



Senator  
J. KALANI ENGLISH

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### MESSAGE FROM KALANI

With the recent storms in Hawai'i and the ensuing damage caused by floods, landslides and hail, I am reminded that we are vulnerable to natural disasters.

Hana sustained considerable damage with roofs blown off, roads and bridges washed away and collapsed buildings. Yet, human nature and the strong sense of 'ohana brings out the best of us. People came together - people helped each other. I am really proud of my community. Together we are better.

# SENATOR J. KALANI ENGLISH

HAWAI'I STATE SENATE • 6TH DISTRICT

HĀNA • EAST & UPCOUNTRY MAUI • MOLOKA'I • LĀNA'I • KAHO'OLAWĒ



Sen. English hosts an informational hearing to view Dan Burden's presentation on walkable and livable communities. March 9, 2012

## SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE CONSIDERS HIGHWAY AND ROAD DESIGNS

The Senate Committee on Transportation and International Affairs is looking at ways to improve highway and road design for all Hawai'i users, which include drivers, bikers, and pedestrians in order to ease traffic problems. The Inrix Traffic Scoreboard last year ranked Honolulu second behind Los Angeles in worst traffic congestion among top 100 cities in the United States. The U.S. General Accounting Office predicts that road congestion in the U.S. will triple in 15 years. Traffic is growing about five times faster than the growth in population.

"There needs to be a paradigm shift in our attitudes about road usage and solving our traffic problems," said Senator J. Kalani English, Chair of the Senate Committee on Transportation and International Affairs. "We need to plan communities for all road users and not just for cars."

On March 8th, Dan Burden, Executive Director for Walkable and Livable Communities Institute, presented some solutions to traffic problems and how to better plan communities. Walkable

and Livable Communities Institute is an educational, non-profit organization working to create walkable streets, livable cities and build better environments.

Referencing the Complete Streets Law, Act 054 (2009), Burden said, "Roads need to be improved for the safety of pedestrians, bicyclists, children, older citizens, non-drivers and the mobility challenged as well as those that cannot afford a car or choose to live car free.

"We're looking for a way to build so that we don't have to drive that far," said Burden, "We need to plan so that we can include walkable and livable communities."

"Improving road and highway designs will not only decrease traffic congestion, but increase safety for pedestrians and bicyclists that will improve the quality of life for all," said Sen. English

For an overview of the presentation, view a brief conversation between Sen. English and Don Burden at: <http://bit.ly/yZqG1z>

## HAWAI'I MEDAL OF HONOR

## OHA LAND SETTLEMENT

The Hawai'i State Senate and Hawai'i State House of Representatives will convene in a joint session to recognize military service members who have made the ultimate sacrifice. The families of these fallen service members will all receive the Hawai'i Medal of Honor on behalf of their loved ones.

In 2005, the Legislature passed House Bill 8, which created the Hawai'i Medal of Honor (HMOH). This special medal is awarded on behalf of the people of the State of Hawai'i to an individual who was killed in action while serving our country as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom. Recipients of the medal include members of the United Armed Forces, the United States Military Reserves, and the Hawai'i National Guard. They were residents of the State of Hawai'i, attended an educational institution in Hawai'i, or were stationed in Hawai'i by order of the United States Department of Defense.

The joint session of the Legislature took place on Wednesday, March 28, 2012 at 2 p.m. in the House Chambers.



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**Senate Bill 2783** seeks to resolve the longstanding claims for past-due revenues owed to the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, (OHA). It has passed through the Senate and the bill will advance to the House Finance Committee for further consideration.

The Bill would convey Kaka'ako Makai lands to the OHA. The State and OHA agreed that a \$200 million settlement amount represents a reasonable compromise of the disputed claims. To satisfy that \$200 million amount, the State is conveying parcels in Kaka'ako Makai. The parcels are near Kaka'ako Waterfront Park, including Fisherman's Wharf.

"It was a landmark decision for the Senate to pass this bill," said Sen. English, a member of both the Senate Committee on Ways and Means and the Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs, "This has been a long time coming and it is the first step in the right direction."

If the measure is ultimately approved by the Governor, all disputes and controversies relating to OHA's portion of income and proceeds from the Public Trust Lands will be extinguished and discharged as well as bar all claims, suits, and actions for the period November 7, 1978 through June 30, 2012.

