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MESSAGE FROM KALANI

From controlling the deer situation on Moloka'i, to finding new revenue streams, and better managing tourism in our local communities, we will be working hard to address difficult issues during this 2021 Legislative Session. I encourage everyone to create an account on our Capitol website to stay up to date on what's going on at the State Capitol.

J. Kalani English

SENATOR J.KALANI ENGLISH

HAWAI'I STATE SENATE 7TH DISTRICT

HĀNA, EAST AND UPCOUNTRY MAUI, MOLOKA'I, LĀNA'I AND KAHO'OLAWÉ



LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE HEARINGS IN 2021

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the State Capitol building is closed and in-person attendance at Senate and House committee hearings is suspended for the 2021 legislative session. All committee hearings will be conducted virtually using Zoom, and there are many ways for you to follow the hearings and participate:

Livestreams - All Senate and House committee hearings and floor sessions will be streamed live on YouTube. Visit the Legislature's Live & On-Demand Video webpage to access the House and Senate YouTube channels. www.capitol.hawaii.gov/livevideo.aspx

Cable Television Broadcasts - The Legislature will continue broadcasting selected committee hearings and floor sessions on public access cable television channels. For broadcast schedule information, visit the Legislative Broadcasts webpage: www.capitol.hawaii.gov/broadcasts.aspx

Testimony - The House and Senate standing committees will be accepting both written and remote testimony via Zoom during the 2021 session. This remote testimony option will allow broader participation.

Anyone interested in submitting written testimony or testifying remotely on a measure scheduled for a public hearing should create an account on the Legislature's website and use the online testimony form.

If you do not have internet access or need assistance to create an account or navigate the testimony process, contact the Legislature's Public Access Room (PAR) at **(808) 587-0478** or par@capitol.hawaii.gov. You can also visit PAR's website (<https://lrb.hawaii.gov/par/>), which has video tutorials, step-by-step instructions, and reference information about the legislative process and how to participate.

"With all of our proceedings made available online, you are now able to watch committee hearings and submit live oral testimony virtually," said Sen. English. "Engaging with the Legislature has never been easier and I encourage all of our Senate District 7 residents to create a Capitol account and stay involved during this legislative session."

More information will be made available on the Capitol website: www.capitol.hawaii.gov.

2021 SUBSTANTIVE BILLS INTRODUCED BY SENATOR ENGLISH

Sen. English is the primary introducer of the following bills: For the status of a bill and to submit testimony, visit www.capitol.hawaii.gov.

SB694: Codifies sustainable development goals based on the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals and indicators.

SB695: Reestablishes Lā Kū'oko'a, Hawaiian Recognition Day, as an official State holiday. Repeals election day as an official State holiday.

SB696: Extends the date on which the temporary commission on the thirteenth festival of pacific arts shall cease to exist to August 31, 2025. Permits the commission members to discuss matters relating to official board business without regard to chapter 92, Hawai'i Revised Statutes, to enable them to perform their duties faithfully.

SB697: Designates January as "Kalaupapa Month".

SB698: Exempts members of a county council from the limitation on the number of members that may attend an informational meeting or presentation on matters relating to official board business, including a meeting of another entity, legislative hearing, convention, seminar, or community meeting. Clarifies that such meetings shall be meetings that are open to the public for purposes of permitted interactions.

SB699: Removes the monetary cap for the amount of conveyance taxes collected that can be paid into the land conservation fund.

SB700: Requires government entities to seek reimbursement for all or a portion of search and rescue expenses for persons who require rescue after leaving a hiking trail to enter a prohibited area or hiking on a trail closed to the public.

SB701: Authorizes allocation of supplemental categorical funding to remote schools, subject to legislative appropriation. Appropriates funds.

SB702: Requires the committee on weights to submit a report to the legislature detailing any changes to the funding formula within thirty days of the change.

SB703: Requires two hours of annual in-service training in suicide prevention for all teachers, principals, and school counselors.

SB704: Legalizes the personal use, possession, and sale of marijuana in a specified quantity. Requires licensing to operate marijuana establishments. Subjects marijuana establishments to State general excise taxes and income taxes.

SB705: Removes marijuana from schedule I of the uniform controlled substances act and reclassifies it as a schedule V drug. Increases the amount that qualifies as a violation of promoting a detrimental drug in the third degree from three grams to ten grams.

