



House Measures "Cross Over" at Session Midpoint



In the second half of each legislative session, the Legislature's houses look at bills that have "crossed over"; House bills are heard in the Senate, and vice versa. Crossover bills before Senator J. Kalani English's Committee on Energy, the Environment, and International Affairs (EIA) reflect ongoing themes of the 2006 session: the need for renewable energy, the battle against invasive species, and the need for effective management of solid waste.

House energy bills include tax credits for producers of renewable energy and amendments to the renewable portfolio standard (which commits the electric utility to increasing the percentage of energy it draws from renewables). The growing problem of invasive

species is addressed through funding for an inspection, quarantine, and eradication fund. Another measure refines provisions of the Hawai'i Deposit Beverage Container Program.

Sen. English said, "I am especially happy with the emphasis on renewable energy this session. Initiatives that have met with resistance in past years have met with fewer obstacles than ever before, and I am hopeful that we can expect real progress toward energy independence in 2006."

Chair, Committee on Energy,
Environment,
and International Affairs
Committee Memberships:
Intergovernmental Affairs;
Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs;
Media, Arts, Science, and Technology;
Water, Land, and Agriculture;
Ways and Means



A Message From Kalani

Aloha,

This edition of our newsletter includes images from a moving event: the graduation ceremony for the Ho'omau Ke Ola substance abuse treatment center in Wai'anae. We also take a look at bills that have crossed over to the Senate from the House and tell you about some visitors who have come to see us at the Capitol. It's always good to see visitors from the district and give them an opportunity to watch their lawmakers at work.

J. Kalani English



Ho'omau Ke Ola: a Celebration of Hope in Wai'anae



Ho'omau Ke Ola is an outpatient substance abuse treatment center in Wai'anae, and March 1 was Graduation Day. For Sen. J. Kalani English and Kenneth Moiha, his hanai brother, the day had a special meaning. Kenneth was part of the graduating class, and Kalani was there to support him and present both Kenneth and Ho'omau Ke Ola with congratulatory certificates from the State Senate. In the photograph below, the graduates pose with Sen. English and Family Court Judge Michael Broderick.

Ho'omau Ke Ola's motto is "to perpetuate life as it was meant to be."





The State Senate honored the cast of the ABC series “Lost” in a State Capitol ceremony March 3. Above, Sen. English with actor Harold Perrineau and his wife Brittany, an actress who also has appeared on the show.



Senator English took two friends, Tamara Kaina-Smith and Hokulani Kaina, on a tour of the State Capitol when they came to Oahu from Hāna recently. Their father, Kaleo Kaina, is recovering from surgery in Queen’s Hospital.



Senator English and Rep. Hermina Morita provided a mid-session update on environment and energy bills to a group of environmental professionals from the Chamber of Commerce of Hawai‘i. Rep. Morita is Chair of the House Energy and Environmental Protection Committee.



Senator English congratulates slack-key master Cyril Pahinui for his Grammy award-winning performance on “Masters Of Hawaiian Slack Key Guitar - Vol. 1”, which also featured artists Daniel Ho, Ledward Kaapana, Keoki Kahumoku, Ozzie Kotani, and George Kahumoku, Jr.

HGEA Steward Spends a Day at the Capitol with Senator English

Mark King is the HGEA Shop Steward for the Maui County Planning Department. Recently, he spent a day at the State Capitol as a "shadow" to Senator J. Kalani English --- taking advantage of a standing offer from the Senator to active HGEA stewards. This is his account of his day at the Capitol:

"It was very awe-inspiring seeing all of the Senators assembled and the session called to order. The president of the Senate called for introductions and Senator English introduced me as his guest to what felt like the whole state, since the sessions are televised. I was very pleased to be welcomed in such a warm fashion. In all, I highly recommend taking the Senator up on his offer. This program is remarkable, and Senator English shows us his true and sincere caring Aloha spirit along with very detailed and specific knowledge of each legislative item."



Senator English introduces Mark King to his fellow Senators during the March 3, 2003 floor session.



Francis Lum (center) has retired after 58 years in State government, 40 of them as the State's Protocol Officer – going back five administrations, beginning with Governor Burns. His duties have called for him to arrange meetings with heads of state from all over the world. Sen. English said, "a thorough understanding of protocol is essential to international relations, and Mr. Lum has helped Hawai'i's leaders work with confidence in an international arena." State Senators presented him with a Certificate of Appreciation in a brief ceremony on the Senate floor March 2.

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