

Aloha e Friends,

Happy Thanksgiving to you and your 'ohana. I hope you'll spend time with friends and family and reflect on the many blessings we have living in Hawai'i nei.

As always, 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](https://twitter.com/senmikegabbard), Instagram [@sengabbard](https://www.instagram.com/sengabbard), or Facebook at www.facebook.com/senmikegabbard

COMMITTEE CHAIR
AGRICULTURE & ENVIRONMENT

VICE CHAIR
Water and Land
MEMBER

Judiciary

DISTRICT 20

Kapolei, Makakilo and portions of Ewa, Kalaeloa and Waipahu

West O'ahu Renewable Energy and Electric Vehicle Fair

I partnered with Senators Jon Yoshimura and Glenn Wakai in hosting the West O'ahu Renewable Energy and Electric Vehicle Fair on October 13th at Ewa Makai Middle School. The Fair included presentations by renewable energy/energy efficiency experts and vendors. I was Chair of the Energy and Environment Committee (ENE) from 2009 to 2015. When I became the ENE Chair in 2009, our state was spending \$3 to \$5 billion annually on importing dirty, fossil fuels, which is not good for the environment, our future sustainability, or our pocket books. We were paying electricity bills that were three times the national average. Fortunately, we got a big victory in 2015, when as ENE Chair, I helped in getting our state's first-in-the-nation 100% renewable energy by 2045 target in place (HB 623, Act 97, 2015). In September 2018, California, the 5th largest economy in the world, followed Hawaii's lead and set a 100% clean energy goal by 2045 as well. Here's a status report of our renewable progress:



- ◆ Renewable energy now accounts for about 27.7% of utility electricity sales, and carbon emissions from power plants are down by more than 750,000 metric tons.
- ◆ There are now over 80,000 residential solar PV systems across the state and solar accounts for over 11% of our electricity supply
- ◆ There have been 1,500 PV systems with energy storage (batteries) installed so far this year. That's compared to only 100 systems in 2017.
- ◆ Hawai'i #1 – Residential solar power per household
- ◆ Honolulu #1 – Solar PV capacity installed per capita
- ◆ Honolulu #3 – Total solar PV capacity installed

In April 2011, I purchased an all-electric Nissan Leaf because I thought it made sense for the ENE Chair to put his money where his mouth was. A year later in 2012, there were just 751 electric vehicles in our state (DBEDT data). However, I'm pleased to say that we continue to make progress and as of September 2018, there are 7,650 EVs across the state. That makes us 4th in the country behind California, Washington, and Oregon in per capita EV ownership (EVAdoption website). There are also about 600 EV chargers in the state

West O'ahu Energy & Electric Vehicle Fair Oct. 13, at Ewa Mahiko Middle School. (Pictured L-R: Senators Gabbard, Glenn Wakai and Jon Yoshimura.)



COMMUNITY UPDATES

Energy Efficiency Tricks and Tips

Here are some energy efficiency tips and tricks that were shared by Hawai'i Energy and the Blue Planet Foundation at our West O'ahu Renewable Energy and Electric Vehicle Fair. Adopting these recommendations are good for the environment and your pocketbook.

Switch to LEDs – switch out all of your incandescent lightbulbs to LEDs. They are 5 times more efficient, last 25 times longer, and are cool to the touch. Make sure you look for ENERGY STAR certified ones.

Upgrade your showerhead – upgrade to a high efficiency showerhead. You'll get good water pressure but without the waste.

Rid-A-Fridge – if you want to get rid of that old, working fridge or freezer, Hawai'i Energy will pay you \$75 and recycle it for you.

Use the Fan – draw in cooler, outside air through your home with a whole house fan. Hawai'i Energy will provide you a \$75 rebate. For better natural cooling, the fan should run in the counter clockwise direction.

For more information on these and other exciting programs, visit efficiencyunlocked.org and hawaiienergy.com/savings.

Special Session

On October 24-25, the State Senate held a Special Session to confirm two judges:

- ◆ Summer Kupau-Odo to the District Court of the First Circuit
- ◆ Judge Keith K. Hiraoka to the Intermediate Court of Appeals

As a member of the Judiciary Committee, I voted in support of both nominees at a public hearing on October 24. I also supported both when they were unanimously confirmed by a vote of 20-0 on October 25. (To see more photos, click [here](#).)

