

# CAPITOL CONNECTION

OFFICE OF SENATOR DAVID Y. IGE – 16TH DISTRICT

Volume 5, Issue 2 January 17, 2006



Welcome to the second issue of the Capitol Connection

Dear Friends,

Another legislative session is upon us, and once again, my colleagues and I will be challenged to make decisions that affect all of our lives. I hope that you will feel free to contact me and my staff should you have ideas or suggestions regarding the issues that are brought before us. We encourage everyone to participate in the legislative process and help to make Hawaii a better place!

Sincerely,

David Y. Ige  
State Senator  
16th District

## ...Got Access?

Play a Part In the Legislative Process!

Aloha, and welcome to the first issue of Capitol Connection for 2006! As the legislative session begins, I would like to take this opportunity to invite the public to get involved in the legislative process.

Whether you are single, juggling a family, or retired, living and working in Hawaii can often be challenging, and as a family man myself, I am fully aware of, and committed to, addressing the issues that concern you.

How can you help to make the 2006 legislative session a success? The **Public Access Room**, located on the fourth floor of the State Capitol, is the perfect place to begin contributing to the decision-making process. As a non-partisan division of the Legislative Reference Bureau, the **Public Access Room** is outfitted to provide Hawaii's citizens with the resources necessary to successfully navigate the legislative process. Besides providing free access to computers for both writing testimonies and doing Internet searches on State government related issues, the friendly staff at the **Public Access Room** are seasoned experts with the legislative process as a whole and can help with the reference materials and legislative documents that you may find helpful in your own endeavor to enhance the session. To find out more, please visit with the staff in Room 401 at the State Capitol, or, visit them on-line at their website [par@capitol.hawaii.gov](http://par@capitol.hawaii.gov). To submit written testimonies to their office, see [testimony@capitol.hawaii.gov](http://testimony@capitol.hawaii.gov).

For those who may not have the time to visit in person but would still like to be involved in the legislative session for

2006, I highly recommend visiting us on-line, at [www.capitol.hawaii.gov](http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov). There, concerned citizens can remain informed about the issues for this session, get a comprehensive understanding of both the House and Senate affairs, and learn more about the legislative process, including updates on the status of legislative bills, hearings, and pertinent information on the representatives for their respective district. Whether you visit us in person, or on-line, please, get involved!

### Public Access Room (PAR)

State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street, Room 401  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Phone: (808) 587-0478

Fax: (808) 587-0793

E-mail: [par@lava.net](mailto:par@lava.net)

Session Hours: M-F 8am-6pm  
Sat 8am-2pm



Your friendly assistants at the PAR!  
(Virginia, Suzanne, & Robbie)

**NEW ACCESS FOR PUBLIC AWARENESS:**

.....> Visit [davidige.org](http://davidige.org)!

After directing of one of the newest committees during the 2005 legislative session, the Senate Intergovernmental Affairs committee, (IGA) I will once again chair the committee with the goal of leading it towards greater understanding and effective communication between the various agencies responsible for the safety and welfare of the people of our state: the four island counties, the State and Federal government agencies.

Often, the issues that concern Hawaii's citizens the most are those that necessitate attention from multiple levels of government jurisdiction; as chairman of IGA, not only am I entrusted with maintaining a working dialogue between representatives of the government, but also, perhaps even more importantly, responsible for listening and responding to the public, in relation to their concerns.

As such, I am committed to broadening public awareness of the issues faced not only in the 16<sup>th</sup> District, but also those that may affect the larger community. I welcome the public to visit my newly renovated informational web-site, [www.davidige.org](http://www.davidige.org), where you can learn more about the legislative session, my goals as chairman of the Intergovernmental Affairs Committee for 2006, as well as links to current and archived editions of the *Capitol Connection* and the *Community Connection*.

For visitors familiar with the past incarnations of my site, there are substantial changes to the look and feel of **DavidIge.org**. Newly incorporated are a community news log and a full-fledged gallery to view photos from legislative events and our annual Capitol Artists Program. The site is continually expanding, so be sure to stop by and keep updated!

**Congratulations to...**

- Pearl City Highlands Intermediate 4th grader, **Derek Chang** for promoting water conservation through his honorable mention printed in the **2006 Board of Water Supply Calendar!**
- The outstanding **District 16 athletes** of 2005 for their excellence in volleyball, football, and softball!
- **Momilani Elementary** for making the grade as one of Hawaii's 20 Distinguished Schools!

Visit [davidige.org](http://davidige.org) for further community achievements and events!

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is published and distributed by:

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

**Calling All Artists!**

**Capitol Artists Program 2006**

Due to the overwhelmingly positive response we have received in previous years, I am quite excited to announce the official startup of the **Capitol Artists Program for 2006!** Since my office first started the program, we have had the pleasure of selecting and displaying students' artwork at the State Capitol. While schools in the Pearl City and Aiea districts have never suffered a shortage of talented and budding artists. Each student will have a great opportunity to see their work showcased at the capitol building! The **Capitol Arts Program** has been a great success in the past, and family and friends are always eager to support our young artists, so please, if you, or anyone you know, would like to submit various works of art, let me know.

As always, my office staff is available for inquiries about the **Capitol Artists Program**. Interested in finding out more about this exciting opportunity? If so, please call my office at **586-6230**. We look forward to hearing from you!



**\* Featured Capitol Artist \***

To kick off a new year, I am proud to feature art titled "Morning Sun" by Aiea High School senior, **Sophia Chang**.

This is her second year participating in the Capitol Artist Program. Her art, as well as other classmates' artwork is available for view at the Capitol throughout the month of January.