaii's top industry, tourism, and is used as a destination marketing tool for the visitor industry.

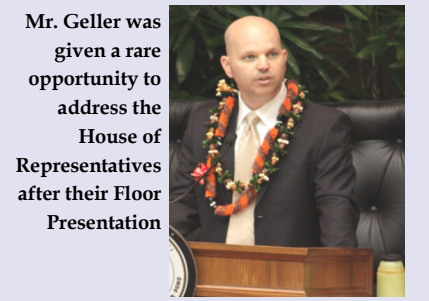
Senator Kidani concluded her Floor presentation by introducing the stars and special guests. Senior Vice President of Current Programming for CBS Paramount Network Television, Mr. Glenn Geller. Executive Producer for Hawaii Five-0, Mr. Peter Lenkov. Steve McGarret, played by Mr. Alex O'Loughlin. Chin Ho Kelly played by Mr. Daniel Dae Kim.



Being Honored in the Senate Floor



Senator Kidani's Speech



Mr. Geller was given a rare opportunity to address the House of Representatives after their Floor Presentation



In 1967, the Hawaii State Legislature passed the Art-in-State-Buildings law. Signed by Governor John A. Burns, the law established the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts, Art in Public places Program. The concept of statewide "museum without walls", comprised of site-specific commission works of art and portable relocatable works of art, the program places art in publicly accessible state buildings to expand aesthetic opportunities as part of daily life. Relocatable works of art, which can be seen throughout the Capitol, are intended to be rotated throughout Hawaii at different display sites in order for all people of the state to have access to view visual arts in various styles, techniques and media.

Each year in April the Hawaii State Capitol opens its doors after hours to allow the public to peruse our offices and see all the art we are privileged to have. Senator Kidani participates every year and gives a guided tour of her office space to all of the visitors. The picture that was taken is with her favorite art piece in her office by the artist, Sally French. It is a 2008 digital photography named *Fumiko: Keeper of the Meek*.



Bill Updates

SB934 SD2 HD1: Cyberbullying; Establishes a bullying and cyberbullying policy for all public schools. Establishes reporting requirements - Carried over **HB688 a very watered down version of the cyberbullying bill is currently in conference.**

HB1513 HD1 SD2: Weed and Seed Program; Establishes a permanent weed and seed program within DLIR. Appropriates funds.—**Conference committee scheduled for Thursday 4/28/11 @ 2pm.**

HB945 HD2 SD1: Delays the required increases and plan for increases in instructional time pursuant to section 302A-251, Hrs, and section 4 of Act 167, Session Laws of Hawaii 2010. Exempts multi-track public schools from Act 167. Includes reporting requirements. - **Conference committee scheduled for 4/20/11 @ 2pm**

SB1375 SD1 HD1: Instructional Days; Multi Track Public Schools requires multi track public schools to meet at least 171 days or 90% of the minimum number of days required of other public schools- **Carried over to 2012 Session in House Finance Committee (FIN)**

SB641: Fireworks; Requires labeling of display fireworks; requires notification to the county by shipping companies and freight forwarders of incoming fireworks; requires licensee to provide certain info to the county fire department- **This language was incorporated into SB172SD1HD1; passed in conference.**

SB1503 SD2: Department of Education; Education of Students with Disabilities; Accreditation. Requires certain private special education schools and programs that provide services to students with disabilities who receive state funding to comply with federal and state laws, rules and regulations. **Conference scheduled for 4/20/2011**

SCR153: Requesting the installation of automatic sprinklers or application of certified fire-retardant coatings in newly constructed one and two-family residential dwellings to be required under the state building code. - **Referred to Senate Public Safety/ Water, Land and Housing (PGM/WLH)**

SCR157: Requesting a pilot project to study and reduce the morning traffic congestion on the Meheula Parkway going onto the H2 freeway from Mililani Mauka. - **Passed Transportation and International Affairs and Public Safety Committee (TIA/PGM)**



- 3rd** Last Day for Advise & Consent
- 5th** Adjournment Sine Die
- 22nd** Waipahu High School Graduation 6pm
- 26th** Waipahu Neighborhood Board Meeting 7pm



On April 11th Senator Kidanis office participated in the sale of home-made Puerto-Rican Plates to benefit the Hawaii

FoodBank. The office staff made pasteles casserole, bacalau salad, gandule rice and corn-bread.

