

## The Senate

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## Senator J. Kalani English to Attend Asia Pacific Forum in Tahiti

Honolulu- Senator J. Kalani English will be attending the Club de Madrid Asia Pacific Forum, "Building a More Resilient Pacific in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century World Order," on July 5 and 6, 2012 in Papeete, Tahiti. Hosted by the Club de Madrid and the Government of French Polynesia, the forum is aimed at identifying and discussing strategies to promote greater socio-economic development in the Pacific and render the region more resilient, connected to the world, and capable of effectively delivering to its citizens.

"Hawaii and other communities in the Pacific cannot sit idly by and watch the world evolve around us," said Senator J. Kalani English, Chair of the Senate Committee on Transportation and International Affairs. "Hawaii's unique geographical position, history, and diverse ethnic and cultural ties with others in the Pacific have played pivotal roles in the shaping of our socio-economic position in the world. It is important that we continue to work together with our friends in the Pacific to build on each others' strengths and encourage a better, more sustainable future for all."

This forum is the first major gathering that the Club de Madrid, the world's largest forum of former Heads of State and Government, has ever organized in the Asia Pacific. Leaders, policymakers, and scholars both from in and outside the Asia Pacific region will come together during the forum to address a wide range of issues, including geopolitical, socio-economic and environmental.

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