



SENATOR POHAI RYAN

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*Serving Senate District 25:
Hawaii Kai, Waimanalo, Keolu Hills, Lanikai & Kailua*

FEBRUARY
2011

COMMITTEES:

- Hawaiian Affairs (HWN): Vice-Chair
- Water, Land and Housing (WLH)
- Public Safety, Government Operations and Military Affairs (PGM)
- Ways and Means (WAM)

Special questions or concerns with these committees should be voiced to Senator Ryan's office via phone or email.

PLEASE ADD US ON FACEBOOK AND TWITTER!

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Bellows Considered for Landfill Site

On January 27, 2010, Senator Pohai Ryan met with Community Plans and Liaison Officer for Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Tiffany Patrick, at the Bellows' location which is on a list of potential sites being considered by Peter Carlisle's Landfill Site Selection Committee.

"The Bellows location is not appropriate and our community will not accept it; I will not accept it," said Senator Ryan. "A way we can assist the city is by helping them find other sites."

The City and County of Honolulu's Environmental Services Department sent out an letter requesting feedback from the community to acting Chairperson for the Department of Land and Natural Resources, William Aila as well as Base Commander, Colonel Robert Rice. A portion of the letter reads as follows:

"The City understands that the site of any new landfill is very difficult with many community and technical



Senator Pohai Ryan and City Councilmember Ikaika Anderson visit the possible site for the landfill.

issues to be overcome. Therefore, we would like to receive any preliminary comments, concerns, or objections you may or may not have on the potential use of the indicated site. A written reply concerning this request would be greatly appreciated."

The Mayor's Advisory Committee on Landfill Site Selection names

Bellows Airforce Station as a possible Landfill Site in its letters to the community.

Senator Ryan also testified on January 31st before the City Council's Joint Committee on Public Works and Zoning to express her strong opposition to the Bellows site consideration.

Letter from the Senator:

Aloha Senate District 25,

As I begin this journey as your Senator, I want to first thank you for the opportunity to serve the community I hold so dear. One of most important aspects of our district is its dedication to community involvement.

This legislative session will no doubt be difficult, as we contemplate and act on the pressing issues of the day. The economy in general, and job creation in particular will be the major themes this year. Our Senate Majority will focus on a theme of "Pupukahi I Holomua" (Unite to Move Forward). We understand that there has been and will continue to be a shared sacrifice in order to regain a strong economic footing. The Governor has outlined initiatives that will help us reach this goal.

Please know that I will keep our working families in mind while evaluating government actions and spending, as well as in relation to enacting laws and policies that protect our kupuna and keiki. My personal goal as senator is to bring together various agencies within the state government with service organizations and private businesses in order to foster partnership in creating significant progress and change in the areas of reducing homelessness, expanding agriculture and business, and providing an economic environment that will provide jobs for our people and opportunities for the next generation.

I urge you all to stay in touch with me and my office to share your views, opinions and recommendations as we deliberate on legislation that will be of consequence to all of Hawaii's citizens.



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Mahalo,

Senator Pohai Ryan

Ukrainian Exchange Student from Kailua Shadows Senator

In January, Senator Pohai Ryan and her staff worked with an exchange student from Lviv in the Ukraine, who is currently living in Kailua and attending Kalaheo High School as a junior. Olha "Olya" Shestakova, 17, took time shadowing Senator Ryan in her daily duties around the Hawaii State Capitol, meeting some of the elected officials, and telling us about her time in Hawaii and our district.

"It was the first time I had been on a plane," Shestakova said. "The travel was a challenge. I went from Lviv to Kiev, the Ukraine's capital city, Frankfurt, Washington, DC, Los Angeles and then Hawaii."

Having come from Lviv, a city comprised of about 760,000 citizens, Shestakova found the transition to living in Kailua quite a challenge: "At first, I thought, I don't want to go to Hawaii; I don't like the heat. But when I got to Kailua I found that living in a small town with friendly people was great. I live two blocks from the beach. And I really love my host family." Other students in the FLAG (Foreign Links Around the Globe) student exchange program reside in Kailua and attend Kalaheo High School.

