



SENATOR J. KALANI ENGLISH
HAWAI'I STATE SENATE ▲ 6TH DISTRICT
HANA ▲ EAST & UPCOUNTRY MAUI
MOLOKA'I ▲ LANA'I ▲ KAHO'OLAWÉ

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A MESSAGE FROM KALANI

Our lives rest upon our sense of place. The place where our roots dig down, and our limbs reach up. Where the road from our past links to the path toward our future. The fulcrum upon which we balance our treasured experiences and our dearest dreams.

Our lives rest upon a sense of place. For all of us who call the Pacific region home, and who wish the best for the future of our special part of the world, I offer my dearest hope that it is a very long - and very prosperous - future.

J. Kalani English

FRENCH POLYNESIA NOW LINKED TO HAWAI'I VIA HONOTUA COMMUNICATIONS CABLE

Honotua - a cable 3,107 miles (5,000 km) in length and 19,500 feet (6,000 meters) at the deepest level, now spans the ocean floor between French Polynesia and Spencer Beach, adjacent to Kawaihae Harbor on Hawai'i Island. The cable will provide high speed internet connectivity between French Polynesia, Hawai'i, the United States mainland and beyond. The project began five years ago and was completed by the Alcatel-Lucent cable laying ship on March 1, 2010.

The following is Senator English's welcome and address to the gathering of dignitaries at this historic event:

"Vice President Edouard Fritch and all other guests from French Polynesia, on behalf of the government and people of Hawai'i, Welina Mai - Welina and welcome to our islands. Mayor Billy Kenoi, greetings and thank you for your warm welcome for all of us today on this, the largest island in our archipelago.

The links between Hawai'i and the five archipelagos of French Polynesia are older than recorded history. Legend tells us that Pele, the fire goddess, was born at Papeno'o on Tahiti, traveled to Mo'orea, Ra'iatea, and Bora Bora, and then crossed this vast ocean to Hawai'i. This ancient connection is a bond of blood, culture and history that has endured for centuries. This historic path is the one that brought the first settlers to Hawai'i, and for generations bore goods, travelers, and enduring ties between two sets of islands thousands of miles apart.

I cannot resist the temptation to see the footsteps of Pele guiding the path of Honotua. The cable, this symbol of modern connection and communication, follows precisely the same path: Papeno'o, Mo'orea, Ra'iatea, Bora Bora, Hawai'i. Pele, born as Te Ura Vahine, drawing upon the strength and spirit instilled at her birthplace, Papeno'o, blazing a trail across the ocean to become a central figure in the creation and culture of Polynesia's sister civilization in Hawai'i. And the path from where Te Ura Vahine stepped from the South Pacific to the shores of Hawai'i, where she was transformed from her physical self to the Fire Goddess that built these islands; that path is stronger than any cable and more constant than any ocean current.

The era of prosperity and goodwill that grew from that ancient connection finds new life today in the establishment of Honotua - the link towards the open seas. Now it is a link measured not in weeks as it was on ocean-going canoes, or hours of air travel, but at the speed of light, the pace of our modern world.

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Commemoration of the undersea cable Honotua linking Tahiti and Hawai'i beyond heritage and time. Spencer Beach Park, Hawai'i Island. March 1, 2010

CENTER FOR PACIFIC ISLAND STUDIES CELEBRATES 60TH ANNIVERSARY

Sen. English attended the 60th Anniversary celebration for the **Center for Pacific Island Studies** on Feb. 25 at UH Manoa, where he presented a proclamation. Here is an excerpt of the presentation he shared with his alumni:

"I am proud to be here today because part of my sense of place rests at the Center of Pacific Island Studies. I stand among those who have had the opportunity to study here, to benefit from the mission of the Center, and to carry those teachings and experiences forward into everything I have tried to accomplish since.

Today, as a State Senator and as President of the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures, addressing issues of importance to the Pacific region is a daily occurrence, and those concerns run the gamut from economic development to health to governance and cultural preservation. I do not think I would have been successful in analyzing and responding to those concerns if it had not been for the rich, multi-disciplinary education I received here."



Former CPIS Directors David Hanlon and Bob Kiste join current Director Vilsoni Hereniko in accepting a proclamation from Senators J. Kalani English and Clayton Hee, both graduates of the Center for Pacific Island Studies. Hamilton Library, Manoa, Oahu. Feb. 25, 2010.

