

PUBLIC ACCESS ROOM
A division of the Legislative Reference Bureau

NEWSLETTER

Hawaii State Capitol ♦ 415 South Beretania Street ♦ Room 401 ♦ Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Phone: (808) 587-0478 ♦ Fax: (808) 587-0793 ♦ Website: http://hawaii.gov/lrb/par

CONTACT US!

Public Access Room (PAR)

Phone.....(808) 587-0478
Fax.....(808) 587-0793
TTY.....(808) 587-0749
Email.....par@capitol.hawaii.gov

Neighbor Islands (Toll Free): Use these numbers, and then enter extension 7-0478 followed by the # sign.

Hawai'i.....974-4000 Kaua'i.....274-3141
Maui.....984-2400 Moloka'i/Lana'i...(800) 468-4644
Note: Fax from neighbor islands using these numbers with ext. 7-0793.



2011 Legislative Timetable

April

28th Last day to file Non-Fiscal Bills to deck for Final Reading

29th Last day to file Fiscal Bills to deck for Final Reading

May

5th Adjournment sine die (Session pau!)

Governor's Sign or Veto deadlines*

The deadline varies according to when the bill was enrolled to the governor.

- If bill is enrolled to Governor before last 10 days of session (on or before April 18th):
- 10 days to sign or veto, otherwise it becomes law without signature
• If bill is enrolled to Governor in the last 10 days of session (April 19th or later):
- Intent to veto by June 27th;
- bill becomes law without signature if neither signed nor vetoed by July 12th

* Note: These deadlines change if adjournment sine die changes. For more info on how these dates are arrived at, see Article III, Section 16 of the Hawaii State Constitution.

In this Issue

Final Reading page 1
Session Days2
CapitolTV2
Tidbits.....4
You're Invited! 4 p.m. on 5/4/11....4
Quotes from the file4

Final Reading

We're coming to the end of Session, and bills are being reported out of Conference Committee,* coming to the floor for final votes and heading off to the Governor's Office.

If the conferees successfully reach an agreement on the final form of a measure, that version will need to be filed in final form with the Clerk of each chamber by the Final Decking deadline – April 28th for non-fiscal bills, April 29th for fiscal bills. Any final votes on bills and resolutions need to take place before the end of session on May 5th, in order for the measures to be sent to the Governor.

You can watch from your home or office, thanks to CapitolTV's broadcast of the floor proceedings on Tuesday, May 3rd and Thursday, May 5th. Times and channels are subject to change, so check www.capitoltv.org for updates.

Tuesday, May 3rd, 9:00 a.m.

House Floor Session: Channel 49 on Oahu; tape-delayed to Neighbor Islands
Senate Floor Session: Channel 53 on Oahu; live to Neighbor Islands

Thursday, May 5th, 10:00 and 11:30 a.m.

House Floor Session, 10:00 a.m.: Channel 49 on Oahu; live to Neighbor Islands
Senate Floor Session, 11:30 a.m.: Channel 53 on Oahu; tape-delayed to Neighbor Islands

If you're on a Neighbor Island, and want to find out if your PEG (Public, Education and Government) access channel is going to carry the broadcast, contact your PEG directly: Hawaii Island (Na Leo 'O Hawai'i) Channel 52 (www.naleo.tv), phone (808) 935-8874 (Hilo) or (808) 329-9617 (Kailua-Kona); Kauai (Ho'ike) Channel 53 (www.hoike.org), phone (808) 246-1556; Maui, Molokai and Lanai (Akaku) Channel 54 (www.akaku.org), phone (808) 871-5554. Prefer to watch it online? Watch proceedings stream live at www.olelo.org. Feel free to call PAR with any questions about the Capitol Broadcast Project.

* If the Senate and House have decided on different versions of a bill (or resolution), several Representatives and Senators will be appointed to a conference committee on that individual measure, in hopes of working out a compromise that is agreeable to both chambers.

What's Going On? Session Days

We know the Regular Session is made up of 60 session days, and that on these days the House of Representatives and the Senate convene (formally meet) in their respective chambers. What's going on when they do that?

First of all, it's worth noting that there's an order to these things. The "Order of the Day" serves as an agenda for the members. Both the House and the Senate produce one for each session day, and they are posted on line in the mornings before the meetings. Typically, the House convenes at 12:00 noon and the Senate convenes at 11:30 a.m., though these times are subject to change for third and final reading days, the occasional joint session (when all members meet in the same chamber) and during the conference period.

The public is welcome to enter the street-level gallery to watch the members in chamber. What goes on when members convene in Chamber? The short answer is, "It depends." A better answer is, "Check the Order of the Day to see what's on the agenda."

You can find House and Senate "Orders of the Day" ("O.D.") on the "Bill Status and Documents" page of the Legislature's website (www.capitol.hawaii.gov), or you can pick up a copy at the House Print Shop or Senate Document Center on the Chamber level.

Continued on Page 3

Your eyes at the Capitol...

CapitolTV

Since the beginning of the year, and though mid-April, **Capitol TV** has already provided several hundred hours of live TV coverage of pre-session and in-session committee hearings, House, Senate and joint floor sessions, informational briefings and special events for viewers statewide.

