



IN THIS ISSUE

- ▶ Message From Kalani pg 1
- ▶ Prime Minister Abe Visits Hawai'i pg 1
- ▶ International Austronesian Conference pg 2
- ▶ CIP Funds Released pg 3
- ▶ Maui Mana'o Episode 4 pg 3
- ▶ DOT Hāna Hwy Meeting pg 3
- ▶ Moloka'i High School Construction pg 3
- ▶ APIL 57th Board of Directors pg 4
- ▶ 29th Legislature Senate Leadership and Committees pg 5
- ▶ SGAC Leaders Policy Conference pg 5
- ▶ 2016 Snapshot Highlights pg 6

MESSAGE FROM KALANI

Aloha to 2016. Let us rejoice in our successes, let us also remember those loved ones who have passed. From the hosting of the IUCN World Conservation Congress, to the shake up in our national politics, 2016 has had its fair share of celebrations and challenges. As we look forward, I am excited for what the new year has to offer. My staff and I are already busy with preparations for the 29th Legislature, which will convene on Wednesday, January 18, 2017 at 10:00am. We remain dedicated to serving the people of Hāna, East and Upcountry Maui, Moloka'i, Lāna'i and Kaho'olawe.

Ho'opōmaika'i iā 'oukou pākahi a pau i kēia makahiki hou. Blessings to each and everyone of you in the New Year.

SENATOR J.KALANI ENGLISH

HAWAI'I STATE SENATE 7TH DISTRICT

HĀNA, EAST AND UPCOUNTRY MAUI, MOLOKA'I, LĀNA'I AND KAHO'OLAWÉ



PRIME MINISTER OF JAPAN, SHINZO ABE VISITS HAWAI'I IN A HISTORIC VISIT

On December 26, Sen. J. Kalani English was invited to attend a reception with the Japanese Prime Minister, Shinzo Abe. Over one hundred dignitaries and invited guest filled the ballroom at the Hawai'i Convention Center to hear from the Japanese Prime Minister. He was in Hawai'i to join President Obama in acknowledging the 75th anniversary of the bombing of Pearl Harbor. Although former Japanese leaders have visited Pearl Harbor in the past, Prime Minister Abe became the first to set foot on the Arizona Memorial.

Abe's visit was another chapter in the reconciliation between the United States and Japan and similarly mirrored President Obama's visit to the peace memorial in Hiroshima back in May. Following the devastating events of World War II, the two countries were able to forge one of the most enduring diplomatic relationships in recent history.

"The world needs the spirit of tolerance and the power of reconciliation now — and especially now," said Prime Minister Abe. "....people all around the world, will continue to remember Pearl Harbor as the symbol of reconciliation."

Sen. English, who is a graduate of the East-West Center's Institute of Culture and Communication understands the importance of these reconciliation efforts. Having previously worked with many leaders from Japan and across Asia, Sen. English is all too familiar with the events that led to the historic visit.

"The coming together of President Obama and Prime Minister Abe at Pearl Harbor was the culmination of seventy-five years of diplomatic efforts towards reconciliation," said Sen. English. "Despite the tragic events of World War II, the United States and Japan have emerged from the ashes as close allies bound together by aloha."

Top - Sen. English, members of the legislature, dignitaries and officials greet Prime Minister Abe. Right - Bishop Yoshiaki "Sharkey" Fujitani, Stacey Hayashi (Author, Filmmaker of "Go For Broke"), Sen. English and Herbert Yanamura. Dec. 26, 2016.



2016 INTERNATIONAL AUSTRONESIAN CONFERENCE

The Council of Indigenous Peoples of the Republic of China (Taiwan) has been holding the International Austronesian Conference since 2002. This year, Sen. English was invited as a presenter on the topic “The International Experience of State’s Apologizing to Indigenous Peoples and Subsequent Actions.” The theme of the 2016 Conference was Reconciliation, Coexistence and Sustainability: Articulating the Social-Ecological Wisdom of Austronesian Family.” The Conference was held in Taipei, Taiwan from November 23-27.

