



Senator Michelle Kidani

District 17- Mililani/ Mililani Mauka/ Waipi'o/ Waipi'o Gentry

Committees: Vice Chair- Education and Housing
Ways and Means, Public Safety and Military Affairs, Tourism

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Aloha!

In the final push until the end of session, the Senate is not slowing down. Conference committees commenced on April 10 and will continue until April 21. I am already scheduled for a number of bills and will represent the WAM (Ways and Means) and EDH (Education nad Housing) committees in various conferences.

Here is an update of bills that my office is tracking:

- **HB2197:** Gives boards of directors authority to install or allow the installation of solar energy or wind energy devices on the common elements of condominiums- **passed Final Reading**
- **SB2849:** relating to the Hawaii-Employer Union health benefits trust fund- **received notice of Senate conferees**
- **SB1059 SD2 HD3:** Establishes an illegal fireworks task force to stop the importation of illegal fireworks and explosives – **received notice of Senate and House conferees**
- **SR26:** urging the Governor to use and consider gender equality when appointing judges and justices to Hawaii courts- **report and resolution adopted**
- **SR81:** requesting a report of the wireless enhanced 911 fund- **resolution adopted**
- **SCR164:** requesting a study of morning traffic congestion on the Meheula parkway going onto the H2 freeway from Mililani Mauka- **deferred by TIA committee on March 22**
- **SB2124:** Makes an \$86,100,000 appropriation from the Hawaii hurricane relief fund to restore the remaining public school instructional days for the 2009-2010 and 2010-2011 school years; provided that the moneys shall only be released upon completion of negotiations of parties necessary to execute the restoration of instructional days. Allocates a proportionate amount of the appropriation to charter schools. Requires unexpended funds from each school year to lapse to the Hawaii hurricane relief fund— **Senate and House conferees appointed**

Community comments and suggestions are always welcome. I am dedicated to serve you in any possible way. Please feel free to visit me at my office or contact me by phone, fax, or email. Thank you for your continued support.

Me ke Aloha Pumehana,

MEET MY STAFF: RESA TSUNEYOSHI



After the race for the District 17 Senate seat against Senator Kidani, the Senator offered Resa Tsuneyoshi a position as a Legislative Aide during the 2009 and 2010 Sessions. Resa grew up overseas in Japan and Korea as a military dependent and currently resides in Waipio Acres. She is a proud graduate of Kamehameha Schools Class of 2007. Resa is a junior at the University of Hawaii at Manoa where she plans on graduating next spring with a degree in Political Science.

Resa tracks bills, helps with constituent responses, and creates the monthly neighborhood board newsletters.

Much of Resa's free time is spent volunteering. Aside from sitting on the Mililani/Waipio/Melemanu Neighborhood Board 25, Resa keeps busy in the UH community as the President of Alpha Gamma Delta-Delta Sigma Chapter. She plans and participates in various activities in support of AGD'S foundation charity, the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF), as well as for the AGD Foundation which provides scholarships to young women across the nation. She also participates in various walks such as the AIDS walk as well as the Straub women's run to advocate health and wellness.

Last month, Resa won a seat for the Associated Students of the University of Hawaii (ASUH) as a Senator-at-Large. She plans to run again next school year to remain more involved with the University of Hawaii.

2010 Legislative Timetable

April

16th Constitutional Amendments: Deadline for final form
 19th Second Crossover for Concurrent Resolutions
 22nd Last day to file Non-Fiscal Bills to deck for Final Reading
 23rd Last day to file Fiscal Bills to deck for Final Reading
 29th Adjournment sine die (Session pau!)

Source: Public Access Room

FIREWORKS UPDATE

HB1987

Establishes a cause of action to abate the illegal purchasing, selling, possession, setting off, igniting or discharging of fireworks. Allows the court to order the closure of any place used in violation of the fireworks law. Allows for the forfeiture of property used in violation of the fireworks law—**report adopted on 4/6 and assigned Senate Conferees.**

SB1059

Establishes an illegal fireworks task force to stop the importation of illegal fireworks and explosives. Requires the task force to report a preliminary plan to the legislature no later than January 10, 2011. Allows counties to enact ordinances regulating fireworks that are more stringent than state law regulating fireworks. – **3/15, Senate disagrees with House amendments. Senator Kidani assigned to Conference**

REGISTER FOR THE 2010-11 CENTER FOR TOMORROW'S LEADERS PROGRAM

*Online applications are now available
 Limited to high school juniors and seniors*

For more information, please contact:

Center for Tomorrow's Leaders

Email: ctl@yfchawaii.org

www.CenterForTomorrowsLeaders.org

HONORING CONGRESSWOMAN PATSY T. MINK



In honor of National Women's History Month, Senator Kidani sponsored a floor presentation to commemorate the late Congresswoman Patsy T. Mink's illustrious career and legacy. Senator Kidani presented Mink's daughter with a certificate on behalf of the Senate. From left: Joan Manke, Congresswoman Mink's former Chief of Staff; Professor Wendy Mink and Senator Kidani.

