

Capitol connection

Office of Senator David Y. Ige – 16th District

Volume 4, Issue 5 April 1, 2005



Welcome to the fifth edition of Capitol Connection!

April is the last full month of the Legislative Session and the Capitol is bustling with activity! Second Decking, Second Crossover, and Conferences will all take place this month. This is the time when the bills that made their way through the legislative process are scrutinized, edited, and refined before a final vote is taken.

Although public testimony is no longer accepted during Conference Committees, as we will review the testimony submitted to both House and Senate hearings, I encourage you to keep connected and stay informed!

If you have any concerns or questions, feel free to contact me and my office. We are here to serve you!

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

Sincerely,
David Y. Ige
State Senator
16th District

COMING FULL CIRCLE...

As we enter the last full month of the current Legislative Session, we are two-thirds of the way to completing our work for this first year of the fiscal biennium. We have passed the time (Second Lateral) when all bills with referrals had to move to their final referral committees to remain alive in either house.

Second Decking: Day #46 (April 8, 2005)

Because we have a bicameral system, if one house amends a measure, the other chamber must have the opportunity to agree or disagree with the amendments made by the first house. To provide enough time for the chamber that drafted the bill to consider the other body's amendments and, if necessary, to convene a conference committee to resolve differences, a deadline is set for the decking of all bills that are amended by the non-originating (or receiving) house.

Second Crossover: Day #48 (April 14, 2005)

Forty-eight hours after second decking, all bills amended by the non-originating body are returned to the chamber from which they originated. Bills that were not amended by the non-originating body do not need to be returned. They may pass final reading any time up to the last day of the session after which they are enrolled and sent to the Governor.

Agree/Disagree: Day #48 (April 14, 2005)

Many of the bills voted on during the Second Crossover will have been amended in the non-originating chamber. Members of both houses will review these changes and decide whether to agree or disagree to these changes. This is the last day to disagree with the other chamber's drafts of bills. If the decision is made to disagree, the bill is referred to a conference committee after proper motions are made during the floor session.

"Dead" for this session, but which may be "resurrected" next session...

- * SB 1222 SD2—Relating to the Search and Rescue Reimbursement
- * SB 963 SD 2— Relating to Highway (creating a county highway task force within the State Department of Transportation to oversee the transfer of all state highway functions and funding to the counties)

Moving right along...

- * SB 1473 SD 1 — Relating to Waimano Ridge was passed unamended by the House Finance committee. Its companion HB1141 SD1 was deferred until April 6, 2005 to be heard by the Water, Land, and Agriculture committee at 2:45 p.m.
- * HB 1309 — Relating to Taxation (authorizing the counties to levy a county surcharge on State tax to fund public transportation systems in their respective counties)

Although the Senate "killed" measure SB1731 SD1, the House version of the bill has proceeded through First Crossover and was passed with amendments by both the Transportation and Government Operations (TGO) and Intergovernmental Affairs (IGA) committees. It passed Second Reading and was referred to the Ways and Means (WAM) committee. WAM has scheduled the bill for decision-making on April 5, 2005 at 10:15 a.m.

- * SB 637 SD 2 — Relating to Making an Appropriation for the Development of a Non-Emergency Reporting System, Known as 3-1-1 passed Second Reading and has been placed on the calendar for Third Reading (a vote by the entire house).

Intergovernmental Affairs (IGA) Highlights

As the committees prepare for Second Decking on April 8th, bill and resolution hearings are coming to a close and being decided upon. The following is a list of the Intergovernmental Affairs (IGA) committee bill referrals and hearing decisions. The Senate companion bills are marked in parentheses.

Passed Unamended

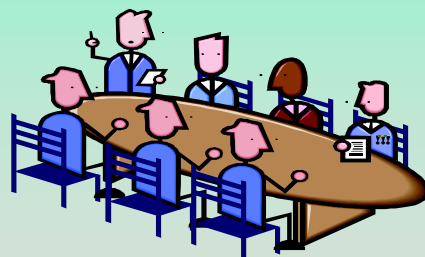
HB78 HD1 (SB86)
 HB79 (SB84)
 HB393 HD1
 HB434 (SB587)
 HB864 (SB1060)
 HB1320 HD1

Passed with Amendments

HB429 HD1 (SB584)
 HB487 HD1 (SB1685)
 HB515 (SB666)
 HB551 HD1 (SB660)
 HB784 HD1 (SB959)
 HB954 HD1 (SB1587)
 HB1033 HD1
 HB1645 HD1
 HB1734 HD1

Held/Deferred

HB759 HD1
 HB1030 HD1
 HB1324 HD2
 HB1760 HD1



Please refer to the committees tab on davidige.org or the Legislative website at www.capitol.hawaii.gov for more information on these bills.

...On the Road to a Better Future

Come to the next **Town Meeting** held at the **Waimalu Elementary School Cafeteria** on **April 27, 2005!** Hear about what is being planned to improve Kamehameha Highway from Center Drive in Pearl Harbor to Waihona Street west of Sam's Club.

Based on input received from the community early in 2002, the Legislature appropriated \$750,000 for planning. The Department of Transportation has hired a design consultant who will be presenting some preliminary ideas for improving not only the appearance of the highway, but more importantly, the safety of both pedestrians and motorists. Plans are still being developed, so come to hear the latest information and provide your insight on how best to improve this very heavily traveled corridor through our district.

Capitol Connection

is published and distributed by:

The Office of Senator David Y. Ige
State Senator, 16th District

Phone: (808) 586-6230

Fax: (808) 586-6231

Website: <http://www.davidige.org>

If you have questions or comments, please send an e-mail to: sendige@capitol.hawaii.gov

Taking Notice of...

- + **Taylor Belmont**, Age 5, of Waimalu Elementary, for being the State-wide winner in the Age 4-5 category for the AlohaCare Children's Art Contest. More than 600 children on O'ahu from the ages of 4 -12 drew crayon pictures to depict how they keep healthy. A panel of judges chose winners for each island. On March 18th, selected entries were published in the newspaper and statewide winners were chosen by popular vote. Taylor will receive \$100 and a framed copy of her entry.
- + **Marina Gusman-Brown** and **Krystal Plunkett** of Pearl City High for being named to the Honolulu Advertiser's All-State Softball team by a vote of coaches and media. Gusman-Brown, a junior, was one of the state's top pitchers and batted a .545, while also manning third base. Plunkett, a senior, hit .571 during the regular season and played short-stop as well as pitcher and catcher. Second baseman, **Kanani Numata**; outfielder, **Shanna Vierra** and utility player, **Corrie Nishikida**, all juniors, were named to the second team. First baseman, **Lauren Fujisaki** was named Honorable Mention.
- + **Bruce Pfirmann**, an eighth grader at Our Savior Lutheran School, who won the state championship in the third annual Reader's Digest National Word Power Challenge. The challenge is a vocabulary bee for students in grades 5-8. Students throughout the United States are tested in their classes, then in their grade level and eventually narrowed to the top 100 in each state. Bruce, along with 99 others from Hawaii took the final test on March 18th. He and his mother will travel to Walt Disney World Resort in Orlando Florida where he will compete for \$50,000 in college scholarships. Our best wishes to Bruce as he continues his quest.