If you work in the Capitol, you've seen video crews shuffle their big, blue self-contained control consoles and camera rigs through Capitol corridors and from room to room. Technicians carefully monitor video and audio signals that are transmitted to Hawai'i's faithful viewers across the state via public access cable channels as well as the internet. Sometimes they cover as many as four hearings a day, and sometimes they work well past midnight when committees meet until all hours to get through the myriad bills requiring lawmakers' review.

Capitol TV is a critical part of the Legislature's commitment to making sure citizens know what's going on at the Capitol; their contracted services are coordinated by PAR staff. Both the Senate and the House now offer archived broadcasts on their web pages. From the Legislature's website, select "Senate" or "House," and then "Webcasts."



"What's Going On?" Continued from Page 2

There are some pretty specific instructions for O.D.'s in the House and Senate Rules. You can use them to find when floor votes will be taken on legislation, which committee reports are up for approval and even which organizations or individuals are being formally introduced to the members via "floor presentations." Here's a look at some of the more common elements...

Header: specifies which chamber, and session

Date and time (appears on Senate version)

Order of Business (the order changes slightly between House and Senate)

Roll Call: Just like in school, the Chief Clerk calls the roll. This establishes for the record who is in the chamber and present for any votes, and also ensures that any needed quorum (required number of members present) is met.

Approval of the Journal: Accepting the account of the previous Session Day's journal – a record of what was said and the actions taken.

Introductions:

Governor's messages may include nominations, vetos, administrative information. **Departmental communications** often convey reports. **Communications from the House or Senate** may include results of votes, information on actions taken or procedural items. There may also be introductions of **guests** in the gallery.

Bills and resolutions may be introduced, or presented for vote or adoption. Non-controversial measures may be placed on a "Consent Calendar" for an expedited voting procedure. Other measures would then be placed on the "Ordinary Calendar."

...

Reports of standing committees, conference committees and joint committees may convey legislation for action.

...

Unfinished business refers to business that the Chamber was engaged with when it adjourned previously.

Miscellaneous business may be presented by the Speaker of the House or President of the Senate.

Announcements may include administrative business as well as personal statements.

THE SENATE
OF THE
TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE
STATE OF HAWAII
REGULAR SESSION OF 2011

ELEVENTH DAY

FEBRUARY 4, 2011-FRIDAY-11:30 O'CLOCK A.M.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Roll Call

Approval of the Journal

1. Messages from the Governor: None
2. Departmental Communications: None
3. House Communications: None
4. Senate Communications: None
5. Introduction of Measures: Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 27

<u>S.C.R. NO.</u>	<u>TITLE</u>	<u>REFERRAL</u>
27	"AWARDING THE HAWAII MEDAL OF HONOR TO UNITED STATES MILITARY SERVICE MEMBERS WITH HAWAII	ADOPT

7. Final Reading
H.B. No. 122, H.D. 1, S.D. 2
RELATING TO RENEWABLE ENERGY. (Renewable Energy; Subdivision Requirements; Exemption)
<u>PASS FINAL READING</u>

Reports of Standing Committees	
<u>INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS</u>	
Stand. Comm. Rep. No. 1740	H.R. No. 175, H.D. 1
	RECOGNIZING THE SEVERITY OF THE CRISIS BEING EXPERIENCED BY THE PEOPLE OF JAPAN WITH THE RECENT EVENTS OF AN EARTHQUAKE AND TSUNAMI AND SUPPORTING THE EFFORTS OF ORGANIZATIONS WITHIN HAWAII TO ASSIST THE PEOPLE OF JAPAN.
	<u>AS AMENDED, FOR ADOPTION</u>

Who's sitting where?

Maps of the chamber seating chart are available online on the "[Information Sheets](#)" page of the Public Access Room (PAR) website: hawaii.gov/lrb/par.



Tidbits

Reapportionment: Keeping up with the Process

<http://hawaii.gov/elections>

- The Reapportionment Commission has begun to meet, and the Office of Elections website is the place to go for more information. Bookmark it now, so you'll be ready when you have some time to pore over those maps!
 - Keep your eyes open for public hearings if you'd like to comment on the Commission's proposals.
- Questions? Feel free to call the Office of Elections at 453-8683, or toll free from the neighbor islands at 800/442-8683. You can also call PAR, and we'll be happy to provide whatever information we can.

The Interim

While May 5th marks the end of the 2011 Regular Session, there's plenty to do before next January. Legislators and their staff are available year-round to meet with constituents, discuss issues and draft legislation for next year's session, which begins on January 18th, 2012!

Want to learn more? Contact PAR staff for a one-on-one or group tutorial – we'll help you understand the legislative process and develop techniques to make sure your voice is heard most effectively.



Adjournment Sine Die PARTY at PAR

Come join us the day before
Session ends!

Wednesday, May 4th
4:00 p.m.
Room 401
Potluck

Quotes from the File . . .

"Hope is necessary in every condition."

- Samuel Johnson

"Life is full of obstacle illusions."

- Grant Frazier

"Don't let today's disappointments cast a shadow on tomorrow's dreams."

- Unknown