



Senator J. Kalani English 6th District

HANA, EAST & UPCOUNTY MAUI,
MOLOKA`I, LANA`I & KAHO`OLAWÉ

Chair of Senate Committee
on Energy and the
Environment



Volume 3, Issue 6
May 9, 2003

Making Change

LAW

To Be or Not to Be? That is The Question Governor Lingle has the Answer



After a session of deliberation and debate, many of the Senate Bills I introduced succeeded in gaining support from both the Senate and the House. Their fate now rests in the hands of Governor Lingle under whose scrutiny they will be signed into law, allowed to become law without her signature or be vetoed. Text of the bills is online at www.capitol.hawaii.gov, select "Bill Status& Docs" and search for bill text and status.

Bills Going to the Governor - Opportunity for Law

- SB 319: [Food waste recycling; county requirements established](#)
- SB 377: [Tax credit; private development at Ko Olina Resort and Marina](#)
- SB 474: [Auditor's confidentiality of records](#)
- SB 540: [Hawai`i Farm Bureau Federation; pineapple research](#)
- SB 552: [Relating to landowners' liability](#)
- SB 614: [Health care insurance fraud](#)
- SB 616: [Hate crimes; enhanced criminal protection](#)
- SB 745: [Emergency medical services; air ambulance](#)
- SB 789: [Public employee health benefits](#)
- SB 855: [Alternative energy systems tax credit; extension and increase](#)
- SB 1462: [Operational improvements to Hawai`i Tourism Authority; sports coordinator](#)
- SB 1460: [Hawai`i Tourism Authority; contracts required](#)
- SB 1505: [Invasive specie coordination council](#)
- SB 1700: [Charter schools; funding](#)

Signed into Law as of May 8, 2003

- SB 554 = Act 010: [Brown tree snakes; research for snake detector dogs](#)
- SB 787 = Act 024: [Relating to disaster leave, state and county employees](#)
- SB 843 = Act 035: [Conservation; safe harbor agreements; habitat conservation plans](#)

Hawai`i State Capitol, Room 205
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI, 96813
Phone: 808 587 7225
Fax: 808 587 7230

From Maui toll free: 984 2400 + 77225
From Moloka`i and Lana`i: 1 800 468 4644 + 77225
Email: senenglish@Capitol.hawaii.gov
Web Site: www.kalanienglish.com

Human Rights Consultation

World studies scholar and human rights advocate Dr. Andrée-Nicola McLaughlin from New York University visited me at the Capitol recently. Dr. McLaughlin and I are both longstanding supporters of the United Nations. In fact, we first met at the UN nearly twelve years ago when we worked together on international human rights and environmental issues. Dr. McLaughlin is the founding coordinator of the 16-year-old *International Cross-Cultural Black Women's Studies Institute* global network. During her visit to Hawai'i, we conferred on a variety of international projects concerning women's rights, health, agriculture and rural land issues.

With mana'o from activists such as Dr. McLaughlin, women around the world have taken great strides in improving their rights and attaining gender equality. Yet still, barriers against equal opportunity exist. To continue important efforts to attain full equality and improve the status for women in Hawai'i, I introduced a resolution (SCR 23) urging the Governor to continue support for the Hawai'i State Commission on the Status of Women. We must maintain our focus to achieve the mission in ensuring equality and positive change for women. Text of the resolution is online at: http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/sessioncurrent/bills/scr23_sd1_.htm.

Visit the Web Site www.kalanienglish.com and Read Newsletters, Articles and Press Releases

Proud to Have Dawn Takeuchi on the TEAM

Mahalo to **Dawn Takeuchi**, our Research Attorney, whose expertise, dedication and endless support are such a valuable asset to our team. She recently passed the Hawai'i State Bar, and is now an attorney at law. Dawn's extraordinary skills are utilized in drafting our legislative documents such as bills, committee reports and resolutions, as well as providing critical research to ensure well-informed decisions. We appreciate her attention to crucial details, regardless of their complexity. Although this is Dawn's third session at the Capitol, this has been her first year as a member of our team and we wish her a brilliant and exciting future.