EASTER AT THE CAPITOL



Every year, members of the Women's Caucus collect amenities for abused or sheltered women and families in the spirit of Easter. This year the Women's Caucus collected dozens of baskets filled with baby toys, men's and women's toiletries and other surprises. Above: Senator Kidani with Representative Lee and Senator Kim.

FURLOUGH FRIDAY NEWS

On March 23, 2010, the Governor released her proposal for returning students to school for the remaining 21 furlough days. Later, HSTA, BOE and DOE held a press conference announcing their combined proposal.

Governor Lingle's Proposal

- Governor Lingle proposes using **\$62 million** from the state's Rainy Day and Hurricane Relief Fund
- Reinstates only "essential" workers needed to safely open and operate schools
- Teachers give up 9 planning days
- Teachers keep two non-instructional days
- Governor's plan stipulates the legislature must pass a constitutional amendment to allow voters to determine if the next governor should appoint the school superintendent
- Governor's proposed constitutional amendment has stalled in the Legislature—instead, the legislature has advanced another constitutional amendment, **HB2376**, which would let voters decide whether the Board of Education should be appointed by the governor from a list provided by an advisory committee

HSTA/BOE/DOE Proposal

- Combined plan proposes using **\$92 million** in state funds
- The \$92 million would have to be approved by legislature and appropriated by the governor
- Reinstates all employees
- Teachers would give up 6 planning days
- Teachers keep all non-instructional days
- Average pay cut taken by 10 month teachers due to the furloughs over the two affected school years will be 4.44%
- On March 31, Hawaii's 13,000 public school teachers to vote to approve the deal (vote is not required)

Governor vowed not to release funds unless the legislature passed out the constitutional amendment bills.

DROPPING IN



On April 9, 2010, a few young constituents from the Teen Pact Seminar visited with the Senator. Participants of the seminar were selected from hundreds of applicants across the state. In order to qualify for the program, students had to write create and submit a bill they thought was missing at the Capitol.

MILILANI HIGH SCHOOL "WE THE PEOPLE" CAPTURES FIRST PLACE AT STATE HEARINGS

Mililani High School's We the People team won first place at the 2010 Hawaii High School State Qualifying Hearings on February 6, 2010. We the People is a national program designed to promote civic competence and responsibility among America's youth, enhancing the understanding of the institution. For a year, the team, comprised of students **Joshua Batenhorst, McKenna Dooley, Jacob Garner, Vivian Lam, Grace Lim, Loea Morgan, Sarah Nishioka, Brittani Pascual, Danielle Snodgrass** prepared by studying letters, essays and books written by the Framers of the Constitution. Under the guidance of coaches **Amy Perruso, Lailanie Del Mundo and Jen Nielsen**, the students engaged in countless hours of research and learning the American historical events and current political processes.

Mililani High School's We the People team is heading to Nationals in Washington, D.C. this month. CONGRATULATIONS!

BRIGHT MINDS, KIND SOULS



The Senate honored Lisa-Ann Tsuruda on March 18, 2010. Lisa is the recipient of the 2009 Milken Family Foundation National Educator Award. Nearly 20 years ago, Lisa Tsuruda began her teaching career in Waianae High School. She transferred to Mililani High School in July 2005 teaching 12th grade Language Arts.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR HARD WORK AND DEDICATION TO THE STUDENTS OF MILILANI!!!

BUDGET UPDATES

After another brutal session, the Senate and House are looking for more solutions for the continued economic struggle. It is now a matter of looking for places that we can trim. Here's an update on the Budget bills that I've been tracking this session that have survived:

- **SB2256 SD1 HD1:** Authorizes the Department of Education (DOE) to adopt rules governing traffic and parking conditions on roadways and other areas under its jurisdiction, including rules for the assessment and collection of parking fees. Requires the fees collected to be deposited into the same fund into which fees and charges assessed and collected by DOE for the use of school facilities are deposited; provided that parking fees collected by a school shall be deposited to the credit of that school's non-appropriated local school fund account. Effective July 1, 2020- **scheduled for Conference hearing**
- **SB2469 SD2 HD2:** Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund; Appropriation (\$) Appropriates moneys from the emergency and budget reserve fund to maintain levels of programs for education, human services, and health. Effective July 1, 2020. (SB2469 HD2)- **scheduled for Conference hearing**
- **SB2124 SD2 HD1:** Restoration of Instructional Days; Hawaii Hurricane Relief Fund; Appropriation (\$) Makes an appropriation from the Hawaii hurricane relief fund to restore instructional days for the 2009-2010 and 2010-2011 school years; provided that the moneys shall only be released upon completion of negotiations of parties necessary to execute the restoration of instructional days. Allocates a proportionate amount of the appropriation to charter schools. Requires unexpended funds from each school year to lapse to the Hawaii hurricane relief fund. (SB2124 HD1)- **scheduled for Conference hearing**
- **HB2200:** To adjust and request appropriations for Fiscal Biennium 2009-11 funding requirements for operations and capital improvement projects of executive branch agencies and programs. (SD2) (\$) - **Bill scheduled for Conference Committee Meeting on Monday, 04-12-10 8:00PM in conference room 309**