As for the capitol, Shestakova called Hawaii's Legislature impressive in its openness and accessibility. "In the Ukraine, the [elected] officials are not as available to the public; people in Hawaii are so willing to talk to you or ask about your life."

In the Ukraine, Shestakova studies law at her high school; she speaks 5 languages fluently (Russian, Ukrainian, English, American Sign Language and Ukrainian Sign Language) and is learning Japanese at Kalaheo High School. She plans on going to University in the Ukraine, to study either computer science or law.

Opening Day at the Legislature



Top Left: Senator Ryan with Kailua Neighborhood Board Member, Debbie Glanstein. **Top Right:** Staff members Debra Pratt, Brenda Baker, and Kaleilani Keolanui serve food to the Capitol's visitors. **Bottom Left:** Senator Ryan gives an interview to a student from Waimanalo Elementary School. **Bottom Right:** Senator Ryan poses with husband, Keo, and aunt, Linda Kuhns, .



Kailua Elementary Librarian, Nationally Noted

In September 2010, Kailua Elementary School Library's library media specialist Darren Tanaka was given the 2010 "Outstanding Service Award" by the Hawaii Association of School Librarians (HASL). Kailua Elementary School Library is recognized as the best in the state and top 35 in the country (of 100,000 libraries), according to the American Association of School Librarians (AASL). A plaque had been presented to Tanaka by Nancy Everhart, the president of the AASL, on September 23, 2010.

The library features a 30-student computer lab, a practice area for the annual speech festival, a digital audio studio and a visual media studio. For outside competitions, there are also preparation areas for robotic LEGO projects, aquaponics and hydroponics. It also has numerous instruments for children to play.

"We had this crazy idea: what if the discovery and exploration could come through instruments?" Tanaka said. Tanaka has worked closely with other parts of the staff to incorporate art, music and science into the space, which encourages students to spend time in the library.

"Opportunities to be curious happen all the time," said Tanaka, referring to his bringing insects from outside for children to see or playing music at recess for the students.

Tanaka was raised in Kailua and graduated from Kalaheo in 1989; his parents still live in Kailua, but he resides in Kaneohe with his family. Senator Ryan awards Tanaka a certificate from the Senate, recognizing his achievement, at the Kailua Town Board Meeting on February 3, 2010.



Above: Aquaponics in the library. Below: Darren Tanaka plays one of the many instruments in the library.



LIST OF BILLS INTRODUCED BY SENATOR RYAN (1st Primary)

SB266	RELATING TO ANIMAL CRUELTY. (BR)	SB1157	RELATING TO WORKERS' COMPENSATION.
SB267	RELATING TO COMMERCIAL ACTIVITY ON PUBLIC LANDS. (BR)	SB1158	RELATING TO AGRICULTURE.
SB624	RELATING TO PUBLIC EMPLOYEES.	SB1159	RELATING TO EMPLOYMENT SECURITY.
SB625	RELATING TO GUBERNATORIAL TRANSITION.	SB1420	RELATING TO REGISTERED NURSE STAFFING LEVELS. (BR)
SB626	RELATING TO SUBMERGED LANDS LEASING.	SB1421	RELATING TO MEDICAL AMNESTY. (BR)
SB733	RELATING TO WILDLIFE.	SB1524	RELATING TO CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE TWENTY-FIFTH SENATORIAL DISTRICT.
SB734	RELATING TO TAXATION.	SB1525	RELATING TO UTILITIES.
SB735	RELATING TO LAND USE.	SB1526	RELATING TO VIOLENCE AGAINST HEALTH CARE PERSONNEL.
SB736	RELATING TO LAND USE.	SB1527	RELATING TO NATIVE HAWAIIAN HEALERS. (BR)
SB1155	RELATING TO THE LONG-TERM AGRICULTURAL LEASE TASK FORCE.		
SB1156	RELATING TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN AGRIBUSINESS COOPERATIVE PROGRAM.		

**Note: (BR) indicates that I introduced these measures "By Request" of constituents or concerned citizens.*

Please go to the Capitol website: www.capitol.hawaii.gov to see detailed bill text and status. Also visit www.olelo.org for the television broadcast schedule of info briefings.

