



# SENATOR GILBERT KEITH-AGARAN

Hawaii State Senate District 5



## A Message From Gil

Aloha Kākou,

I am truly grateful for the opportunity to serve the people of Central Maui in the Hawaii State Senate. I look forward to tackling new challenges as your senator, and I intend to work diligently towards improving the lives of the people of Maui. I remain committed to pushing to completion the projects initiated in recent years by Lieutenant Governor Shan Tsutsui, Speaker Joseph Souki and myself. This includes following the progress of the Central Maui Regional Park which will increase the soccer and ball fields available for our local families and children, pushing for more improvements at Maui Memorial Medical Center, expanding higher education opportunities at UH Maui College, and continuing the implementation of Kupuna Care outreach programs in our communities.

It is my goal to ensure the voices, concerns, and values of the people of Kahului, Wailuku, Waihe'e, Waiehu and Waikapu are heard and incorporated into meaningful legislation and projects. Mahalo to all of you who have helped me towards this goal by completing the House District 9 community surveys that were distributed earlier. Some of my priorities this session remain supporting food and energy self-sufficiency, strengthening our social safety net, and maintaining and improving public education opportunities.

I would also like to take a moment to express gratitude for the outstanding service of our two U.S. Senators, Senator Daniel K. Inouye and Senator Daniel K. Akaka. For decades, these two men were the guiding hands and vision leading the State of Hawaii towards a more prosperous future, and for that they deserve our warmest Mahalo.

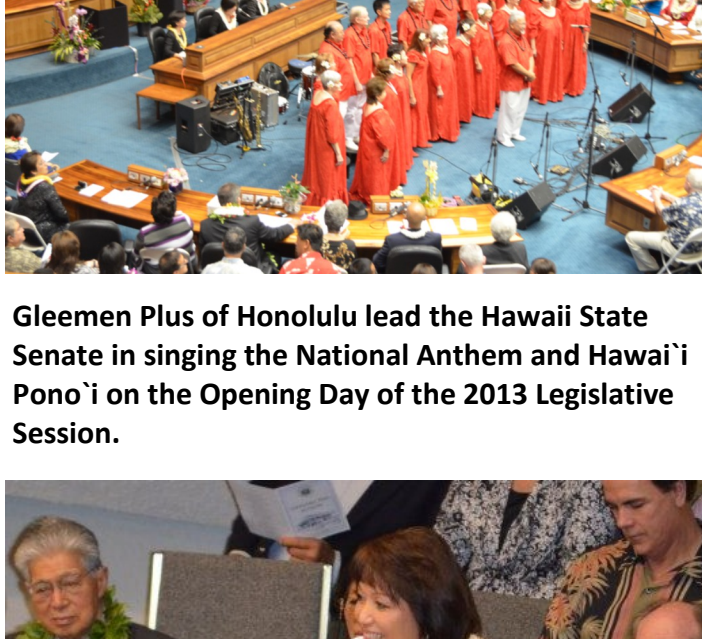
As we begin this new legislative session, I am hopeful that the accomplishments of these two Statesmen will inspire those of us in the Hawaii State Senate to accomplish great things for the people of Hawaii.

Aloha,

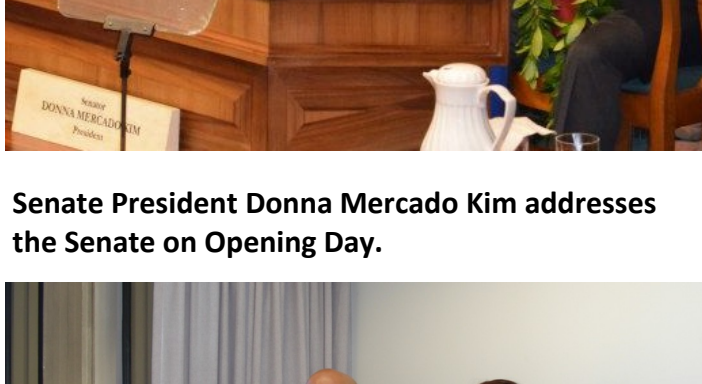
Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran

## IN THIS ISSUE:

- Opening Day
- Aloha Order of Merit
- Notable Bills
- Photo Gallery



Gleemen Plus of Honolulu lead the Hawaii State Senate in singing the National Anthem and Hawai'i Pono'i on the Opening Day of the 2013 Legislative Session.



Senate President Donna Mercado Kim addresses the Senate on Opening Day.



Senator Keith-Agaran with family members on Opening Day (from l to r): wife Kallie Keith-Agaran, mother Lydia Coloma, and sister Velma Coloma.

## OPENING DAY OF THE 2013 LEGISLATIVE SESSION



Senator Keith-Agaran and wife Kallie Keith-Agaran on the Senate floor for the Opening Day ceremony.



Maui Senators Gilbert Keith-Agaran, Rosalyn Baker, and J. Kalani English.

