



Senator Roz Baker

*Chair, Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection
6th District– South and West Maui*

Aloha Friends and Neighbors,

Mahalo nui loa for the privilege of representing you and our South and West Maui communities in the Hawai'i State Senate! I appreciate the thoughts, ideas and pressing concerns you shared with me during the recent legislative session and throughout the year. Your input helps shape our legislative agenda. I'm pleased to report that by working with my colleagues, we were able to secure funding for projects sorely needed for our community and we passed legislation to address some of our community's most pressing concerns.

When the session came to a close on May 1st, there was a sense of accomplishment. We passed a fiscally responsible \$12.1 billion budget for fiscal year 2014-15, with \$900 million of capital improvement projects throughout the state. The budget bill (HB 1700 CD1) also includes funding for core services that will positively impact the lives of Hawaii's 'ohana in areas including education, health, human services, environmental protection and public safety.

There were a total of 2,312 bills introduced this session; 245 bills passed. The Governor has already signed 73 into law; 169 still await his action. By June 23, 2014, the Governor must advise the Legislature of his intention to veto any bill left on his desk and to override a veto the Legislature must convene on July 8, 2014. Of course, bills can become law without the Governor's signature, and several have.

To see a complete list of bills adopted by the 2014 Legislature, please go to www.capitol.hawaii.gov. Click "Reports and Lists", scroll down to the box labeled "Legislature," and select "Bills that Passed Legislature."

My fulltime staff, Janice and Kelli-Rose, and I continue to work for you, our Maui 'ohana, throughout the interim so please contact us at senbaker@capitol.hawaii.gov or call the office at **808-586-6070** to share your thoughts, ideas or just to stay in touch. I look forward to seeing you at events and activities in the community.

A hui hou,

**Bill highlights and Budget
Breakdown Attached**



2014 Session staff from left to right: Laura Reichhardt, Janice Salcedo, Sen. Roz Baker, Peggy Mierzwa, Kelli-Rose Hooser and Haley Saba

Giving Back at the State Capitol

Hawai'i Food Bank fundraisers are a fun tradition at the State Capitol. Every year Legislative offices participate in an array of activities to help generate funds for the food banks around the state. This year, my staff planned a delicious local style fundraiser. Our very own "Aunty" Jan whipped up a batch of her famous Portuguese bean soup and corn bread. Haley and Kelli-Rose chipped in by baking decadent desserts to accompany the savory soup. We were pleased to present the Maui Food Bank with \$1,000.00 exceeding our fundraising goal.

The Women's Legislative Caucus continued their long standing tradition of creating and collecting Easter baskets full of goods for clients of the Institute of Human Services (IHS). This year our office coordinated the effort. The Caucus donated over 110 baskets full of essential household and personal hygiene items to IHS to help families in need. The baskets also contained fun things for keiki like stuffed animals, school supplies and treats.



Sen. Roz Baker with the Easter Bunny and some of the baskets collected

Maui Boys & Girls Club Honoree

The Hawai'i Alliance of Boys & Girls Clubs is a consortium of three organizations: Boys & Girls Club of the Big Island, Boys & Girls Club of Hawai'i (Oahu & Kauai) and the Boys & Girls Clubs of Maui. Each year, youth at the Boys & Girls Clubs across Hawai'i compete at the local level for a chance to be selected as a finalist for the Hawai'i State Youth of the Year competition. In order to participate in this prestigious national youth recognition program, candidates must do well in school, lead healthy lifestyles, and contribute to their clubs and communities.



Colin Hanlon, Boys & Girls club of Maui, Sen. Roz Baker, Mason Aquino, Sen. Gil Keith-Agaran, Sen. J. Kalani English.

On March 28, 2014, the Senate recognized the outstanding teens from the Hawai'i Alliance of Boys & Girls Clubs as well as our military institutions who had been selected as Hawai'i finalists from their clubhouses for their leadership, resilience and commitment to serve their families, communities and their club organizations. Mason Aquino, the Central Maui club's finalist, was named the State of Hawai'i Youth of the Year and will represent Hawai'i at the national competition.

High School Interns from Maui come to the Capitol

We were happy to host two Maui students for the 2014 Legislative Intern Program. Our participants were Stephanie Lawless, a senior at Lahainaluna High School, and William Summers, a junior at Baldwin High School. Brian (Bree) Zamora, a Senior at Maui High School interned with Sen. Gil Keith-Agaran. The program gave the students a unique hands-on learning experience in the legislative process. Thanks to technology, our interns could track bills and view live coverage of committee hearings and floor sessions from Maui. At the Capitol, Stephanie and William shadowed me during a typical day and worked with my staff to research, track and analyze bills and write briefs while engaged in collaborative, inquiry-based discussions exploring public policy questions. It was terrific to have such exceptional students as a part of team our this Session!



