

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

# Mike Gabbard

**State Senator, 19th District**



April 2008

*Aloha,*

*I hope you and your family are well! Here are a few things I'd like to share with you.*

*Please contact me if I can help you in any way. My email is [sengabbard@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:sengabbard@capitol.hawaii.gov) and my phone number is 586-6830.*

*Mahalo for the privilege of serving you!*

*Mike*



Senator Gabbard participated in the Institute of Human Services' Easter Basket Drive for the needy on March 20, 2008.

### **Bill Would Help Fight "Ice"**

You might have heard that federal Drug Enforcement Administration officers recently busted "ice" dealers in Royal Kunia. The officers seized 50 pounds of "ice" with a street value of over \$1 million. This is one of the largest drug busts in Hawaii history. And with busts like this, it won't be too long before the dealers look to increase their efforts in making "ice" here in Hawaii.

A bill, SB 2373, SD1 HD1, that I introduced this year is timely because it will help law enforcement by closing a loophole in existing law so that we can better track those criminals who are going store to store, buying pseudoephedrine, one of the main ingredients in "ice," and then making and distributing this horrible drug, which poisons our communities. The bill would require retailers to keep an electronic log of their pseudoephedrine sales on an Excel worksheet and to send it to the Department of Public Safety every 30 days. SB 2373, SD1 HD1 passed the Senate on March 4<sup>th</sup>. It's now moving forward in the House.



Senator Gabbard hosted Waialua High School student, Lindsay Montgomery as part of the "Leader for a Day" student shadow program on March 13, 2008.

### **Important Legislation Back on Track in 2008**

Last year, I introduced two bills that would help better protect both Hawaii residents and our environment. SB 1617, SD1 and SB 1891, SD1 passed unanimously through the State Senate in 2007 but stalled in the House. Fortunately, I've been able to work with my colleagues in the House to get this critical legislation moving again.

The idea for the first bill, SB 1617, SD1, was brought to my attention by a Kapolei resident who pointed out that because of an existing loophole in state law you could be sued by a burglar if that criminal was injured while trying to rob you or harm your family. We researched and found that there were examples of this happening on the mainland. *(continues on page 2...)*



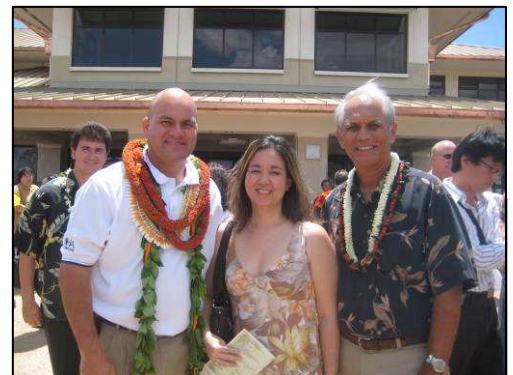
Senator Gabbard attended the 1st Anniversary celebration of the Pacific Aerospace Training Center on March 15, 2008.

(...continued from page 1) In one case, Dr. Michael Rainiero, a homeowner in Jainesville, Wisconsin, awoke one evening to find an intruder in his hallway. Rainiero asked the intruder to leave repeatedly. When the burglar refused to leave, Rainiero was forced to shoot him. What's amazing is that after this incident, the burglar filed a lawsuit claiming that Rainiero used excessive force in defending himself, his wife and their two daughters. SB 1617, SD1 will provide homeowners immunity from civil liability in these types of cases and would make sure this doesn't happen in Hawaii.

I introduced the second bill SB 1891, SD1 after receiving complaints from people statewide and reading media reports about the problem of ATVs and other vehicles driving on our beaches. As you may know, these vehicles have created a public safety hazard, can potentially desecrate sacred burial grounds, and cause enormous destruction to our natural ecosystem.

