## The Senate STATE CAPITOL HONOLULU, HAWAII

## **2018 LEGISLATIVE WRAP-UP**

Mike

June – Vol. 12 Issue 6

## **Senator Mike Gabbard**

Aloha e Friends.

I completed my 12th legislative session as your State Senator on May 3. It's been an honor and privilege serving you all these years and I look forward the years ahead. Congrats to all the high school graduates of James Campbell High, Kapolei High, Waipahu High, Island Pacific Academy, and American Renaissance Academy. I wish these graduates great success in their chosen paths in life. As always, please feel free to contact me at 586-6830 or email sengabbard@capitol.hawaii.gov if I can help you or your family in any way. You can also follow me on Twitter @senmikegabbard, Instagram @sengabbard, or

Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/senmikegabbard.

#### COMMITTEE CHAIR

Agriculture & **Environment VICE CHAIR Water and Land** MEMBER **Judiciary** 

**DISTRICT 20** 

Kapolei, Makakilo and portions of Ewa, Kalaeloa and Waipahu

### **Listen Story**

My next Listen Story meeting will be held July; 21, 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. at Ewa Mahiko District Park

#### 2018 LEGISLATION SESSION OVERVIEW

There was a total of 2,260 bills introduced during the 2018 Legislative Session (1,153 in the House and 1,107 in the Senate.) Of those, 220 bills passed the Legislature. The bills that didn't make it through are still alive for next session. The Governor has

three choices for the 220 bills that did pass: he can sign the bills into law, allow the bills to become law without his signature, or veto the bills.

#### **Next major deadlines:**

June 25 – Deadline for the Governor to notify the Legislature if he intends to veto any of the bills.

July 10 – Deadline for the Governor to veto bills and for the Legislature to come



Sen. Gabbard's 2018 Session Staff L-R: Rock Riggs, Committee Clerk and Chief of Staff; Sydney Williams, UH-Manoa Intern; Meg Turner, Office Mgr; Adriene Unpingco, Asst. Committee Clerk; Patty Haller, Legislative Asst.

back into Special Session to override any of those vetoes. Please let the Governor know how you feel about any of the legislation by calling him at 586-0034 or filling out Us" the "Contact form:

governor.hawaii.gov/ contact-us/comments-on-

#### **How You Can Help with Disasters**

Our thoughts and prayers are with the victims of the recent flooding disasters on O'ahu and Kaua'i and the volcanic eruptions on Hawai'i Island. Donations to Red Cross Disaster Relief will be used to prepare for, respond to, and help people recover from disasters big and small, including the recent floods and ongoing lava threat. To send a contribution, mail your check to American Red Cross, 4155 Diamond Head Road, Honolulu, Hawai'i, 96816, make a secure online donation at redcross.org/hawaii or call (808) 739-8109. Donations can also be made via Hawai'i Community Foundation's Hawai'i Island Volcano Recovery Fund & Kaua'i Relief & Recovery Fund at https:// www.hawaiicommunityfoundation.org/.











#### KEY AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT BILLS

I had four bills that I authored pass the Legislature during the 2018 session. Another key bill that I helped shepherd through the legislative process as the Agriculture and Environment Committee Chair was SB 3095. Here's a short overview of each:

**Important Agricultural Lands (SB 2074)** The Legislature created the Important Agricultural Lands law in 2008, which provides incentives to landowners in exchange for them preserving agricultural lands in perpetuity. Those incentives were expiring, so this bill will extend the program another three years until 2021.

**Pilot Hemp Program Special Fund (SB 2556)** This bill completes the creation of our hemp pilot program which occurred in 2016 and 2017 by establishing a Special Fund, where the licensing fees and potential fines can be deposited and used for the program's operation. On April 18, the Department of Agriculture began accepting applications from farmers to start growing hemp. The first licenses are being issued this month and will continue to be issued on a quarterly basis.

**Cesspool Working Group and Study (SB 2567)** This bill started in the Senate as a proposal to require cesspool upgrades at the point of sale. The bill that passed would set up a Cesspool Conversion Working Group to come up with a plan to convert our nearly 88,000 cesspools by 2050 and for UH to do a study of sewage contamination in nearshore marine areas.

Oxybenzone/Octinoxate Sunscreen Ban (SB 2571) This is a first-in-the-world law, which will ban the sale of sunscreen containing the chemicals oxybenzone and octinoxate. The ban will go into effect on January 1, 2021. Research shows that these chemicals are a threat to coral reefs, marine life, and human health.

**Pesticide Regulation (SB 3095)** This is a first-in-the-nation law that will ban the dangerous pesticide, chlorpyrifos starting in 2023. The bill also includes restricted use pesticide reporting, a pesticide drift study at 3 schools, and 100 ft. pesticide buffer zones around all public schools. The bill will increase the cap of the Pesticide Use Revolving Fund from \$250K to \$1M for pesticide training, creates two new positions in the Department of Ag, and puts \$300K toward outreach and education.



Sen. Gabbard spoke during a press conference on May 9 at Magic Island to applaud Hawai'i as the first state to lead the country to a zero-emissions clean economy and statewide carbon neutrality by 2045.