"I am satisfied we are moving forward with this bill to better the conditions of native Hawaiians and we at a certain point must trust the work of OHA and the administration in reaching this settlement," added Sen. English, "I thank Governor Abercrombie, OHA Chairperson Colette Machado and Attorney General David Louie for their efforts in reaching an agreement that Senators could consider."

View the status of SB2783 here: [http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/measure\\_indiv.aspx?billtype=SB&billnumber=2783](http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/measure_indiv.aspx?billtype=SB&billnumber=2783)



*OHA Chair Colette Machado and Governor Abercrombie wait to testify in favor of SB 2783. March 6, 2012*



*Phylis McOmber discusses Lana'i with Sen. English. March 23, 2012*

## SEN. ENGLISH ASSESSES STORM DAMAGE

During the recent storms, Sen. English, Chair of the Senate Committee on Transportation and International Affairs, monitored road conditions on news and twitter feeds for updates across the Hawaiian archipelago. "From substantial flooding on Kauai, the electrical storms on Oahu, to the fury of wind and hail on Maui, it was like watching a slow wave of damage that came right through my own neighborhood," said Sen. English. "The State Department of Transportation (DOT) had their hands full so when I received word of the collapse of Hanawana Land Bridge, I came home to assess the damage."



Sen. English met with Keith Douglas and many of the community members now stranded by the collapsed bridge built a century ago. "This is overwhelming, normally if there's road damage, we get together and fix it up," said Keith Douglas.

"It is considered a government road, but it's unclear who is responsible. The County of Maui stepped up to serve as the lead agency. Fixing the Hanawana bridge will require an estimated \$250,000," said Sen. English. He has assured the community that the county would act to create a realigned gravel road as soon as possible.

"They'll start looking at what it takes to repair and rebuild it so that they can cross then, we'll have to deal with the funding mechanism later and deal with whose jurisdiction it is," said English.

Sen. English empathizes with the many families unable to drive from Hanawana to Hana Highway. "Had this been one of our 60 bridges, the whole east side of Maui would be completely cut off. Of the 60 bridges we have out there, 42 are deemed unsafe, which means even in good weather, it's very difficult to pass," said Sen. English, "Diligent evaluation of their condition is necessary."



*Sen. English meets with residents in Kailua following the collapse of Hanawana Bridge. Maui March 10, 2012.*

## PAPAHAWAHAWA BRIDGE IN HANA REOPENS



Senator English attended the blessing and dedication ceremony for the newly re-built Papahawahawa Bridge in Hana, Maui. The \$2.3 million project entailed demolishing the former bridge and rebuilding a new one as well as constructing a new drainage system, building retaining walls and installing pavement markers and signs. The project also involved the removal of a diversion bridge that was constructed two years ago.

The Papahawahawa Bridge was constructed in 1915 and is located at mile marker 46.5 on the Hana Highway between Hana and Kipahulu. The bridge was among a list of County bridges identified to have structural deficiencies in the Final Preservation Plan for County of Maui Bridges within the Hana Highway Historic District.

*Public Works Dir. David Goode, Mayor Alan Arakawa, Councilmember Bob Carroll, Sen. English and Kahu Kamalama Kalalau gather to celebrate the reopening of Papahawahawa bridge in Hana. March 14, 2012.*



## BILLS INTRODUCED BY SEN. ENGLISH IN 2012

**SB 2332 SD1**-Relating to Agriculture: Exempts honey producers who do not have access to municipal water suppliers or infrastructure from processing the honey in a food processing establishment certified by the Department of Health if certain requirements are met. Increases the threshold for honey production, for which certain producers of honey are exempt from the requirement that honey be processed be processed in certified honey house or food processing establishment; provided that the producer meets certain labeling requirements.

[http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/measure\\_indiv.aspx?billtype=SB&billnumber=2332](http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/measure_indiv.aspx?billtype=SB&billnumber=2332)

**SB 2333 SD1**-Relating to Personal Identification Information: Allows the scanning and retention of personal information contained in a state identification card or driver's license for only limited purposes.

[http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/measure\\_indiv.aspx?billtype=SB&billnumber=2333](http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/measure_indiv.aspx?billtype=SB&billnumber=2333)

**SB 2335** -Relating to Special Management Areas: Clarifies definition of "development" for purposes of special management area permitting by Counties.