The indigenous peoples in Taiwan are the inhabitants of the islands before the major Chinese immigration began in the 17th Century. They belong to the Austronesian peoples, the majority in Southeast Asia, Taiwan in the north, extending to Easter Island and reaches Madagascar in the eastern coast of Africa.

On August 1, 2016, President Tsai Ing-wen apologized to the indigenous peoples on behalf of the government for four centuries of mistreatment. The President stated that the indigenous peoples were the first inhabitants and throughout the course of history became displaced, foreign, and marginalized.

Pres. Tsai hopes that the apology is the beginning that will set Taiwan and all its people on the path towards reconciliation. She established an Indigenous Historical Justice and Transitional Justice Commission under her office and will personally work with the indigenous peoples to pursue historical justice. The Commission will serve as a mechanism for collective decision-making by

indigenous peoples.

Pres. Tsai believes that the duty for reconciliation lies with the government. Where modern laws and traditional cultures are at odds, the government will deliberate solutions. Under the principle of respecting self-identity, relevant laws will be examined so that ethnic group identity will receive the rights and status it deserves. Further, the ideals of indigenous self-government will be realized step by step; 3 laws that are important to indigenous peoples will be deliberated by the legislature, the Indigenous Peoples Self-Government law, the Indigenous Peoples Land and Sea areas law, and the Indigenous Peoples Languages Development Law. More importantly, Pres. Tsai called for the entire society to come together, to know their history, land, and the many cultures of the ethnic peoples and work towards reconciliation and a shared existence and shared prosperity for a new future for Taiwan.

“The paper I presented at the Conference in Taiwan correlates to Pres. Tsai’s Apology,” said Sen. English. “The paper addresses the United States (US) Governments’ reconciliation process in the aftermath of the 1993, “Apology Resolution” (US Public Law 103-150). In the twenty-two years that have passed, much still remains to be done by both the US and the Native Hawaiians in



the establishment of the ideals of self-governance.”

During the trip, Sen. English also toured the Tangaanua community of the Kananavu peoples of central southern Taiwan. The issues that were important to this community were: post disaster reconstruction, government recognition of indigenous status and self-identification and cultural conservation.

View Walking Tour here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dIWkpezETTY&feature=youtu.be>



CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT RELEASE FUNDS

MAUI MANA'Ō: HEALTH CARE, 'ĪAO VALLEY AND 2017 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

These projects received funds between Sept. 1- 30, 2016.

Maui

TOTAL: \$4,400,000

Phase II, Kahului Airport, Maui

- Description Additional design funds for apron pavement structural improvements at Kahului Airport.
- Amount: \$100,000
- Est. Completion Date: December 2016

Kula Hospital

- Description: Project will replace old window units with split system air conditioning systems and result in energy efficiency and cost savings.
- Amount: \$400,000
- Est. Completion Date: February 2017

Kula Hospital

- Description: Energy efficiency audit to assess energy usage and recommend improvements to lighting, air conditioning, hot water heaters, and other energy consuming devices.
- Amount: \$500,000
- Est. Completion Date: June 2017

Kula Hospital

- Description: Window replacement, roofing, painting, spalling repair, nurse call system, security and other improvements.
- Amount: \$2,000,000
- Est. Completion Date: December 2017

Paia Elementary School

- Description: Finance design for a new classroom building
- Amount: \$1,400,000
- Est. Completion Date: September 2018

Moloka'i

TOTAL: \$200,000

Kalaupapa Settlement

- Description: Conduct an assessment of the hazardous material at the Kalaupapa Settlement in preparation of the management turnover from the Department of Health to the National Park Service.
- Amount: \$200,000
- Est. Completion Date: December 2017 (plans only)

Lāna'i

TOTAL: \$1,000,000

Lāna'i Community Hospital

- Description: Plumbing and facility repairs to its patient care and support areas.
- Amount: \$1,000,000
- Est. Completion Date: June 2017

The status of Maui's health care system, clean-up efforts in 'Iao Valley, and important issues that may be introduced in the 2017 Legislative Session are among the topics discussed in the latest edition of Maui Mana'ō.

