

2017 Bills of Interest

The Twenty-Ninth Legislature

SB655 SD2 Media Access

Allows the news media, under certain conditions, to access areas that are closed pursuant to emergency management powers of the governor and mayor. Limits the liability of the State and counties. Specifies that the State, counties, and emergency management authorities are not responsible for providing logistical support to media accessing emergency areas.

SB658 SD2 Airport Corporation

Creates an Airport Corporation within the Department of Transportation on July 1, 2018 that will oversee all state airport operations, maintenance, and regulations. Currently airports are under the jurisdiction of several departments (DOT Airport Division, HTA, DOH, BLNR, and Department of Budget and Finance). The governing board of the Airport Corporation will consist of 9 members appointed by the governor, with at least one member from each county.

SB665 SD2 Renewable Energy Storage

Expands the current renewable energy technology systems tax credit to include energy storage, and gradually ramps down the tax credit at the same time. Applies to taxable years beginning after 12/31/2017. Sunsets tax credit 12/31/2035.

SB1129 SD2 Aid in Dying

Establishes a medical aid in dying act that requires a regulatory process under which an adult resident of the State with a medically-confirmed terminal disease may obtain a prescription for medication to be self-administered to end the patient's life.

SB 1183 SD2 Rail; GET Surcharge

Returns the 10% "skim" to the City and County of Honolulu for the remaining years until the county surcharge expires in 2027 (10% of revenues from the county surcharge on state tax are withheld to reimburse the State for administrative costs). If the mayor of the City and County of Honolulu does not enact an ordinance to pay for the rail with county funds before December 31, 2017, this bill will not take effect (the skim will not be returned).

SB1290 SD2 Transient Accommodations Tax

Repeals the amount of the transient accommodations tax (TAT) revenues that goes towards the statewide tourism special fund. Increases the allocation to the counties from \$93 million to \$108 million for fiscal years beginning after 6/30/2017.

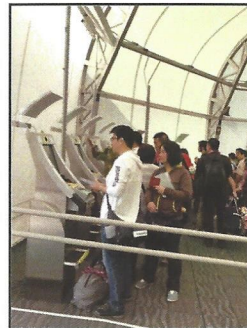
Henk Rogers with Senator Inouye after being awarded a Senate certificate.



Anekona Ouli Kanehoa (Kawaihae Road) Volunteer Fire Department Groundbreaking and Blessing



Waimea Middle School STEM Building Site Visit



Senator Inouye was on hand to welcome the Inaugural Hawaiian Airlines flight from Haneda, Japan to Kona on December 21st. While this is the first of many new international flights planned for Kona, also planned is the building of a new Federal Inspection Service facility to streamline Customs processing for our visitors.