The benefit was a huge success and we were able to make a great contribution benefiting Hawaii's FoodBank.



The Legislative Women's Caucus donated more than 150 Easter Baskets to The Institute for Human Services (IHS) on April 20th. Senator Kidani and staff helped to prepare baskets filled with essential household items, such as laundry soaps, toothbrushes, toothpaste, and shampoo, will benefit clients at IHS.

The baskets will help families and individuals start off on the right foot when moving from being homeless to having a permanent home. Last year, The Institute for Human Services helped more than 1,200 individuals transition into housing.

Meet My Staff: Kelly Oku

Kelly Oku is a Legislative Aide that has recently joined our office. She grew up in Southern California and moved to the islands in 1989. She is married to Bill Oku her wonderful husband of 11 years . Kelly's children keep her very busy with school and sports. She donates her time helping with her children's teams and supporting their school functions. In her free time Kelly enjoys staying active outdoors, swimming in the ocean and cooking for her family.



Honoring Hawaii's Fallen Military Ohana

The Hawaii Medal of Honor Ceremony was held on March 29, 2011 at the State Capitol. The 2011 Medal of Honor Recipients gathered in the Senate Chambers for a heartfelt program that included 17 Honor Recipients. One of the young men was a Specialist Toby R. Olsen from the United States Army. Specialist Toby R. Olsen was awarded the HMOH in 2007, however his family was able to receive the award at this year's ceremony. Our heart goes out to all the men and women serving our wonderful country.



Senator Michelle Kidani was able to meet with Olsen Ohana, Army Colonel Jim and his wife Lis as they accepted the Medal of Honor for their son Specialist Toby R. Olsen. Senator Kidani was able to express her thanks for their sacrifice and to listen to Lis Olsen tell how she is healing by helping other families that have lost loved ones in the War as the Army Community Service outreach director.

The program consisted of a Governors' message, Presentation of Certificates, a 21 Gun Salute and Taps from the Marine Forces Pacific Band. Following the ceremony the families were invited to attend fellowship with families and Legislators.

Symbolism of the Hawaii Medal of Honor

The Hawaii Medal of Honor was designed by Sergeant First Class Aaron Pollick from the National Guard.

This Medal consists of the following six components, superimposed on each other:

Circle of Kalo Leaves: The kalo leaves represent the family or Ohana. The leaves are designed in an encircled fashion and represent the concept of Ohana, which we strive to embrace.

Coat of Arms: The Great Shield is the keystone of the design. The eight bars represent the eight major islands of the state of Hawaii. The kapu sticks symbolize authority or protection. The star in the center of the medallion is the Star of Hawaii, the 50th star on the flag of the United States. This star also represents the honorees of this prestigious award.

Maltese Cross: The Maltese Cross represents the four directional axes of the globe, denoting Hawaii as the Crossroads of the Pacific.

Sun Rays: The irradiant sun is the symbol of the new era. Its position in the center of the Maltese Cross represents our sunny shores and warm hearts ever shining on all the corners of the world.

The Neck Drape: The neck drape is the red and golden yellow in color. These colors symbolize the royal monarchy that once ruled these islands. The red represents courage and strength. The golden yellow depicts the honor that the recipients have brought to our islands.

Service Ribbon & Attachment: The service ribbon represents distinguished service. Its colors are identical to the color of the neck drape. The attachment device at the middle of the ribbon is an ancient flag of the Hawaiian Chiefs.



Senator Kidani's Staff

Park Kaliwahea
Legislative Office Manager

Joan Manke
Legislative Aide ~ Hawaiian
Committee

Kelly Oku
Legislative Aide ~ Public Safety,
Government Operations, and
Military Affairs

Shane Strong
UH Intern ~ Education
Committee;