L to R: Stephanie Lawless, Sen. Roz Baker and William Summers.



Contact Us

Toll-Free Maui: 984-2400, EXT. 66070

Fax: (808) 586-6071

Email: senbaker@capitol.hawaii.gov

Web: www.capitol.hawaii.gov

Legislative Wrap-Up

Capital Improvement Projects

Maui Highlights

Biennium July 1, 2013—June 30, 2015

Over \$409,758,642!

Education

High school in Kihei **\$130,000,000**

- Planning, design, construction for new high school

Lahainaluna High School **\$831,528**

- Locker and shower building improvements
- Science room renovations; replace exhaust fans

Maui High School **\$1,129,000**

- Replace roll up doors
- Building repair, reroof
- Repair chill box
- Replace building sewer line

Lahaina Intermediate School **\$930,000**

- Design, construction for pedestrian safety improvements
- Plans, design for a classroom building and walkway widening

Lokelani Intermediate School **\$842,000**

- Campus wide classroom renovations
- Building repair, reroof
- Replace campus fire alarm

Princess Nāhi'ena'ena Elementary **\$11,214,000**

- Design, construction for pedestrian safety improvements
- Building repair, reroof and erosion control
- Design, construction for new classroom buildings

Kamehameha III Elementary **\$120,000**

- Replace ramps and lanai
- Renovation and painting of various buildings

Kihei Elementary School **\$330,000**

- Building repair, reroof

Kamali'i Elementary School **\$420,000**

- Air Conditioning upgrades
- Plan, design for new covered play court
- Ground site improvements

2014 Legislation at a Glance

BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Minimum Wage (SB2609, CD1) – is raised to \$10.10 by January 1, 2018. First \$.50 increase, January 1, 2015, brings the rate to \$7.75/hr. Beginning January 1, 2015, tip credit increases to \$.50/hr. then to \$.75/hr. on January 1, 2016. Then minimum wage rates increase \$.75/hr. annually with a \$.85/hr. increase on January 1, 2018, for a rate of \$10.10. The minimum wage has not increased since 2007 while the cost of living has risen steadily. Two in three minimum wage workers are women and 1 in 3 are parents. The increase will positively and directly impact Hawaii's families, especially those with female minimum wage earners as the sole breadwinner.

Liquor License Classes (SB3042, CD1) – increases limits on malt beverages manufactured by small breweries and creates a new license class to enable small producers to diversity product lines and grow their businesses. SB3042 supports growth of current businesses and helps other entrepreneurs diversify.

Private Guards (SB2486, CD1) – makes registration requirements permanent, delays continuing education requirement to prior to June 30, 2016 renewal cycle and clarifies renewal CE is 4 hours including aloha training every 2 years.

EDUCATION

Lahainaluna High School Boarding Program – two dormitory positions and funds are included in the budget for next school year. These much needed resources will foster student safety and allow students to stay in the dorms over the week-ends.

Mandatory Kindergarten (SB2768, CD1) – attendance will begin with the 2014-15 school year for children who will be at least 5 years of age by July 31 each school year. Also, funds are appropriated to develop a statewide readiness and readiness assessment system. This measure seeks to create a better foundation for student learning. There are some exemptions including students who are home schooled.

Charter Schools (HB1745, CD1) – revises Hawaii's charter school statute, adopting many of the recommendations of State Public Charter School Commission to improve the operational framework for Hawaii's public charter schools. Establishes a separate appropriation for the Commission and requires a report to the Legislature on the Commission's staffing and operational expenditures.

Continued...**Kīhei Public Library** \$506,000

- Replace AC unit

Lahaina Library \$83,000

- Roof repair, reseal

UH Maui College \$2,700,000

- Plans, design, construction of Maui Food Innovation center

Health**Maui Memorial Medical Center** \$42,500,000

- Laboratory, Pharmacy, Oncology, imaging facility expansion, repairs
- Parking structure and AC upgrades

Airports and Waterways**Kahului Airport** \$60,000,000

- Land acquisition near the airport
- Construct new access road to airport from Hana Highway

Kahului Harbor \$6,000,000

- Plans, design, and construction of improvements

Kīhei Boat Ramp \$700,000

- Construction related to re-grading, laying, patching removal and line-stripping
- Maintenance dredging

Lahaina Small Boat Harbor \$75,000

- Improvements to offshore moorings and inner marginal wharf

Mā'alaea Small Boat Harbor \$370,000

- Design, construction to replace wooden piers with aluminum framed piers

Land and Natural Resources**Lipoa Point Land Acquisition** \$20,000,000

- Land acquisition TMK 2-4-001-010-0000

Kā'anapali Beach \$800,000

- Restoration and berm enhancement

Maui State Parks \$1,075,000

- Infrastructure and facility improvements

Central Maui Regional Park \$9,700,000

- Design, construction site improvements
- Equipment and appurtenances

Lahaina Forest Protection \$375,000

- Watershed management

Restraint and Seclusion (HB1796, CD1) – requires the Board of Education and the Department of Education to establish policies and procedures for situations and circumstances in which limited use of restraints in public schools would be appropriate. Requires posting of the policies on the DOE website and reports to the Legislature.