Sen. Mike and Carol Gabbard standing in a hemp field in an undisclosed location in Waimanalo on April 28.



Sen. Gabbard wrote a short song about banning oxybenzone and octinoxate.

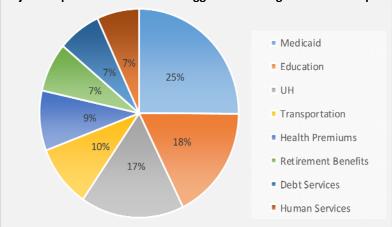
# Volunteering in Our Community

On March 19, I honored Hui O Ho'ohonua (HOH808) with a Senate floor presentation. HOH808 is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, community development networking organization, that is restoring the land surrounding Pu'uloa in the Pearl Harbor and neighboring Ewa Moku to once again provide food. They're currently recruiting volunteers for a community workday at Kapapapuhi Point Park on July 28 from 9 am-12 pm. They'll be working to restore the park shoreline, restore historic fish ponds, paint gazebos and picnic tables, remove invasive species, and remove trash. For more information, contact Tony at hoh808info@gmail.com.

Appropriations for Senate District 20		
EDUCATION		
East Kapolei Elementary School – New School Ground and Site Improvements	\$	1,000,000
East Kapolei Middle School – Construction of a New School - (projected school opening is 2019-2020 school year; located on parcel of land behind Kroc Center)	\$	90,000,000
UH West Oʻahu		
♦ Campus Center Extension	\$	5,000,000
♦ Renovation of Maintenance Building	\$	2, 500,000
♦ Repair and Renovation of Library	\$	50,000
Waipahu Intermediate School – Plans and Design for Additional Multi-Purpose Play Courts	\$	600,00
Youth Challenge Academy - Design and Construction for Replacement of Balcony and Stairway Guardrails	\$	800,000
STATE FACILITIES		
Hawai'i Army National Guard – Design and Construction for Energy Resiliency, Energy Efficiency, and Physical Security Projects (Kalaeloa)	\$	8,250,00
Hawaiian Humane Society Grant-in-Aid — West Oʻahu Campus	\$	300,000
Kalaeloa Airport		
♦ Construction of T-Hangars	\$	8,000,00
♦ Design and Construction of Runway Lighting	\$	3,300,00
♦ Construction of Utility System Improvements	\$	10,000,000
Kalaeloa Community Development Plan Update	\$	500,000
Kalaeloa Enterprise Avenue Energy Corridor Design and Construction to Midway Road	\$	3,000,000
Oahu Bikeways – Land Acquisition for a Multi-Use Path from Waipio Point Access Road to	\$	2,000,000

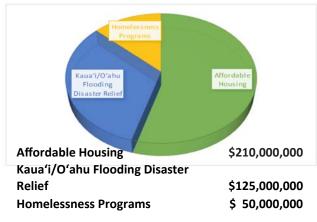
## **State Spending**

Our Supplemental 2018-2019 budget included a total of \$14.4 billion in spending. The diagram on the left depicts some of the major components. Some of the bigger ticket budget items are depicted in the diagram on the right.



Waiahole Water Systems Improvements, Kunia

Lualualei Naval Road



\$

8,000,000

## SPECIAL EVENTS



Sen. Mike and Carol Gabbard paid their respects to the late Sen. Daniel Akaka's wife, Millie Akaka, on May 18, while the Akaka's daughter, Millannie Akaka Mattson, looked on.

#### Senator Daniel Kahikina Akaka

Senator Akaka lay in state at the Hawai'i State Capitol Rotunda May 18–19, where people had the opportunity to pay their last respects to this incredible leader. He was the embodiment of aloha and served his country honorably in the U.S. Army from 1945 to 1947, in the U.S. House from 1977 to 1990, and the U.S. Senate from 1990 to 2013. He was also Chair of the U.S. Senate Committee on Veteran Affairs during the 111th Congress. My family was blessed to have known Senator Akaka and his beautiful wife Millie.



Sen. Mike and Carol Gabbard lined the red carpet as the Hawai'i Army National Guard escorted U.S. Sen. Daniel Kahikina Akaka's flag-draped coffin into the Capitol Rotunda on May 18.



#### **East Kapolei Middle School Groundbreaking**

I was stoked to attend the groundbreaking ceremony for East Kapolei Middle School on May 10. The school will be off Maunakapu Street behind the Kroc Center and is planned for a 2020-2021 opening. It will serve 1,050 sixth-eight grade students. The school will be built in phases. The Legislature appropriated \$90M for the project in the 2017-2019 biennium and we'll need to fund another \$30M in upcoming sessions to complete the school.



Sen. Gabbard attended and spoke at the groundbreaking of East Kapolei Middle School on May 10. Pictured with Rep. Sharon Har and Governor David Ige.

My daughter, Congresswoman Tulsi Gabbard, actually had the privilege of working in his U.S. Senate Office as a legislative aide from 2006 to 2008. My prayers are with his family during this difficult time. We lost a true ambassador of aloha on April 6. We'll miss you, Uncle Danny. Mahalo nui for your friendship and wisdom over the years. And most importantly, mahalo for the genuine aloha you imbued in Tulsi when she worked for you in DC. Ke Akua me ke aloha!