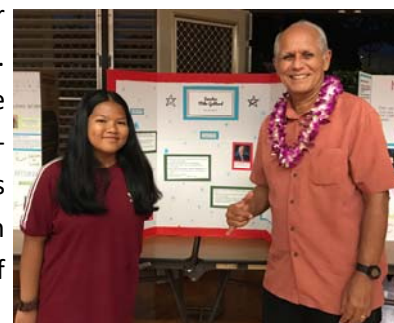


T-hangars at Kapolei Airport

I was pleased to get word from Governor Ige on September 21st that he had released \$178,770 in funding for additional construction funds for new T-hangars and infrastructure improvements at Kalaeloa Airport. The Department of Transportation (DOT) has already constructed 18 new T-hangars for use by the civil aviation community. DOT is in the midst of the process to lease the T-hangars to tenants. For more information, contact the DOT Airport Property Management Division at 838-8609.

Waipahu Intermediate School Social Studies Department Parent Night

I joined with Senator Clarence Nishihara and Rep. Ryan Yamane to participate in the Waipahu Intermediate School Social Studies Department Parent Night on October 24. The theme of the event was the Elections and "How YOU Can Make a Difference." I spoke to parents and teachers about my efforts to encourage our



WIS Parent Night, October 24th.
(Pictured with WIS 7th Grader, Richelle Valera.)

young people to consider agriculture as a profession, so we can be more sustainable and grow our own food. The legislation I also spoke about that I'll be reintroducing (SB 2575 from 2018) in 2019 would expand the MA'O Organic Farms model. MA'O Farms has a 24-acre farm on the Wai'anae Coast, which allows students to learn all aspects of regenerative, organic farming. There are about forty 18-25 year-old students who work Monday-Wednesday-Friday from dawn until noon each week on the farm. In addition, they learn all aspects of regenerative, sustainable farming. In return, they receive a monthly \$500 stipend and get their college tuition paid. My legislation would scale up MA'O Farms' youth leadership program from 40 to 200-250 students on 200 acres mauka of the UH West O'ahu campus. There would be research conducted on organic farming and they would develop related programs, such as serving nutritional cafeteria food. This would evolve into the "Hawaiian Center for Sustainable Community Food Systems" Program.

COMMUNITY UPDATES

Coding for Kids Event

The Kapolei Public Library will be hosting a Coding for Kids event on November 3rd from 10am to 1pm. Kids can learn activities, such as Coding with Scratch, Programming Botley, and Ozobot Robots. The event is sponsored by the UH Graduate Women in Science. For more information, please call 693-7050.

Taste of Waipahu

The Waipahu Community Association will host the Taste of Waipahu at August Ahrens Elementary School on November 3rd from 4pm to 10pm. This event will coincide with the 50th Anniversary of the Elementary School. There will be food trucks and games in the parking lot, entertainment in the cafeteria, and a book fair and activities in the C Pod. Admission is free.



WAIPAHU COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION PRESENTS

TASTE OF WAIPAHU

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2018
4:00 TO 10:00 PM
AUGUST AHRENS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

FREE ADMISSION

ONO FOOD
LIVE ENTERTAINMENT
FUN FOR THE FAMILY

ENTER TO WIN
ROUND TRIP TICKET FOR 2 TO LAS VEGAS

ADVERTISING/MARKETING OPPORTUNITIES WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR ALL PARTICIPANTS. CALL 877-4959 OR EMAIL WCA.WAIPAHU@HAWAIIANETEL.NET FOR MORE INFORMATION.

City Multi-Hazard Pre-Disaster Mitigation Plan Update

The City's Department of Emergency Management is in the process of updating its Multi-Hazard Pre-Disaster Mitigation Plan. The objectives of the plan are to protect people and structures from harm and destruction and to reduce or mitigate losses and disruption of services during disasters. They are holding a public meeting on November 3rd from 8:30am to 1pm at the Blaisdell Center Hawai'i Suites to get the public's input on the plan. They have a survey you can take and also RSVP at this link: honolulu.gov/dem. For more information, please contact Crystal van Beelen at 723-8956 or cvanbeelen@honolulu.gov.