For more information visit: CPIS <http://www.hawaii.edu/cpis/>



Hawai'i Mayor Billy Kenoi, Sen. English, French Polynesia Vice President Edouard Fritch observing the Honotua Cable Landing Ceremony. March 1, 2010.

as much as ocean-going canoes meant to our ancestors. They are a means of travel and exploration, and a means of expansion. We can hope that the creation of this additional communications capacity will result in lower costs for users. We in Hawai'i had that experience when our capacity grew to allow for more competition and improved service. At the same time, we can hope that through Honotua, all the archipelagos of French Polynesia will enjoy its benefits. Finally, we can all hope that Honotua will become the backbone of commerce and economic growth, bringing to Tahiti and its neighbors the opportunity to expand its reach, while inviting the world to benefit from its culture and creativity.

The links between Hawai'i and French Polynesia are older than recorded history, and yet a vital part of our place in the world today. In the footsteps of Pele, in the wakes of countless voyaging canoes, revitalizing a bond of blood and culture. Honotua is our shared past and our best future combined. I join all of you in the hope that it will stand as the next vital force in preserving the bonds that join us together across the Pacific."

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Modern communication over an ancient path, refining and building upon a connection that has defined and supported a link that has stood the test of time. For all the years this link lay silent as Hawai'i and French Polynesia refined our separate histories yet, it was never broken.

It is a link that has personal meaning for me. I carry both Tahitian and Hawaiian blood, and so I feel that link now symbolized by Honotua.

The gourds of La'amaomao have been opened today as the winds welcomes our family from Tahiti. It is interesting to note that Honotua was born between a cyclone and a tsunami. Perhaps the mana of our kupuna gave life to this project through these ancient signs of a modern project.

In the world of today, the existence of a high-speed fiber-optic backbone means

WHERE WERE YOU ON *TSUNAMI DAY* 2010

Sen. English made it home to Hana in time to secure his house and get to high ground. As the water receded, he took this picture from the hill. Many gathered at Fagan's Cross above Hana Town to talk story of the 1946 Tsunami, which wiped out Hamoa and Hana. Feb. 27, 2010



MAUI NO KA 'OI CROWNED BEAUTIES 2010



Sen. Shan Tsutsui, Joanne Tanaka-Advisor, Miss Kahului- Maya Iida, Sen. J. Kalani English, Miss Ulalena-Jocelyn Belden, Miss Maui- Michele Moe and Sen. Roz Baker during a visit to the capitol.

REDUCING THE UP-FRONT COST OF CLEAN ENERGY TECHNOLOGY

~ (PACE) PROPERTY ASSESSED CLEAN ENERGY FORUM ~

Senator J. Kalani English was joined by a panel of presenters on Oahu to discuss Cisco DeVries innovative program referred to as Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE), with homeowners and renewable energy enthusiasts of Hawai'i. The **Making Clean Energy Accessible Forum**, hosted by **Sierra Club Hawai'i** and **Blue Planet Foundation**, provided a detailed overview to over two hundred people in attendance.

As part of the stimulus package signed into law by President Obama, a notable change to the tax code that enables local governments to provide property owners the option of installing clean energy projects and paying for them over 20 years through a voluntary line item on their property tax bills. Senator English shared these encouragements and concerns at the forum:

“There is an important moment in the progress of life-changing ideas where the concept has entered the mainstream, but implementation remains outside the grasp of many who would otherwise provide the critical mass of society who could drive adoption forward. I believe that our community's desire for clean alternative energy sources has reached that point.

Most of us have recognized our individual responsibility to contribute to solutions. We possess the individual inspiration to take action. But we too often lack the individual capability to do all we can.

In order for our State to achieve our renewable energy goals, we need broad residential participation. We know that the primary obstacle for homeowners to install clean energy systems or to pursue energy efficiency systems is the cost. Legislative efforts to support the “Property Assessed Clean Energy” movement by establishing a clean energy bond loan program can help bring that capability within the reach of many more in our community.

Right now, we have the legislative support it will take to move the bond program forward. In the current 2010 session, the State Senate and House of Representatives through five bills supporting PACE efforts issue general obligation bonds to finance the program. As is often the case, those have been winnowed down to one measure that we expect to cross over from the House to the Senate this week.

