

JULY 26, 2014

# PRIMARY ELECTION *Supplement*



## Many Critical Issues Facing Hawaii Voters and Candidates This Election Year

**A**ttention Hawaii voters: we are about two weeks away from the August 9th Primary Election. At this point, most people are perhaps more concerned with enjoying the final days of summer or getting ready for the start of a new school year, rather than who will represent them at the State Capitol or City Hall in the next few years.

To help our readers to begin thinking about the Primary and General elections, the Chronicle has compiled an extensive guide on the candidates, their backgrounds and key issues facing our city, state and nation.

Thank you for picking up this supplement and remember to get out and vote on August 9th!

► COVER STORY, S4

### WHAT'S INSIDE

■ Now is the Time to be Informed—a Simple Guide to Smarter Voting	S2
■ Why Incumbents Keep Getting Re-Elected	S2
■ The 2014 Elections—End of an Era and Major Issues	S4
■ Getting to Know Our Filipino Candidates	S6
■ Make Your Vote Count Especially in U.S. Rep., 1st District Race	S8
■ An Essential Guide For Hawaii's Voters	S14
■ Primary Election Pulse	S15

## EDITORIAL

PRIMARY ELECTION 2014

# Now Is The Time To Be Informed; Follow This Simple Guide To Smarter Voting

**N**ow that the election filing deadline for the Primary Election has passed, it should mark the beginning for voters to familiarize themselves with the respective candidates, their career experience, and position on important issues. Another consideration is thoroughly understanding the platform of each political party, their historical effectiveness and ineffectiveness to address voters particular concerns.

Elections have become so high-tech and super-savvy with campaign experts highly versed on the art of public manipulation, which makes it even more imperative that the public become more educated, beginning now, not one-week prior to the election.

What may come helpful is this list of things to watch out for prior to the Aug. 9 primary election.

**\*FOLLOW POLITICAL ENDORSEMENTS. FOLLOW THE MONEY TRAIL.** The single-most important detail to look for aside from a candidate's profile is to find out who or which organizations are supporting a candidate.

If you happen to be a voter disenchanted with the status quo and current political system, it would be counter-productive to vote for a candidate backed by the same unions and

private sector elites.

If you belong to a particular union or private industry that is endorsing a particular candidate, that doesn't necessarily mean that your specific interest will best be represented by the candidate your organization endorses. One question to ask yourself: are you satisfied with the direction your union or private industry leaders? If you are not, it's more than ok to vote against who your organization endorses. If you are, it is probably wise to follow your leaders' recommendations.

**\*DON'T WRITE OFF LESSER KNOWN CANDIDATES.** Just because a candidate is not well-known, or hasn't build up a padded political resume, you should still consider his or her merits. This is particularly true for smaller, district races. A first-time candidate with ideas very similar views to your own should be considered. Voting based on how viable a candidate undermines the democratic process. You should vote for the most deserving candidate who shares your ideas on the way government should be run, independent of that candidate's chances of winning or losing.

If we were to vote simply based on who we think has the best chances, more than likely we would be voting for the candidate supported by big money, the candidate who can have the



most airtime and print ads.

**\*POLLS ARE JUST POLLS. DON'T BE SWAYED BY THEM.** Be careful of polls paid for by political parties and campaigns. Of course, these will always have an internal bias. Rely on polls that have a proven track record. Polls that are conducted by independent firms are more reliable. Find out the methodology of the poll. If it isn't disclosed, that poll should not be trusted. Remember that polls are also snapshots of public opinion at a particular point in time. Polls change along the course of an election season, so the dates of when each poll is conducted, matters. It is also important to find out if the poll sampling is based on registered voters, which is far more accurate than just calls or personal interviews of random people. Always consider that there is a margin of error.

But ultimately, as stated above, voters should pick the candidate who best fits your own values of how government

should be run. So who is leading a poll shouldn't matter.

**\*BE AWARE OF SLICK ADS, SMEAR TACTICS AND LAST-MINUTE DISINFORMATION.** We are all too aware of how easy it is to spread false claims in today's digital era. There have been campaigns in the past devastated by last-minute, irrelevant, personal attacks done over the internet. The voting public has also witnesses false claims put forth by PACS (political action committees) that smear candidates and stretch half-truths. These tactics have worked in the past so there is no indication that they will not be used again.

