



# Senator BRICKWOOD GALUTERIA

Waikiki • Ala Moana • Kaka'ako • McCully • Moili'ili

Senate Majority Leader • Chair, Tourism and Hawaiian Affairs Committee



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Senate District 12  
since 2008**

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## Aloha Friends and Neighbors,

With the start of the Twenty Seventh Legislative session underway, I am pleased and honored to continue to serve as the Senate Majority Leader and the Chair of the Committee on Tourism and Hawaiian Affairs (THA).

Bill introduction ended on Thursday, January 24th, and the Legislature is definitely in full swing with nearly 3,000 bills awaiting their fate, and committees busily scheduling and holding hearings. Informational briefings are also still being held; as one of the ways members of the legislature are educated about issues they must deliberate upon, they are an important part of the process of making laws.

As Vice Chair of the Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection (CPN) and a member of the Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs (PSM), in addition to being Chair of THA and Senate Majority Leader, I wear several different hats and keep a very full schedule. However, I want to assure you that I continue to maintain an open door policy, and welcome your input and feedback, and encourage you to contact my office should you have any questions, concerns, or challenges you would like to share with me.

Mahalo,

## Senator Galuteria Visits With Young People

On January 15, 2013, I was honored by a visit from students from the University of Hawai'i at Hilo, Chancellor Donald Straney, Vice Chancellor Marcia Sakai, and former Representative Jerry Chang (currently UH Hilo's Director of University Relations). Two of my Big Island colleagues, Senators Malama Solomon and Gil Kahele, joined us.

The following week, on January 24, 2013, I spent some time talking with third graders from King William C. Lunalilo Elementary School, which is located in my district. I met them in the Senate Chamber to share some general information about the Legislature and government, field questions, and walk through the process of moving a bill into law. Perhaps someday soon, the "law" we made -- a bowl of poi on every dining room table in Hawai'i -- will be a reality.



Senator Galuteria with his colleagues  
UH Hilo visitors



Senator Galuteria making the "Bowl of Poi" law  
with third graders from Lunalilo Elementary

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Senator Galuteria flanked by his mom Juliette and wife Lehua with other members of his family and friends on Opening Day on the Senate Chamber floor



Opening Day attendees enjoy the unique sounds of Brother Noland

## Hawaii State Majority Caucus 2013 Legislative Priorities

Ceremonies for the Opening Day of the Twenty-Seventh Legislative session were held on Wednesday, January 16, 2013 at the Hawai‘i State Capitol. The Senate Majority, whose members are Democrats, is committed to a vision and future for Hawai‘i that will stabilize our economy and ensure a high quality of life for all generations.

“The Senate Majority strives to be open, inclusive, and collaborative in its decision-making on initiatives impacting the State of Hawai‘i,” said Senate President Donna Mercado Kim. “We look forward to laying a solid foundation to build a stronger economy and move Hawai‘i forward for all generations.”

In that spirit, this year’s Senate Majority theme is *No Na Mamo*, which means for all generations.

During this first year of the Twenty-Seventh Legislative biennium, there are three over-arching themes and priorities for legislation that will set forth a forward-looking agenda that includes self-reliance and sustainability. They are:

### Food and Energy Resiliency

Ensuring a sustainable future for Hawai‘i is a priority. The Senate Majority will explore the concept of self-reliance and scrutinize options for food and agricultural resiliency within the State and take steps toward developing a strong foundation that will enhance the food and agricultural self-sufficiency of our State.

With the State’s overall clean energy goal in mind, the Senate Majority remains committed to meeting the Hawai‘i Clean Energy Initiative’s benchmarks. Boosting resiliency in food and energy will have positive effects on our local job market and economy. With that in mind, the Senate Majority will continue to support Hawai‘i’s farmers and small businesses.

- The Senate Majority will continue to advance the Hawai‘i Clean Energy Initiative. The State has

## 2013 State of the State Address

State Legislators and members of the public gathered in the House of Representative’s Chamber on the morning of January 22, 2013 to listen to Governor Neil Abercrombie as he delivered his 2013 State of the State Address. In this, his third, State of the State speech, Governor Abercrombie outlined plans to maximize the state’s sound fiscal footing and improve the economy by focusing on business innovation, food and energy security, and early childhood education.

To further economic improvement, the Governor has asked Lt. Gov. Shan S. Tsutsui to take a lead role in expediting investment in the state’s economy via construction, repair and maintenance projects, and public private ventures. These long-range investments, including capital improvement projects, have already helped to stimulate the island economy and generate local jobs while improving public infrastructure and facilities.

