



# CINDY EVANS

## State Representative

### District 7: N. Kona, N. Kohala, S. Kohala

House Majority Floor Leader

APRIL 2016

#### Committee Member

Energy and Environmental  
Protection

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Legislative Management

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Ocean, Marine Resources,  
and Hawaiian Affairs

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Water and Land

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#### How to Contact Me

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Aloha,

The final days of session are upon us. The Senate and House will reach an agreement on the State's operational and capital budgets. After weeks of committee hearings, informational briefings, and floor sessions the Legislature will factor in all costs and the final budget will depend upon revenue projections.

How do we predict revenues given today's economic climate? The constitution requires that there be established by law a Council on Revenues (the "Council") to prepare revenue estimates of the State government. The revenue estimates serve as the basis for the Legislature's appropriation of funds and enactment of revenue measures. If the Council's latest revenue estimates are not used by the Legislature for budget appropriations then the Legislature must publicly state the reasons for using a differing revenue estimate.

I would like to explain how the Council produces its forecasts. Each member of the Council is asked for the member's forecasts for growth in key economic variables, including construction, the Honolulu consumer price index, total visitor arrivals coming to Hawaii by air, U.S. Gross Domestic Product (GDP), the U.S. GDP deflator (a measure of inflation in the national economy), total State wages, visitor expenditures, and Hawaii GDP in real (deflated terms). The Office of Tax Research and Planning in the Department of Taxation puts the members' economic forecasts into econometric equations to predict the growth in revenues from each major tax type (the individual income tax, the corporate income tax, the general excise tax, the public service company tax, and others). All of the models incorporate estimates for the effects of changes in tax law that will effect the general fund tax revenues. Information about matters of tax administration that could effect the general fund tax revenues, such as delays in processing, or unusual collections of delinquent taxes are considered.

At this time, bills that are still moving forward will go to conference to work out any differences between the House and Senate. You can still make a difference by contacting us. To find a legislator or bill and other relative information go to [www.capitol.hawaii.gov](http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov).

The end of Session is May 5. Soon, we will be announcing town meetings in our district reporting on the legislative session. I hope to see you there. Thank you for your support, comments, and suggestions.

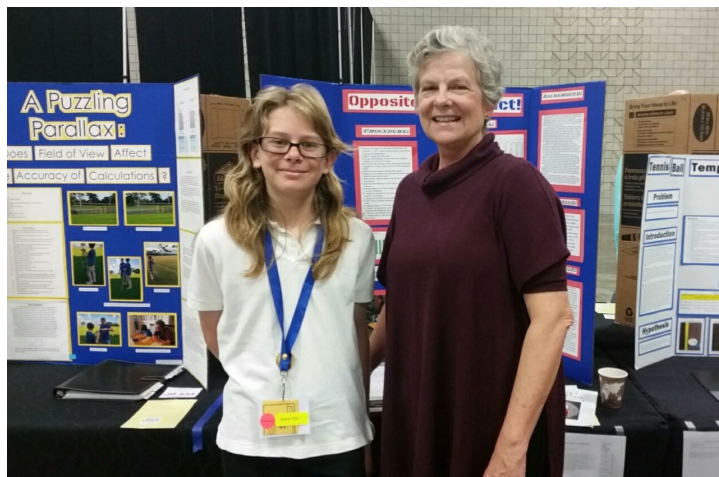
*Cindy Evans*

# Hawai'i State Science and Engineering Fair



The Hawai'i State Science and Engineering Fair is a program of the Hawai'i Academy of Science, in partnership with the College of Education, University of Hawai'i at Manoa, Hawai'i State Department of Education, and Hawai'i Association of Independent Schools. The Academy is a private non-profit organization comprised of scientists and other professionals.

*Photos, top to bottom: Judges meet with students to discuss their projects; Rep. Evans and Congressman Mark Takai; Nicolaus Barrick and Rep. Cindy Evans.*



# What is STEM?

**Science, Technology, Engineering, Math (STEM)** education integrates the study of science, technology, engineering and mathematics by using scientific inquiry and engineering design as unifying processes. STEM emphasizes innovation and the development of problem-solving, critical thinking and collaboration skills. Emphasizing arts creates engaging new pathways for learning.

**SCIENCE** is our natural world—sun, moon and stars... lands and oceans... weather, natural disasters, the diversity of nature, animals (large, small, microbial)... plants and food... the fuel that heats our homes and powers transportation... The list is almost endless.

In today's world, **TECHNOLOGY** means computers and smartphones, but it goes back to television, radio, microscopes, telegraph, telescopes, the compass, and even the first wheel.

**ENGINEERING** designs buildings, roads, and bridges, but it also tackles today's challenges of transportation, global warming and environment-friendly machines, appliances and systems. We only have to look around to see what improvements to our lives and our homes have been engineered in the last decade alone.

