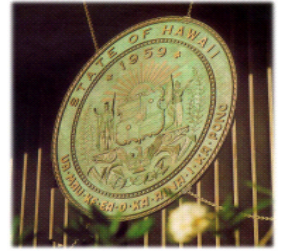


# Capitol Connection

Issue 6

March 15, 2004



Aloha! The legislature recently passed the crossover deadline, when all Senate bills must go to the House, and all House bills must go over to the Senate, to receive further consideration for this session. Already, the Senate's omnibus education reform bill, SB3238, was heard by the first House joint committee in its referral.

The next major legislative deadline is March 25th, which is the second lateral deadline. All crossover bills must be in the final committee of their referral to receive further consideration this session.

I wish you well and please don't hesitate to contact me if I can be of any assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Y. Ige".

David Y. Ige  
State Senator  
16th District

## Upcoming Events at the Legislature

The legislature will be having two important events during next week. The first is Education Week, March 22-March 26, in which outstanding teachers and schools will be honored with floor presentations. Among those schools is District 16's Momilani Elementary School, which was named a Hawaii Blue Ribbon School in 2003.

Also from District 16, Mr. Dewey Gottlieb II, a math teacher at Pearl City High School, was named the 2003 Leeward District Teacher of the Year and given the 2003 Milken National Educator Award. Mr. Gottlieb also was the first Hawaii math teacher to receive National Certification. Both Momilani Elementary and Mr. Gottlieb will be honored during Education Week.

The second event, coinciding with Education Week, will be held on March 24th. The legislature will recognize the outstanding digital media work done by Hawaii's students, congratulate these talented students, and applaud the innovations from their participating schools. These videos were shown on Olelo Community Television and can still be seen on public access channels. Among the students being honored are the winners of the Olelo Youth Xchange Video Awards.

Not just an example of excellent storytelling and digital media production by our high school students, these videos were used as stepping stones to promote further discussion on the themes that are making an impact on our community. The videos, made by the students who participated in the Olelo Youth Xchange Video Awards, touched on issues from drugs to reading to suicide, and fell into multiple categories such as documentaries, public service announcement, news segments, music videos, and short movies.

Also on March 24th, the videos created by these talented students will be shown in the Capitol Auditorium, which will be open to the public. If you're interested in attending and viewing these wonderful videos, please stop by or contact my office. If you're unable to attend, you can also view these videos when they're reshown on Olelo.

## SAT Committee Update

The SAT Committee is hearing the House bills that have been referred to us after crossover. These bills include the House versions of the State Private Investment Fund bill, HB 2396 HD2, and the entertainment industry bill, HB 2611 HD2. The SAT Committee and the Senate also have confirmed the Governor's recent nominees to the King Kamehameha Celebration Commission and to the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Strategic Development Corporation.

To give you an update on the state of some of the bills that the SAT Committee passed out earlier in the session:

### **SB 2558 SD2: Relating to the Entertainment Industry**

This bill increases the tax credit for performing arts productions, sound recordings, and digital media products produced in the State, provided that certain requirements are met.

**Current Status and Referral:** Passed in the Senate, Referred to EDB/TAC, FIN in the House.

### **SB 3024 SD2: Relating to Capital Formation**

The Senate State Private Investment Fund bill, this bill adopts new capital formation incentives, provides tax credits for qualifying research activities and high technology business incentives, appropriates funds for the state private investment fund, and repeals the sunset of the Hawaii Strategic Development Corporation.

**Current Status and Referral:** Passed in the Senate, Referred to EDB, FIN in the House.

### **SB 3002: Making an Appropriation for the Project EAST Initiative in Hawaii's Public Schools**

This bill appropriates funds for the continuation and expansion of the Project EAST (Environmental And Spatial Technology) Initiative in Hawaii's Public Schools.

**Current Status and Referral:** Passed in the Senate, Referred to EDB, EDN, FIN in the House.

### **SB 2264 SD1: Making an Appropriation to the University of Hawaii for a Master's Degree in Social Work by distance learning program**

This bill appropriates funding for a distance learning program for a masters degree in social work from the University of Hawaii.

**Current Status and Referral:** Passed in the Senate, Referred to HED, FIN in the House.

## Community Corner

The Board of Water Supply has scheduled a construction project in Aiea that will install 8-inch and 12-inch water mains, fire hydrants, and appurtenances to improve fire protection and water service reliability. Bids for this project will begin in April 2004, with construction beginning after a contract has been finalized. If you have questions or concerns about this project please contact Jason Takaki at 748-5740.

Congratulations to Stacy Shimata of Aiea for being the second runner-up in the Hawaii Junior Miss competition! Stacy also won awards in the interview and poise portions of the competition. Congratulations also go to Kazuto Tomayasu of Aiea for being inducted as a Golden Scholar of the University of Hawaii, recognizing his support of the university and the 50th anniversary of his graduating class, and Richard Malins of Pearl City, recently named as a Rhodes Scholar and recipient of the Beckman Scholars Award from Boston University.

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