VOL.10 issue 7 09.14.2010



SENATOR J. KALANI ENGLISH HAWAI'I STATE SENATE ▲ 6TH DISTRICT HĀNA ▲ EAST & UPCOUNTRY MAUI MOLOKA'I ▲ LĀNA'I ▲ KAHO'OLAWE

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FROM THE EDITORS

Since the end of the 2010 Legislative Session we have been tracking our Senator across the Pacific. Senator English is a busy man, even while traveling he has managed to attend special session, confirmed a new Chief Justice and remarked on various improvement projects throughout his district. We have remained in constant communications with our Senator via Skype, email and phone to bring you this issue.

With this extended newsletter we bring you the events of the season as we all catch up with Senator English. We hope you will enjoy this update as much as we enjoyed documenting the journey.

Aloha, Lauraine, Alan, and Sharon

New Water Tanker Truck for East Maui Begins Service at Hana Fire Station

The County of Maui Department of Fire and Public Safety held a blessing July 6, 2010 at Hana Fire Station for a new water tanker truck, Tanker 7, which will serve East Maui. The blessing was conducted by Juanita Áluanu "Auntie Carol" Kapu-Kawaiaea, and Sen. English. In attendance were Fire Chief Jeffrey Murray, Deputy Fire Chief Robert Shimada, Community Development Block Program Manager Carol Gentz, Police Lieutenant Jeraul Pladera, Fire personnel and members of the East Maui community.



Tanker 7 demonstrates its top-mounted spray.

Tanker 7 was purchased with federal funds through the County's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program; at a cost of \$527,597. The truck's name, Kawaiola, means "waters of life."

"This 4x4 tanker has been on our department's wish-list for a long time," said Fire Chief Jeffrey Murray, "Its ability to handle the area's narrow, winding roads and rugged terrain will help provide a greater level of fire protection for the community. Our department appreciates receiving much-needed and valuable funding to bring this important fire-fighting equipment to East Maui."

The truck, built by E-One in Ocala Florida, utilizes an International 7600 4X4 chassis with a Cummins diesel engine, 1800-gallon water tank and 30-gallon foam tank. Other features include a 500 gallon-per-minute (GPM) pump, a 500 GPM remote-controlled and cab-controlled top-mount monitor, a 150 GPM cab-controlled front bumper monitor, 500 GPM cab-controlled side sprays, a 2000-gallon portable side-mounted water tank and various portable power and hand tools.



Sen. J. Kalani English joins Maui County Fire Chief Jeff Murray and his staff at the blessing of the new fire truck for Kawaiola. Hana, July 6, 2010. (L-R) Assistant Fire Chief David Thyne, Battalion Chief Derrick Arruda, Sen. English, Fire Chief Jeff Murray, Deputy Fire Chief Robert Shimada.

~ MAUI STEPS UP ~ SENATOR ENGLISH'S REMARKS ON RECENT IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS TO HARBORS, AIRPORTS, TRAVEL PLANNING

EDS Integration Improvements Ceremony, Phase II ~ Kahului Airport, June 10, 2010

There was a time when travelers came to Maui solely by the sea. The waterfront was a place to gather, to mark arrivals and departures, and to witness a change in the character of our island.

Today those comings and goings, and the foundation of our number one industry, have shifted here, to Kahului Airport. We still gather, reunite and bid farewell as we have always done, but in surroundings that move faster and, sadly, present challenges in security that sometimes interfere with the smooth operation of this hub of activity.

This second phase of the EDS Integration project touches each of those benefits and challenges. It brings greater efficiency to arriving travelers, and benefits the operation of the airport through infrastructure improvements. It provides the foundation for greater security measures in a time when the safety of our travelers and the security of our country have risen to become primary concerns. For all of that, we should all be grateful, and I am proud to be here to celebrate those achievements.

But there is another side to this project. Its two years of construction has provided jobs and financial support to many Maui residents, keeping them working and contributing to our economy at a time when our state has faced its greatest economic challenges in memory. Funded in part through the federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, it represents a concerted government effort to keep us - as a nation and as a state - on track to emerge from our financial difficulties and to support the working men and women who are at the core of our economy.