For a full copy of these bills or any bill from this legislative session, feel free to contact my office and they will email a copy of the latest version of the bill. You can also look at the capitol website <http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/> for updates in Conference as well as the current status of any bills and resolutions that may interest you.

FREE LUNG TESTING
 Hosted by the Hawaii COPD Coalition
Saturday, May 8 from 10am-1pm
 In front of Times Market
 At the Mililani Town Center

MILILANI 'IKE STUDENTS TOUR THE CAPITOL

Every year, Mililani Elementary school students take a field trip around the Hawaii State Capitol to learn about the legislative process and to meet with the individuals who make Hawaii's laws. Senator Kidani takes pride in the young children of Mililani and always makes time for these young constituents during her hectic session schedule. Above: Senator Kidani with a few young ladies from Mililani 'Ike Elementary School.

AIRCRAFT UPDATE

Senator Kidani has been working with the Federal Aviation Administration to consider alternate paths away from the Mililani area to decrease headaches and noise in the district. There are Constituent concerns that airplanes are flying over residential areas during peak daytime hours despite complaints of constant noise in the area.

In response, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) informed the Senator that flights in the Mililani vicinity do not require communication with Air Traffic Control. The FAA does not exercise any control or regulatory authority over the "South Practice Area" so ultimately pilots are responsible for the operation of their aircraft, which includes complying to the Visual Flight Rules (VFR) and ensuring terrain clearance. The SPA is not designated by the FAA as a practice area. All pilots operating near Mililani are required to adhere to minimal altitude requirements of 14 CFR Part 91.

This is no new issue to the Honolulu Flight Standards District Office which periodically participates in noise meetings with the community and airspace users. Communication with FAA is ongoing and is a work in progress.

GOVERNOR'S SIGN OR VETO DEADLINES

Bill to Governor before last 10 days of Session: The Governor can either sign the bill or allow it to become law without her signature simply by failing to veto it within ten days (excluding Saturdays, Sundays and recess days). If she vetoes it, the bill can still become law, if it is reconsidered by the legislature before its adjournment, and is approved by two-thirds of all members of each chamber.

Bill to Governor during last 10 days of Session: It becomes law automatically on the 45th day after sine die (excluding Saturdays, Sundays and holidays), if it is neither signed into law or vetoed.

MILILANI'S YOUNG SPELLING BEE

Senator Kidani recognized Brycen Pasion at the last meeting of the Mililani/Melemanu/Waipio Neighborhood Board in March, 2010. Brycen, a Mililani Middle School student, won the 2010 Hawaii state spelling bee by successfully spelling the word "commissary" in the final round. He is a bright and personable young man.

CONGRATULATIONS BRYCEN AND GOOD LUCK AT NATIONALS!**MTA INTERESTS**

SB2222: Conforms planned community association laws with respect to proxies to comparable provisions regulating condominium associations- **Report adopted. Referred to the committee(s) on FIN**

HB2197/ SB2423: Gives boards of directors authority to install or allow the installation of solar energy or wind energy devices on the common elements of condominiums- **Transmitted to Governor**

SB2402: Suspends temporarily the exemptions for certain persons and certain amounts of gross income or proceeds from the general excise and use tax and requires the payment of the tax at a 1 percent rate -**The Senator and her associates were successful in removing the extra tax to the homeowners association tax. This bill is now pending Final Reading.**

A LITTLE BIT ABOUT CONFERENCE COMMITTEES

In the final stage of session, all of the bills that have survived to this point are assigned in Conference, both House and Senate members are assigned to several bills. During this time, testimonies are not accepted and any new changes and amendments may not be added to the bill.

Conference members meet and discuss each bill and are able to make any changes to the language of the bill if it is stated in any DRAFT VERSIONS. The final version of the Conference bill is voted upon by each chamber before the end of the Legislative Session. Bills that are voted and passed are sent to the Governor who has the ability to sign the bill into law or to let it sit in limbo until the next Legislative Session.