

Capitol connection

Office of Senator David Y. Ige – 16th District

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Welcome to the fourth edition of Capitol Connection!

After considering hundreds of Senate bills, my colleagues and I will now hold committee hearings to consider House bills. While there are many House bills that are similar to Senate bills, or companion bills, there are also a number of subject matters that we will be reviewing for the first time.

Every year, the Legislature discusses and debates a number of issues that will affect our state. Some issues are making their first appearance ever, while others have been a point of discussion for many years now.

I always welcome and appreciate your comments on the important issues that impact our lives.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Y. Ige".

David Y. Ige
State Senator
16th District

HALF WAY THERE ...

Bills Crossover to the Other Side

As we approach the midway point of the 2005 Legislative Session, the Senate has just completed the process of deciding which bills will proceed to be heard by the House of Representatives. Senate measures, after being heard and passed by their respective committees, were put into final form and placed on the Clerk's desk or "decked" by First Decking (March 4). After a 48-hour waiting period, Third Reading of bills (a final vote by the entire Senate body), must have been taken on or before First Crossover, which occurred on March 10. Measures that received a majority of votes approving the measure in its present form have now moved or "crossed over" to the House of Representatives for consideration.

Measures that were not heard by their respective committees, or were heard in committee and not adopted (through a committee's decision to defer, hold or by a majority "No" vote by committee members) are considered "dead" for the session. For instance, **SB 83**, Relating to Photo Traffic Enforcement, was held by the Transportation and Government Operations (TGO) and the Intergovernmental Affairs (IGA) Committees. **SB 411 SD 1**, Relating to the Counties' Eminent domain Powers and **SB 522 SD 1**, Relating to Drug Rehabilitation Homes, were passed by IGA and forwarded to the Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs (JHW) Committee. JHW later chose not to hear those bills. Since this is the first year of a biennium, these measures may be reintroduced for consideration during the 2006 Legislative Session.

A few of the bills that have passed Third Reading and are now being considered by House committees are:

- ** **SB 1222 SD 2**, Relating to the Search & Rescue Reimbursement, which proposes to require a reimbursement for the cost of rescuing those whose failure to exercise reasonable caution or failure to obey laws or public safety warnings necessitated the search and rescue.
- ** **SB 637 SD 2**, Relating to Making an Appropriation for Development of a Non-emergency Reporting System, Known as "3-1-1," which calls for funds to be provided to the Honolulu Police Department to develop a non-emergency reporting system.
- ** **SB 963 SD 2**, Relating to Highways, which would create a county highway task force within the Department of Transportation to oversee the transfer of all state highways functions and funding.
- ** **SB 1473 SD 1**, Relating to Waimano Ridge, which would require at least a 90-day notification to the community associations and community boards and the legislature prior to any new or expanded use or contemplated additional development of existing leased lands or facilities on state-owned land in the Waimano Ridge area of Oahu.

For a complete listing of all measures that have passed Third Reading, please consult the Legislative website at www.capitol.hawaii.gov.

Intergovernmental Affairs (IGA) Highlights

Since the Crossover deadline on March 4, IGA has received a number of House bills for our consideration. Many of these bills are similar to those Senate bills that we reviewed last month. Already, we have scheduled a number of hearings to consider bills that have been referred to the IGA Committee, jointly or otherwise.

- ** Wednesday, March 16, 2005: HTH/IGA Joint Hearing, 2:45 PM, Conference Room 016
- ** Thursday, March 17, 2005: IGA/EDM/WLA Joint Hearing, 2:45 PM, Conference Room 225
- ** Monday, March 21, 2005: TGO/IGA Joint Hearing, 1:15 PM, Conference Room 224
- ** Tuesday, March 22, 2005: IGA/JHW Joint Hearing, 2:45 PM, Conference Room 225



For more information, please consult the Legislative website: www.capitol.hawaii.com, or call us at 586-6230.

Waimano Ridge Update

Due to the diligent work and deep concern of Pearl City community members, both bills relating to Waimano Ridge, HB 1141 and SB 1473, have passed out of their respective legislative houses and have crossed over to their counterparts.

SB 1473 has been heard by the House Committee on Water, Land and Ocean Resources (WLO) and was passed out of committee with amendments. The bill will proceed to the House Finance Committee where it will have its final hearing before the House of Representatives takes a final vote on the measure.

HB 1141 has been scheduled for a hearing on Wednesday, March 16, at 2:45 PM in Conference Room 016 by the Senate Committee on Health. More updates will be provided by our newsletter as these measures continue through the legislative process.

CONGRATULATIONS TO YOU!

Our congratulations to Pearl City High School Girls' softball pitcher **Marina Gusman-Brown** for being selected Player of the Year and to her coach **Keoke Bahic**, who has been chosen as Coach of the Year in the OIA West. Also named to the West All-Star first team were first baseman **Lauren Fujisaki**, second baseman **Kanani Numata**, outfielder **Shanna Vierra**, and utility player **Krystal Plunkett**. Two other players, **Corried Nishikida** and **Miki Opunui**, were named to the second team, and **Sanoe Aina** and **Noelle Hirahara** received honorable mention. Through hard work, the Chargers achieved an 11-1 season record and the OIA West Championship. GO CHARGERS!

Congratulations also goes out to the **Japanese Language students at Aiea High School** for their on-going efforts to learn about Japanese language and culture. Most recently, they have been named the winners of the Island Movie Competition in the International Component: Culture Category for their video called "**Da Slippah Shack**." The video touches on the history of Hawaii's famous rubber slippers from its origins as geta, or Japanese wooden clogs. Delightful and entertaining, the video discusses the many uses of the versatile footwear. Go to

<http://islandmovie.k12.hi.us/2005/winners.htm#>

to view the video.



Capitol Connection

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