I spend a lot of time in this airport, traveling to Honolulu to serve in the Senate or across the Pacific to meet and consult with my colleagues who represent other Pacific Island states and nations. I will never look at it the same way again. Yes, it is the hub of the arrivals and departures that have helped build our great diverse community. It is the lynchpin of our primary economic driver. But it is also a symbol of our commitment to support our economy from the ground up, to keep our focus on our friends, neighbors and families who want nothing more than to stay on the job and provide for those around them. Because for all the comings and goings, that is something that can stay right here on Maui.

5-1-1 Traveler Information Website, Dedication Ceremony, August 10, 2010

Most frequent travelers learn that whether your trip is across town or across the Pacific, there is no substitute for reliable information. Until now, the irony has been that it was easier to get information on how to get to Tahiti than how to get to Hawai'i Kai. Which route is the least congested? Which bus should I catch? Where is there road construction?

I am pleased to see that the state Department of Transporta-



tion, the Honolulu Department of Transportation Services and Oahu Transit have teamed up to help Honolulu travelers and commuters get where they need to go. I look forward to the program's expansion across the state, especially to Maui, where traffic congestion is becoming more of a concern.

I have commented several times at these events that traffic congestion and travel times are quality of life issues for Hawai'i residents. How time spent in our cars is time spent away from family, and how the wear of a commute can drain the energy we might have for more entertaining activities. Go Akamai certainly fits into that category. But it struck me recently how many of these relatively inexpensive but highly effective programs we have seen in the past few months. So I want to say a special "Mahalo" to everyone involved, for continuing to make these improvements and for helping our Hawai'i residents who just want to get where they're going. And especially to Brennon Morioka and his DOT team, "good job" again.

ARRA TIGER I Grant Award, Groundbreaking Ceremony, August 20, 2010

Today's groundbreaking stands as vital recognition of the place our harbors continue to play in Hawai'i's economy. An active waterfront is a sign of economic activity, and expanding our cargo capacity will preserve our ability to serve our citizens and support our state's economic needs. Just as importantly, though, I'd like to take a moment to recognize where the funding for these improvements came from. We call it "TIGER" and "ARRA," but we should acknowledge that the money we have received to improve these facilities came as the result of federal stimulus programs.

Through stimulus, the U.S. government has accepted and acted upon its duty to support local markets, revitalize local economies, and build our future by putting people back to work. Without a doubt, we owe Senator Inouye and the rest of our Congressional delegation tremendous thanks for helping shepherd Hawai'i's grant application through the process. And we owe the Obama administration our gratitude for their support of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act that is helping guide or local and national economies on the road to recovery.

This investment in Hawai'i's economy will pay dividends today and long into the future. Right now, we will have the benefit of more jobs to get Hawai'i working again. Infrastructure improvements are and have long been an important tool of economic revitalization. And these harbor facilities will serve us as long as we rely on oceangoing transportation for consumer goods, which I believe will be many generations.

I also want to add my thanks to Brennon Morioka and the staff at the Department of Transportation for assembling and guiding the grant application that made this funding possible. Brennon has been a great inspiration and has shown incredible leadership in revitalizing Hawai'i's transportation infrastructure.

Moloka'i Community Health Center Groundbreaking Ceremony

The writer Kurt Vonnegut once said that he could think of no more stirring symbol of man's humanity to man than a fire truck. I agree, because it is a material example of the facilities and effort a community is willing to put forth to help others.

Today, here on Moloka'i, we are witnessing the birth of another such symbol of humanity. The strength of a community rests in part on the health of its people. The construction of the Moloka'i Community Health Center illustrates that the residents of Kaunakakai will share in the lifetime benefits of accessible health care.

Across our nation, too many find their access to effective healthcare blocked,



Senator Daniel Inouye and Senator J. Kalani English enjoy a moment at the groundbreaking of the Moloka'i Community Health Center. Kaunakakai, August 24, 2010.

whether by economics, distance, or cultural challenges. We are fortunate to live in a time when we our nation is witnessing changes, seeing some of those barriers fall. We owe a debt to Senator Inouye, our Congressional delegation, and the Obama administration for showing courage and discipline in addressing these needs.

But in our own state, especially in the rural areas, effective action to address our community's health care needs will also rely on action at the local level. We must be prepared to take care of our own.