Keiki Education Living Independent Institute "Hope for Healing Hearts" Fundraising Gala

I attended the K.E.L.I.I. (Keiki Education Living Independent Institute) "Hope for Healing Hearts" fundraising gala at Ke'ehi Lagoon Park on October 6th. K.E.L.I.I.'s mission is to help individuals with genetic and neurodevelopmental disorders to achieve a higher quality of life through teaching independent living skills, while they transition out of the Department of Education system and into adulthood. Their long-term vision is to build a multi-disciplinary facility



K.E.L.I.I. fundraising gala at Ke'ehi Lagoon Park October 6th (Pictured L-R: Rep. Jon Mizuno, Melodee Haole, Rep. Bob McDermott, and Sen. Gabbard.)

intended to create a supportive community by providing an integrated system of care comprised of various agencies and service providers to help these children and young adults live life to the fullest. I was honored at the event for helping parents with autistic children get services for their keiki. As a surprise to the CEO and founder, [Melodee Haole](#), I joined with Rep. John Mizuno and Rep Bob McDermott to present an Honorary Certificate from the Legislature to them for their great work. The purpose of the gala was to raise funds to provide services, which are not covered by all insurance plans, for children and young adults with special needs. I extend my warmest aloha and best wishes for the continued success of K.E.L.I.I. We're grateful for their significant contributions to the welfare of children and adults with autism and other special needs in Hawai'i.



Makakilo-Kapolei Town Hall meeting October 18th at Island Pacific Academy. (Pictured L-R: President Scott Abrigo of Kapolei Community Development Corporation (KCDC), Steve Kelly of Campbell Company, LLC, Senator Gabbard, and Councilmember Kymberly Pine, and Georgette Stevens (panel moderator).

HONORARY CERTIFICATES



Sen. Gabbard spoke at the Good Samaritan Foundation-Hawai'i Cedar Church at the Ala Moana Hotel on October 11th. (Pictured L-R: Rep. Romy Cachola, Councilmember Ann Kobayashi, Sen. Mike Gabbard, Pastor Duk Whan Kim, Rep. Lei Learnmont, Rep. Tom Brower, Rep. Cedric Gates, and Rep. John Mizuno.)

Good Samaritan Foundation-Hawai'i Cedar Church

I spoke at a luncheon in honor of the Good Samaritan Foundation-Hawai'i Cedar Church at the Ala Moana Hotel on October 11th. They house about 30 homeless individuals on their church property in Kalihi and provide farming work for them on a 4-acre lot in Wai'anae Valley. They are a testament to the Christian values of giving to others and showing aloha to those who are less fortunate. I've always said that our churches need to step up and do their part to confront our homelessness problem. By housing homeless people at their church and putting them to work in agriculture to help us produce more food, they are doing incredible work for our community. Mahalo to Senior Pastor Duk Whan Kim and his team. I dearly appreciate their efforts.

Gandhi Day Celebration

I participated in the Gandhi Day Celebration at Kapiolani Park on October 2nd. Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi, also known as "Mahatma", was born on October 2, 1869. He became the leader of Indian nationalism in British-ruled India and led India to independence through the pioneering use of non-violent civil disobedience and passive resistance, inspiring political leaders and civil rights movements across the world. Gandhi is commemorated annually on October 2nd with a national holiday in India and with the International Day of Non-Violence worldwide, established by a United Nations General Assembly resolution on June 15,

2007. In Hawai'i, the Gandhi International Institute For Peace was founded by Dr. Raj Kumar, Ph.D., with a mission to provide information, consultation, education, and training to resolve conflict in a non-violent manner. An initial effort to promote public awareness was a request to the Legislature to commemorate the inspiration, tolerance, and enduring legacy of Mohandas Gandhi on the date of his birth. In 2015, the Legislature unanimously adopted SB 332 proposing to designate October 2nd of each year as "Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi Day". On April 9, 2015, Governor David Y. Ige signed the bill into law making Hawai'i the first state in the Union to so honor Gandhi.



Sen. Gabbard spoke at the Gandhi Day Celebration on October 2nd. Pictured: Sen. Gabbard and Dr. Raj Kumar, Ph.D., President of Indian-America Friendship Council (Hawai'i chapter) and President of Gandhi International Institute for Peace.