



**Report No. 2**  
(week ending February 16, 2001)



**Senator J. Kalani English**  
Senate District 5  
Wailuku-Upcountry-Kahului

**FOCUS ON EDUCATION**

There are a dozen public schools in Senate District 5, seven elementary, three intermediate (middle), and two high schools. Total enrollment is 9,273, half of Maui County's public school population.

<u>Elementary (K-5)</u>	<u># of Students</u>
Haiku Elementary	444
Kahului	864
Lihikai	1119
Makawao	531
Paia	214
Wailuku	934
Pukalani	509

<u>Middle (6-8)</u>	<u># of Students</u>
Iao	887
Kalama	1137
Maui Waena	960

<u>High Schools (9-12)</u>	<u># of Students</u>
King Kekaulike	1422
Maui High	1734

I have contacted each school for information on their Repair and Maintenance (R&M) projects. The Dept. of Education, Facilities Branch has identified, in Senate District 5, a backlog of 610 R&M projects which will cost just under \$12 million.

I serve on the Senate's Education Committee, and we have approved Senate Bill 1577, SD1 to substantially reduce the backlog during the next 10 years. This bill will now move to the House of Representatives for its consideration.

Highlights of SB 1577, SD1 moving forward:

- Funding of \$60 million annually for 10 years to fund school repairs and maintenance
- Establishment of 18 permanent full-time business and fiscal officer positions, provided that each school district shall be assigned one business and fiscal officer position
- Appropriation of \$168,704 to Dept. of Accounting and General Services for personnel to coordinate repair and maintenance projects
- Appropriation of \$350,000 for integration of the various repair and maintenance databases to enhance decision making.

In preparation, next week, we will look at a computer modeling tool which is being developed to help us prioritize the repair and maintenance projects for fiscal year 2002/2003. Repair criteria will include school priority, health and safety, when the project is required, the condition of the school and school characteristics.

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

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To email: [senenglish@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:senenglish@capitol.hawaii.gov)

## THE ARC VOLUNTEERS AT THE LEGISLATURE



Mahalo to Arc legislative intern Jackie Takase (left) and Arc instructor “coach” Charmaine Elliott (right) for volunteering to work in our offices during the week of February 12.

Jackie is a client of The Arc in Hawaii, an advocate organization of parents, relatives and friends of persons with mental retardation. The Arc is committed to securing for all people with mental retardation the opportunity to choose and realize their goals of where and how they wish to learn, live, work and play.

Jackie graduated from Mililani High School in 1999, plays soccer and baseball, enjoys bowling, and she aspires to be a politician.

She helped file House and Senate bills in preparation for crossover, a major legislative deadline.

## SPEAKING OF DEADLINES

Hawaii’s Public Access Room is a great resource. We have attached a copy of their February newsletter with the Legislative Timetable, an excellent explanation of key legislative deadlines: first lateral, first decking and first crossover. You may contact them by:

- Phone 587-0478
- Fax 587-0793
- Email [par@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:par@capitol.hawaii.gov)
- Website [www.state.hi.us/lbr/par](http://www.state.hi.us/lbr/par)

If you are planning to visit the Capitol, you will find the Public Access Room in Room 401.

## MAKAWAO PUBLIC LIBRARY EXPANSION FUNDS REQUESTED

Mahalo to Head Librarian Carla Mauri and staff and patrons of the Makawao Public Library for their testimony in support of funds to expand the existing 5,362-square foot facility to 12,363 square feet to better serve the rapidly growing upcountry community.

The library was built 31 years ago and is Maui’s second busiest public library with a daily count of 360 patrons. In 1994, the library was renovated and the meeting room was eliminated to provide space for shelving and reading areas. The 2000 census shows service area population growth from 1990 as high as 40%. The building has reached its maximum capacity.

I introduced Senate Bill 1344 seeking an appropriation of \$3,500,000 for expansion of the library. This appropriation was included with other requests in the Education Omnibus Bill, Senate Bill 527, SD1, which was heard by the Education Committee on February 14. The bill was approved and now moves to Ways and Means. Your support is critical to the passage of this bill. Please fax and email your testimony. Contact information is found at the bottom right of the front page of this newsletter.

Here are some quotes from the very thoughtful letters we have received:

*“The Makawao Library is at the heart of the community. Many people are drawn to its too small rooms to borrow books, of which there are too few. Children need access to more books and more computers. Reading is a privilege, a joy, and a comfort. It is essential to promote literacy, in order to maintain a democratic society.”*

*“The library is so crowded, there’s no room for other related educational options. We need a conference room to facilitate meetings, educational films, reading programs for kids, etc. There’s almost no table space, so to do a report, there are few places to spread out. We are far enough away (30 to 45 minute-drive) from Kahului, that the kids way up here don’t get accommodated as well as they should. Thanks for considering this and aloha.”*

**Let’s work together to make a difference.**