The television program, hosted by Senate Communications Director Jill Kuramoto, is a lively and informative conversation with the Maui Senate delegation: Sen. English, Sen. Rosalyn Baker (Dist. 8) and Sen. Gil Keith-Agaran (Dist. 5).

Maui Mana'ō: Episode 4, aired on 'Ōlelo Channel 49 on several dates and times in the month of December. To view this and previously aired editions of Maui Mana'ō, please visit: http://olelo.granicus.com/ViewSearchResults.php?view_id=30&types%5BClip%5D=on&types%5BAgendaItem%5D=on&types%5BCaption%5D=on&allword%5D=maui+mana%27o

Mahalo to 'Ōlelo. Please visit www.olelo.org for a complete listing of the 'Ōlelo programming schedule.



DOT PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING REGARDING EMERGENCY WORK ON HĀNA HIGHWAY (ROUTE 360)

On December 14, 2016, the Department of Transportation (DOT) held a public information meeting at Helene Hall to discuss matters relating to the work that is necessary to repair damage that Hāna Highway sustained during recent September storms.

Donald Smith, a Maintenance Engineer with the DOT provided an update on the work that is being done to improve conditions along Hāna Highway. Many of those who attended the meeting expressed concerns regarding the temporary remedy to the continual problems

caused by severe weather that continue to impact Hāna Highway annually. Despite frustration, community members expressed their appreciation to the DOT for their efforts. "The Department of Transportation is looking for lasting solutions to curb the damage to the highway," said Sen. English. "While the processes may seem slow and at times an inconvenience, my staff and I remain dedicated to allocating the necessary funds to ensure that the Hāna Highway remains open, sound and in good repair."

MOLOKA'I HIGH SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION TO BEGIN

The Department of Education (DOE) has awarded a contract to International Roofing & Building Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$1,019,000.00 to complete various roof repairs on Building O.

We are pleased to inform you that construction on the subject project will be initiated shortly.

57TH MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION OF PACIFIC ISLAND LEGISLATURE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

This year, Sen. English, who previously served as President of Association of Pacific Island Legislatures (APIL) from 2008-2010 represented Hawai'i at the 57th Meeting of the APIL Board of Directors that was held on December 7-9, 2016 in Weno, Chuuk-Federated States of Micronesia (FSM). He was among dozens of legislators who gathered for the three-day event.

The event began with an opening ceremony, hosted by the Chuuk State Legislature. Governor Johnson S. Elimo and Speaker Innocente I. Oneisom of the Chuuk State Legislature opened the ceremony by welcoming APIL delegates to Weno, Chuuk-FSM, the country's largest city. Outgoing APIL President, Kenneth Keidi of the Republic of the Marshall Islands also provided opening remarks.

Sen. English officiated the swearing-in-ceremony as new officers took their oath of office for the 2016/2017 term. The new officers include:

- President: Vice Speake Robert I. Taulung (Kosrae, FSM)
- Vice President: Speaker Fernando Scaliem (Pohnpei, FSM)
- Secretary: Senator Nelson Stephen (Chuuk, FSM)
- Treasurer: Vice Speaker Joseph Deleon Guerrero (Northern Marianas Commonwealth)

During the three-day event, Sen. English attended various presentations that were hosted by APIL Subsidiaries and Partners. These presentations were centered around the issues of economic development, human services, innovation and conservation.

"These presentations provided excellent insight on issues, such as economic devel-



opment and marine conservation, that are important to Hawai'i," said Sen. English. "The presentations were very informative and helped educate APIL delegates on what is being done across the Pacific to address these important issues."

Thirteen resolutions were introduced by member governments of APIL to address many issues that are impacting the Pacific. In matters of health and human services, Senator Jerry Fagolimul of the FSM State of Yap introduced a resolution (57-BOD-03) relating to the feasibility of developing a New Pacific Regional Airline. The resolution explains that a shortage in the visitation of international flights, in the States of Kosrae and Yap are "depressing the economic development of the region and endangering the lives and welfare" of its people, especially in times of medical emergencies.