I am pleased that the Moloka'i Community Health Center has made a commitment not only to delivering an array of health services to Moloka'i, but also to do it with respect and aloha. Moloka'i is a special place, closely knit and interdependent. I don't think I can over-emphasize how vital it will be to this facility's success and the community's benefit that the Health Center will reflect the culture and spirit of this unique community.

My thanks and congratulations to the Moloka'i Community Health Center and the Moloka'i Community. I look forward to the day when we see this center completed, and delivering services to a community in need.



US Senator Daniel Inouye, Sen. English, dignitaries and guests break ground at the Moloka'i Community Health Center. Kaunakakai, August 24, 2010.

Power Insurance for Maui Dialysis Patients

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A free-standing outpatient dialysis facility now provides great reassurance for Maui residents dependent upon life preserving dialysis treatments.

A ground breaking Ceremony was attended by State officials and supporters for the structure, the generator and the \$400,000 system at the Liberty Dialysis-Hawai'i Facility on July 9th.

In the event of a major power failure, the Caterpillar C9 Diesel Generator will be able to continue operating within 10 seconds of a loss of utility power and maintain operations for two days on a full 400-gallon diesel tank.



Rep. Gil Keith-Agaran, Sen. Shan Tsutsui, Sen. English, Rep. Mele Carroll, dialysis patient Bob Briggs, and Mayor Charmaine Tavares, breaking ground for Liberty Dialysis-Hawai'i. Kahului, July 9, 2010.



Leona Bak Nomura & Sen. English enjoying the traditional Independence Day Parade. Makawao, July 3.

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E. Keith Colston, Administrator, Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs greets Sen. English. Washington, DC. June 23, 2010.

Ignition Interlock Bill Signing Ceremony

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Senate Bill **SB2897** implements the recommendations of the Ignition Interlock Task Force and establishes a procedure to require the installation of ignition interlock systems for drivers convicted of driving under the influence. Upon the signing of the bill on June 14, 2010, Sen. English, who serves as Chair of the Senate Committee on Transportation, International and Intergovernmental Affairs, issued these statements:

This bill is a good example of weighing public burdens and benefits. I think we all agree that we need to further reduce the number of drivers operating their cars under the influence of alcohol. We've gotten that number down, but we still need to do more. Just as there is no single cause of this problem, there is no single solution. We need another tool to address it, and this ignition interlock legislation provides just such a tool.

I am hopeful that the balance achieved with this ignition interlock law will offer both an effective approach to ending repeat drunk driving offenses and a way to ensure the public's right to travel safe streets.

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HOTEL HANA~MAUI BLESSING FOR NEW OWNERSHIP

The iconic 70-room Hotel Hana-Maui held a colorful Hawaiian blessing ceremony today amid its picturesque oceanfront setting in the small rural community of Hana, on Maui's secluded eastern shore. The blessing celebrated a new beginning for the hotel under the management of Green Tea, LLC.

"You can't help falling in love with this place and the people here," said Joy Berry, president of Green Tea. "Hotel Hana-Maui's uniquely warm charm and intimacy amid the magical ambiance of Hana really can't be duplicated. Simply put, our goal is to provide an exceptional experience for our guests while nurturing opportunities for our employees and the local community."

Employees and guests of Hotel Hana-Maui and residents from the Hana community attended the ceremony. Several of Maui's elected officials and community leaders were also in attendance, including State Senator J. Kalani English and Councilman Bill Medeiros.

"We've made broad operational changes at the hotel and have received positive feedback from our guests and employees. We are planning physical improvements to the property and we are working on introducing several new guest activities that interact with the community," said Berry. "Overall, the property is in good shape. The key to success will be in the branding of the hotel and Hana experience."

"Today's blessing fills me with great pride and great hope," said Sen. English, "This new beginning for the Hotel Hana Maui means jobs for our community, so badly needed in these tough economic times. And it comes at the right moment, as we see our state's tourism numbers recovering and more visitors returning to experience the best of what Hawai'i has to offer; certainly, the rare beauty and lifestyle of Hana stands among Hawai'i's best."