The celebrations and remarks on opening day at the Hawaii State Capitol were marked by a more upbeat and positive outlook than in recent years. The ceremonies included performances by various musicians and were attended by important guests such as Governor Abercrombie, Lt. Governor Tsutsui, U.S. Senator Akaka, and U.S. Senator Schatz. Senate President Donna Mercado Kim noted many positive developments in the islands. However, President Kim also warned that while Hawaii's economy is expected to improve steadily in the coming years, it is important to proceed with caution when faced with the urge to return to the spending levels of the past. While she declared the Legislature is a forum for new ideas, she emphasized the importance of reevaluating and reassessing the current government programs and laws in order to achieve their goals more effectively. Stabilizing the economy and ensuring a high quality of life for all generations are priorities for this year's Senate. In that spirit, this year's Senate Majority theme is No Na Mamo, which means "for all generations".

## ALOHA ORDER OF MERIT CEREMONY



Hawaii State Senators and Representatives joined Governor Abercrombie, Lt. Governor Tsutsui, and members of the public on January 14, 2013 in a ceremony honoring former U.S. Senator Daniel K. Akaka as he was inducted into the Aloha Order of Merit. Senator Akaka is the first person to receive this prestigious award.

The Legislature established the Aloha Order of Merit in 1993 to honor individuals who have distinguished themselves nationally or internationally and who contributed to the attainment of statehood or have provided extraordinary service to, devoted themselves to the betterment of, or brought honor to the state. Upon request of the Governor, members of the Order may serve as emissaries for the people of Hawaii. Selection of the honoree is made by the Aloha Order of Merit Committee, which consists of Senator Brickwood Galuteria, Representative Hanohano and Noelani Kalipi, and announced by the Governor after receiving the approval of the Legislature by concurrent resolution.

## NOTABLE BILLS OF THE 2013 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

### Measures introduced by Senator Keith-Agaran

- SB 337** Makes it a violation to drive a motor vehicle, trailer, or semi-trailer equipped with dangerous wheels. Defines dangerous wheels.
- SB 632** Establishes environmental courts as divisions within the circuit courts to hear all proceedings, including certain chapter 91, Hawaii Revised Statutes, proceedings arising from environmental laws. Requires the Judiciary to report to the Legislature on the total number of environmental-related cases filed in the last five years.
- SB 633** Prohibits the value of any work done by an unlicensed contractor to be used as an offset for the value of the property calculated in unlicensed contractor fraud cases.
- SB 634** Reduces the annual state vehicle weight tax for certain hybrid and electric vehicles by 10%.
- SB 635** Establishes the offenses of cruelty to a law enforcement animal in the first and second degrees. Adds a definition for "law enforcement animal".
- SB 1306** Provides a vehicle to discuss the proposal to transition Maui Memorial Medical Center and other public health system facilities to a different management structure.
- SB 1345** Proposes an amendment to article V, section 2, of the Constitution of the State of Hawaii to allow the governor, upon election, to appoint a person for the same term and from the same political party to the position of lieutenant governor.

### Measures proposed to honor U.S. Senator Daniel Inouye

- SB 50** Renames the Big Island Saddle Road as the Daniel K. Inouye legacy highway.
- SB 100** Renames the East-West Center to the Daniel K. Inouye East-West Center.
- SB 610** Directs the department of education to name the next completed public high school the "Daniel Ken Inouye High School."
- SB 614** Requires the comptroller and the state foundation on culture and the arts to commission permanent works of art to honor the late U.S. Senator Daniel K. Inouye and the late U.S. Representative Patsy T. Mink. Appropriates funds.
- SB 925** Renames Mokulele highway on Maui as the Daniel K. Inouye veterans highway.
- SCR 10** Urges Hawaii's congressional delegation to seek federal funding to match state funds to support public works of art honoring the late Senator Daniel K. Inouye and the late Representative Patsy T. Mink.
- HB 686** Changes the name of the Honolulu International Airport to the Daniel K. Inouye - Honolulu International Airport.
- HB 1427** Proposes a United States Senator Daniel K. Inouye honorary day on September 7.

## PHOTO GALLERY



Members of the International Longshore and warehouse union (ILWU) visit Senator Keith-Agaran's office.



Members and retirees from the ILWU visit Senator Keith-Agaran's office.



Members of the AARP visit Senator Keith-Agaran's office.



Governor Neil Abercrombie, Senator Gilbert Keith-Agaran, Senator Rosalyn Baker, Senator J. Kalani English, and Lt. Governor Shan Tsutsui.



Maui Mayor Alan Arakawa and Senator Keith-Agaran on Opening Day.



Senator Keith-Agaran and Lydia Coloma meet with members of the Maui County Council (from l to r): Stacy Crivello, Donald Couch, Jr., Gladys Baisa, Don Guzman.

**Contact Us**

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