HOUSING

Rental Housing Trust Fund (SB2542, CD1) – provides loans and grants to develop, construct and rehabilitate rental housing units to increase the supply of affordable housing units. Funds come from the proceeds of the conveyance tax. SB2542 restores allocation from conveyance tax collections from 30% to 50% beginning July 1, 2014. This change is estimated to generate \$33,100,000 for FY 2014-2015 to expand new affordable housing production.

Hula Mae Multifamily Revenue Bonds (HB2251, CD1) – authorizes an increase in bonding authority from \$750M to \$1B to allow HHFDC to continue assisting with the development and preservation of affordable rental housing units. These funds will increase the supply of affordable rentals and assist more individuals and families.

Condominiums (HB2401, CD1) – addresses a concern from condo owners seeking information about their buildings and associations. Unit owners are entitled to receive a variety of documents and records; however, references to obtaining these required pieces of information appear throughout Chapter 514B, HRS, and may cause confusion or be difficult to find. HB2401 consolidates, into one new section, existing requirements for documents, records and information that must be released or provided to unit owners within 30 days of a written request. No new requirements are created; ease of access to information is enhanced.

HEALTH

West Maui Hospital (HB2213 CD1) — authorizes the issuance of \$50M of Special Purpose Revenue Bonds (SPRB) and may help the West Maui Hospital Foundation, Inc. (WMHF) finance the development of a critical access hospital for our West Maui community. SPRBs are not a grant, loan or general obligation of the State. Rather, it is a mechanism that provides a favorable government rate for the sale of revenue bonds to finance a project that serves a public purpose. WMHF must undergo its due diligence and receive agreement and approval from Dept. of Budget & Finance before the bonds may be sold. SPRBs have been used successfully to build education, healthcare and energy facilities in the past.

‘Āhihi-Kīna‘u Natural Area Reserve \$360,000

- Kanahena parking improvements

Transportation**Pi‘ilani Highway \$500,000**

- Design, construction, equipment for traffic signal at Kulanihako Street

Kīhei Upcountry Highway \$72,600,000

- Land acquisition for a new two-lane highway from Kīhei to upcountry Maui

Honoapi‘ilani Highway \$17,093,000

- Shoreline improvements including erosion mitigation in vicinity of Olowalu
- Widening and realignment from Honokowai—Launiupoko
- Improvements Ukumehame—Olowalu
- Rehabilitation and replacement of Honolulu Bridge, including bridge railings

Pu‘unene Avenue \$10,000,000

- Widening and safety improvements from Kamehameha Ave. to Kuihelani Hwy

State Highways \$2,000,000

- Guardrail and shoulder improvements
- Reconstruct and pave shoulders

Public Safety and Courts**Maui CCC \$500,000**

- Upgrade facility security

Regional Public Safety Complex \$1,500,000

- Plans and design for complex

Kahului Baseyard \$100,000

- Improvements

Hoapili Hale (Maui Court House) \$2,400,000

- Design, construction of exterior improvements
- Exhaust monitoring and ventilation system upgrades

2014 CIP Grants-in-Aid**Maui Arts and Cultural Center \$625,000**

- Design, construction, equipment for improvements and facility expansion

Hale Mahaolu Ewalu \$4,000,000

- Construction for a Senior Affordable Rental housing campus

Ka Lima O Maui \$500,000

- Construction of new admin/program facility

Continued...

The Hawai‘i Health Connector (SB2470 CD1) — keeps our state-based exchange and assists its sustainability. This is vital to ensure access to benefits and subsidies of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and employer-paid coverage required by our Prepaid Health Care Act. Prepaid revolutionized the health insurance landscape in Hawai‘i, resulting in fewer individuals without insurance. ACA builds on that foundation. SB2470 amends the composition of the board of directors, streamlines the decision-making process, provides additional legislative oversight, another means to generate revenue and authorizes interim funding after the federal grant expires.