To strengthen the local agriculture industry, he proposed aggressive promotion of state agency purchases of Hawaii agricultural products to provide a consistent and regular market for goods. The administration will also work to increase access to capital for local farmers and ranchers by expanding the state Department of Agriculture’s loan programs.



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made significant progress toward its goal of increasing the amount of locally produced renewable energy. The Senate Majority will continue to align government regulations and policies with clean energy goals, facilitate processes for developing renewable energy, deploy renewable generation and grid infrastructure, and explore next generation technologies and new applications of existing technologies.

- The Senate Majority will focus on efforts to encourage food resiliency across Hawai‘i, such as increasing production and consumption of locally grown food. The Senate will examine the progress and goals of the Hawai‘i Clean Energy Initiative and consider replicating those efforts and goals into a workable Food Resiliency Initiative.

### **Supporting People, Strengthening Communities**

When it comes to Hawai‘i’s residents, the Senate Majority will continue to support the State’s core functions, including programs for those most in need. The Senate will continue to strengthen the social safety net and ensure that our keiki, kūpuna, families, and individuals are protected by supporting organizations that provide essential education, health, housing, and welfare services.

- Supporting the education of our keiki will remain a top priority for the Hawai‘i State Senate. Collaborating with educational leaders and interested stakeholders to identify and focus on several priority educational needs and opportunities will help prepare our students to reach their potential and encourage them to be successful, productive members of the community.
- The Senate Majority will support and strengthen Hawai‘i’s public higher education system, being mindful that each of our ten campuses statewide is helping to prepare our students for college and career success.

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### **Government Efficiency and Accountability**

The Senate Majority will work toward greater efficiency across all branches of government by streamlining collaboration and communication at the County, State, and Federal levels. For maximum efficiency, this collaboration will be extended to interested stakeholders, including private businesses and non-profit organizations.

- The Senate Majority supports accountability and transparency of government by insisting on high standards of ethical conduct and open decision-making.
- The Senate Majority encourages long-term planning and efficiency efforts to fundamentally change the character and delivery of government services. The Senate will continue to promote the enhancement of the State's information technology services and support the Governor's Chief Information Officer as he works on modernizing business and technology's infrastructure for the people of Hawai'i.
- The Senate Majority will draw upon the recommendations of the Senate Special Committee on Accountability for the improvement of the operational and financial management of the University of Hawai'i and continue to support the University as it carries out those recommendations and initiatives.

### **Senator Daniel K. Akaka Recognized at the First Aloha Order of Merit Ceremony**

Hawai'i State Senators and Representatives joined Governor Neil Abercrombie and members of the public on January 14, 2013 in a ceremony honoring former U.S. Senator Daniel K. Akaka as he was inducted into the Aloha Order of Merit that was established in 1993 by the Legislature. This prestigious award recognizes individuals who have distinguished themselves nationally or internationally, and who have contributed to the attainment of statehood or have provided extraordinary service to, devoted themselves to the betterment of, or brought honor to the state.

Upon request of the Governor, members of the order may serve as emissaries for the people of Hawai'i. Selection of the honoree is made by the Aloha Order of Merit Committee which, as delineated by statute, consists of three appointees, one made by the Governor, one by the Senate President, and one by the Speaker of the House. The current committee consists of Noelani Kalipi, Senator Brickwood Galuteria, and Representative Faye Hanohano. Senator Akaka's selection was announced by the Governor after he received certified copies of the concurrent resolution from the Legislature in June.



*Senator Galuteria and his staff  
with the Honorable Senator Daniel K. Akaka*



### **Senator Galuteria Attends the 2013 Presidential Inauguration**

As Senate Majority Leader, it was my pleasure to travel to Washington, D.C. for the 2013 Presidential Inauguration. During my visit to the nation's capitol, I had the privilege of serving as the master of ceremonies for the Hawai'i Presidential Center Inaugural Gala.

I also got to visit with the Hawai'i Congressional delegation and met with officials from the Office of Hawaiian Relations in the U.S. Department of the Interior.



*"Gold Shovel" groundbreaking for Halekauwila Place with Governor Abercrombie!*

### **Breaking New Ground**

*By Lauren Easley*

On January 18, Governor Abercrombie, developer Stanford Carr, and other supporters of Halekauwila Place participated in a ground-breaking ceremony. The soon-to-be nineteen-story building will be the latest housing development in Kaka'ako, which will consist of 204 affordable rental units. Carr anticipates that the project will be completed as early as Spring 2014.