The matter of workforce development was another important issue that was also addressed, via resolution 57-BOD-07. Delegate Yutaka Gibbons Jr. of the Republic of Palau introduced this resolution to address the work restrictions that prevent many Pacific Islanders from easily traveling to islands that are experiencing a rapid development in tourism. The resolution calls on members of APIL to join together in a concerted and coordinated effort to recruit, help train and ease the travel and work restrictions for skilled groups of men and women from across the Pacific. The hope is that by doing

so, Pacific Islands will meet the expanding demands of the tourism industry and begin to experience prosperous economic development.

The three-day event culminated with the announcement of the APIL 36th General Assembly to be held in June 2017 on Christmas (Kirimati) Island, Republic of Kiribati. A farewell reception hosted by the Chuuk State Legislature was held at the Blue Lagoon Resort, where delegations offered closing remarks and presentation of gifts.

"APIL is a great venue for Pacific leader to convene, learn and collaborate with one another about various issues that affect the Pacific," said Sen. English. "For us as people of the Pacific, we are both genealogically and physically connected through ka moana o Kanaloa (the ocean). It is through this connection, that we will be able to come together, find solutions to current issues and further advance our people into a more prosperous future."

The Association of Pacific Island Legislatures (APIL) was formed in 1981 and is comprised of legislative representatives from 12 Pacific island governments. APIL meets regularly to consider matters in areas where regional cooperation, coordination, exchange and assistance may help governments achieve their goals through collective action.

To learn more, please visit:

<http://apilpacific.com>



HAWAII'S STATE SENATE LEADERSHIP AND COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE 2017-2018

On Nov. 29, 2016, the Hawai'i State Senate confirmed the Senate Leadership and Standing Committee Chairs and Vice Chairs for the 29th Legislature. Senate Leaders, Committee Chairs, Vice Chairs and members are as follows: **Senate Leadership**

President: Sen. Ronald D. Kouchi

Vice President: Sen. Michelle N. Kidani

Majority Leader: Sen. J. Kalani English

Majority Caucus Leader: Sen. Brickwood Galuteria

Majority Floor Leader: Sen. Will Espero

Majority Whip: Sen. Donovan M. Dela Cruz

Assistant Majority Whip:

Sen. Brian T. Taniguchi

Agriculture and Environment (AEN)

Chair: Sen. Mike Gabbard

Vice Chair: Sen. Gil Riviere

Sen. Clarence Nishihara,

Sen. Karl K. Rhoads,

Sen. Russell E. Ruderman

Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health (CPH)

Chair: Sen. Rosalyn H. Baker

Vice Chair: Sen. Clarence K. Nishihara

Sen. Stanley Chang, Sen. Will Espero,

Sen. Les Ihara, Jr., Sen. Russell E Ruderman,

Sen. Michelle N Kidani,

Economic Development, Tourism, and Technology (ETT)

Chair: Sen. Glenn Wakai

Vice Chair: Sen. Brian T. Taniguchi

Sen. Rosalyn H. Baker, Sen. Brickwood Galuteria,

Sen. Laura H Thielen

Education (EDU)

Chair: Sen. Michelle N. Kidani

Vice Chair: Sen. Kaiali'i Kahele

Sen. Donovan M. Dela Cruz,

Sen. Will Espero, Sen. Gil Riviere

Government Operations (GVO)

Chair: Sen. Donna Mercado Kim

Vice Chair: Sen. Russell E. Ruderman

Sen. Brickwood Galuteria,

Sen. Karl Rhoads, Sen. Jill N Tokuda.

Hawaiian Affairs (HWN)

Chair: Sen. Maile S.L. Shimabukuro

Vice Chair: Sen. Brickwood Galuteria

Sen. J Kalani English, Sen. Josh Green,

Sen. Donna Mercado Kim

Higher Education (HRE)

Chair: Sen. Kaiali'i Kahele

Vice Chair: Sen. Michelle N. Kidani

Sen. Will Espero, Sen. Brian T Taniguchi,

Sen. Gilbert S. C. Keith-Agran

Housing (HOU)

Chair: Sen. Will Espero

Vice Chair: Sen. Breene Harimoto

Sen. Kaiali'i Kahele,

Sen. Clarence K. Nishihara,

Sen. Gilbert S. C. Keith-Agaran

Human Services (HMS)

