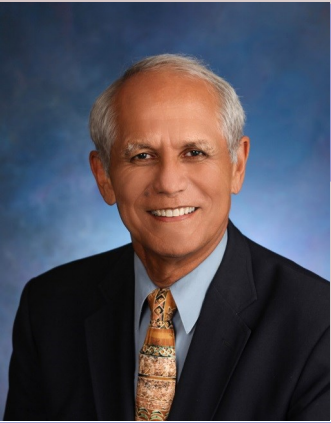


Senator Mike Gabbard



Aloha e Friends,

Many of you know, as the Senate's Energy and Environment Chair, one of my top priorities is doing all I can to get us to kick our addiction to fossil fuels. That's why I was stoked when invited to give the closing remarks at the 6th Annual Hawai'i Clean Energy Day on July 22nd. This special event brings together many of our energy leaders to discuss Hawai'i's efforts to remain on the cutting edge in renewable energy. You can check out my speech by visiting my Senate webpage [here](#). On another note, a big congrats to the Makakilo Kapolei Youth Baseball League Mustang All-Stars (9-10 year olds) for winning the state championship on Kaua'i last month! As always, please contact me at 586-6830 or sengabbard@capitol.hawaii.gov if I can help you or your family in any way.



COMMITTEE CHAIR

* Energy and Environment

MEMBER

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* Transportation and International Affairs

* Education

District 20

Kapolei, Makakilo, and portions of Ewa, Kalaeloa, and Waipahu



Senator Gabbard hosted his July 26th "Listen Story" meeting at Kapolei High

"Listen-Story" Meeting

My next "Listen Story" meeting will be held at Kapolei High Teacher's Lounge on August 23rd from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. If you can't make it, send me an email and I'll forward you the notes.

Heritage Center Groundbreaking

I spoke at the groundbreaking and o'o ceremony for the Kapolei Heritage Center on July 24th. The Heritage Center is a community and cultural learning center being built by the non-profit, Kapolei Community Development Corporation, on Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL) land next to the DHHL headquarters in East Kapolei. KCDC is a collaboration of native Hawaiian communities working toward the betterment of the Kapolei homestead region. KCDC is comprised of beneficiaries from homestead associations in Malu'ohai, Kaupe'a, Kanehili and the future East Kapolei 2. I worked with my colleagues at the Legislature to help secure a \$1.15 million grant-in-aid in the current state budget for the project. The first phase of the Heritage Center will include a certified kitchen, two classrooms, a storage area, and is expected to be completed in August 2015. Phase 2 will include a covered halau. Additional phases will possibly include affordable rentals and retail outlets.

Sen. Gabbard attended and gave a speech at the groundbreaking ceremony for the Kapolei Heritage Center on July 24, 2014. (Pictured L-R: Rep. Sharon Har; Shirley Swinney, President/Director Kapolei Community Development Corporation; Lt. Governor Shan Tsutsui; Jobie Masagatani, Chair of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands; Sen. Gabbard; and Sen. Brickwood Galuteria.)



Red Hill Fuel Storage Facility Task Force

I was appointed last month to a Task Force which will study the effects of the January 2014 fuel tank leak at the Red Hill Underground Fuel Storage Tank Facility. We'll also be hearing from the Navy on their plans to keep this from happening again. The Task Force was created by SCR 73, which passed the Legislature during 2014 Session. As you might remember, 27,000 gallons of fuel leaked from one of the 20 giant underground tanks, each the size of a 20-story building. The tanks are capable of holding 12.5 million gallons of fuel. This facility is a critical part of our defense system. But at the same time, it's very important that major changes be made to lessen the dangers that these tanks pose to our drinking water supply.



Sen. Gabbard, along with Rep. Chris Lee, at ThinkTech Studios with host Jay Fidell on July 30, 2014, discussed "Clean Energy Legislation."

