



# Senator J. Kalani English 6th District

HANA, EAST & UPCOUNTRY MAUI,  
MOLOKA'I, LANA'I & KAHO'OLAWÉ



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Chair of Senate Committee  
on  
Energy and the Environment

## Standing Up For High Standards

### Cruise Ship Legislation Sailing Forward

As the stress upon our marine environment becomes increasingly apparent, Senator English is pioneering efforts to create high standards for the discharge of cruise-ship waste, contained in Senate Bill 3116 SD2. In collaboration with the Federal government, he is working to create legislation which will greatly reduce the various types of waste cruise ships are allowed to discharge into the ocean.

"While cruise ships add to the economy of the state, these 'floating cities' also adversely impact the coastal waters of Hawai'i and the world," said Senator English. "After extensive research and communication with industry leaders, environmental advocates, and concerned citizens, I am in the process of creating legislation that will protect our valuable ocean resources here in Hawai'i, while also working with the federal government to create comprehensive national standards."

On a typical one-week voyage a 3,000-passenger cruise ship generates 1 million gallons of "gray water" -- waste from sinks, showers, laundries and galleys. Over 100 gallons of hazardous or toxic waste, 210,000 gallons of sewage, 25,000 gallons of oily bilge water, and 50 tons of garbage and solid waste are generated over the course of a week-long voyage. SB3116 SD2 <http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/site1/docs/getstatus.asp?qu=SB3116&showstatus=on&showtext=on&showcommrpt=on&press1=docs> passed out of the Ways & Means Committee and is poised to be presented on the Senate floor for transmittal to the House of Representatives.

### "Rainy Day" Bill Gives a Helping Hand

At the start of this legislative session, Senator English and the Maui Delegation introduced several bills to provide additional funding for Moloka'i General Hospital (MGH) and the Hana Community Health Center (HCHC). The two medical facilities both serve primarily rural and often isolated communities. Recognizing the special importance of health care facilities to the rural areas that they serve, Senator English continues to work to ensure that all communities statewide have 24 hour access to quality health care.

SB 2465, SB 2471, and SB 2473 were passed out of Senator Roz Baker's Committee on Health in February. The Senate Committee on Ways and Means (WAM) incorporated the appropriations from the three bills into SB3068 SD2, the "Rainy Day" bill. SB3068 SD2 is an omnibus health bill that includes appropriations for a number of different programs and organizations. Senator English is pleased that his fellow members of WAM are supporting the health care needs of Maui County.

If you want to track the "Rainy Day" bill, you can access the latest draft via the Capitol Website. [http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/sessioncurrent/bills/sb3068\\_sd2.htm](http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/sessioncurrent/bills/sb3068_sd2.htm)

### Senator English Goes After "Slammers" and "Crammers"

Have you ever wondered what you can do to stop being charged for something you didn't sign up for on your phone or cable bill? As a user of various forms of electronic communications, Senator English is working to address unauthorized charges that many telecommunications users find on their monthly bill.

The practice of billing for a service not delivered is called "cramming"; the practice of providing a service not asked for is called "slamming". Not only do "slamming" and "cramming" raise the phone bill and the blood pressure of the consumer, they are illegal. Working with Public Utilities Commission Chairman Carlito Caliboso, Senator English is making sure that consumers are protected in Hawai'i. If you feel that you have experienced "slamming" or "cramming" you can alert the Public Utilities Commission by calling toll free from Maui 984-2400 extension 62020 and from Moloka'i and Lana'i call 1-800-468-4644, extension 62020.

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From left to right: Senator English, Dan Regan, Chief Financial Officer of MEO's Development Corporation, Mercer "Chubby" Vicens, Vice President of the Board of Directors, Senator Baker, Gladys Baisa, Executive Director, Ken Hunt, MEO's Planner, Sandy Baz, Deputy Director and Senator Tsutsui.

### Renewable Sources Create Energy and Generate Revenue

Hawai'i's unique climate gives the islands some of the greatest potential for renewable energy production in the nation, an advantage which Senator English is working to turn into economic and environmental success.

Establishing ethanol production in Hawai'i will preserve valuable agricultural lands, while also retaining local revenues and creating jobs. Tax credits for hydrogen, bio-diesel and other alternative fuels will ensure their viability, and encourage a new consumer awareness regarding energy production.

Senator English's recent renewable portfolio standards contained in SB 2474 SD, on the web at: [www.capitol.hawaii.gov/sessioncurrent/bills/sb2474\\_sd1\\_.htm](http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/sessioncurrent/bills/sb2474_sd1_.htm), improved upon the Governor's proposal by setting a 30 percent requirement for the year 2020, currently the highest standard in the nation. This standard will facilitate the change of energy production from traditional fossil fuel burning power plants to wind, solar and wave sources, amongst others.

Senator English said, "It is vital that Hawai'i work towards energy independence now. Encouraging local and sustainable energy production reduces Hawai'i's dependence on foreign oil, mitigates environmental pollution, and captures local revenue while increasing energy security and providing boosts in local high-technology jobs. I am committed to ensuring that Hawai'i maximize its development of renewable energy sources."

### Maui Economic Opportunity Honored in Senate

Senate colleagues J. Kalani English, Shan Tsutsui and Roz Baker recognized six members of Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc. (MEO) in the Senate Chambers. "MEO was awarded the prestigious Community Action Partnership Award for Excellence. This award provides national recognition and showcases community action agencies that have demonstrated excellence in their vision, values and operations," said Senator English.

MEO provides assistance to low income elders, children and youth, persons with disabilities, immigrants and other disadvantaged individuals seeking self-sufficiency. A variety of programs and services are tailored to meet the individual needs of island residents and vary from transitional and educational services, to job placement and training. Helping to service the transportation needs of the community, and especially the elderly and disadvantaged, MEO operates the only quasi-public transportation program in Maui County.

The YouthBank program provides opportunities for youth ages 14-26 to increase their life and job skills through working and learning programs, including participation in the AmeriCorps program. MEO has offices on Maui, Moloka'i and Lana'i.

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