

Senator Gilbert Kahele

**Serving Hawai'i's
Senate District I
Hilo**

Committee Chair
Senate Committee on
Tourism and
International Affairs

Vice Chair
Senate Committee on
Higher Education and
the Arts

Member
Senate Committees
on Judiciary and Labor
and Education



Hau'oli ka mana'o

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

A message from Senator Kahele...	1
From Hawai'i to Capitol Hill	2
Banyan Drive Redevelopment Goals	2
Improving Today, for Tomorrow	2
How to Check the Status of a Bill	3
2016 Legislative Timetable	3
Fukuoka and Okinawa Trip	4
Ohia Lehua Forests Epidemic	4
Stop the Dengue Outbreak	4
Contact Us	4

A message from Senator Kahele...

Aloha mai kakou,

Today I would like to wish you and your family the happiest new year! As I reflect upon all the events that have happened in 2015, I have concluded that another great year has gone by. Let's take one look back but three steps forward with the sole intention of bettering our community, ohanas, and ourselves. I humbly request that you join my staff and I on our next journey through 2016! My mission is to address ongoing issues our community and state faces while looking for solutions to arising issues. I am here to serve the people of Hilo and it is only by working together and supporting one another that we will succeed.

Gilbert Kahele

From Hawai'i to Capitol Hill



From Left to Right: Rep. Ty Cullen, Rep. Kyle Yamashita, Sen. Ronald Kouchi, U.S. Sen. Mazie Hirono, Rep. Della Au Belatti, Sen. Clarence Nishihara, Sen. Gilbert Kahele, and Sen. Brian Taniguchi.



From Left to Right: Sen. Gilbert Kahele, Rep. Kyle Yamashita, Sen. Ronald Kouchi, Sen. Brian Taniguchi, Rep. Della Au Belatti, U.S. Rep. Mark Takai, Rep. Mark Nakashima, Rep. Scott Nishimoto, Sen. Clarence Nishihara, Rep. Ty Cullen, Rep Karl Rhoads, and Rep Chris Lee.



Banyan Drive Redevelopment Goals:

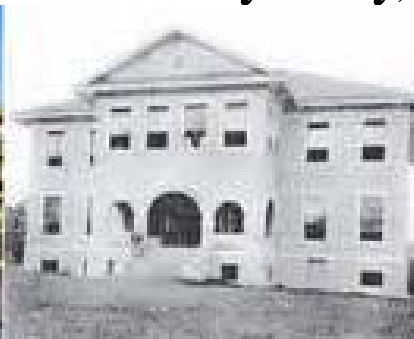
- ⇒ Revitalize certain areas within Banyan Drive Peninsula that are underutilized or are in disrepair with an urban renewal project
- ⇒ Support the Banyan Drive Working Group's efforts to address the future of Banyan Drive.
- ⇒ Gain an understanding of various conditions, limitations, and wide opportunities for the final product of a new and improved tourist destination and hub for local businesses.

Sen. Kahele's Statement

State Senator Gilbert Kahele is throwing his support behind the redevelopment plans for Banyan Drive and offers this statement:

"Hilo in many ways, is Hawai'i. It's a small town with special charm and the plans presented today I believe will enhance that charm and bring Hilo back to life," said Sen. Kahele. "The collaboration between county and state agencies on this project is indication of the importance of this area. The redevelopment plans are what the constituents want and what is needed for the economy. I would like to see us move forward in reviving the town before we see more closures and lose more icons of Hilo history."

Improving our Community Today, for a Brighter Tomorrow



In addition to the improvement of highways and airports on Hawai'i Island, the following funds have been allocated towards projects in local school districts, in result of Sen Kahele's contributed efforts. The following districts received the following funds; Hilo with \$3,635,000, Kaumana with \$288,000, Ha'aheo with \$343,000, Waiakea with \$1,608,000, and Keaukaha with \$67,000.

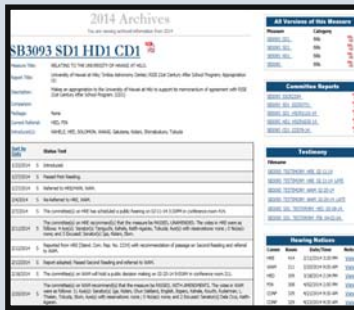
How to Check the Status of a Bill

1. If you would like to check the status of a particular bill, please visit the Capitol's website at: <http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/>

2. Enter your bill number in the "Bill Status/Measure Status" box, located on the upper left side.



3. Below is an example of a status sheet from last year's legislative session. The status sheet provides a wealth of information about each bill.



4. By clicking on the bill number on the very top, you will be able to view the most current version of the bill.

5. Below the bill number will be a brief summary of the bill, followed by the progress of the bill.

6. On the right hand column, you will be able to view all versions of the bill, committee reports, testimonies submitted, as well as the hearing notices.