In working with Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) officials to craft the language of the bill, I learned that they didn't have the necessary enforcement powers to protect the safety of beachgoers, wildlife, and the environment. SB 1891, SD1 would make violations on public lands a petty misdemeanor. This change in law would give DLNR officers the ability to make arrests, issue criminal citations, and confiscate vehicles. I can guarantee you that if a couple of these vehicles get confiscated, this problem will be solved quickly. I don't have anything against ATV enthusiasts, but we've got to have common sense when it comes to protecting our beaches.

Please let me know if you'd like more information on either of these bills or if you'd like to get involved by testifying in support of the legislation.



On March 26, 2008 – Prince Kuhio Day – the Dept. of Hawaiian Home Lands' new headquarters, the Kalaniana'ole Building in Kapolei, was dedicated. Celebrating with Senator Gabbard above are Micah Kane, DHHL Director, and Senator Jill Tokuda (Kaneohe).

### Take Advantage of IRS Stimulus Payment

As a taxpayer, you are eligible to receive up to \$600 this year if your qualifying income was at least \$3,000 in 2007. You may even receive more if you have children. All you need to do is make sure that you complete a 1040 or 1040A paper form or use IRS "e-file" by the April 15th deadline.

Millions of people each year fail to file tax returns, so this is definitely a good reason to file this year. As you may know, President Bush and the U.S. Congress have championed this economic stimulus package as a way to address economic worries associated with the mortgage crisis and the volatile stock market.



You can get free tax assistance by calling 432-9840 to make an appointment with Diep at the Hickam Federal Credit Union – Kapolei Branch (590 Farrington Highway, Suite 501) on Thursdays 9am-11pm or Saturdays 10am-12pm. You can also drop by St. Jude Catholic Church (92-455 Makakilo Drive) on Thursdays 9am-1pm.



## Update on Important Senate District 19 Road Improvements

Here is an update of some of the important road improvements happening in our community.

- **North South Road** - DOT will complete 4-lane road with interchange by end of 2009.
- **Ft. Barrette Road Widening** – DOT will widen road from 2 to 4 lanes with construction starting in 2009.
- **Makakilo Drive** – City is currently doing environmental impact study which is scheduled to be completed by end of 2008. It will be a 4-lane road connecting Makakilo Drive to H-1 North South Road Interchange.
- **Kapolei Interchange Complex Phase 1** – DOT will be advertising for bids in early April, opening bids in early May, awarding the contract in June-July and hopes to start construction in September-October.
- **Kamokila Drive Extension** – Kapolei Property Development portion to the OR&L right of way should be complete in April; the City has awarded the contract for their portion to Roosevelt with work beginning in April and completed in September –October.
- **Kapolei Urban Core 3 roads (8 or so cross streets in the City of Kapolei)** – Kapolei Property Development reports that the contractor is now on-site starting construction work. The project is anticipated to take about a year.
- **Kapolei Urban Core 4 roads** (including Kapolei Parkway from Mehana through half of the City of Kapolei) – Kapolei Property Development is awaiting plan approval from the City and hopes to start construction in the next 2-3 months.
- **Kapolei Urban Core 5 roads** (including Kapolei Parkway extending through the remainder of the City of Kapolei) – Kapolei Property Development is designing project and hopes to start construction this summer-fall.
- **Kapolei Parkway west (fronting Kapolei Commons)** – Kapolei Property Development is awaiting plan approval from the City and hopes to start construction in the next month.
- **Kalaeloa Boulevard** – Kapolei Property Development is currently designing the improvements which will widen it to six lanes; hopes to start construction on its full improvement sometime this year.



'Olelo taping Senator Gabbard's "Listen-Story" meeting that he hosted at Starbucks in Kapolei on March 15, 2008.

### Learn How to Film Your Own TV Show

I was happy to have Sparky Rodrigues of 'Olelo Community Television videotape my last listen-story meeting at Kapolei Starbucks on March 15th.