[http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/measure\\_indiv.aspx?billtype=SB&billnumber=2335](http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/measure_indiv.aspx?billtype=SB&billnumber=2335)

**SB2337 SD1**- Relating to Transportation: Authorizes the Department of Transportation to extend the term of an airport concession, and to modify and amend the terms of any concession contracts, leases, and permits in exchange for revenue-enhancing improvements that are made or paid for by the concession. Effective July 1, 2012. Repeals July 1, 2014.

[http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/measure\\_indiv.aspx?billtype=SB&billnumber=2337](http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/measure_indiv.aspx?billtype=SB&billnumber=2337)

**SB2338** - Relating to County Administrative Procedures: Exempts from the Administrative Procedures Act the requirement that the adoption, amendment, or repeal of any rule by any County agency shall be subject to the approval of the County Mayor. Provides rule making authority to county semi autonomous public transit agencies; including the Honolulu authority for rapid transportation.

[http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/measure\\_indiv.aspx?billtype=SB&billnumber=2338](http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/measure_indiv.aspx?billtype=SB&billnumber=2338)

**SB2339** SD1- Relating to Ethanol: Repeals the requirement that gasoline contains 10% ethanol. Takes effect on 7/1/2050.

[http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/measure\\_indiv.aspx?billtype=SB&billnumber=2339](http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/measure_indiv.aspx?billtype=SB&billnumber=2339)

**SB2340** – Relating to Transportation: Requires the Department of Transportation to report to the 2013 Legislature on providing the best and most modern security technology at Hawaii's harbors and airports to detect and prevent terrorist activity.

[http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/measure\\_indiv.aspx?billtype=SB&billnumber=2340](http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/measure_indiv.aspx?billtype=SB&billnumber=2340)

**SB2341 SD1**- Relating to Land Use: Repeals the prohibition on agricultural tourism activities in the absence of a bona fide farming operation. Repeals the prohibition on ordinances that allow overnight accommodations in agricultural districts. Authorizes short-term rentals of thirty-one days or less, for any one stay within a county; provided that the appropriate County has adopted an ordinance the specifically authorizes such use in agricultural districts.

[http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/measure\\_indiv.aspx?billtype=SB&billnumber=2341](http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/measure_indiv.aspx?billtype=SB&billnumber=2341)

**SB3000**- Relating to Public Utilities: Includes a high-voltage electric transmission cable system for interisland transmission of electricity in the definition of "public utility," regardless of whether the electricity is generated using nonfossil fuels, provided that the PUC finds that regulation is in the public interest.

[http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/measure\\_indiv.aspx?billtype=SB&billnumber=3000](http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/measure_indiv.aspx?billtype=SB&billnumber=3000)

**SB3010 SD1**- Relating to Transportation: Exempts temporarily the Department of Transportation and its contractors from certain state requirements for certain bridge rehabilitation projects. (SD1)

[http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/measure\\_indiv.aspx?billtype=SB&billnumber=3010](http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/measure_indiv.aspx?billtype=SB&billnumber=3010)



*Hawaiian Language Immersion School students lobby for the preservation of the Hawaiian Language. March 20, 2012*

### Kawela Stream Bridge Replacement - Moloka'i

Kewela Stream Bridge was built more than 60 years ago. This bridge warrants replacement based on the current State bridge replacement program's rating. Its travel width is not to current highway standards and it does not meet current vehicular load or seismic requirements.

This project will provide a wider bridge that meets current seismic criteria and vehicular loadings. It will also provide a walkway for pedestrians and a larger waterway opening.

**Total cost: \$11,011,000 with \$8,856,800 from Federal funds**  
**Construction completion: June 2013**

### Lana'i Airport Improvements - Lana'i

The current Runway Safety Area (RSA) at the approach and end of Runway 3 at Lana'i Airport does not meet Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Part 139 RSA requirements. The lack of the required RSA on the approach of Runway 3 is a safety issue that must be addressed immediately.

Improvements for Lana'i Airport will provide for the design of clearing, grubbing and excavation of 1.2 million cubic yards of material to fill in the approach of Runway 3 to meet federal Part 139 RSA requirements.

**Total cost: \$1,105,000 with \$950,000 from Federal funds**  
**Construction completion: August 2012**

### Kekaulike Avenue Drainage Improvements - Maui

Kekaulike Avenue drainage improvements are necessary because during

heavy rainfall, runoff from the mauka side of the highway crosses the travel way, creating a potential hazard to motorists.

