

SENATOR BRICKWOOD GALUTERIA

July
2011

July 7, 2011



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Recognition of Native Hawaiians

Serving Hawaii's Senate District 12

Encompassing the
following
communities:

Waikiki

~

Ala Moana

~

Kaka'ako

~

Downtown

~

Chinatown

~

Palama

On July 6, 2011, Governor Abercrombie signed into law Senate Bill 1520 (**Act 195**). Act 195 formally recognizes Native Hawaiians as "the only indigenous, aboriginal, maoli population" of Hawaii and begins a process to establish a registry of qualified members to work toward the reorganization of a native government.



SB1520 establishes a five-member commission, appointed by the Governor which will be tasked with defining who Native Hawaiians are, and then prepare a roll call of such qualified Native Hawaiians. This commission, working with the Office of Hawaiian Affairs — the agency that'll provide the funding for the commission's work — will report to the Governor and the Legislature by next January on the status of their work.

SB1520 recognizes the history of Hawaii and advances a process that should benefit all of Hawaii's people. It brings long overdue justice to the Hawaiian people and in no manner shall it be construed to create a separate class of people above or beyond the rest of Hawaii's population.

The state's formal recognition of Native Hawaiians reaffirms the efforts of Hawaii's Congressional Delegation, particularly those of United States Senator Daniel Akaka in securing the passage of the Native Hawaiian Government Reorganization Act, or more commonly known as the "Akaka Bill". The Akaka Bill was reported out of the United State Senate Committee on Indian Affairs this past April and awaits scheduling of a final vote on the Senate floor.



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WAIKIKI



KAKA'AKO/ALA MOANA



DOWNTOWN



CHINATOWN



PALAMA



WHAT A DIVERSE COMMUNITY!

Governor Releases \$350,000 for Jefferson Elementary

Mahalo to Governor Neil Abercrombie for releasing **\$350,000** for two Capital Improvement Projects at Jefferson Elementary School in Waikiki. These monies will fund the reroofing of the cafeteria and building H and I know the Jefferson 'Ohana will be especially grateful for his support.

Governor's Intent to Veto 23 Measures

Pursuant to Article III, Section 16 of the State Constitution, the Governor notified the State Legislature of his intent to veto twenty three measures; they include House Bill 667 which creates the Food Safety and Security Program and Senate Bill 40 which establishes a tracking system for the sale of products containing pseudoephedrine or ephedrine. To see the entire list of measures, you may log onto www.hawaii.gov/gov.

This message only notifies the Legislature of a potential veto and the Governor has until July 12, 2011 to make his final decision. At this point, the Governor can only veto those measures on his "Intent to Veto" message. For those he does not veto, they will become law without his signature.

National Caucus of Native American Legislators



Last month, I participated in the Annual Meeting of the National Caucus of Native American Legislators. Approximately thirty five legislators of Native American ancestry (including my colleagues in the House and Senate) from across the nation convened in Hawaii for their annual meeting. Aside from discussing topics that were important to the Caucus, these legislators also

had the opportunity to conduct site visits to Pope Elementary School, Waianae High School to tour the Searider Productions Program, Bishop Museum, and Waianae Comprehensive Health Center.

State Legislative Leaders Foundation

As Senate Majority Leader, I was invited to participate in a State Legislative Leaders Foundation conference at Notre Dame towards the end of June. The theme of this conference was "In the Cloud: Effective Governance in the Information Age", accordingly, much of the seminars and topics of discussion revolved around the evolving use of technology in the legislative process. We also had the opportunity to speak with representatives from Facebook, Twitter, and Google and learned more about the implications of technology on the legislative process, particularly the use of social media.

Senator David Ige and I also made a presentation on the "Senate Paperless Initiative" which reduced the Senate's paper use by 80% in four years! We went from using 8,328,688 pages in 2007 to 1,543,053 pages in 2010.