

Waikele, Village Park, Royal Kunia, Makakilo,
Kapolei, Kalaeloa, Honokai Hale,
and portions of Ko Olina & Waipahu

Mike Gabbard

State Senator, 19th District

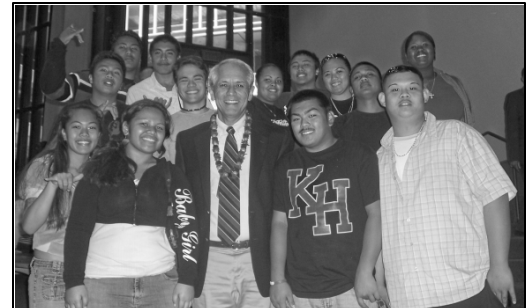


March 2007

Aloha! Here are some of the things I've been working on at the Capitol. Mahalo, Mike

Legislation Takes Aim at Graffiti

Graffiti is a big problem all over our community. There are two bills moving forward at the Legislature to address this problem. SB 676 was authored by Senator Clarence Nishihara who was assisted by Mr. Malcolm Ching, the General Manager of the Waikele Community Association, and his fellow members of Take Action Against Graffiti (T.A.A.G). This bill would require a tagger to complete 80 hours of



March 8, 2007
Senator Gabbard with Capitol visitors from Ke Kula Wae School of Choice

community service for a 1st offense and 160 hours for a 2nd or subsequent offense to remove graffiti at other locations. It would also make the tagger pay for the paint and materials to do the job.

A similar bill, SB 228, would require the minor or his parents to remove the graffiti from the affected property within 60 days and do 80 hours of community service removing graffiti. As a member of the Judiciary and Labor Committee (JDL), I had an opportunity to support both these bills when they passed JDL and the Senate. If you would like to get involved and testify in support of these bills, please contact my office and I'll let you know how you can weigh in.



March 10, 2007
Sen. Gabbard with League President M. Kalani Smith

Gabbard Honors Makakilo-Kapolei

I was honored to present a certificate to the Makakilo-Kapolei Youth Baseball League on Saturday, March 10th, 2007 on behalf of the State Senate. The League was celebrating its 2007 Season Opening Day Ceremony and Family Day at Kalaeloa Field. I was joined by Lt. Governor "Duke" Aiona, Mayor Mufi Hannemann, City Councilman Nestor Garcia, and Makakilo/ Kapolei Neighborhood Board Chair Maeda Timson at this memorable event.

Kapolei Skate Park Officially Opened

On Saturday, March 10th, the skate park at Kapolei Regional Park was dedicated, blessed, and became officially open for business.

Mahalo to the Mayor, his staff, the City, and all the community members who worked to make this happen. We look forward to years of safe fun for our youth at this new Kapolei attraction.



March 10, 2007
Kapolei Skate Park Blessing Ceremony



QUICK UPDATES

March 2007

ATV Bill Moves Forward

I was happy to see two bills that I introduced – SB 1891 and SB 1617, pass the Senate unanimously on March 6, 2007. Both of these bills would help better protect our community. SB 1891 would allow the Department of Land and Natural Resources to make arrests, confiscate vehicles, and issue criminal citations to address the problem of ATVs and other vehicles creating a safety hazard for families, desecrating native Hawaiian burial grounds, and causing environmental damage to our beaches. More information on SB 1617 below.

Homeowner Protection Bill Passes Senate

Picture yourself and your family in the following scenario: In 2006, Dr. Michael Rainiero, a homeowner in Jainesville, Wisconsin, awoke one evening to find an intruder in his hallway. Rainiero asked the intruder to leave several times, but the intruder refused. Rainiero then went back into his bedroom and grabbed a pistol. Rainiero was shaking out of fear and yelled once more asking the intruder to leave.

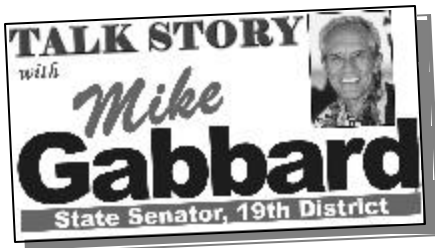
The intruder refused, so Rainiero shot the man. The intruder was charged with burglary and felony criminal damage and is in prison for other crimes he committed. But this didn't stop the intruder from filing suit and claiming that Rainiero used excessive force.

Something wrong with this picture? You bet. One of my constituents in Kapolei brought it to my attention last year that there's currently a loophole in the law which allows a homeowner to be sued by an intruder if the burglar is injured while trying to rob you and harm your family. The remedy?



I introduced Senate Bill 1617, which passed the State Senate by a unanimous vote on March 6, 2007. SB 1617 would provide homeowners immunity from civil liability and make sure this kind of thing doesn't happen in Hawaii. SB 1617 is awaiting a hearing in the House Judiciary Committee, which is chaired by Representative Tommy Waters. If you would like to get more information on the bill, please contact my office.

Talk Stories



I'll be hosting talk stories in both Kunia and Kapolei in March and April. On March 24th and April 28th, my staff and I will be at Starbucks in Kapolei at 9:00am (across the street from Longs Drugs, near the Chevron Station, outdoor seating). On April 14th, Representative Sharon Har and I will be co-hosting a talk-story at the Royal Kunia Community Association Board Room at 9:00am (above Times Super Market in Kunia, across the parking lot from Wal-Mart). I hope to see you there!

Contact my helpful staff – we're at your service!

For an appointment:
Marie Costello, Administrative Assistant 586-6695

For legislative inquiries:
Rock Riggs, Chief of Staff 586-6693

For concerns in the district:
Erika Moon, Community Liaison 586-6824

March 14, 2007

*Senator Gabbard on the trolley tour of Kunia
with the Royal Kunia Community Association*



Please contact me personally if I can help you in any way. My email is sengabbard@capitol.hawaii.gov and my phone number is 586-6830. Mahalo for the privilege of serving you!