Chair: Sen. Josh Green

Vice Chair: Sen. Stanley Chang

Sen. Breene Harimoto,

Sen. Jill N Tokuda, Sen. Glenn Wakai

International Affairs and the Arts (IAA)

Chair: Sen. Brian T. Taniguchi

Vice Chair: Sen. J. Kalani English

Sen. Stanley Chang, Sen. Les Ihara, Jr.,

Sen. Maile S. L. Shimabukuro

Judiciary and Labor (JDL)

Chair: Sen. Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran

Vice Chair: Sen. Karl Rhoads

Sen. Mike Gabbard, Sen. Laura H Thielen

Sen. Donna Mercado Kim,

Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs (PSM)

Chair: Sen. Clarence K. Nishihara

Vice Chair: Sen. Glenn Wakai

Sen. Rosalyn H Baker, Sen. Les Ihara, Jr.,

Sen. Laura H Thielen

Transportation and Energy (TRE)

Chair: Sen. Lorraine R. Inouye

Vice Chair: Sen. Donovan M. Dela Cruz

Sen. J Kalani English, Sen. Breene Harimoto,

Sen. Maile S. L. Shimabukuro

Water and Land (WTL)

Chair: Sen. Karl Rhoads

Vice Chair: Sen. Mike Gabbard

Sen. Lorraine R Inouye, Sen. Laura H Thielen

Sen. Donna Mercado Kim

Ways and Means (WAM)

Chair: Sen. Jill N. Tokuda

Vice Chair: Sen. Donovan M. Dela Cruz

Sen. J Kalani English, Sen. Breene Harimoto,

Sen. Brickwood Galuteria,

Sen. Lorraine R. Inouye,

Sen. Kaiali'i Kahele, Sen. Glenn Wakai,

Sen. Gil Riviere, Sen. Brian T. Taniguchi,

Sen. Maile S. L. Shimabukuro,



STATE GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS COUNCIL (SGAC) FOUNDATION'S 32ND ANNUAL LEADERS' POLICY CONFERENCE

Sen. English was one of a select group of legislative leaders invited to attend the SGAC Annual Conference that was held in Dana Point, California from November 19-22. The conference was presented by the SCAC Foundation, in cooperation with the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) and The Council of State Governments (CSG).

The purpose of the SGAC Foundation is to conduct research, sponsor conferences and seminars and promote other educational activities related to State Governments.

"States Leading the Wave of Change" was the theme for this year's conference. The theme reflects the States' role regarding critical issues facing the nation such as: Tax incentives versus Comprehensive reform; Workforce development and investing in America; State-run retirement savings programs; US

foreign relations; Alzheimer's – A looming public health crisis; The opioid epidemic; and The Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) reform legislation.

"The conference provided a unique opportunity to build relationships with other legislative leaders," said Sen. English. "These relationships help build a national framework that we can tap into to help resolve some of the issues we face at home."

J. KALANI ENGLISH
Senate Majority Leader

COMMITTEES

Vice Chair, Senate
Committee on Tourism &
International Affairs

Vice Chair, Senate Committee
on Hawaiian Affairs

Member, Senate Committee
on Transportation & Energy

Member, Senate
Committee on Ways & Means



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Vol.16 • Issue 10 • pg.6 • Fall, 2016

2016 HIGHLIGHTS



*Clockwise from top - Maui College Moloka'i
Campus 1st Hawaiian Studies Graduates.
May 14, 2016.*



*Sen. English honors heroes in the fight against
invasive species. Feb. 26, 2016.*

*Kahului Airport Consolidated Rental car
facility. April 15, 2016.*

*Sen. English participated at the V Baku Inter-
national Humanitarian Forum in The Republic
of Azerbaijan. Sept. 30, 2016.*

*Sen. English with friends at the International
Astronesian Conference. Nov. 27, 2016.*

*Sen English with Michael Bennett of The Ben-
nett Foundation. April 2016.*

*Sen. English, Nainoa Thompson, Dame Meg
Taylor, Gov. Ige at Pacific Ocean Summit. Sept.
1, 2016.*