SB706: Prohibits the planting of a genetically engineered seed or plant part in an open field. Allows the chairperson of the board of agriculture to grant an exception where such planting is done in a controlled environment.

SB707: Mandates the Department of Agriculture to take precautionary measures to anticipate, prevent, or minimize the adverse effects of biotechnology and genetic engineering.

SB708: Requires a biotechnology company that sells a genetically modified animal, plant, or seed that the company knows or has reason to believe will be used to produce an agricultural commodity to provide written disclosure of possible risks from the use of such an organism. Specifies that written notice does not waive any liability a biotechnology company may have toward a purchaser.

SB709: Prohibits certain food labeling practices with regard to foods produced with non-genetically-modified-organisms, organic foods, and gluten-free foods.

SB710: Establishes, beginning January 1, 2022, labeling requirements for any food or raw agricultural commodity sold in the State that contains a genetically engineered material, or was produced with a genetically engineered material; establishes exceptions; establishes violations; and requires director of health to adopt rules.

SB711: Requires all letterheads, documents, symbols, and emblems of the State and other political subdivisions that include Hawaiian words or names to include accurate and appropriate Hawaiian names, spelling, and punctuation. Establishes references for accurate, appropriate, and authentic Hawaiian names and words, including proper Hawaiian spelling and punctuation. Clarifies that the full text of bills and other official documents are not required to be written in Hawaiian and that misspelled or incorrectly punctuated Hawaiian words and names shall not invalidate the documents or render them unenforceable and no cause of action shall arise accordingly.

SB712: Requires that the Executive Director of the 'Aha Moku Advisory Committee shall be subject to the advice and consent of the Senate with a term limit of four years.

SB713: Repeals the 'Aha Moku Advisory Committee on July 1, 2021. Effective 6/30/2021.

SB714: Clarifies the rights of publicity includes the rights of individuals who died prior to the enactment of the Hawai'i Publicity Rights Act.

SB715: Authorizes the issuance of special purpose revenue bonds for a master planned development proposed by Pueo Development, LLC, on Hawaiian Home Lands.

SB716: Requires the University of Hawai'i environmental center to conduct ongoing studies of the environmental impacts of sewage spills on affected coral reefs and submit an annual report to the legislature prior to the convening of each regular session. Appropriates monies.

SB717: Requires the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands to digitize its applicant, beneficiary, and lessee records and create a usable digital database no later than 7/1/2022.

SB718: Imposes a \$20 per guest tax on users of transient accommodations for the purposes of funding conservation efforts.

GOVERNOR DECLARES MAUI COUNTY A DISASTER AREA BECAUSE OF DROUGHT CONDITIONS SINCE MARCH 2019

Gov. Ige issued an emergency proclamation on January 27, declaring the County of Maui, a disaster area through March 28. Maui County has suffered from persistent drought conditions since March of 2019 causing significant economic loss to numerous ranches and farms. The proclamation enables the state to provide relief from disaster damages, losses, suffering caused by the disaster, and to protect the health, safety and welfare of the people.

In addition, large numbers of axis deer have migrated into agricultural and developed areas seeking food and water, devastating farms and contributing to crop loss. Hundreds of deer have died, and decomposing carcasses threaten to contaminate streams and the ocean.



LIVE AT THE LEGISLATURE RETURNS FOR ITS FOURTH SEASON

In advance of the opening of the Legislature, 'Ōlelo Community Media premiered its weekly "Live at the Legislature" show on Tuesday, January 19 at 8:30am.

The show was first launched in January 2018 and today continues to focus on the issues, legislation and topics of importance that emerge each session. Each week, State Senators and Representatives provide a variety of perspectives on the issues from both sides of the aisle and chamber.

As in years past, "Live at the Legislature" is available to viewers on Hawai'i Island, Maui and Kaua'i, they will be able to view 'Ōlelo's

"Given the severity of this issue, Rep. DeCoite and I have been working hard to get the deer situation on Moloka'i and in other areas of Maui County under control," said Sen. English. "I appreciate the swift actions of both Governor Ige and Mayor Victorino in helping to find solutions."

https://governor.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/2101163-ATG_Emergency-Proclamation-for-COM-Drought-and-Axis-Deer-distribution-signed.pdf

<https://governor.hawaii.gov/newsroom/office-of-the-governor-news-release-governor-declares-maui-county-a-disaster-area-because-of-drought-conditions-since-march-2019/>

cablecast on community-access stations Nā Leo TV, Akakū and Hō'ike.