"But reinvigorating the hotel means more. Having worked alongside Green Tea, LLC., I have faith in the company's commitment to serving as a good neighbor to our Hana residents. Like so many who treasure our 'aina and our culture, we in Hana have never been interested in trading our lifestyle and values for mere economic gain. Working with Green Tea, which has shown a sensitivity and commitment to our unique community, I believe that we can have both, said Sen. English.

"My first job was at the Hotel Hana Maui, so there is a special place in my heart for this gem of our community. With Green Tea and the community working together to preserve the best of each, I foresee a long and fruitful future for this partnership."

Green Tea, LLC, of Denver Colorado is a growing hotel company specializing in the management of distinctive boutique resorts in spectacular natural settings. Exceptional levels of service, world-class spas, and a wide variety of recreational options distinguish its properties for guests. Its management team has a strong background in all facets of resort operations.



Sen. J. Kalani English joins the new owners and management team along with hotel workers at the Hotel Hana Maui Blessing. Hana, August 20, 2010.

PROCLAMATION HONORS ULUPALAKUA RANCH

On Sunday Sept. 5, on the spectacular Ulupalakua Winery estate, musicians, friends, leaders and eco-champions gathered "Ulupalakua style". It was the perfect opportunity to recognize and honor Sumner Erdman of Ulupalakua Ranch for his commitment to the conservation and restoration of native Hawaiian resources, woodlands and wild open spaces.

Dr. Arthur Medeiros explained the deep recession of Haleakala's forests in a illustrative time line. Booths from Maui Coastal Land Trust, Maui Invasive Species, The Natural Area Reserve System and many more, provided additional information.

Sen. English thanked Sumner for setting a standard for Hawai'i in conservation efforts. In turn, Sumner added that, "Without leaders like Sen. English, conservation on Maui would not be possible." Senator English presented Sumner with the following State Senate proclamation:

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The richness and vitality of our State is largely a result of the efforts by civic minded organizations who give back so much to the community. For the last half-decade, Ulupalakua Ranch has been committed to the education, conservation and restoration of the unique historic areas on and around the ranch. Ulupalakua Ranch hosts seasonal events, "Ulupalakua Cares," in the fall, "Ulupalakua Remembers," in the spring, "Ulupalakua Inspires," in the summer and "Ulupalakua Sparkles," during winter that attempt to educate the community on the significance of the rich history, culture and beauty of the land and environment.

Ulupalakua Ranch is a dedicated conservation advocate who has recently donated more than 11,000 acres of ranchland to the Maui Coastal Land Trust, permanently protecting the area from development. With the help of volunteers and partner organizations, over 50 species of endangered or rare native trees are being nurtured and revitalized there. The ranch's goal is to restore the area to its former vast and biologically diverse ecosystem.



Sen. English presents Sumner Erdman of Ulupapakua Ranch a proclamation in recognition of their land conservation efforts. Ulupalakua, Sept 5, 2010.

Ulupalakua Ranch also maintains the Auwahi reforestation project, the most successful restoration of native dry land forest. The Leeward Haleakala Watershed Restoration Partnership, a coalition of the ranch and 10 other landowners are attempting to restore 43,175 acres of Koa forest on Haleakala. This coalition is setting a statewide example on how endangered biological and cultural resources can be protected.

The Senate of the Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawai'i hereby recognizes and honors Ulupalakua Ranch for its outstanding public service in promoting the conservation, protection, and restoration of Maui's unique natural resources.



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This was Sen. English's final General Assembly as President of APIL. Chris Sampson, Sen. English and Dan KenKnight; Parliament House. Tarawa, Kiribati, June 4, 2010.

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HAWAI'I STATE SENATE 2010 SESSION IN REVIEW

Still feeling the effects of Hawai'i's economic downturn, the Senate maintained its focus on the state budget, closing the budget gap without resorting to a broad-based tax increase. At the same time, the Senate also succeeded in maintaining investments in Capital Improvement Projects (CIP), helping to keep Hawai'i workers on the job, improving our public infrastructure, and supporting working families while encouraging economic development.

Looking beyond our immediate financial concerns, the Senate also passed bills touching on the most important areas of our lives, from helping our working families to protecting our environment, and from taking a fresh look at education to supporting small business.

Our success is measured both in how we face our immediate challenges and how we plan for Hawai'i's future; that is how we best serve you, the communities that have entrusted us with your well-being. We have taken action to make our Hawai'i a better place for all of us.

