

SENATE DISTRICT 19:

KAPOLEI, MAKAKILO, KALAELOA,
ROYAL KUNIA, VILLAGE PARK, WAIKELE,
HONOKAI HALE, AND PORTIONS OF
WAIPAHU & KO 'OLINA

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP:

ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT, CHAIRMAN
JUDICIARY AND LABOR
TRANSPORTATION AND INTL. AFFAIRS

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Senator

MIKE GABBARD

December 2010 Update



Aloha Friends and Neighbors,

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! I wish you and your family the best in 2011. Here are a few things I'd like to share with you.

My email is sengabbard@capitol.hawaii.gov and my phone number is 586-6830. Please contact me if I can help you in any way.

Mike

Listen-Story Meeting

My next "Listen-Story" community meeting will be held on January 8, 2011 at the Kapolei Starbucks (next to the Chevron Station) from 9:00am to 10:00am. Please join me if you can.



Governor Neil Abercrombie's Inauguration

Neil Abercrombie will be sworn in as the 7th Governor of the state of Hawai'i at Iolani Place on December 6th. Brian Schatz will also be sworn in as the Lt. Governor. I plan to attend the ceremony, wish them both well, and look forward to working with them during the years ahead as we tackle many difficult and challenging issues.

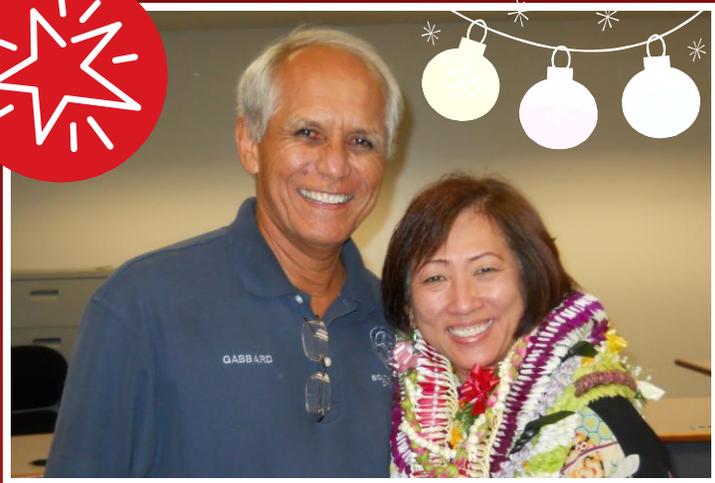


11/04/10 – Sen. Gabbard with Sgt. Denise Jelinski-Hall, Councilwoman-elect Tulsi Gabbard Tamayo & Gen. Craig McKinley at the HI Youth Challenge Academy's Kulani facility on the Big Island.

11/10/10 – Alstrom Power Plant Manager Michael Rossi, State Energy Office Coordinator Ted Peck, and Sen. Gabbard touring the 208 MW Kalaeloa Partners Co-Generation Power Plant in Campbell Industrial Park.



10/16/10 – Sen. Gabbard honoring Executive Director Marjorie Zielger and President Maura O'Connor of the Conservation Council for Hawai'i at their 10th Annual Awards Ceremony.



A Fond Farewell to Senate President Colleen Hanabusa

I attended a farewell party for Senate President Colleen Hanabusa at the Capitol on November 23rd. As you know, Senator Hanabusa was recently elected to serve as the Congresswoman for District 1 (Urban Honolulu).

Senator Hanabusa was first elected to the State Senate in 1998. Since that time, she served as the Majority Leader (2003-2007) and as Senate President (2007-2010). She holds the distinction of being the first woman to lead either house in our State Legislature. She has done a good job as Senate President and always looked out for the people of West Oahu.

During the party, the men senators sang a song that I wrote as a "roast" tribute to her. I wish her the best of luck as she starts a new adventure in Washington D.C.

Senate Reorganization



On November 5th, the Senate announced its new leadership and committee chairs for the 26th Legislature. Shan Tsutsui of Maui will serve as Senate President, Donna Kim as Vice President, Brickwood Galuteria as Majority Leader, and David Ige will head up the Ways and Means Committee. I was happy to be reappointed as the Chair of the Energy and Environment Committee. I'll also serve on two other committees: Judiciary/Labor and Transportation/International Affairs Committees.



Village Park & Royal Kunia Town Hall Meeting on Crime

Over the last few months, there has been a rash of burglaries and other crimes in the Village Park/Royal Kunia communities. I've been working with HPD on the problem in the hopes that they can apprehend the perpetrators. Councilman Nestor Garcia and Rep.-elect Ty Cullen are organizing a Town Hall meeting to confront this issue and find ways for community residents to empower themselves through neighborhood security watches. The meeting will take place on December 14th at 6pm at Kaleiopuu Elementary.



Photo above: Senator Mike Gabbard hosted his monthly listen-story meeting at the Waikale Starbucks on November 20th. These meetings give the community an opportunity to sit down with the Senator and express any concerns or problems they'd like for him to address.

Mock Hearing for UH Environmental Law Students

Rep. Mina Morita, the Chair of the House Energy and Environmental Protection Committee, and I held a mock hearing for the students of UH Professor Denise Antolini's Advanced Environmental Law Class at the Capitol on November 18th (photo below, at left). This is the second time I've had the opportunity to co-host this event. This year the students prepared actual bills dealing with energy and environmental issues, such as plastic bags, Styrofoam, energy efficiency, cultural impacts, and environmental justice. During the mock hearing, we asked the students pointed questions to give them an opportunity to get the flavor of a real legislative hearing and to defend their work.



