April 2014

PUBLIC ACCESS ROOM

A division of the Legislative Reference Bureau

NEWSLETTER

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Session's Just About Pau...

What now?

As the 2014 Regular Session comes to a close, you may feel an overwhelming urge to *stop* thinking about legislation. But the work goes on!

- Don't stop just before the finish line! You may want to contact the Governor to urge him to sign or veto a bill. Visit the "Contact Us" page of the Governor's Office website for information: http://governor.hawaii.gov/frequently-requested-numbers/. (As always, it helps when you identify the bill by number call or email PAR if you need assistance determining it.)
- If a bill has been enrolled to the Governor in the last 10 days of session, it will become law if he neither signs nor vetoes it by July 8th. Note: To find out when an enacted measure takes effect, look to its last section.

2014 Legislative Timetable

May

1st Adjournment *sine die* (Session pau!)

Governor's Deadlines

June

23rd Notice of intent to veto deadline (35th day after adjournment *sine die*)

July

8th Veto deadline (45th day after adjournment *sine die*)

Next Regular Session

January 2015

21st Opening Day of the Twenty-Eighth Legislature

For additional information about these deadlines, see our <u>March newsletter</u> (http://lrbhawaii.org/par/pub/nl0314.pdf).

- Keep an eye out for activity at the Capitol. Special
 Sessions may be convened for a variety of purposes
 by either the Legislature or the Governor (see <u>Article</u>
 <u>III, Section 10</u> of the State Constitution for additional
 information).
- If your bill or resolution didn't pass the Legislature this year, get ready for next year! Now is the time to debrief -- what worked for you this year? What didn't? Who showed up to testify? Is there an opportunity to strategize with new allies?

(continued on page 2)

In this Issue: What now?

*	What now? pag	ge 1
±	2014 Legislative Timetable	1
*	Register to Vote, Work the Elections	2
*	PAR hours	2
*	Quotes from the File	2

("What now?" continued from page 1)

• Remember, legislators can be reached over the interim (the time between Regular Sessions). In fact, the interim's an <u>ideal</u> time to sit down with a legislator or staff member to discuss your issue, plan the next steps and begin to develop legislation for the 2015 Session.

It may be hard to believe now, but the third Wednesday in January (1/21/2015) will be here before you know it!



Register to Vote ~

Elections are a Crucial and Important Part of the Legislative Process!

Primary Registration Deadline: July 10, 2014 General Registration Deadline: October 6, 2014

Encourage members of your community to register to vote. It's the first step to getting them to the voting booth so that they can have a say in who represents them at the State Capitol.

Information and instructions, as well as a downloadable registration form, are available on the "Voter Registration and Permanent Absentee" page (http://hawaii.gov/elections/voters/registration.htm) of the Office of Elections website.

Work on Election Days! Participate, Learn and Earn

The State Office of Elections is recruiting <u>Precinct Officials</u>, <u>Delivery & Collection Team Officials</u>, and <u>Election Information Services operators</u> to work the elections:

Primary Election (Saturday, August 9, 2014) and/or the General Election (Tuesday, November 4, 2014).

In a single day, you can provide a vital service to your community while receiving a stipend and learning about elections. Spread the word to friends and family — it can be a great experience!

For more information, visit the Office of Elections website at hawaii.gov/elections – you'll find information about the positions and a sign-up form. You can also call them at 453-VOTE (453-8683) or toll-free 1-800-422-VOTE (1-800-422-8683). Their email address is elections@hawaii.gov.

PAR! Remember, the Public Access Room (PAR) is here to assist you -- year round.



Hours:

After May 1st, we'll be open Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., until the 2015 Regular Session starts up on Wednesday, January 21, 2015.

Give us a call (587-0478) or email (par@capitol.hawaii.gov) if you've got questions, or want to know more.

Quotes from the File . . .

"If you want to walk fast, walk alone; but if you want to walk far, walk together."