Summary of Bills

BILLS TO WATCH

The following are four of the more interesting bills referred to each of the Committees Senator Ryan serves on. For comprehensive information on these measures and all others submitted to the House and Senate please visit www.capitol.hawaii.gov.

SB1 – Hawaiian Affairs: Referral: HWN/WLH, JDL/WAM

MEASURE TITLE & DESCRIPTION: RELATING TO STATE RECOGNITION OF THE NATIVE HAWAIIAN PEOPLE, THEIR LANDS, ENTITLEMENTS, HEALTH, EDUCATION, WELFARE, HERITAGE, AND CULTURE. - Provides for the recognition of the Native Hawaiian people by the State of Hawaii and implements that recognition by means and methods that will facilitate their self-governance, including the establishment of or the amendment to programs, entities, and other matters that relate, or affect ownership, possession, or use of lands by the Native Hawaiian people, and by further promoting their entitlements, health, education, welfare, heritage, and culture.

SB6 – Water, Land, and Housing: Referrals: AGL, WLH

MEASURE TITLE & DESCRIPTION: RELATING TO AGRICULTURAL LANDS. - Protects agriculturally suitable lands within the State of Hawaii (lands with productivity ratings of "A" or "B").

SB220 – Public Safety, Government Operations, and Military Affairs Referrals: PGM/JDL, WAM

MEASURE TITLE & DESCRIPTION: RELATING TO AN AUTOMATED VICTIM NOTIFICATION SYSTEM. - Requires department of public safety to establish a statewide automated victim notification system to provide crime victims with current information regarding the offender's custodial status.

SB200 – Ways and Means: Referrals: EDT/JDB, WAM

MEASURE TITLE & DESCRIPTION: RELATING TO A STATE LOTTERY. - Requires DBEDT to investigate the possibility for Hawaii to participate in the multi-state Powerball lottery operated by the Multi-State Lottery Association or the Mega Millions lottery operated by the Mega Millions consortium, or both. Report to legislature.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Hawaii Chocolate Festival: A celebration of all things chocolate, spotlighting Hawaiian Grown Cacao. Support Hawaii's growing cacao industry! *Dole Cannery, Saturday, February 26, 2011, 12-5pm.*

RAMSAR World Wetlands Day 2011: Learn about Kawainui and Hamakua Marsh through talks, exhibitions and games with entertainment and learning activities for the whole family. *Faith Baptist Church, Kailua, Saturday February 5, 2011, 9am-1:30pm. Contact: Shannon Wood 224-4496, info@waa-hawaii.org.*

Ka Iwi State Park Clean Up Project: General rubbish picking, cleaning of walking trails, beach, bridge and removal of mangroves. *Ka Ilii Bay, Saturday, February 26, 2011, 8am-1:30 pm. Contact: mkahu@hawaii.rr.com.*

Farrington-Kaiser-Kalani Middle School Science Fair: Students will be sharing their projects for competition with members of the community. All are welcome for viewing from 11am-1:30pm, but the program begins at 8:30am for those interested in special sessions. *Kapiolani Community College, Saturday, February 12, 2011, 8:30am-3pm, Contact: Principal Arnie Kikawa, 832-3340.*

Additional Info:

If you're interested in doing business with the state, you can go to the State Procurement Office's (SPO) training workshops; registration is online at <http://www4.hawaii.gov/spoh/tng/wkshpRegistration04.asp>. The next workshop is on March 9, 2011 @ 2:00. pm. Contact: Aaron Fujioka, 587-4700.

Senator Visits Taiwan to Familiarize with Ministry of Indigenous Peoples



A delegation of the Hawaii State Senate visited the Republic of China in Taiwan. The delegation included Senators Mike Gabbard, J. Kalani English, Clarence Nishihara, Michelle Kidani, Will Espero and Glenn Wakai.



Participate!

Contacting your District Senator is not the only way to get involved in the Legislative Process; you can also participate by contacting the **Hawaii Legislature Public Access Room.**

Contact Information:

Website: <http://hawaii.gov/lrb/par/>
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Hours:

Session:	Interim:
M-F 8am - 6pm	M-F 9am - 5pm
Sat 8am - 2pm	

Testimony can also be submitted by clicking on a hearing notice via <http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov>

Senator Pohai Ryan's Staff:

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