Leeward Young Artists Shine

I had the honor of presenting certificates from the State Legislature to the finalists and winners of the 2010 Annual Leeward Young Artist Awards at the Kapolei Hale on November 9th.

The Leeward Young Artist awards program was established by the former James Campbell Estate 17 years ago as a way of recognizing the important role that the arts play in the development of young minds. The Estate and its successor company, Kapolei Property Development, perpetuated this program over the years with the cooperation of the state Department of Education's Leeward District to recognize and encourage our talented youth from Pearl City to Waianae. Since 2009, Walmart has stepped up as a sponsor, enabling this important community program to continue.

This year 250 entries were submitted from public schools in the Leeward District. There were 48 finalists and 10 winners. Congratulations to the following Kapolei/Makakilo students who were awarded for their exceptional artwork:

Kapolei Elementary School

- Hunter Ashak** – Winner
- Zaylia-Jade Kaiwi – Finalist
- Shaleigh Magnani – Finalist
- Hi'ilani Revera – Finalist

Makakilo Elementary

- Stanesha Hutsell** – Winner

Kapolei Middle School

- Shannon Cavarocchi – Finalist
- Kelly Guo – Finalist
- Jocelyn Imanil – Finalist
- Julia Kuratsu** – Winner
- Ikaika Matanane – Finalist
- Kennan O'Kelley – Finalist

Kapolei High School

- Sargie Mae Agcaoili** – Winner
- Tia-Maria King – Finalist
- Madalyn Moses – Finalist
- Sage Nohara – Finalist
- Noura Takeda – Finalist



Congratulations!

TOP
10



Sargie Mae Agcaoili, an 11th grader at Kapolei High School, was selected as one of ten winners of the 2010 Leeward Young Artists. Pictured above from left are Rep. Sharon Har, Senator Mike Gabbard, Sargie, Gemma Espresion of former City Council Chair Todd Apo's office, and Debbie Shima of Walmart.



Above: Julia Kuratsu, an 8th grader at Kapolei Middle School, was selected as one of ten winners of the 2010 Leeward Young Artists.

Below: Hunter Ashak, a Kindergartner at Kapolei Elementary School, was selected as one of ten winners of the 2010 Leeward Young Artists. With him is Kerri Yrojo of Kapolei Elementary.





Drive Safe 4 Ewa-Kapolei / Live & Let Live

Poster Contest

We held the Kick-Off event for the Drive Safe 4 Ewa-Kapolei / Live & Let Live safety awareness campaign at the Kapolei Police Station on November 27th. I joined with other legislators in announcing the winners for the poster contest. Catherine Johnny, a senior at James Campbell High School, placed first and received a \$100 award. Jordan Guillermo, a senior at Kapolei High School, was second place and received a \$75 award. Jaypee Carreon, a senior at Waianae High School, was third place and received a \$50 award. Robbie Sylva, a sophomore at Nanakuli High & Intermediate School, placed fourth and received a \$25 award. The winners' posters will be displayed at the Kapolei Police Station through the end of the year. Mahalo to the Waianae Military Civilian Advisory Council for providing the students with their prizes. Also a reminder there will be sign holding for the campaign in Kapolei if you'd like to join us:



From left: Sen. Espero, Jaypee Carreon, Jordan Guillermo, Robbie Sylva, Catherine Johnny, and Sen. Gabbard.



December 2nd from 7:15 - 8:00am
Kapolei High School
Kapolei Parkway / Ft. Barrette Road



December 9th from 3:30 - 4:30pm
Kapolei Fairgrounds
Farrington Hwy / Ft. Barrette Road



STARBASE Hawai'i Tour on Big Island

I got a tour of the STARBASE Hawai'i facility at the Kea'au Armory on the Big Island on November 4th. STARBASE Hawai'i is an educational program that focuses on teaching 5th graders hands-on math and science. They offer five day training classes during the school year and summer months, teaching students to build model rockets, "fly" airplanes on computer flight simulator programs, and perform science experiments.

STARBASE Hawai'i is funded by the U.S. Department of Defense and sponsored by the Hawai'i National Guard. The program serves students primarily in the Kea'au-Ka'u-Pahoia school complexes. This is truly an innovative way to get students motivated about learning. It's great to see our Hawai'i National Guard stepping up with another great program for our youth. For more information, please contact the STARBASE Hawai'i Director, Bob Roman, at starbasehi@gmail.com.

Wayland Baptist Academy Graduation



I presented a certificate from the State Senate in honor of the seventy four Fall 2010 graduates of Wayland Baptist University at a ceremony at Calvary Chapel of Honolulu on November 6th. The university's mission is to educate students in an academically challenging, learning focused, and distinctively Christian environment for professional success, lifelong learning, and service to God and humankind. It has served the people of the United States since 1908 and has been in Hawai'i for the past 31 years.



Wayland Baptist University, Hawai'i campus caters to the working people of our state, so most classes are taught in the evenings. On-line classes are also offered for flexibility. In addition to the traditional Bachelor's and Master's Degrees, they also offer a unique Bachelor of Applied Science Program with over 166 different specializations related to a student's work experience. Most of the student body serves in the military, but the civilian population is growing as well. This year's graduates include military service members, police officers, teachers, business people, and health care professionals.