

## Aloha Neighbors,

My "Crossover Survey" covered 5 Senate Bills that made it through the Senate Chamber and were about to cross over to the House Chamber. As promised, I am reporting your results, the Senate results, my vote and why I voted that way.

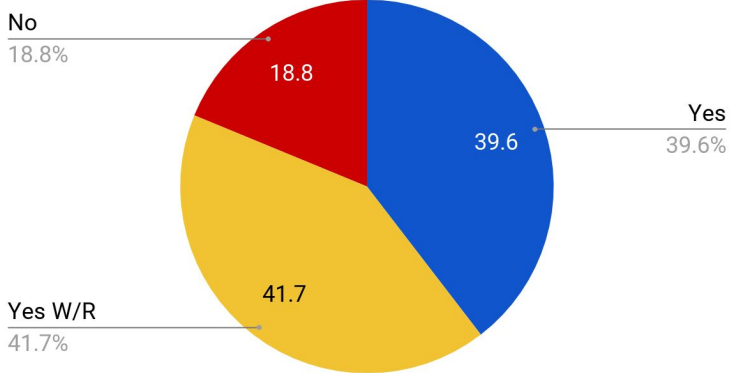
If you would like to take future surveys or receive our newsletter please send a request to: [senthielen@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:senthielen@capitol.hawaii.gov).

### First Crossover Survey Results

Mahalo,

Senator Laura Thielen

#### 1) Aloha Homes Program SB1

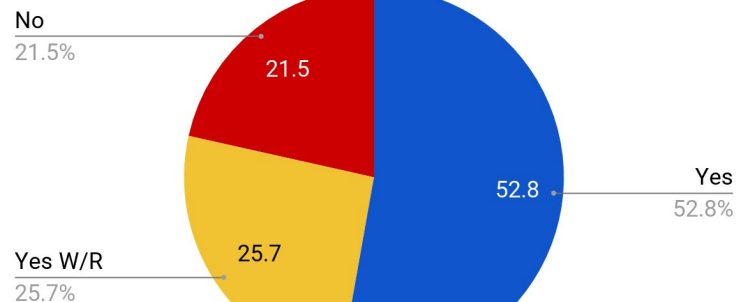


Shall a program be established to facilitate the development of low-cost homes, which are available only to Hawaii residents who don't own any other residential property, as leasehold sales on state land near rail stations?

Answer	Senate	Responses
Yes	24	57
Yes, with reservations	1	60
No	0	27

I voted yes because we need more homes for Hawaii residents - we have the lowest percentage of homeowners in the nation. Residents who have no choice but renting are stuck in a cycle of rising rents, no mortgage deduction, and often having to disrupt their families when they are forced to move.

#### 2) Repeals Statute of Limitations for Child Sex Abuse SB 1035

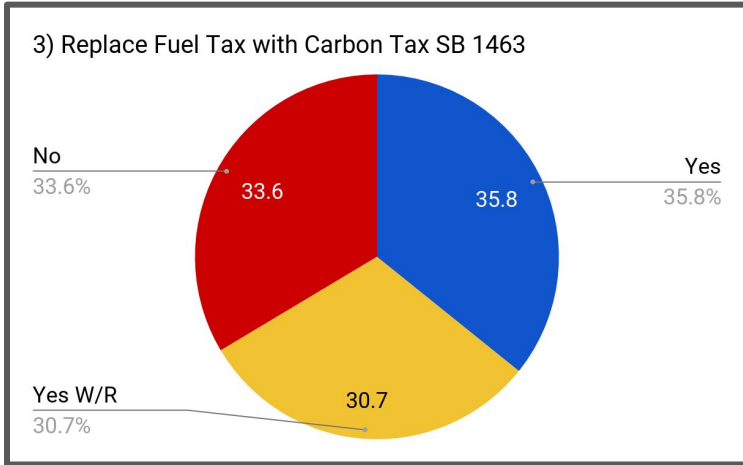


Shall an adult survivor of child sexual abuse be allowed to bring a lawsuit for civil damages against the perpetrator at any time? (Eliminates the statute of limitations on civil actions for sexual abuse of a child)

Answer	Senate	Responses
Yes	23	76
Yes, with reservations	0	37
No	0	31

I voted yes. Child victims of abuse often suppress memories. These can surface later in life when, as adults, they have children of their own. They should have the ability to bring an action seeking civil damages.

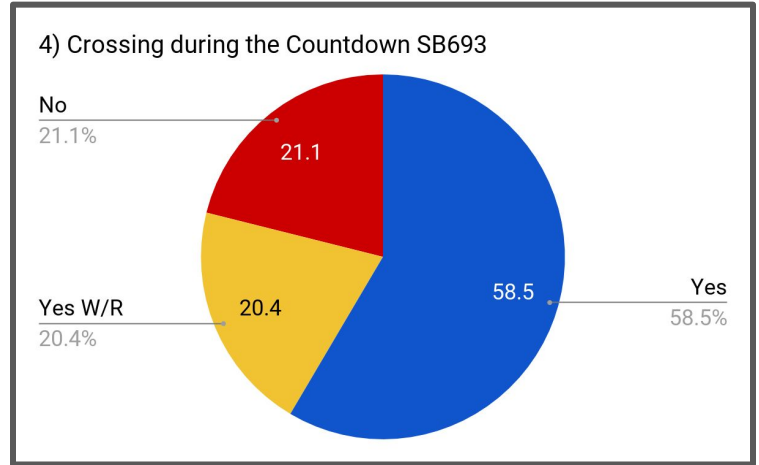
# First Crossover Survey Results



Shall a “carbon tax” be issued on products that emit carbon (eliminating the gas tax, and replacing it with a carbon tax)?

