

SENATOR GILBERT KAHELE



Serving Hawai'i's
Senate District 1 - Hilo
Majority Whip
Chairman,
Committee on Tourism



November 2014

A Message from Senator Kahele

Aloha!

In remembrance of Veterans Day, I would like to acknowledge the members of our military for their service to our state and nation. Each and every day these soldiers and their families sacrifice so much so that we can enjoy the freedoms we enjoy today.

From my `ohana to yours, I would like to wish you and your family a Happy Thanksgiving! When we gather to celebrate this special occasion, we will also give thanks for all the blessings of the year.

I would also like to share with you that Governor Abercrombie has released more capital improvement appropriations for our district. They were as follows:

\$10,385,000 Hilo Medical Center—upgrade air conditioning system, renovate Acute Hospital patient rooms, bathrooms, office spaces, new CT Unit, and renovate Oncology Department.

\$1,430,000 Hawai'i Community College—Hale Kea/IT Academic Computing and UH Hilo—Art Building and Art Labs & Offices, replace A/C, ducting and insulation.

\$3,456,000 UH Hilo—capital renewal and deferred maintenance, various buildings.

Again, mahalo nui loa for the opportunity to serve as your Senator.

Hau'oli Ka Mana'o,

Gilbert Kahele

Conflict Resolution Day



On October 16, 2014, Senator Kahele presented a senate certificate to Julie Mitchell, executive director of Ku'ikahi Mediation Center (KMC), in honor of Conflict Resolution Day.

Mediations are informal and voluntary and KMC's mediators help people talk through their differences, explore and negotiate options, and craft solutions that are mutually

satisfactory to all parties. KMC hosted an Open House that included 10-minute educational presentations, a mock mediation session, a ask a mediator Q&A session and the Hawai'i Mediation Pledge.

Special Session

A Special Session was convened to consider the nominations of Deputy Corporation Counsel Margaret Masunaga for the District Court of the Third Circuit (County of Hawai'i) and two First Circuit Court judges.

Margaret practiced in both the private and public sectors and was nominated by Chief Justice Mark Recktenwald to the six-year District Court position.

On October 23, 2014 the Hawai'i State Senate unanimously confirmed her nomination.



Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy

There was a lot of excitement at the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy (DKICP) last month. On October 10, 2014, Lt. Gov. Shan Tsutsui, as acting governor, announced the release of \$33 million for the construction of a permanent facility. The timing could not have been more perfect since the scheduled site visit of the evaluation team from the Accreditation Council of Pharmacy Education (ACPE) was the following week. The ACPE accreditation team had questioned the compliance of DKICP for its lack of a suitable facility.

On October 11, 2014, as part of a national event that spotlights pharmacists' contributions to health care, student pharmacists and faculty members provided the community with free information at the 6th Annual Health Fair. They conducted health screenings for blood pressure, cholesterol and diabetes. Senator Kahele had an opportunity to speak with several students while visiting the fair.

On October 12, 2014, more than 80 student pharmacists recited the Oath of a Pharmacist at the white coat ceremony. It is only in Hawai'i that each student receives a lei during this ceremonial rite of passage.



2014 Pro Bono Celebrations

On October 23, 2014, Senator Kahele was honored to attend the 2014 Pro Bono Celebrations at the Hawai'i Supreme Court.

Students across the state were invited to write an essay on "How to Inspire Others to Volunteer." Of the 280 essays received, Waiakea High School student Lisa Ishimoto was one of six students whose essay best exemplified the theme for the contest. As a volunteer at Hilo Medical Center, she realized that her simple act of kindness could change a patient's attitude and bring a smile to their faces, and in return, it has brought her more joy than she had ever expected. Her story serves as a reminder to all that anyone can be a volunteer. All that is really needed is your willingness to share your time to make a difference in someone else's life.



Seated: Associate Justice Paula Nakayama, Chief Justice Mark Recktenwald, Associate Justice Michael Wilson, Associate Justice Richard Pollack

Standing: Senator Kahele, Maureen (Grandmother), Rep. Tsuji, Dean (Father), Lisa, Shelley (Mother), Michael Bird, Esq. (Watanabe Ing LLP)