



## *District Capital Improvements and Renewable Energy the Focus for 2006*



*Members of the Senate Democratic Caucus review bills under consideration during the 2006 Session. From left to right: Sen. Colleen Hanabusa, Sen. English, Sen. Lorraine Inouye, Sen. Shan S. Tsutsui.*

Senator J. Kalani English has introduced bills for the 2006 legislative session aimed at facilities improvements within the 6th District, encouraging the development and use of renewable energy, and promoting Hawaiian language and culture.

"As the Senator from the state's most rural district, and its only multi-island district, I have a special responsibility," Sen. English said today. "It's important that my fellow legislators understand the needs of underserved areas and join me in giving them the support they deserve." Several of the bills provide funds for construction costs, capital improvements, and operating expenses at facilities that serve rural populations on Maui, Moloka'i, and Lāna'i.

Other measures address one of Sen. English's principal concerns: renewable energy. "A worldwide crisis in energy has made more people take a look at the benefits of renewables – especially as they relate to Hawai'i," Sen. English said. "the time is right for meaningful energy reform in our state."

Progress of bills introduced this session can be monitored online at the Hawaii State Legislature's website at <http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/>. Sen. English's bills are numbered consecutively, from SB3152 to SB3193. From the website, you can search by bill number or subject, learn which committees are scheduled to hear each measure, which lawmakers have signed on as sponsors of a bill, and monitor how each legislator has voted.

**Chair, Committee on Energy, Environment, and International Affairs**  
**Committee Memberships:**  
Intergovernmental Affairs;  
Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs;  
Media, Arts, Science, and Technology;  
Water, Land, and Agriculture;  
Ways and Means



### *A Message From Kalani*

This second issue of this year's newsletter concerns bills I have introduced for this legislative session. The Capitol website is a useful tool for tracking the progress of legislation and the votes of your elected representatives. We hope you'll take advantage of it -- and that you'll call me or my staff at our Capitol office for any assistance we can offer. It's an important part of our responsibility: keeping people informed.

The bills we have introduced this year are only part of the story. Addressing the varied concerns of the 6th District keeps us all busy this time of year, as we map out our plans for the session ahead.

Aloha,

*J. Kalani English*







Students from Punana Leo O Kawaiha'ō, a Hawaiian language immersion pre-school, got a chance to speak (and sing) with the Senator, who is a fluent Hawaiian speaker.



Sen. English and office manager Ainoa Naniolo hiked down the rugged trail to Kalaupapa for a meeting on January 28.



Alternative energy was the subject of a January 21 joint briefing of the Senate Energy, Environment, and International Affairs and the House Energy and Environmental Protection Committees.



Sen. English brought a special guest to the Senate floor January 21: Sona Nahapetyan, a 16-year-old student at King Kekaulike High School in Haiku, Maui. Sona is from Armenia; she's spending a year in Hawai'i as part of the FLEX (Future Leaders' Exchange) program.



Todd Yamashita and Edie Anderson interviewed Sen. English for the *Moloka'i Dispatch* on Opening Day. Todd is taking over as editor of the *Dispatch* from Edie and her husband Gerry, who have run the paper for the past 15 years. Todd was born and raised on Moloka'i and educated at Moloka'i High School and U.H.-Mānoa.

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