After the meeting, Mr. Rodrigues requested that I help him get the word out about the opportunities 'Olelo has to offer. You might not be aware that 'Olelo has 7 Community Media Centers (CMC) on Oahu. The newest location is in Waipahu on the campus of Waipahu Intermediate School. 'Olelo offers training in video production and will allow you to produce your own announcement or show to be aired on their channels. Please contact them at 671-3950 or [waipahu@olelo.org](mailto:waipahu@olelo.org) if you're interested.



## Easy Way to Find Out Lowest Gas Prices

All of us are dealing with high prices at the pump. A friend of mine recently sent me a link to an internet site sponsored by MSN, where you can find the lowest gas prices in your area. Just enter your zip code to see what gas station is the cheapest:

<http://autos.msn.com/everyday/gasstations.aspx?zip=&src=Netx>



## Foodbank Fundraising Update

Our fundraising efforts at the Senate for the Hawaii Foodbank 2008 Food Drive are going very well. We'll keep working right up to the April 18th deadline for this very worthy cause.



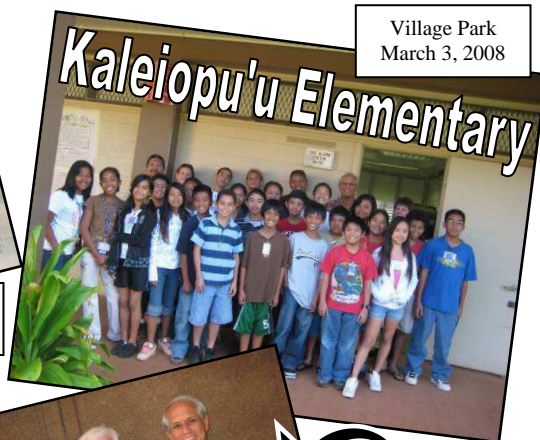
Please contact me if you'd like to donate any canned food items or rice. Also, let me know if you'd like to purchase a Hawaii Foodbank T-Shirt (\$12) or an Aloha Diners Book (\$14 – lots of great coupons.)

## "Listen-Story"

I'll be hosting my next "listen-story" meeting at the Kamokila Community Park meeting room (91-015 Farrington Highway) in Honokai Hale at 9:00am on Saturday, April 12th. Please come. If you can't make it, please call or email your concerns.



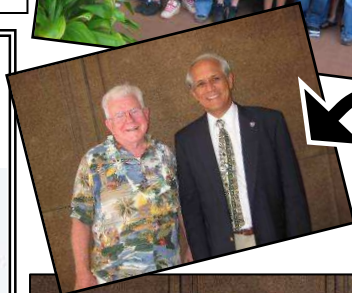
State Capitol  
March 4, 2008



Village Park  
March 3, 2008



Senator Gabbard honored Joe and Terri Knox of Moline, Illinois at the State Capitol on March 19, 2008 in celebration of their 25th Wedding Anniversary.



Dr. Bill Dowling of Virginia visiting Senator Gabbard at the State Capitol on March 18, 2008.

## Final Days of the 2008 Legislative

April	Timetable
1 <sup>st</sup>	First Lateral for Concurrent Resolutions
4 <sup>th</sup>	Second Decking (bills): last day to file bills in non-originating body
10 <sup>th</sup>	Second Crossover (bills) & last day to disagree
11 <sup>th</sup>	First Crossover for Concurrent Resolutions
18 <sup>th</sup>	Constitutional Amendments: deadline for final form
21 <sup>st</sup>	Second Crossover for Concurrent Resolutions
24 <sup>th</sup>	Last day to file Non-Fiscal bills to deck for Final Reading
25 <sup>th</sup>	Last day to file Fiscal bills to deck for Final Reading
May	
1 <sup>st</sup>	Adjournment Sine Die



## SENATOR GABBARD'S STAFF *at your service!*

← (From right)

### Rock Riggs, Chief of Staff

Erika Moon, Community Liaison  
Alan Teixeira, Committee Clerk  
Roberta Fellezs, Administrative Assistant

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