



The Senate
STATE CAPITOL
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

Senator Mike Gabbard

Legislative update...



Aloha e Friends,

As our 2018 session comes to a close, Hawai'i finds itself on the cutting edge of some exciting changes. I'm happy to report Hawai'i is leading the charge for a safer environment for its ocean and human life. Just in case you haven't heard... I introduced an historic bill for our state which, if signed by the Governor, will make Hawai'i the first-in-the-world to ban the toxic sunscreen ingredients oxybenzone and octinoxate, which have shown to be harmful to marine, plant, and human life. When you think about it, our island paradise, surrounded by coral reefs, is the perfect place to set the gold standard for the

world to follow. The bill ([SB 2571](#)) would go into effect January 2021. [Check out this brief video on my YouTube channel](#) that I sang for my staff to warm-up before singing at the International Year of the Reef Sunscreen Rally later that day. The rally on April 18, was designed to bring awareness to the dangers of these poisonous chemicals in sunscreen and to help push SB 2571 through the legislature. Both the House and Senate passed the bill on May 1, 2018. On the same day, we passed out SB 3095, which is another first! If the Governor signs, which all reports say he will, this bill will put Hawai'i on the map as the first state in the nation to ban the neurotoxin chlorpyrifos! (more below...)

Please feel free to contact me at (808)586-6830 or sengabbard@capitol.hawaii.gov if I can help you or your family in any way. You can also follow me on Twitter [@senmikegabbard](#), Instagram [@sengabbard](#), or Facebook at www.facebook.com/senmikegabbard.

Mike



Sen. Gabbard opened the Senate floor session with a "Moment of Contemplation" on May 1, with a [song highlighting some of the major bills](#) of the 2018 Legislative session.

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COMMITTEE CHAIR

Agriculture &
Environment

VICE CHAIR

Water and Land

MEMBER

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SENATE DISTRICT 20

Kapolei, Makakilo and
portions of Ewa,
Kalaeloa and Waipahu

Listen Story

My next Listen Story
meeting will be held
July 21st from 9 a.m.
to 10 a.m. at Ewa
Mahiko District Park
Meeting Room.

Upcoming Community Events!

May 10—West O'ahu Education
Pathway Teaching and Learning
Academy, 6pm, UHWO Campus

June 2 — Battle of Midway 76th
Commemoration Ceremony, 9-11am,
Historic Barbers Point Stables, WWII
Revetment District, Kapolei, HI 96707

June 10 — "Kalaeloa Play Day," 10am
– 8pm. (Coral Crater Adventure Park,
K1 Raceway,

June 23 — 6th Annual Hire Leeward
Job and Career Fair, 9am-1pm, Great
Lawn at UH West 'Oahu.



Legislative Update



Sen. Gabbard passed SB 3095 on pesticide regulation out of Conference Committee on April 27. (Pictured with Senators Roz Baker and Gil Keith Agaran.)

Oxybenzone/Octinoxate Sunscreen Ban (SB 2571)

This is a first-in-the-world law, which will ban the sale of sunscreen containing the chemicals oxybenzone and octinoxate. The ban will go into effect on January 1, 2021. Research shows that these chemicals are a threat to coral reefs, marine life, and human health.

Important Agricultural Lands (SB 2074)

The Legislature created the Important Agricultural Lands law in 2008, which provides incentives to land owners in exchange for them preserving agricultural lands in perpetuity. Those incentives were expiring, so this bill will extend the program another three years until 2021.

Key Agriculture and Environment Bills

Four bills I authored this session passed the Legislature. As the Agriculture and Environment Committee Chair, I helped to shepherd through the landmark bill (SB 3095) making Hawai'i first in the nation to ban chlorpyrifos (chlor-peer-ifos), a toxic pesticide particularly harmful to children and pregnant women. The bill also includes restricted use pesticide reporting, a pesticide drift study at three schools, and a 100 ft. pesticide buffer zone around all public schools. The bill will increase the cap of the Pesticide Use Revolving Fund from \$250,000 to \$1 million for pesticide training, creates two new positions in the Department of Ag, and puts \$300,000 toward outreach and education.



Sen. Gabbard wrote and performed a song for the "International Year of the Reef" sunscreen rally at the Capitol Rotunda on April 18.



Sen. Gabbard was interviewed by reporter Brenton Awa with KITV News on April 4, about Senate Bill 3070. The bill would have provided stipends for students seeking to become teachers in Hawai'i, but unfortunately, it didn't pass.

Pilot Hemp Program Special Fund (SB 2556)

This bill completes the creation of our hemp pilot program which occurred in 2016 and 2017 by establishing a Special Fund, where the licensing fees and potential fines can be deposited for the program's operation. The Department of Agriculture began accepting applications for farmers to grow hemp starting on April 18th, will issue the first licenses in June, and will continue issuing licenses on a quarterly basis. Hemp, hemp hooray!

Cesspool Working Group and Study (SB 2567)

The bill started in the Senate as a proposal to require cesspool upgrades at the point of sale. The bill that passed would set up a Cesspool Conversion Working Group to come up with a plan to convert our 88,000 cesspools by 2050 and for UH to do a study of sewage contamination in nearshore marine areas.