To help clear the confusion, voters ought to note who is putting out an ad, a candidate or a PAC supporting a candidate. A candidate usually is more accountable over the type of information disclosed to the public; PACS, unfortunately, often do not run election endorsements with a high level of integrity. Remember that PACS are self-serving entities, and do not necessarily reflect your best interest.

**\*STICK TO THE ISSUES.** When all is said and done, after the twists and turns of a lengthy campaign season, a voter can be content when he or she voted on a candidate based on the issues. While experience and character are also good considerations for voting for a candidate, ultimately we

are voting for how a candidate will vote on the important issues of our time. Know what the issues are, how important they are to you personally, and how would your candidate vote on them. Often times, a good indicator is knowing which party the candidate is running under. For Hawaii, this might be less revealing because there are different shades of Democrats: liberal, moderate, and independent. Knowing the nuances is less decipherable.

If you are uncertain, feel free to contact the candidate personally. Talk to them during a fundraiser, neighborhood-sponsored forum, house visit, or call. The mainstream media often publish question-and-answer guides that state where candidates stand on select issues. Candidates should be more than willing to have an open-door policy to educate their potential constituents.

For the sake of better governance, our communities, our families and ourselves, we should make a serious effort to make smart, wise choices this election, and going forward, in any election hereafter.

Remember that candidates are public servants, your representative. If they run their campaign in a way unsuitable to your values, what makes you think that they'd do better in running your government when elected.

## OPINION

PRIMARY ELECTION 2014

## Why Incumbents Keep Getting Re-Elected

By Lee H. Hamilton

**I**t's no news that Congress is unpopular. In fact, at times it seems like the only real novelty on Capitol Hill would be a jump in its approval rating. In June, a Gallup poll found members' standing with the American people at a historic low for a midterm-election year. Which

might have been notable except, as The Washington Post pointed out, that "Congress's approval rating has reached historic lows at least 12...times since 2010."

Here's the interesting thing: nearly three-quarters of Americans want to throw out most members of Congress, including their own representative, yet the vast majority of incumbents will be returning to Capitol Hill in January. In



other words, Americans scorn Congress but keep re-electing its members. How could this be?

The first thing to remember is that members of Congress didn't get there by being lousy politicians. They know as well as you and I that Congress is unpopular, and they're masters at separating themselves from it and running against it — appearing to be outsiders trying to get in, rather than insiders who produce the Congress they pretend to disdain. They're also adept at talking up their own

bipartisanship — which is what most general-election voters want — when, in fact, they almost always vote with their own party's leadership, especially on the obscure procedural votes that can decide an issue before the actual up-or-down vote is taken.

Just as important, incumbents enjoy an overwhelming advantage in elections: a large staff, both in Washington and

(continued on page S15)



Senator Brian  
**SCHATZ**  
HAWAII<sup>®</sup>

Vote on  
August 9th!

**Senator Schatz Believes in Families**

"Raising young children while also helping care for his elderly in-laws who live with him and his wife Linda, Senator Schatz experienced and truly understands the challenges many Filipino families face - three generations under one roof. Taking care of family, both our children and our parents is of utmost priority for Filipinos."

*"Ang kanyang pag-papalaki sa kanyang mga anak habang tumutulong sa pag-aalaga sa kanyang mga matatandang manulang na nakatira sa kanya at kanyang asawang si Linda, si Senador Schatz ay nakaranas at tunay na nauunawaan ang mga hamon ng buhay sa nakakaraming pamilyang Pilipino - tatlong henerasyon sa ilalim ng isang bubong. Ang pag-aalaga ng pamilya kasama na ang mga anak at magulang ang sukdulang priyoridad ng mga Pilipino."*

– Roland Casamina  
Founder and CEO, House of Finance; Co- Chair, Schatz for Senate



**Senator Schatz Supports the Filipino Community**

"Senator Schatz fights for important issues impacting the Filipino Community - ensuring immigration reform will allow families in Hawaii and the Philippines to reunite with one another; fighting for fairness for our Fil-Am Veterans; and responding to the needs of our loved ones in time of need by bringing aid and resources during the Super Typhoon Haiyan/ Yolanda disaster."