BOQ Building #77 in Kalaeloa Coming Back to Life

HCDA will be considering the approval of a plan by Hunt Development Corporation to remodel the former Navy Bachelor Officers Quarters (BOQ), Bldg. #77, in Kalaeloa as 100 one-bedroom rental housing units. You may have seen the BOQ while driving on your way to Costco along Roosevelt Avenue. Unfortunately, the BOQ has long been a favorite place for vandals and graffiti "artists". The rent for the apartments will be in the \$1,300 range and amenities will include fitness & recreation rooms, a barbecue area, a lounge, and 157 parking stalls. Hunt hopes to start construction in the 4th quarter of 2014 and be completed by April 2015. I commend Hunt for moving forward on this project. I plan to send in supportive testimony for a Hawai'i Community Development Authority (HCDA) hearing on September 9th and encourage you to do the same. Testimony must be received at HCDA by September 8th at 4:30pm and can be emailed to contact@hcdaweb.org or uploaded to their website at www.hcdaweb.org.



Sen. Gabbard gave a speech on the USS Missouri (aka "Mighty Mo") on July 3rd, to about 75 people who became naturalized citizens. Twenty-two countries of origin were represented by the group. As part of the ceremony, Sen. Gabbard wished each one "Congratulations" in their country's native language.

Kapolei Lofts

Forest City is moving forward with a \$140 million "resort-style workforce living" project called Kapolei Lofts. The project is being built on a lot across from Kapolei Foodland at the corner of Kapolei Parkway and Wakea Street. There will be 499 rental homes, ranging from 400 sq. ft. studios to 1,200 sq. ft. three bedroom apts. Amenities will include a community center, cyber café, large private rooms for meetings, and exercise facilities. One of the great things about Kapolei Lofts from an energy perspective is that half of the electricity for the entire community will be generated by one of the largest privately financed residential photovoltaic systems in the nation. Construction is set to begin this month and be open for rent in summer 2015.



Sen. Gabbard gave a speech to about 75 people who became naturalized citizens on the USS Missouri (aka "Mighty Mo") on July 3rd. One of those proud Americans was Jonathan Magana.



Sen. Gabbard attended and gave a few remarks at the East Kapolei II Groundbreaking Ceremony on July 30, 2014. This new Hawaiian home-
stead community will be the future home to 160 native Hawaiians.



Sen. Gabbard attended a luncheon and spoke at the "Outdoor Circle Celebration Party" for the Passage of SB 632, establishing environmental courts, on July 25, 2014.

East Kapolei Fire Station Ladder Truck

Representatives from the Hawai'i Fire Fighters Association, including their President Bobby Lee, attended the June 25th Makakilo-Kapolei-Honokai Hale Neighborhood Board meeting and made a short presentation on a major concern related to the East Kapolei Fire Station, #43. It was noted that two fire trucks were designated for station #43. However, to date, the ladder truck targeted for the station is being used to fill in at other stations, instead of serving East Kapolei Fire Station. During the meeting, members of the Board and community expressed the concern that the lack of a ladder truck for station #43 could potentially negatively impact emergency service coverage in the growing city of Kapolei. I've sent a letter to Mayor Caldwell requesting that he revisit the current situation and seriously consider whether moving the ladder truck to the East Kapolei Fire Station is in the best interest of the people of West O'ahu.

Free Qigong/Tai Chi Workshop at Kapolei Public Library

There will be a free one hour Qigong/Tai Chi workshop at the Kapolei Public Library on August 9th at 1pm. The workshop will be led by Stuart Holloway, who has been studying and teaching Qigong for 20 years. The workshop will empathize stress reduction and detox and will include Qigong Warm Up, Eight Piece of Brocade Qigong, Tai Chi Basics, and Yang Style 10 Step Tai Chi. No registration is required. For more information, call 693-7050.



To commemorate the inaugural flight service for Mokulele Airlines from Kalaeloa Airport, the State Legislature presented an Honorary Certificate to Ron Hansen, President & CEO of Mokulele Airlines and Dave Berry, Mokulele's executive Vice President and COO. Mokulele was the first airline in Hawai'i to be founded by a Native Hawaiian woman. July 1st marked the beginning of Mokulele's daily nonstop service to Kahului, Maui from Kalaeloa.