7. When a bill is scheduled for hearing, a "Submit Testimony" button will appear to the right of the bill number. By clicking on this button, you will be able to submit your testimony.

2016 Legislative Timetable

January 20th	Opening Day.	PAGE 3
January 22nd	Last day to introduce all packages of bills except for the administration's (State Executive Branch).	
January 25th	State of the State Address.	
	Last day to introduce the administration's package of bills (State Executive Branch).	
January 26th	One-day recess.	
January 27th	Last day for bill introductions.	
January 28th	One-day recess.	
February 10th	One-day recess.	
February 25th -	Mandatory 5-day recess.	
March 2nd		
March 4th	Filing deadline for First Decking.	
	Last day to deck non-budget bills for Third Reading in the originating body.	
March 7th	One-day recess.	
March 9th	One-day recess.	
March 10th	First Crossover.	
	Last day for Third Reading of bills in the originating body.	
March 11th	Last day to introduce substantive resolutions.	
March 14th	Filing deadline for budget bills.	
March 16th	Last day for Third Reading of budget bills in the originating body.	
April 1st	One-day recess.	
April 7th	First Crossover for concurrent resolutions. Last day to pass concurrent resolutions to the non-originating body.	
April 8th	Filing deadline for Second Decking.	
	Last day to deck bills that were amended by the receiving (non-originating) body.	
April 11th	One-day recess.	
April 13th	One-day recess.	
April 14th	Second Crossover. Last day for Third Reading of bills that were amended by the receiving (non-originating) body. Disagree. Last day to disagree with the other body's drafts of bills.	
April 22nd	Deadline for transmittal of final form of Constitutional Amendments to Governor.	
April 25th	Second Crossover for concurrent resolutions.	
	Last day to pass concurrent resolutions that were amended by the receiving (non-originating) body.	
April 28th	Last day to file non-fiscal bills to deck for Final Reading.	
April 29th	Last day to file fiscal bills to deck for Final Reading.	
May 2nd	One-day recess.	
May 4th	One-day recess.	
May 5th	Adjournment Sine Die.	

Fukuoka and Okinawa Trip

Hawaii delegation including Senator Gilbert Kahele, Governor David Ige, State Department of Business Economic Development & Tourism, and leaders from all of Hawai'i's higher education institutions traveled to Okinawa. The journey marked the 30th Anniversary of the Sister-State Relationship between Hawaii and Okinawa. Hawai'i has retained a great relationship with Japan and hopes for long lasting friendship. Many issues were brought up and the main goal was to explore similarities and differences that both Hawai'i and Okinawa face. From this trip, great lessons were learned and both Hawai'i and Japan were able to collaborate together in facing challenges and issues that both sister-state faces.



Ohia Lehua Forests Epidemic

We need to share the sad news of the Ohia Lehua forest decline on Hawai'i Island to bring awareness to a few key issues. As many of you know the Lehua's beauty is irresistible and irreplaceable, any negligent behavior to Ohia tress is considered unacceptable. This encompasses breaking branches, hitting trees, picking Lehua flowers recklessly. We all need to recognize the mission of perpetuating the growth of the Ohia Lehua forests that provides a wealth of positive impacts for the island.

Without Ohia Lehua Forests we may face many arising issues. The County of Hawai'i Department of Water Supply is concerned about the quality and quantity of water flowing from the mountains. Another resulting issue is the rapid decline of bird species and total bird populations within dead forests or dying areas. The contributing culprit, known as shoestring root rot, is a fungus. This particular fungus is wind-borne, but cannot infect healthy trees.

Stop the Dengue Outbreak!

FIGHT THE BITE PREVENATIVE STEPS:

- ⇒ Use mosquito netting over beds, and screens on windows and doorways.
- ⇒ Use mosquito repellents and wear appropriate clothing such as long-sleeved shirts and long pants that reduce exposure to mosquito bites.
- ⇒ Eliminate standing water in buckets, old tires, puddles, or fix leaky faucets.
- ⇒ Repair broken screens and windows to keep mosquitoes out.

IMPORTANT UPDATE:

- ⇒ While many healthcare providers **do not** provide free dengue testing, the Department of Health (DOH) does offer free testing.

For more information check out this link!

<http://health.hawaii.gov/docd/dengue-outbreak-2015/>

HOW TO REACH US

Hawai'i State Capitol, Room 213,
415 S. Beretania Street Honolulu, HI 96720

Phone: (808) 586-6760 or

Toll Free From Hawai'i Island: 974-4000 ext. 66760

Email: senkahele@capitol.hawaii.gov

For an electronic version of this newsletter, visit Senator Kahele's webpage: <http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/kahele.aspx>



HE POHŌ, O KE AKAMAI NO KE HANA A NUI.
Problems happen. Use wisdom and skill to deal with them.