

# SENATOR GILBERT KAHELE

March 2014



## Gilbert Kahele

Serving Hawai'i's  
Senate District 1 - Hilo

Majority Whip

Chairman,  
Committee on Tourism



## A Message From Senator Kahele

Aloha mai kākou!

We are halfway through the 2014 Legislative session and last week marked a major milestone for hundreds of bills as a major legislative deadline passed known as first crossover. Both respective legislative bodies at the capitol, the House and the Senate passed bills that have a chance now at becoming law. In the Senate alone we took up over 300 bills that have major implications across our state from raising the minimum wage, fighting invasive species, addressing climate change and making kindergarten mandatory for thousands of Hawaii's keiki.

I am pleased to announce we are making significant progress in securing the funding for the UHH Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy building and although we don't have a final agreement yet, I feel my colleagues in the House and the Senate are closer than we have ever been to allocating the funding towards the facility this session.

As always, my office and my team are here for you, the constituents of Hilo and residents of our State. If there is anything we can do for you, please do not hesitate to ask.

Hau'oli ka mana'o,

*Gilbert Kahele*

## International Union for Conservation of Nature

Founded in 1948, the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) is the world's oldest and largest global environmental and conservation organization with representation from more than 160 countries. A four-person delegation from IUCN was visiting Hawai'i from February 9 to 16, as we bid to host the IUCN World Conservation Congress (WCC) in 2016.

The IUCN WCC is the leading summit on the environment. Held every four years, it aims to improve how we manage our natural environment for human, social and economic development.

A successful bid for the IUCN WCC could bring as many as 8,000 delegates to Hawai'i in 2016, including leaders from government, the public sector, non-governmental organizations, business, UN agencies and social organizations. It would allow Hawai'i to highlight its conservation efforts to the rest of the world and demonstrate leadership in addressing global environmental and development challenges.



Senator Kahele, Governor Abercrombie, and Terri Orton, General Manager of the Hawai'i Convention Center, attend a reception for the selection committee of the IUCN. Hawai'i is one of two finalists to host the 2016 WCC.

## University of Hawai'i at Hilo's 14th Annual Distinguished Alumni & Service Awards Banquet



(L-R) Rep. Tsuji, Marlena Castro Dixon, Wendy Botelho-Cortez, Rep. Nakashima, Debra Crowe, Dr. Rose Tseng, Mary Matayoshi, Blaise De Lima, Brian De Lima, Joyce Iwashita, UH President David Lassner, Randy Kurohara, Senator Kahele and Chancellor Straney

The University of Hawai'i at Hilo Alumni & Friends Association celebrated its 14th Annual Distinguished Alumni and Service Awards Banquet, on February 22, 2014 at the UH Hilo Campus Center dining room.

The honorees for Distinguished Alumni were: Brian De Lima, Esq. and Joyce Iwashita. The honorees for Distinguished Service were: Mary Matayoshi and Dr. Rose Tseng and (the Late) Dr. Richard Crowe.

## The 4th Annual Hilo High School Foundation Recognition Dinner

On February 12, 2014 the Hilo High School Foundation recognized three outstanding individuals who have demonstrated a strong commitment to the betterment of our society, and who help to shape the lives of others through their ability to excel in their respective fields.

The three honorees were Alan Garson, Russell Oda and Chef Sheldon Simeon. On behalf of our Hilo communities I would like to say mahalo nui loa to these three gentleman who strive above and beyond in all that they do.



## University of Hawai'i Study Hawai'i Day

On February 13, 2014 the University of Hawai'i system celebrated Study Hawai'i Day at the Capitol which celebrates both international students and education. There are over 4,500

international students currently enrolled in schools throughout the State.

The day long event was organized by Study Hawai'i Educational Consortium, the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT) and college campuses around Hawai'i.



Dennis Ling (DBEDT), Senator Kahele and Todd Shumway (UH-Hilo)

## Hawai'i State SkillsUSA Waiakea High School

Students from Waiakea High School participated in the Hawai'i State SkillsUSA championships on February 19-20, which was held at the Hawai'i Convention Center. It is with great pride that I announce that our Waiakea High School students excelled in Related Technical Math placing 1st, 2nd, and 3rd as well as taking the top spot for Automotive Service Technology. Their hard work and relentless efforts paid off!



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