Testimony on U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Proposed Rule on Invasive Snakes

I submitted testimony on July 23rd in support of a proposed rule to amend the U.S. Fish and Wildlife's regulations in order to add 5 species of large constrictor snakes as injurious species under the federal Lacey Act. These snake species include anacondas and boa constrictors. Listing of these species would restrict the international import and interstate trade of these species in the U.S. Hawai'i already restricts importation and possession of snakes. However, boa constrictors and other species of snakes continue to be smuggled here. Listing of these species would provide additional "disincentives" for importing/harboring these species, and additional legal tools for going after offenders.



Sen. Gabbard gave the keynote speech and presented an Honorary Certificate from the State Senate, to celebrate the "Grand Opening of the DC Fast Charge Station" at the Shops at Mauna Lani, Kona on July 6, 2014. The charger is the first of its kind in the State of Hawaii. Charge Bliss, Inc. is an energy management and smart grid technology company who owns the fast charger. (Pictured L-R: Rick Castro, Sales Manager – IslandWide Solar, Sen. Gabbard, Michael Oh, Manager – Shops at Mauna Lani, Douglas Teeple, President – Big Island EV Association, Doug March, Vice President of Sales and Marketing – Charge Bliss, Rep. Mark Nakashima, Rep. Cindy Evans, and Sen. Russell Ruderman.)

Electric Vehicle Fast Charger Launch at Shops at Mauna Lani

As an electric vehicle (EV) owner and Chair of Senate Energy and Environment Committee, I was happy to be the keynote speaker for the grand opening of the first DC Fast EV Charge station at the Shops at Mauna Lani on the Big Island on July 6th. This is the first electric vehicle charger of this type on the island of Hawai'i and our state. The fact that it's capable of charging the different car manufacturers' EVs and can charge an EV in a little over 30 minutes is awesome. With the 9 fast chargers planned for Hawai'i Island, EV owners will be set! Charge Bliss, Inc., an energy management and smart grid technology company, in conjunction with Islandwide Solar, is responsible for this new level 3 charger. I'm very proud of the Shops of Mauna Lani, Charge Bliss, Islandwide Solar, and the Big Island EV Association for bringing businesses and the community together to give people the option of leaving their gas guzzlers behind, doing something good for the environment, and helping to create a clean energy economy.



Sen. Gabbard gave the closing speech at the "6th Annual Hawai'i Clean Energy Day" on July 22, 2014. (Pictured L-R: Jay Fidell, Chair of Hawaii Energy Policy Forum (HEPF); Sen Gabbard; Sharon Moriwaki and Michael Hamnett, Co-Chairs of HEPF.)

Charles Peyton of Honokai Hale Honored as Eagle Scout

I presented a certificate from the State Senate to Charles Peyton at his Eagle Court of Honor Ceremony at the LDS Kalaeloa Chapel on July 25th. Only about 5 percent of those who join a Boy Scout troop attain the prestigious Eagle Scout rank. Charles Peyton set his sights on achieving this special rank and he succeeded. The fact that Charles has earned the rank of Eagle Scout will be a significant achievement of honor for the rest of his life. Charles, the third son of proud parents Robbie and Melvin Peyton of Honokai Hale, earned the highest Cub Scout honor attainable--the Arrow of Light--through study, demonstration of citizenship, and performance of civic duties. At 11, as a Boy Scout, Charles began learning the skills he needed to earn 21 merit badges as he progressed through the ranks of First Class, Second Class, Star, Life, and finally Eagle Scout. Charles graduated from Kapolei High in 2014 and is looking to go to trade school. I wish him much success as he begins this exciting, new chapter in his life.

"Get Ready Ewa Beach" Emergency Preparedness Fair Coming Soon

The "Get Ready Ewa Beach" 4th Annual Emergency Preparedness Fair will be taking place at Ewa Makai Middle School on Sept 6th from 9am to 1pm. This important event is being organized by the Ewa Beach Emergency Preparedness Committee. Participants will include the City Department of Emergency Management, State Civil Defense, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the American Red Cross, and the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center. They will be giving away \$10,000 in free disaster preparedness merchandise. For more info, call the Ewa Beach Emergency Preparedness folks at 682-0111 or email them at GetReadyEwaBeach@gmail.com.