*"Ipinaglalaman ni Senador Schatz ang mga mahalagang isyung nakakaapekto sa komunidad ng Pilipino - pagtiyak sa reporma ng imigrasyon para mapahintulutan ang mga miyembro ng pamilya dito sa Hawaii at Pilipinas na magsama-samang muli; pinaglalaman ang pantay na pagtrato sa mga beterano; tumugon siya sa mga pangangailangan ng ating mga mahal sa buhay sa oras ng pangangailangan sa kanyang pangunguna sa Senado ng Estados Unidos ng Amerika para magpadala ng tulong sa mga nasalanta ng matinding bagyong Haiyan/Yolanda."*

– Paul Alimbuyao  
President, Filipino Chamber of Commerce

**Senator Schatz Protects Social Security**

"I support Senator Schatz because protecting Social Security is his top priority, promising not to cut but to expand thus giving me the comfort level that I will be able to depend on Social Security."

*"Sinusuportahan ko si Senador Schatz dahil ang pangunahing priyoridad niya ay ang pagprotekta sa Social Security, pinangako niya na hindi babawasan ngunit para palawakin ang mga benepisyo kaya nagbibigay sa akin ang antas ng kaginhawahan na ako ay makakapag- depende sa Social Security."*

– Raketita Fiesta, Waipahu, Hawaii  
Retired Sorter, Del Monte Fresh Produce  
Fmr. Member, ILWU Local 142



Paid for by Schatz for Senate

# The 2014 Elections —End of an Era and Major Issues

By Belinda A. Aquino, Ph.D.

**T**he upcoming Primary Election on August 9 and the General Election on November 4 will mark a new cycle in Hawaii that could very well define future political trends, perhaps for the next 50 years.

For the first time in Hawaii's political landscape since statehood in 1959, the towering presence of the late U.S. Sen. Daniel K. Inouye, a longtime icon of Hawaii, will not be around, at least physically.

But his presence will surely be felt and may even be a critical factor in some of the electoral contests that will play out in the coming elections, such as the gubernatorial race between incumbent Gov. Neil Abercrombie and Sen. David Ige, and the U.S. Senate race between U.S. Sen. Brian Schatz, appointed by Abercrombie to succeed the late Sen. Inouye, and U.S. Rep. Colleen Hanabusa, who was named by the late senator who died in December 2012 as his successor.

At the same time, there are major issues in the upcoming elections that involve certain elected officials sworn to uphold the public interest but who are reported to be in violation of the public trust through conflict of interest, misusing campaign spending funds, and engaging in projects that are operated by special interests—actions that should be viewed with concern by an informed electorate.

## A Look Back

The "Inouye Era" began during a period of transition nostalgically described as the "Revolution of 1954" in the modern history of Hawaii following the end of World War II. It was a moment of truth for the postwar generation in the islands marked by a fading plantation era culture and confronting a world yet unknown.

That new generation would achieve a historic milestone

through two vital mechanisms—the quest for higher education, which their forebearers had been denied, and the power of the ballot.

Hawaii was then a territory under U.S. colonial rule and the Legislature provided a forum in which this new generation could work out their future possibilities after having acquired the higher education and training necessary for public service.

Inouye, a decorated hero of World War II, emerged as the *primus inter pares* (first among equals) leader of the rising generation of Americans of Japanese Ancestry (AJA). The "Young Turks" as they came to be known, were at the forefront of the Democratic Party's success in wresting control of island politics from the ruling Republican Party and the Big Five corporations.

It was also during this period of transition that the first group of young and educated Americans of Filipino Ancestry (AFA) emerged, such as Benjamin Menor, Alfred Laureta, Peter Aduja and others who had acquired their college degrees and became a part of the 1954 Revolution. A strong Filipino labor movement had also developed during the plantation period, which would play a crucial role in the Filipino "coming of age" in Hawaii.

The ensuing cultural, ethnic, economic, social and political changes included greatly accelerated in-migration from Asia and the Pacific region as Filipinos, Koreans, Chinese, Vietnamese, Laotians, Cambodians, Southeast Asians and Pacific Islanders arrived in droves to the "melting pot," now becoming "color blind."



