



Senator Michelle Kidani

District 17- Mililani/ Mililani Mauka/ Waipi'o/ Waipi'o Gentry

Vice Chair- Education

Hawaii State Capitol, Room 203, 415 South Beretania Street, Honolulu, HI 96813

Phone 808-586-7100 Fax 808-586-7109

senkidani@capitol.hawaii.gov



April 2009

Aloha,

With the end of session right around the corner, the staff and I are busy preparing for conference. Of the 14 bills I introduced, one bill SB1338, SD2, HD2- the clothesline bill, managed to survive both the Senate and House committees. As for the rest of the bills, we'll have to wait until next session to pursue those efforts.

The final day of Legislation for this session is May 7, 2009. I would like to encourage the community to send possible ideas for new bills for the next legislative session.

Community comments and suggestions are always welcome. I am dedicated to serve you in any possible way. Please feel free to visit me at my office or contact me by phone, fax, or email. Thank you for your continued support.

Me ke Aloha Pumehana,

Michelle Kidani



Senator Kidani with her staff at the Prevent Child Abuse Hawaii Ceremony at the Capitol.



Above: The Senator loading Easter baskets for the Women's Legislative Caucus. All baskets benefitted clients of IHS.



Left: A musubi fundraiser hosted by Senator Kidani's office. Musubis were made by a few of the Senator's close friends.



Senator Kidani celebrates Samoan Flag Day at the Capitol on April 17.



Senator Kidani takes a tour of Hawaii's prisons with members of the Public Safety and Military Affairs Committee to observe the status of the facilities.

IMPORTANT DATES IN MAY FOR THE 25TH LEGISLATURE

May 1- Last day to file Fiscal Bills to deck for Final Reading
 May 4- Recess
 May 6- Recess
 May 7- ADJOURNMENT SINE DIE

GOVERNOR'S VETO DEADLINES

Bills reaching Governor on or before April 21st: **10 days**
 Bills reaching Governor after April 21st: Intent to veto by **June 29th**;
 bills become law without signature if neither signed nor vetoed by **July 14th**

FREE SHREDDING- PROTECT YOURSELF AGAINST IDENTITY THEFT

Bring up to TWO BOXES of PERSONAL documents for on-site shredding. Items accepted until truck is full.

Where: State Capitol- Beretania Street drop-off
When: Saturday April 25
(9 am- noon)

UNDERSTANDING THE CAPITOL CONFERENCE COMMITTEES

As we come to the end of another session, the final weeks will be full of conference committee hearings where particular bills will be re-examined and re-heard until an agreement between both House and Senate drafts is made.

To see a full list of which bills are being heard and in which rooms the hearings will take place, visit www.capitol.hawaii.gov. Room assignments will be arranged according to subject matter committees at least 24 hours before the initial meetings.

Final decking for non-fiscal bills is April 30. For fiscal bills, it's May 1. Any conference draft or decision on final form must be delivered to the House and/ or Senate clerks before then, allowing a 48-hour notice for final readings to take place on May 5th or May 7th.

SENATE EFFORTS TO FUNDRAISE FOR HAWAII FOODBANK

As the Foodbank Fundraisers come to an end for this session, the Senate managed to raise a total of \$12,088.83 for the Hawaii Foodbank. Of that, over \$1,000 dollars was raised through the Senate Penny Wars. This amount exceeds the Senate total from last year by nearly \$1,000!

For the month of March, Senator Kidani's office lead the fundraising effort by hosting an array of events ranging from musubi fundraisers to a week-long canned meat and rice drive. As for the Penny War, the Senate Clerk's Office managed to outdo the competition and earn first place overall winning an office pizza party. Senate offices also vied against each other to win the in-floor friendly grand prize- a 3-hour limousine ride courtesy of Platinum Limousine. Congratulations goes to my office and all of their hard work.

Along with raising money to donate to Foodbanks across the state, the Senate also held various drives including a diaper drive and canned food drive which proved to be as successful as the lunch fundraisers.

KEEPING PARENTS AWARE

With summer right around the corner, children across the state will have tons of free time to catch up with everything they wish they could have done while they were in school. Parents, be aware of what is available in the cyber world and in the media. Here are a few helpful links which provides helpful tips and information on popular websites and media attractions.

www.commonsemmedia.org : a not-for-profit website which provides website rates and reviews on thousands of movies, TV shows, songs, books, video games and Web sites.

www.connectsafely.com : a good source for parents, teens, educators, and advocates- everyone engaged in and interested in the impact of the social Web.

<http://decoder.drugfree.org/> : a parent network with articles and posts concerning youth problems and providing advice for various situations.

MILILANI HIGH SCHOOL'S MOCK TRIAL TEAM TRUMPS FOUR-TIME STATE CHAMPIONS KAUAI HIGH IN FINAL ROUNDS

Mililani High School's mock trial team will represent the state of Hawaii in the National Young Lawyers Division High School Championship in Atlanta, Georgia next month. The Senate recognized the team's effort in a floor presentation on April 2, 2009.

CONGRATULATIONS and GOOD LUCK to the Mock Trial Team. We are all so proud of you.

MILILANI SCHOOLS STEP-UP IN THE FIGHT AGAINST HAWAII'S METH PROBLEM

In a recent call for volunteers in the participation of the Hawaii Meth Project, Mililani Schools offered its support in making a significant difference in reducing teen meth use in the community.

The primary objective of the Hawaii Meth Project is to dramatically reduce first-time methamphetamine use among Hawaii teens by educating about the risks and consequences of meth use. The project also seeks to raise awareness of the scale, depth and critical nature of the meth problem in Hawaii. The project is focused solely upon prevention. The project will execute an integrated program consisting of market research, public service messaging targeting Hawaii youth, ages 12-17, and community action programs that connect the project to local communities.

MILILANI'S AUREANA TSEU COMPETES IN MISS USA COMPETITION

On April 19, Mililani's own Aureana Tseu will represent Hawaii in the 58th annual Miss USA Competition in Las Vegas. The event will be broadcast live on NBC where people across the state and nationwide will be able to cheer on one of their own.

Since winning the Hawaii title, Aureana has been busy promoting the Hawaiian culture as well as raising awareness of the prevention of breast cancer and domestic abuse.