

Capitol Connection

Issue 3

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Update on SAT and ECD Bills



We recently passed the First Lateral deadline on Feb. 14th. First Lateral is the deadline by which a bill must move to its final committee.

Of the forty-two bills heard by the Science, Arts, and technology (SAT) committee, we passed out thirty-two. The bills are now pending in the following committees: Ways and Means (WAM), Commerce, Consumer Protection and Housing (CPH), Transportation, Military Affairs and Government Affairs (TMG), and Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs (JHW). In order for the bills to receive further consideration, the final committee must pass the bills out by the First Decking deadline, which falls on Friday, February 28th.

In this issue of Capitol Connection, I have highlighted a number of priorities for the SAT and Economic Development (ECD) committees.

Sincerely,

David Ige

David Y. Ige
State Senator
16th District

SB 425 SD1 RELATING TO HIGH TECHNOLOGY

Introduced by: Ige, Aduja, English

Referred to: SAT/ECD, WAM

Current Status: Notice of public decision making by WAM on 02-25-03 at 9:00 am in conference room 211.

Establishes the Hawaii instrument pool into which individuals and companies may make available expensive scientific instruments. Allows qualified borrowers to use the instruments for their ventures and research. Establishes a tax credit for donating into the Hawaii instrument pool usage of "industry entry" high technology instruments that will help Hawaii's technology companies enter into new and emerging markets.

SB 1249 SD1 RELATING TO SMALL BUSINESS TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER GRANTS

Introduced by: Ige, Hooser, Chun Oakland, Baker, Fukunaga

Referred to: SAT/ECD, WAM

Current Status: Passed with Amendments in WAM

Expands the high technology research and development loans and grants provided by the High Technology Development Corporation, to include matching grants for companies that receive small business technology transfer grants. Appropriates moneys for the expansion.

SB 1648 SD1 MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR THE HAWAII STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Introduced by: Ige, Kanno, Chun Oakland, Fukunaga, Hooser

Referred to: ECD, WAM

Current Status: Pending in WAM

Increases venture capital for Hawaii companies. Provides that any professional investor that invests in the HSDC shall be considered a taxpayer that has invested in a qualified high technology business pursuant to section 235-110.9(e).

SB 359 SD1 RELATING TO FILM INDUSTRY

Introduced by: Fukunaga, Ige, Aduja, Ihara

Referred to: ECD/SAT, WAM

Current Status: Pending in WAM

Expands the tax credit for motion picture and film production to include up to an unspecified amount of the costs of wages and salaries, capped at \$25,000 per employee; includes commercials in motion picture and film production. Provides that any taxpayer that claims a credit for motion picture and film production tax credit pursuant to section 235-17, HRS, shall not qualify as a qualified high technology business. Convenes a task force to review tax incentives for the purchase, utilization, and sale of television and motion picture production equipment in the State. Applies to taxable years beginning after July 1, 2003.

SB 836 SD1 RELATING TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

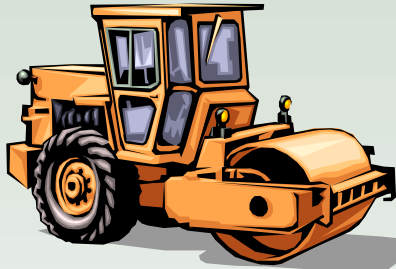
Introduced by: Fukunaga, Ige, Aduja

Referred to: ECD, WAM

Current Status: Pending in WAM

Provides an entrepreneur tax credit for taxpayers that create and maintain high paying jobs in Hawaii. Applies to full-time employees hired after July 1, 2003, and before July 1, 2008.

Community Corner



Commuters can expect lane closures along the westbound lanes of the H-1 freeway between the Kaonohi Street overpass and the Exit 10 Waimalu off-ramp when the Department of Transportation begins its Waimalu Viaduct Widening project. Construction is planned to begin September 2003 and is expected to take 18 months to complete.

The project will increase the number of existing lanes from 5 to 6 as well as increase the lane and shoulder widths to meet current standards set by the American Association of State Highways. The widening project will require limited lane closures and detouring of Kaahele Street, Pono Street, and Moanalua Road. A temporary detour road will provide access to the Waimalu Gardens Subdivision at all times. All lane closure construction work will take place during non-peak hours.

Along with the H-1 construction project, other improvements will take place within the area. Sidewalks will be constructed along Pono Street (from Moanalua Road to beyond Ponohale Street), the roadways directly beneath the viaduct will be resurfaced, limited landscaping will take place along state lands below the viaduct, and roadway lighting will be replaced under the viaduct.

A town meeting about the widening project is planned for early April. More details about the town meeting will be coming soon. In the meantime, details on the project can be found at the Department of Transportation (DOT) website <http://www.state.hi.us/dot/> and the DOT presentation on the project can also be found at: <http://www.state.hi.us/dot/publicaffairs/h-1corridor/west/>



What's Cooking at the Capitol?

Mrs. Fukuda's Chocolate Rice Krispy Dessert

Submitted by Jennifer Hausler

- 1 pkg. chocolate chips
- 1 pkg. mini marshmallows
- 1 pkg. chocolate cake mix and accompanying ingredients (eggs, oil etc.)
- 1 can soda, any kind
- 3 cups Rice Krispies
- 1 jar 18 oz. peanut butter

Line two 9"x13" metal pans with heavy foil and lightly grease bottom. Preheat oven and prepare cake mix according to instructions, substituting the can of soda for the required water. Divide batter evenly between the two pans. Bake for half the time called for in the cake mix instructions. Remove from oven and sprinkle marshmallows evenly over the top of the cake.

Next, melt the chocolate chips and the peanut butter in a saucepan, stirring constantly on the lowest heat. Stir in the Rice Krispies. Spoon mixture over marshmallows and spread evenly over surface with a rubber spatula. Refrigerate or freeze for at least 30 minutes. For best results, freeze overnight and lift foil out of pans when cutting. Cut into 1-1/2" to 3" squares. Serve cold in cupcake cups.

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