Inouye was only 38 when elected as U.S. senator but already had the highest credentials as a war hero, state legislator, U.S. representative, city and county prosecutor, community leader and many more. He could now move forward with even greater energy and vitality.

Inouye went on to become an "institution," symbolically and otherwise. As the first U.S. senator of Asian ancestry, he occupied positions like chair of the powerful Ways and Means committee, a select member of the Senate's Watergate Committee, and third in the line of presidential succession, which he would hold until his death in 2012.

As the godfather of modern Hawaii, it became his obsession to always "bring home the bacon," as the saying goes. He developed wide and strong networks and relationships in Congress and federal sectors with always one goal in mind—to channel whatever resources he could find to his native Hawaii, be it for education, health, social services, veterans, seniors, agriculture, communications, security—you name it.

With his formidable stature, Inouye remained in control of much of what was happening in Hawaii, including its politics. It was not only longevity and seniority that accounted for his remarkable political survival. Nor was he an accident of history. It was his personal and social skills, work

ethic and tenacity, and institutional ability to forge effective and lasting networks in work situations that kept him going for so long.

With Inouye's passing, how long will this influence hold and last?

## The Race for U.S. Senate

The hotly-contested race for the U.S. Senate between Sen. Brian Schatz and Rep. Hanabusa is eliciting the most public attention largely because of Inouye's "dying wish" that he reportedly expressed to Abercrombie, indicating his preference for Hanabusa to succeed him. This has been widely publicized in the media and it might not be necessary to flesh it out in great detail.

The short of it is that the governor instead appointed then Lt. Gov. Schatz to fill the remainder of Inouye's term. The governor is constitutionally empowered to nominate a replacement to a vacancy of this nature. It is well-known that the governor and late senator "had a long and not always agreeable history," according to one source. The senator sometimes supported some of the governor's opponents and was obviously not happy that Abercrombie gave up his 20-year seniority in Congress to run for governor of Hawaii.

The governor further gave an interview to the Los Angeles Times saying whether or not the letter from Inouye "could be construed as Sen. Inouye's dying wish—let me put

it this way—it's problematic." This, in turn, upset Inouye's widow, Irene, to whom the governor later apologized, saying he meant no disrespect.

Further remarks by the governor, such as his appointing Schatz instead of Hanabusa because "Brian is 41 and Colleen is not" triggered reactions of "ageism" from the latter's supporters. And one columnist wrote that if there was a politician "who appreciated every nuance of the congressional seniority system, it was Inouye, so if the call of succession was only to see Hawaii represented by someone young, Inouye would have said it. But he didn't."

As to how much the Inouye factor will impact this most interesting race is difficult to predict empirically. Schatz has argued that age is not a factor in the race. Hanabusa relies on the strong grassroots support she has gotten over the years and her leadership experience as a legislator.

The gubernatorial race is also interesting in terms of the Inouye dimension. Billed as a battle between David and Goliath because of Ige's raising only \$350,000 compared to Abercrombie's \$4.5 million, it's intriguing that the relatively unknown Ige is leading the formidable governor by 11 points in the latest Civil Beat poll. Could Inouye's continuing power over Hawaii politics extend to this current race for governor as well?

## Issues of Public Interest For the Upcoming Primary

In recent months, there has been a flurry of concern and alarm over several major issues involving elected officials who are supposed to be the guardians of the public trust and upholders of the public interest and principles of good governance. These include the role of big money from private corporations in politics as exemplified by the Kakaako overkill development, misuse

(continued on page S5)

COVER STORY

PRIMARY ELECTION 2014

DEFINING... (from page S4)

of campaign funds and conflict of interest. These concepts are not independent of each other but are often interrelated

In the first place, how does one define "public interest?" It's a basic concept in political science but one that is difficult to define categorically. We often talk about it as though it were something that we all know about, but in fact it is a very relative or elusive concept. What "public" or "publics" are we talking about and whose interests are these?

Democratic elections are supposed to express the will of the people, or what is in the best interest of the people, but this is a myth given that we live in a society where elections are very limited, especially given the low voting turnouts that Hawaii is noted for nationwide. The critical gauge for whether the people's will is being upheld or frustrated is Power with a capital "P" to underscore the centrality of that concept in modern-day politics. And the power possessed by special interest groups is really at the heart of the issue of everyday politics in American life.