District News

Aloun Farms 5th Annual Mahi'ai Gala

On April 28, I was invited to participate in the culminating celebration of the largest high school culinary competition in the state where nine schools were recognized for their culinary prowess at the Kapolei Golf Club. Students were tasked with creating recipes using locally sourced and produced ingredients, with the winning recipes included in the menu served at the Mahi'ai Gala. The competition was designed by Aloun Farms as a vehicle for the students to express their culture and school spirit through food creation, while at the same time, supporting local farmers. Oh, and BTW, the food was ono-awesome!

Construction Funding for Senate District 20

I was pleased that we were able to secure \$143.3 million in the state biennium budget for Fiscal Years 2017-2019 for Senate District 20 planning and construction projects. Here's a quick rundown of that funding:

- East Kapolei Elementary School – New School Ground and Site Improvements - \$1 million
- East Kapolei Middle School – Construction of a New School - \$90 million (projected school opening is 2019-2020 school year; located on parcel of land behind Kroc Center)
- Hawai'i Army National Guard – Design and Construction for Energy Resiliency, Energy Efficiency, and Physical Security Projects (Kalaeloa) - \$8.25 million
- Hawaiian Humane Society Grant-in-Aid – West O`ahu Campus - \$300,000
- Kalaeloa Airport - Construction of T-Hangars - \$8 million
- Kalaeloa Airport – Design and Construction of Runway Lighting - \$3.3 million
- Kalaeloa Airport – Construction of Utility System Improvements - \$10 million



Sen. Gabbard was "Live at the Legislature" April 2 with Senate Communications Director, Jill Kuramoto.



Sen. Gabbard enjoyed some ono grinds at the Aloun Farms 5th Annual Mahi'ai Gala on April 21.

- Kalaeloa Community Development Plan Update - \$500,000
- Kalaeloa Enterprise Avenue Energy Corridor Design and Construction to Midway Road - \$3 million
- O`ahu Bikeways – Land Acquisition for a Multi-Use Path from Waipio Point Access Road to Lualualei Naval Road - \$2 million
- UH West O`ahu Campus Center Extension - \$5 million
- UH West O`ahu Renovation of Maintenance Building - \$2.5 million
- UH West O`ahu Repair and Renovation of Library - \$50,000
- Waiahole Water Systems Improvements, Kunia - \$8 million
- Waipahu Intermediate School – Plans and Design for Additional Multi-Purpose Play Courts - \$600,000
- Youth Challenge Academy - Design and Construction for Replacement of Balcony and Stairway Guardrails - \$800,000

Special Events

Art at the Capitol & The Before I Die Wall

On April 6, during the 10th Annual Art at the Capitol, legislators opened their doors to the public to share the unique art by local artists, displayed in their offices. With this year's theme, "Share Your Voice," people were invited to reflect on self-expression and share their mana'o (thoughts and ideas) with artists, lawmakers, and the public in a fun, stimulating, and cost-free event. As a special tribute, an interactive exhibit encouraging the public to participate was set up on the 4th floor of the State Capitol to invite people to reflect on their lives and share their personal aspirations to the question, "Before I die, I want...." The "Before I Die" wall began as a solo effort by artist Candy Chang in New Orleans and has grown globally to over 4,000 walls created in over 70 countries in over 35 languages—recently finding its way to the Hawai'i State Capitol.



Sen. Gabbard writes on the "Before I Die" wall exhibit as a tribute to the 10th Annual Art at the Capitol on April 6.



Sen. Gabbard, Maggie Q and Dylan McDermott, with Mama T of Umeke Market, who treated Maggie and her ohana to some ono vegan grinds during their visit to the Capitol on April 12.

Maggie Q and 'Ohana

On April 12, I met with the Maggie Q, the well-known actress who plays "Nikita" and FBI Agent "Hannah Wells" in the ABC political drama *Designated Survivor*. Born and raised in Honolulu and a 1997 alumna of Mililani High School, Maggie is a huge animal rights advocate. As a fellow vegan, I appreciate the work Maggie's doing to raise awareness for animal protection issues. She reached out to me when she learned about legislation I introduced to address animal testing in cosmetics and household products. Many people don't realize that testing isn't just done on rats and mice, but a variety of animals. [SB 2113](#) would have required alternatives to animal tests be used for testing cosmetics in Hawai'i. The Hawai'i Cruelty Free Cosmetics Act ([SB 2115](#)) would have phased-out the sale of any cosmetic product that involved new animal testing. Unfortunately, neither bill passed this session, but I'll introduce them again next year.

Honorary Certificate

Chuyev "Tama" Iese: Eagle Scout

Something I believe that brings true happiness into one's life is self-improvement and personal growth. For this reason, I'm a proud supporter of Boy Scouts of America. BSA specifically builds character, trains young men (and recently, young women too) in the responsibilities of participating citizenship and also helps to develop personal fitness. On March 28, I presented an Honorary Certificate to Chuyev "Tama" Iese, congratulating him on completing his journey to the highest rank and honor in the BSA, 'Eagle Scout'. One of the many steps in achieving this highest rank is completing a service project for the benefit of the community. Tama's Eagle Scout project was the beautification of the Schofield Barracks Cemetery. He organized a volunteer program with his church to help clear brush, cut down grass, and remove tree branches from the area. Thanks to Tama, people with loved ones in the Schofield Barracks Cemetery again have a beautiful place to pay their respects and memorialize those they have lost. Mahalo nui loa, Tama. Good luck in all your future endeavors and in your budding military career.

Sen. Gabbard presented an Honorary Certificate from the State Senate to Chuyev "Tama" Iese to congratulate him on his achieving the prestigious "Eagle Scout" rank in the Boy Scouts of America on March 28.