This project is part of the State-wide highway drainage improvements program. The program corrects localized drainage problems to reduce accidents, protect our highways, alleviate pollution to adjacent State waters and reduce potential litigation from adjacent land owners. The Kekaulike Avenue drainage improvements project will install an underground drainage system along the mauka shoulder.

**Total cost: \$830,000**  
**Construction completion: July 2012**

### Veterans Cemeteries, Additional Columbarium Niches - Lana'i & Moloka'i

The initial allotment request was approved in Jan. 2011, for the design and consultant services during construction for an additional 14 columbaria at Lana'i Veterans Cemetery and Ho'olehua Veterans Cemetery. However, the original design budget had been underestimated and did not account for the higher costs attributed to site investigation work on 4 islands as well as greater coordination efforts required with multiple agencies on each island.

This project will receive an additional \$80,000 in design funds to finance the design of the project incorporating the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs' (VA) request for additional design phase work. The VA intends to provide grant funds therefore; the State must comply with their design requirements and review comments to remain qualified.

**Total cost: \$1,155,000**  
**Construction completed: August 2012**

Nearly a decade after high waves caused serious damage to the Hana breakwater, the Hana community and visitors will be able to enjoy and use the newly improved Hana Boat Ramp and loading dock.

The scope of upgrades consist of replacing the deteriorated rock revetments and sections of the boat ramp, and installing new seawalls, accessible concrete ramps, a loading dock, stairways, lightpoles and asphalt pavement.

Throughout the years, Sen. English obtained appropriations for the project that cost \$5,526,602.00. Completion of the project is anticipated in April of 2012.



**King George Tupou V of Tonga,** dedicated his reign to bring a more democratic government to his Pacific island nation, passed away on March 18, 2012.

Sen. English released the following statement on the passing of Tonga's King George Tupou V.

*"I express my deep condolences to the people of Tonga, as well as Hawai'i's Tongan community on the passing of King George Tupou V. His foresight to grant his people democracy will be his legacy to Tonga. I want to express my deepest heartfelt aloha to His Majesty's family and to the people of Tonga. The Pacific mourns for the loss of a great leader."*



Sen. English reports on the state-wide and local damage to road and bridges to Hawai'i News Now. March 18, 2012. View the interview here: <http://bit.ly/zFoDsH>

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## 2012 MAUI SCHOOL DISTRICT TEACHER OF THE YEAR



*During education week at the State Capitol, the 2012 Maui District Teacher of the Year, Mitzi Hasegawa was recognized on the Senate Floor with her family. Senate President, Shan Tsutsui; Sen. Baker; husband Neil Hasegawa; Mitzi Hasegawa; son Brayden; Sen.English and daughter Caelyn. March 16, 2012.*

The Hawai'i State Senate recognized Mitzi Hasegawa for being named the 2012 Maui School District Teacher of the Year during Education Week at the State Capitol. Hasegawa is a middle school mathematics teacher at Hana High and Elementary School.

"Congratulations to Mrs. Hasegawa for this tremendous accomplishment," said Sen. English. "She is truly a dedicated teacher to her students and the community. Mrs. Hasegawa creates her lessons so it is relevant to her students and teaches them that learning math can be fun."

"This is a well-deserved accolade for Mrs. Hasegawa," said Senate President Shan Tsutsui. "She has worked hard in re-energizing Hana School's Math Matter's team and has influenced her students to continue their learning during the after-school hours."

"Mrs. Hasegawa has demonstrated that learning collaboratively only strengthens everyone through her advocacy of creating a K-12 Match Professional Learning Community," said Senator Roz Baker, who represents South and West Maui. "Through her tenacity, teachers are sharing ideas on improving student curriculum."

Mrs. Hasegawa is originally from Monroe, Michigan and graduated from Eastern Michigan University in 1990. She made Hana her home after getting a job as a teacher shortly after graduating from college. She is married to Neil Hasegawa, a member of the famous Hasegawa General Store family. Along with their family, she and Neil continue to live in Hana.



*Sen. English and Mitzi Hasegawa, both from Hana celebrate as Mitzi is named the 2012 Maui School District Teacher of the Year. March 16, 2012.*