The Budget

While signs indicated that Hawai'i was poised to emerge from its current economic downturn, the legislature continued to face reduced funding upon which to balance the state budget. Still, by establishing priorities, focusing on critical needs, and maintaining a process of open discussion and negotiation, the House and Senate avoided a broad-based tax increase, and reduced the budget by \$324 million over the previous year's total.

At the same time, the FY 2011-2012 budget maintained funding for education, health and human services, and support for our agricultural industries. That included restoring \$3 million in funding for public libraries, which the governor had cut from her budget proposal.

Funding was also restored for defense (including financial, cemetery and staff positions to those who provide services to veterans), health (\$4.5 million in general funds for emergency medical services; \$2 million in special funds for community health centers; and \$300,000 in general funds for the disability and communications access board) and agriculture (45 general funded positions, half of which are plant quarantine inspectors, and \$2 million in general funds).

Capital Improvements Program

In addition to practicing fiscal responsibility, the legislature also sought proper capital improvement investments that would both avoid greater expenses in the future and help stimulate the economy. Funding capital improvement projects also allows the state to benefit from available incentives and programs, as well as favorable market conditions affecting the sale of bonds to finance necessary projects.

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For 2011, projects for the Department of Education total nearly \$190 million, including public school repair and maintenance, electrical upgrades at schools statewide, and other important investments in our school facilities and our students.

Projects within the University of Hawai'i system total over \$150 million, including renewal and deferred maintenance projects, improvements to research facilities, safety and code compliance, and campus development at the University of Hawai'i at West Oahu.

Other projects will impact Aloha Stadium, Hawai'i Health Systems Corporation, the Department of Agriculture, roads and harbor facilities, our communications backbone, and projects that maximize federal fund contributions.

At the same time, the legislature lapsed expiring, lower priority, or unnecessary previously-appropriated projects, and redirected those funds to higher priority needs.

Consumer Protection

With colorectal cancer established as the second leading cause of death in men and women, Senate Bill 2599 takes a vital step by specifying that colonoscopy - considered the "gold standard" in the detection of colorectal cancer - will now be a covered benefit by all health plans in the state. As of January 1, 2011, all plans issued or renewed in Hawai'i will be required to cover colonoscopy at age 50, along with other types of early detection methods.

Education

The Legislature helped address the lingering issue of teacher furloughs by providing funding to end furloughs for the 2010-2011 school year. Senate Bill 2124 appropriated \$67 million from the Hawai'i Hurricane Relief Fund to allow the administration and the Department of education to eliminate teacher furloughs for the year.

House Bill 2486 establishes minimum instructional time for public school students, with a minimum of 180 days and 990 student instructional hours in the 2011-2013 school years, 180 days and 1,080 hours in 2013-2015, and 190 hours and 1,140 hours beginning with the 2015-2016 school years.

A Constitutional Amendment and enabling legislation contained in HB2376 and HB2377, respectively, will increase accountability by converting the Board of Education to a board whose members are appointed by the governor, with the advice and consent of the Senate. The proposal is based on the premise that the members of an appointed Board of Education would be held accountable by the governor.

Energy and the Environment

HB2421 (Act 73) directs needed funding to energy and food self-sufficiency by increasing the "barrel tax" on imported oil. This will assist the state in its efforts to power our economy with renewable energy and reduce our dependence on foreign oil.

HAWAI'I STATE SENATE 2010 SESSION IN REVIEW

To remove one of the last roadblocks in the path of homeowners who want to take the positive step of installing solar energy devices on their homes, SB2817 prevents homeowner associations from unreasonably restricting homeowners in installing solar energy devices, such as

photovoltaic solar panels or solar water heaters. Similarly, SB2231 prohibits a condominium association from preventing owners from installing electric vehicle charging stations in or near their parking stalls.

Human Services

Finding it vital to address growing problems created by the current budgetary shortfall that affected many programs serving the most vulnerable in our community, the legislature passed SB2469, which restores critical funding to essential programs relating to health and welfare. Those affected include children, family caregivers, the elderly, and those with developmental disabilities.