Answer	Senate	Responses
Yes	20	49
Yes, with reservations	4	42
No	0	46

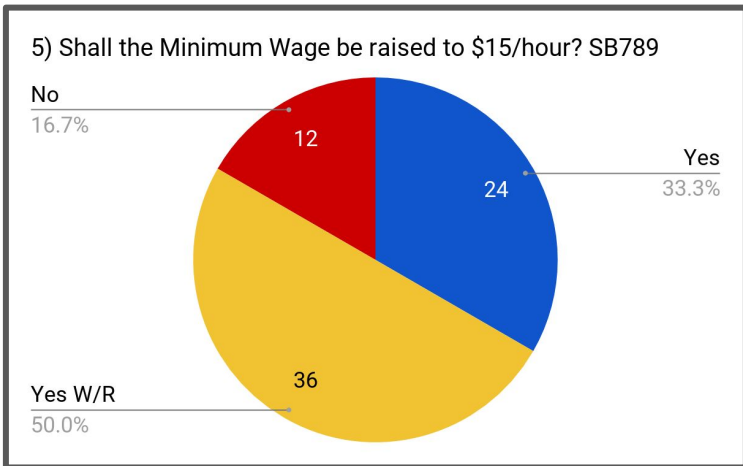
I voted yes, even though this bill needs more discussion and more work. I wanted the bill to move forward to have more hearings, bring some UH economists to the table, and find ways to tax activity that generates harmful pollution in order to discourage it, and encourage more renewable energy.



Shall pedestrians be allowed to enter the crosswalk during the flashing countdown timer, so long as they finish crossing the street before the timer ends?

Answer	Senate	Responses
Yes	20	86
Yes, with reservations	3	30
No	0	31

I voted yes on third reading. I completely support allowing pedestrians to start crossing the street during the countdown so long as there’s time for them to get to the other side before the light turns to the red flashing signal.

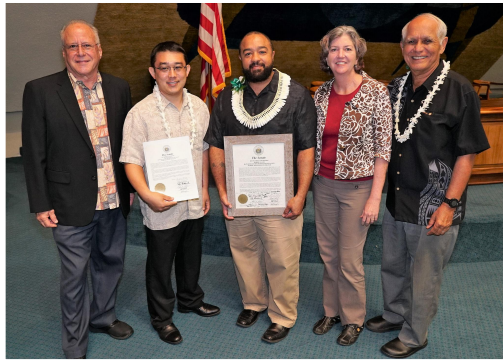


Shall the minimum wage be incrementally increased to \$15 per hour by 2023, provided that there is a tax credit for small businesses – fewer than 50 employees – to help offset the increased cost of wages?

Answer	Senate	Responses
Yes	18	91
Yes, with reservations	5	29
No	1	27

I voted yes. The bill phases increases over time, and also provided some relief to small businesses based on number of employees. This is a fair compromise.

# 2019 Legislative Highlights



## March 15, 2019 | The Senate honors Albert Scales

Senator Thielen was honored to recognize Albert Scales, who serves as the program administrator for the Hawaii State Department of Education: Farm to School Initiative. Mr. Scales has led the team to successfully bring fresh and local produce into our public schools across the State of Hawaii.

## Women's Legislative Caucus

Senator Thielen serves as one of the co-conveners of the Women's Legislative Caucus, along with Maui Senator Rosalyn Baker. This year, the WLC continues to work to work on meaningful legislation help benefit women and children all across the state. The WLC introduced a total of 20 pieces of legislation, 10 each from the House and Senate.



## Senate Committee on Government Operations

Senator Thielen serves as the chair of the Senate Committee on Government Operations for the 2019 Legislative Session. The purview of the committee includes those programs relating to state government operations policy, including government efficiency, The Procurement Code, and state facilities.

For more information, please visit <https://bit.ly/2UjgpDT>

## Stay Involved with the Legislative Process

Senator Thielen encourages you to continue to stay involved with the Legislative Process. As we approach conference committee hearings, we look forward to hearing your thoughts on important pieces of legislation that will affect you and your families. Please feel free to call my office anytime or send me an email.



# Community Information



## Pali Highway Update

As repairs continue to Oahu’s Pali Highway the Hawaii Department of Transportation (HDOT) provided an update on the status of the repairs and schedule for highway access.

Visit this link for more information:  
<https://bit.ly/2ClxHQN>

- Honolulu bound morning contraflow: Two lanes of Honolulu bound traffic are available Monday through Friday between 5 a.m. and 9 a.m.
- Kailua/Kaneohe bound lanes open for evening commute. Access to the Kailua/Kaneohe bound lanes of Pali Highway are available Monday through Friday between 3 p.m. and 7 p.m.



## Download the Go Akamai App

Go Akamai is a travel tool designed to make your commute easier and faster! The website offers the most comprehensive information about real time traffic conditions on Oahu's roadways 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Go Akamai is a free web service that consolidates the region's transportation information into a one-stop resource. The website provides up-to-date information on traffic conditions; schedule, route and fare information for public transportation services; carpool and vanpool referrals; roadway construction information and more.

For more info, visit <http://goakamai.org/>



## KĀKOU: Tap into Democracy

The KĀKOU civic engagement app makes it easy for users to engage with elected officials and participate in the legislative process. Available both on iOS and Android devices.