"In partnership with 'Ōlelo Community Media, we're bringing the State Capitol virtual with live interviews every week," said Sen. English. "Live At The Legislature" provides a great opportunity for the public to hear from lawmakers about the issues that are being discussed during the legislative session."

The live-stream of the weekly show will also be found at 'ŌleloNet at www.olelo.org/49. For on-demand viewing at a later date, each "Live at the Legislature" show will be available at www.youtube.com/olelocm.

ENTRANCE, PARKING FEES COMING SOON FOR WAI'ANAPANAPA STATE PARK

In an effort to manage high traffic flow to East Maui, a reservation system for commercial vehicles and individual tourists visiting Wai'anapanapa State Park will be online next month.

The project, led by Sen. English and supported by the Department of Land and Natural Resources, will require people to pay a parking and park entrance fee. After State fees are paid online, a QR code would be issued and checked onsite. Residents would not be required to pay the fees.

The fees are as follows: \$5 for nonresidents to enter the park, \$10 parking fees for nonresidents and \$25 to \$90 for commercial vehicles depending on passenger load.

"This reservation system at Wai'anapanapa is part of a larger strategy to effectively manage the number of tourists visiting East Maui," remarked Sen. English. "We are working to expand the system to other popular tourist attractions while promoting many of our local businesses."

FUNDS RELEASED FOR CAPITOL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

\$100,000 was released to finance design for a new multipurpose room at Kalama Intermediate School.

\$300,000 in funds released for construction management services for the Ho'olehua Veterans and Homestead Residents Center in Ho'olehua, Moloka'i.

J. KALANI ENGLISH Senate Majority Leader

COMMITTEES

Vice Chair, Senate Committee
on Public Safety,
Intergovernmental and
Military Affairs

Member, Senate Committee
on Transportation

Member, Senate Committee
on Ways & Means



Hawai'i State Legislature
Bill Status and Documents
www.capitol.hawaii.gov/

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SENATOR ENGLISH APPLAUDS PRESIDENT BIDEN'S EXECUTIVE ORDER RECOMMITTING THE UNITED STATES TO THE PARIS CLIMATE ACCORD



In one of his first actions as Commander-In-Chief, President Biden issued an executive order on January 20, recommitting the United States to the Paris Climate Accord.

After former President Trump withdrew from the accord in 2017, Sen. English introduced **SB 559**, that became **Act 032**, making Hawai'i the first State to commit to the goals of the Paris Climate Accord.

"We applaud President Biden for recommitting the United States to the Paris Climate Accord," noted Sen. English. "We are vulnerable to the ravages of climate change and Hawai'i must act now to protect our environment for future generations. I look forward to continue working with my colleagues to ensure that Hawai'i remains a global leader in the fight against climate change."

2021 SUBSTANTIVE BILLS INTRODUCED BY SENATOR ENGLISH (CONTINUED)

SB719: Requires the Department of Agriculture, in consultation with the Department of Health, to develop and implement a one-time pesticide disposal collection program, for a duration to be determined by the Department. Requires the Department of agriculture to convene a steering committee to guide and monitor the pesticide disposal collection program. Increases the civil and criminal penalties for violating the Hawai'i pesticides law. Appropriates monies.

SB720: Authorizes county council members to caucus during official council meetings.

SB1235: Establishes 2 new positions on the board of agriculture and specifies that 1 shall be a resident of the island of Moloka'i and 1 shall be a resident of the island of Lāna'i.

SB1236: Appropriates funds for capital improvement projects in the 7th senatorial district.

SB1343: Removes acreage restrictions on leases of Hawaiian home lands for agricultural purposes. Provides that the availability of the foregoing leases shall be subject to the availability of suitable tracts of land. Specifies that the foregoing leases may be for for-profit or non-profit purposes.

SB1344: Requires the Department of Agriculture, in coordination with the appropriate departmental agency, to prepare and periodically update a functional plan for seafood sustainability that expands the State's priority on food by including wild seafood as a viable food source.

SB1345: Requires the Department of Land and Natural Resources to purchase within its existing budget an Infrared Unit B2-FO for the Maui branch of the division of forestry and wildlife for game management and collecting and tracking accurate herd counts.