Dawn Takeuchi & Senator English

Tax Credits for Renewable Energy

In the State of Hawai'i renewable resources are abundant with plentiful amounts of wind, sun and geothermal activity to fuel renewable efforts. Recognizing this incredible amount of potential renewable energy at our fingertips, it is essential to promote policies which encourage the development and use of such resources. In an effort to do this, I worked hard to get Senate Bill 855, SD1 HD3 CD1 passed in the legislature this session. It allows for residential and commercial renewable energy systems installed after June 30, 2003 to collect tax credits for their use of solar thermal, wind powered and photovoltaic resources.

Read bill text at: http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/sessioncurrent/bills/sb855_sd1_.htm

Your Voice is Important - Mahalo for all the Emails

We have received some wonderful feedback, which helps us do an even better job for Hawai'i. YOU ARE INVITED to contact us with your comments and suggestions. Be an active part of the team and help make a difference!

Initiative That Made a Difference

Adopted Resolutions

The 2003 Legislative session is finished, and the following Resolutions we introduced were adopted and are now in force. There are two variations, Senate Resolution (SR) and Senate Concurrent Resolution (SCR). To take force, the SRs required adoption by the Senate only, whereas the SCRs required adoption from both the Senate and the House. Although, Resolutions do not become law, they can directly affect policy of governmental bodies addressing local, regional, national and international concerns. You can read the text of the resolutions by clicking the link or visit www.capitol.hawaii.gov and select "Bill Status & Docs" to search for those you are interested in.

SCR 5: **Military affairs council; support**
SR 13/SCR 23: **Funding; Hawaii State Commission on the status of women**
SR 21/SCR 33: **Litigation against Chevron Texaco for nonpayment of Taxes**
SR 22: **Highway 11 accident study; Hawai'i**
SCR 31: **Investigate housing inequalities**
SR 33: **Establishment of environmental court**
SR 34: **Native Hawaiians; vital statistics records**
SR 57: **Sunrise review of the regulation of hypnotherapists**
SR 59: **Supporting project faith**
SR 60/SCR 86: **Three strikes law; task force**
SR 62: **Light pollution; energy conservation**
SR 67/SCR 98: **Convening an economic summit**
SR 71: **Management and financial audit of Narcotics Enforcement Division**
SR 74/SCR 106: **Real estate on-line courses**

SR 79: **Public, educational, governmental TV**
SR 86: **Combat crystal methamphetamine**
SR 89: **Kalawahine lands; auditor audit**
SCR 93: **Services; family programs**
SCR 96: **Hawai'i homeownership center**
SR 97: **Public schools; vice principals, staff**
SR 98: **School libraries; long range plan**
SR 103/SCR 155: **Settlement; Hawaiian Trust**
SR 106: **Energy efficiency & renewable energy**
SR 107/SCR 158: **Algae growth in capitol pools**
SR 112: **State Capitol works of art by students**
SR 113: **Emissions working group; reduction**
SR 115: **Alien and invasive organism reduction**
SCR 130: **Family-friendly business awards**
SR 139: **Community parks; cultural tourism**
SR 142: **Ahupua'a preservation**
SCR 153: **Regarding solid waste management**

Delivering Promises

Victory For Maui, Moloka'i & Lana'i Residents Air Ambulance Service for Maui County