When the process works as it should, passing bills is not a matter of pride of authorship or pride of ownership. Rather, it is a matter of pride of purpose, the recognition that we will move the right bill at the right time, regardless of whether it originated in our chamber or across the Capitol rotunda in the House. Personally, I liked the version of the bill that came out of the Senate Committee on Energy and the Environment, of which I am Vice-Chair. However, I am equally convinced that we can work with the House version that will cross over, and I am committed to doing all that I can to move it forward and bring the benefits of energy efficiency and renewable energy to our State.

Just as passing the energy bond initiative will require the cooperation of my colleagues in the Senate and the House, implementing and managing the program that it creates will require the cooperation between our State and county governments. It will require both a continued focus on carrying out the vital policy goals that the program represents and a continued commitment to improving the quality of life for Hawai'i residents. I believe we can do that, and I am convinced that the energy bond initiative is the kind of forward-thinking, productive effort that brings out the best in our policy-makers and those on the front lines who make those policies a reality.

We have seen how well County and State resources can come together to truly serve our community. Just this past weekend, facing the threat of a tsunami, every level of our Federal, State and County governments worked together seamlessly to address the situation before us. We need to view our State's drive toward environmental responsibility and energy independence in the same terms: a situation that we cannot

ignore and that - left unaddressed - could have devastating effects on so much that we hold dear.”



Sen. English speaks to panelists and guests at the PACE forum about the potentials of meeting Hawai'i's renewable energy goals while creating new jobs. Honolulu, Oahu. March 3, 2010.

For more information visit: **Sierra Club Hawai'i**
<http://www.sierraclubhawaii.com/>
and **Blue Planet Foundation**
<http://blueplanetfoundation.org/>

Review current Legislation supporting this initiative: **SB 2815** and **HB2463 HD2**
at <http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2010/>

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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AMERICAN COUNCIL OF YOUNG POLITICAL LEADERS AND JAPAN CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE WRAPS UP U.S. MISSION IN HAWAI'I

Senator English introduced members of the United States-Japan Political Study Tour visiting Hawai'i this week on the Senate floor. Launched jointly by the **Japan Center for International Exchange (JCIE)**, and the **American Council of Young Political Leaders (ACYPL)**, the Political Study Tour of the United States is an annual bilateral exchange program designed to expose young leaders of each country to the policy making process and politics of the other country, as well as enhancing their understanding of United States-Japan relations. These two-week intensive study programs involve travel to at least two cities where delegates meet with senior government officials, representatives from political parties, industry executives, and community leaders.

U.S. delegations include state and local elected officials, federal and state officials, party officers, Congressional staff and are split evenly between Democrats and Republicans. Japanese delegations consist of prefectural and local officials, assistants to Diet members, and policy staff from the governing and opposition parties.

"As a delegate for ACYPL to Morocco in 2005, and as head of the mission to Israel and Palestine in 2007, I am very familiar with the work of this organization," said Sen. English. "I am honored to receive this mission from Japan and to support the excellent work of ACYPL."



Sen. English welcomes visiting delegates of the American Council of Young Political Leaders to the State Capitol. Hawai'i State Capitol, Honolulu, March 3, 2010. For more info. visit: <http://www.acypl.org/> and <http://www.jcie.or.jp/>

From the Democratic Party of Japan:

- ▶ Ms. Fuyou Nakamura, Public Relations Committee Staff Member
- ▶ Mr. Masaaki Kurano, Assistant to the Honorable Goshi Hosono, Member of the Japan House of Representatives
- ▶ Mr. Yasuharu Zenki, Assistant to the Honorable Motohisa Furukawa, Member of the Japan House of Representatives

From the Liberal Democratic Party:

- ▶ Ms. Reika Yanagimoto, Staff Member from the Treasury Bureau
- ▶ Mr. Tomohiro Minagawa, Assistant to the Honorable Koichi Kato, Member of the Japan House of Representatives

From The New Komeito Party:

- ▶ Mr. Nobuki Komatsu, Reporter from the Komei Shimbun
- ▶ Ms. Hiyuko Fujita, Program Assistant from the Japan Center for International Exchange

▶ Ms. Elizabeth Johnson, American Council of Young Political Leaders

Department of State Interpreters:

- ▶ Mr. Frederick Harriman
- ▶ Ms. Kayo Shiraishi
- ▶ Ms. Stacy Smith