We encounter **MATHEMATICS** at the grocery store, the bank, on tax forms, in dealing with investments and the family budget. Every other STEM field depends on mathematics. STEM is important, because it pervades every aspect of our lives.

## Dengue Fever Information and Resources

Since February 13, 2016, the Hawai'i Department of Health has reported no new cases of Dengue Fever. Although there are no new reported cases it is important to remember that infectious mosquitos may be present.

Protect yourself against any potential threats by following the Hawai'i Department of Health's **Fight the Bite** initiative:

- \* Eliminate standing water in buckets, puddles, etc.
- \* Fix leaky faucets and outdoor hoses that are dripping water.
- \* Treat bromeliads and other plants that hold water.
- \* Clean your gutters so water runs freely.
- \* Repair screens so water runs freely.
- \* Dispose of old tires.
- \* Protect yourself by applying insect repellent when you're outdoors.
- \* Clothing, such as long pants, long-sleeved shirts, and socks can help protect from bites.
- \* Avoid activities in areas with an abundance of mosquitoes, and going outdoors at dawn and dusk when mosquitos are most active.

Call Aloha United Way 2-1-1 for information about dengue fever and the current Hawai'i Island dengue investigation.

Visit the Hawai'i Department of Health's website for Dengue Fever at: [www.health.hawaii.gov/docd/dengue-outbreak-2015](http://www.health.hawaii.gov/docd/dengue-outbreak-2015)

*Fold along dotted line and send back to our office with a 49 cent postage stamp.*

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Place Stamp

Here

Representative Cindy Evans  
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## Following the Bills to Conference Committees

### What is a conference committee?

If one version of a bill comes out of the Senate, and another version comes out of the House, it poses a problem: only one version can go off to the Governor for consideration. As a result, unless one of the chambers agrees to the other's version the bill moves into the conference process. For each particular bill that reaches this point, members of both chambers are appointed by the Senate President and the House Speaker in order to come to agreement on a final version. The members are often called "managers" or "conferees." The conference committee chairs are usually the subject matter committee chairs for a given measure (typically the bill's first referral).

### How can you advocate at this stage?

You may want to contact the conference members independently; concisely communicate what aspect of the bill you believe is a "must have" or an "absolutely not" to any final version they come up with. You may also want to encourage constituents from the conferees' district to communicate with their legislators about the legislation.



### Where can you stay informed about conference committee actions?

There are several tools for staying on top of conference. Go to the "[Reports and Lists](#)" page of the Legislature's website: [www.capitol.hawaii.gov](http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov). Click on the "[Conference Committee](#)" bar. You'll find measures, legislators, and summary reports during conference.

## Survey Questions

Aloha. Please share your opinion on the following survey questions.

Do you support judges having full discretion on sentencing, which means the elimination of mandatory sentencing?

Support \_\_\_ Oppose \_\_\_ Unsure \_\_\_

Do you support an additional tax or fee on electrical vehicles because they do not currently pay a fuel tax?

Support \_\_\_ Oppose \_\_\_ Unsure \_\_\_

Rank how important invasive species management is to you (circle below: 1 being the highest, 5 being the lowest).

1      2      3      4      5

Misdemeanors of stalking or sexual assault disqualifies a person from owning, possessing or controlling a firearm or ammunition. (HB 625 HD1)

Support \_\_\_ Oppose \_\_\_ Unsure \_\_\_

Authorize county police departments to enroll firearms applicants and individuals who are registering their firearms into a criminal record monitoring service used to alert police when an owner of a firearm is arrested for a criminal offense anywhere in the country. (HB 2629)

Support \_\_\_ Oppose \_\_\_ Unsure \_\_\_

Authorize the Hawai'i Criminal Justice Data Center to access firearm registration data. Require the county police departments to perform an inquiry on a firearm applicant who is bringing a firearm into the State. (SB 2954 SD2)

Support \_\_\_ Oppose \_\_\_ Unsure \_\_\_

You may also submit your answers to this survey online at:  
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/6Q26KGJ>



## Legislative Timetable

### APRIL

- 8th Second Decking (Bills): Last day to file bills for Third Reading in non-originating body
- 14th Second Crossover (Bills) & Last day to disagree
- 22nd Constitutional Amendments: Deadline for final form
- 25th Second Crossover Concurrent Resolutions
- 28th Last Day to file Non-Fiscal Bills to deck for Final Reading
- 29th Last day to file Fiscal Bills to deck for Final Reading

### MAY

- 5th Adjournment *sine die* (Session over)

### GOVERNOR'S DEADLINES

### JUNE

- 27th Notice of intent to veto deadline (35th day after adjournment)

### JULY

- 12th Veto deadline (45th day after adjournment)

### Questions on the Legislative Process? Contact the Public Access Room

Phone: (808) 587-0478

TTY: (808) 587-0749

Email: [par@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:par@capitol.hawaii.gov)

Website: <http://lrbhawaii.org/par/>

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