Funding for emergency air ambulance services in the County of Maui have been secured thorough legislative approval of [Senate Bill 745, SD2 HD2 CD1](#). In a shared financial responsibility between the State and Maui County, improved emergency medical services for remote areas have been established. Currently supported by \$611,500 in funds from Maui County for the establishment of the aero-medical program during the 2003 and 2004 fiscal year, the State and County have both agreed to contribute matching funds in the amount of \$611,500 for the 2004-2005 fiscal year. In addition the State will also contribute \$388,500 to enhance ground ambulance services. Maui County residents deserve first-class emergency medical care. It was one of my top priorities this session, and I am pleased to be a part of the effort that has secured this necessity for rural island residents. It is a real triumph during this year of budget cuts and crises. Special credit goes to my colleagues at the Legislature, Mayor Arakawa and members of Maui County Council for stepping up to the plate. A complete version of the Press Release can be viewed at the following link: http://www.kalanienglish.com/pressrelease_030428.html

One Million Six Hundred Sixty Five Thousand Dollars (\$1,665,000) Protection for Health Centers & Social Service Programs

Funding for several health centers and social programs cleared a critical hurdle in the legislature ensuring Maui County residents the protection they need and deserve. [Senate Bill \(SB\) 1301 SD1 HD1 CD1](#) appropriated moneys from the State's emergency and budget reserve fund for our critical health and human service programs. After much deliberation and some painful cuts, an assortment of separate bills were synthesized with surviving elements written into SB 1301. This process may appear confusing and cause concern amongst constituents that their own priority bill or funding has been stopped, only to realize later that it was moved into another bill which acted as the 'vehicle'. Read the press release and link to SB 1305 at:

http://www.kalanienglish.com/news_mauinews_030502.html

Maui

- ❖ Hana Community Health Center: \$700,000
- ❖ Maui AIDS Foundation: \$75,000
- ❖ Hale Mahaolu: \$90,000

Moloka'i

- ❖ Moloka'i General Hospital: \$750,000
- ❖ Lamalama Ka Ili Community Health Program \$50,000

Laws Evolve for Environmental Improvement

The life that we enjoy in Hawai'i originates in great part from the beauty and quality of our environment. It is important to recognize our responsibility as stewards and protect natural resources, ensure healthy ecosystems and secure the well being of future generations. It is an honor, filled with responsibility, to have a part in guiding our State towards a sustainable future. As the Chair of the Energy and Environment (ENE) Committee, I work hard at creating legislation to protect and improve our extraordinary and unique environment. With enormous budget cuts this session, passing environmental legislation was a challenge that required perseverance and commitment. Our ENE Committee supported many bills and resolutions and I am very pleased to outline these measures which were adopted and enrolled to the Governor for signature.

SB 319 SD2 HD1 - [Promotes food waste recycling in the food industry](#)

SB 552 SD2 HD2 - [Access for invasive species control on public and private land](#)

SB 843 SD1 HD2- [Allows for habitat conservation plans and safe harbor agreements](#)

SB 855 SD1 HD3 CD1 - [Establishes renewable energy tax credit](#)

SB 1460 SD1 HD2 CD1- [Relates to contracts entered into by the Hawai'i Tourism Authority](#)

SB 1505 SD1 HD2 CD1 – [Establishes the Hawai'i Invasive Species Council to address invasive species and prohibits importation/sale of *Salvinia molesta*, *Salvinia minima* and *Pistia stratiotes*](#)

SCR 153 SD1 - [Requests investigation of state and county policies regarding solid waste](#)

SR 33 SD1- [Organizes a study regarding the viability of an environmental court in the State](#)

SR 113 SD1 -[Creates emissions workgroup to analyze Hawai'i's CO2 emissions from power plants and motor vehicle emissions, and develop comprehensive strategies to reduce emissions](#)

SR 62 – [Develops strategies for reduction in electricity consumed from excess illumination](#)

SR 106 SD1 - [Requests an analysis of utilizing energy efficiency technologies](#)

SR 115 – [Urges the Department of Agriculture and the Department of Land and Natural Resources to stop the importation of alien aquatic organisms with invasive qualities](#)

SB 554 - [Provides protection against brown tree snakes](#)

SB 787 - [Relates to disaster leave for state and county employees](#)