Providing further support for Hawai'i's children and families, SB2716 sets forth a new Child Protective Services Act to make paramount the safety and health of children who have been harmed or are in circumstances that present the threat of harm. The law also conforms Hawai'i's child protective services laws to federal Title IV-E provisions.

Judiciary and Government Operations

Hawai'i's current campaign finance laws were initially passed in 1973, and amendments over the past 37 years have left the laws unorganized, difficult to read and, in some areas, inconsistent. HB2003 addresses these concerns and reformulates the campaign finance laws in a logical and consistent manner. Prepared by the Campaign Finance Commission Blue Ribbon Recodification Committee, the measure divides long sections into shorter sections with clear titles for quick reference and groups laws on one subject together, among other changes.

The new codification also increases transparency, and requires corporations to file reports with the Campaign Finance Commission for contributions that total more than \$1,000 per two-year election cycle made directly to a candidate or a candidate committee.

Labor

In one of its first actions of the 2010 session, the legislature passed HB2169 (Act 002), which mitigates the scheduled sudden increase in unemployment insurance taxes for employers due to the current economic downturn. The measure provided a significant benefit to Hawai'i's small businesses, in particular.

By requiring that at least eighty percent of workers on construction procurements to be Hawai'i residents, SB2840 (Act 068) supports the local construction labor workforce and Hawai'i's economy by securing local jobs in public construction projects. The bill provides sanctions for noncompliance including temporary suspension of contract work, payment withholding, disqualification from the project, recovery of contract payments, and disbarment or suspension.

Public Safety and Military Affairs

Each year, the use of illegal fireworks continues to increase, posing a fire and life safety risk to the public. SB1059 enables the counties to play a role in regulating fireworks by allowing them to pass their own ordinances that are at least as stringent as state law, including banning fireworks entirely.

In addition, HB1987 offers greater deterrence to the sale of illegal fireworks by allowing the forfeiture of property that is used in the illegal importing or sale of fireworks.

HAWAI'I CONFIRMS NEW CHIEF JUSTICE

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Senator English's address on the Senate floor during day two of the second Special Session:

"Members, today is a very momentous occasion because we are confirming the appointment of the head of another branch of government, and the last time this happened was probably 17 or 18 years ago. I want us to pause for a moment and consider that.

The invocation this morning talked about the three branches of government and how important each one is to the other. I think that with Mark's leadership and his ability to bring people together, we will see a strong Judiciary and we'll see one that is very receptive to the innovation of our times. As Senator Taniguchi pointed out, he is very open to electronic filing, but I think there is a lot more in the future that will come. I wanted us just to reflect on this, that we are all very, very privileged to be a part of appointing the head of an entire branch of government - the Judiciary.

I want to extend my support to Mr. Recktenwald. My support comes from my working relationship with him; and you know, it's a great man, a great person who can change their mind, and this is what I've seen in Mr. Recktenwald. In issues that we have had in the past when he was DCCA director, after listening to everything, he said, 'Okay, I can change my mind.' That is a mark of a great person."



Senator English upon the confirmation of Mark Recktenwald as Chief Justice of the Hawai'i Supreme Court. Honolulu, September 2, 2010.

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SENATOR J. KALANI ENGLISH HAWAI'I STATE SENATE▼6TH DISTRICT

COMMITTEES

Chair, Senate Committee on Transportation, International and Intergovernmental Affairs

Vice Chair, Senate Committee on Energy and Environment

Member, Senate Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs

Member, Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Hawai'i State Legislature Bill Status and Documents

http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/ session2010/



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Sen. English joins the Mayors of Raiatea Island in welcoming Pacific Voyaging Canoes to Taputapuatea, the most sacred site in Polynesia. May 21, 2010.



Teima Onorio, Vice President of the Repubic of Kiribati accepts a gift from APIL President Sen. English. Tarawa, Kiribati, June 4, 2010.



His Excellency Fred Savele, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Tonga receives Sen. English at his office. Nuku'alofa, Tonga, July 14, 2010.



Her Royal Highness Princess Siukilutapu Tuku'aho and Sen. English at the Consular House. Nuku'alofa, Tonga, July 31, 2010.



I-Kiribati traditional dancers bid farewell to the APIL delegates. Tarawa, Kiribati, June 5, 2010.