POLST: Provider Orders for Life Sustaining Treatment (HB2052 CD1) — updates this important statute. POLST, a holistic method of planning for end-of-life care, ensures a patient’s wishes are honored in all medical settings. HB2052 increases access to POLST, empowering patients and family members. POLST law is amended from enabling *only physicians* with the ability to order life sustaining treatment to allowing other primary care *providers* such as APRN’s the authority to sign these important documents for their patients, too.

Tanning Facilities (HB611 CD1) — makes it unlawful for tanning facilities to allow minors to use tanning beds and requires facilities to post health risks associated with tanning bed use. A study published in International Journal of Cancer found the risk of melanoma was 41% higher for tanning beds users compared with non-users, and about double for persons reporting more than 10 lifetime sessions.

Telehealth (SB2469 CD1) — creates greater access to healthcare especially in rural areas and on the neighbor islands by requiring parity of insurance reimbursements for services, including behavioral health services, provided by a healthcare provider to a patient regardless of whether the service is provided by telehealth or via face-to-face contact. It clarifies the providers who can offer treatments, consultations and diagnosis via telehealth. Requiring equivalent reimbursement for telehealth services and expanding types of providers covered empowers consumer choice, reduces disparities in access to care, enhances provider availability and improves the quality of care throughout the state.

Naturopathic Physicians (SB 2577 CD1) — establishes continuing education requirements for naturopathic physicians. To renew a Hawai‘i license, NP’s must complete biennially at least 35 hours of continuing education courses, 15 hours must be in pharmacology. Supported by the Board of Naturopathic Medicine and the Hawai‘i Society of Naturopathic Physicians, these requirements promote

Continued...**Cameron Center \$2,225,000**

- Facility renovation and repairs

Hale Makua \$150,000

- New Nurse Call System

MEO \$675,000

- Construction of facilities at transportation center site

Maui Family YMCA \$2,000,000

- Construction of new gymnasium

2014 Operating Grants-in-Aid**Best Buddies (Maui) \$77,332**

- Intermediate and high school projects with students with intellectual and developmental disabilities

Hale Mahaolu \$210,000

- Adult personal care program for chronically ill adults and elderly.

Hui Malama \$125,000

- Transition at-risk youth from school to work

MEDB \$550,000

- Clean energy science curriculum and training state wide

Maui Family Support \$927,532

- Expansion of early child development services and community resources

MEO \$140,000

- Maintenance for Ke Kahua farm site

Maui HS Booster Club \$50,000

- Travel expenses for band members to participate in Tournament of Roses parade

patient safety by helping to ensure Hawai'i licensed providers stay abreast of new developments in their field and scope of practice.

WOMEN AND FAMILY

Domestic Violence (HB1993 CD1) — continues to be a societal problem. HB1993 requires police officers to make reasonable inquiries into situations they believe may involve physical abuse, requires officers to order the person they believe is the abuser to leave the premises for 48 hours, and makes physical abuse of a family member in the presence of a minor younger than 14 years a class C felony. These provisions will result in more informed assessments of domestic situations, help family members cool off and provide time, if necessary, for an individual to seek a restraining order for further protection.

Project Kealahou (HB2037 CD1) – funds Project Kealahou to continue providing intervention tailored to meet the psychosocial and interpersonal needs of girls, who are at greater risk than boys for sexual abuse, running away, truancy, suicide, prostitution, and further victimization. Project Kealahou responds to the broad recognition in Hawaii's public child-serving system that established treatment programs do not adequately address the challenges faced by adolescent girls.

ENERGY AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Public Utilities Commission (SB2948 CD1) — enhances the operations of the Public Utilities Commission by attaching the PUC to the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs rather than to Budget and Finance to provide additional, more appropriate administrative support. These changes, along with additional staff, will assist the PUC address day-to-day operations, and allow the Chair and Commissioners to focus on critical dockets and policy matters. Hawaii's push toward its benchmark of 40 percent renewable electric generation by 2030 fundamentally changes the way the islands' grids operate. Technological advances have enabled customers to generate a significant portion of their own power. The regulatory framework must also adapt. These changes assist the PUC keep pace with the State's 21st century energy challenges and opportunities.

Grid Modernization (HB1943 CD1) — addresses our rapidly changing renewable energy landscape. Hawaii's electric utilities are on track to exceed the next renewable portfolio standard goal in 2015. Thus, it is important that the utilities invest in advanced grid modernization technology to ensure our energy goals are met while maintaining a reliable electrical grid that benefits all ratepayers and users. This measure establishes guiding principles and outlines a timely regulatory process to address modernization of the Hawai'i electric system. This measure will ensure that the state has a diverse portfolio of clean energy resources, expands energy use options for customers and maintains and/or enhances the grid's reliability and safety through modernization. It will advance policies to ensure we do not become a state of clean energy haves and have-nots.