Carmille Lim, executive director of Common Cause Hawaii, puts it so well in a recent commentary on "government by the people, not by special interests." She says in part:

"Hawaii's signature low participation rates are largely the result of public cynicism about the ethics of elected representatives, the influence of money on political decision-making, and a lack of transparency around the policy decisions our lawmakers make.... Too many decisions are made out of the public eye; bills are sometimes gutted; and those who cannot come to the Legislature in person have no way to participate remotely in hearings."

She ends her essay by calling on people to exert a different kind of power through voting and public advocacy for increased public transparency and accountability, and to counteract the large sums of special interest money "tainting our democracy."



**Campaign Spending and Conflict of Interest**

These are perennial issues not only at election time but during the day-to-day conduct of public officials. This space is too limited to detail all the recent examples that are common knowledge and don't need repeating, but Lim has listed some of the more egregious ones, among which are: 1) legislators trying to pass a bill to allow them to accept expensive gifts; 2) legislators passing a bill to exempt themselves from part of the State Ethics Commission Code; 3) killing a nepotism bill that would have prevented state employees from hiring family members; and 4) refusing to hear most bills aimed at improving government ethics. And legislators are supposed to be the exemplars of public service!

Most of the time, alleged violators of campaign spending and conflict of interest laws argue that they are not doing something against the law, or what they have been doing are community-related. Ethical considerations take a backseat or perpetrators get only a slap on the wrist.

Some of the violations reported on a state senator's family's leased lands, for example, have been going on for years but were unearthed recently. And government itself is often complicit, willingly or unwillingly, in these willful violations of the law or rules and regulations. The system itself is negligent at times to police its own ranks or look the other way when colleagues are engaging in wrongdoing. The literature on public administration is replete with examples, some very blatant ones, of "lawmakers

being the biggest lawbreakers themselves." Just consider the number of public officials who have been punished or given jail terms for one infraction or the other.

Worse, no less than the U.S. Supreme Court itself has escalated the extent of political corruption by dramatically increasing the power of corporations and wealthy individuals to buy or influence elections with unlimited contributions. Some high profile candidates running in the coming elections have war-chests bursting with contributions from contractors, developers and big corporations representing the construction and real estate industries, such as the ones in Kakaako and the mainland. It's really just obscene, to say the least.

**Conclusion**

Despite this egregious display of violations of the public trust, large or small, Lim is hopeful that "in the end, the public still has the ultimate power and can hold politicians accountable at the polls—if they vote." By 2016, she notes, eligible voters will benefit from online registration, and in 2018, election-day voter registration will hopefully be possible. She thinks that upgrading the current voting systems which hamper high participation rates "will empower citizens who learn about candidates late in the election cycle the opportunity to vote."

Before this materializes, however, much needs to be done in the area of voter education on the part of community leaders and organizations interested in citizenship and civic causes. For the Filipino community, we have long advocated for more interest in causes such as this to educate eligible voters who remain away from the polls for much of their lives. The latest Civil Beat survey on voting turnouts among ethnic groups shows only a 9 percent rate of voting turnout in the Filipino community. This is far below the actual size of the Filipino-American community in Hawaii, now the second largest group in the state's population. People keep saying we are now the biggest ethnic group in Hawaii, but what do Filipinos have to show for it?

There is one thing to remember about the nature of power. There is bad power, which we often see as ruining the fabric of government and ultimately society itself. That's the kind that Lord Acton says corrupts absolutely. But there are also responsible uses of power and that can only come about with an educated and enlightened citizenry.

*DR. AQUINO is Professor Emeritus at the University of Hawaii-Manoa where she was professor of Political Science and Asian Studies and the founding Director of the Center for Philippine Studies before retiring.*

## I Humbly Ask Your Vote In the Aug. 9 Primary Election

*I take your needs and concerns very seriously. Some say I'm pretty 'passionate' but you deserve results and I've worked hard with others to bring home \$266+ million to improve education and healthcare, protect the environment, reduce the cost of energy and food, and strengthen our economy.*

*— Mahalo and Aloha*



**Bobo Lapenia**  
Retired Director, ILWU

**"I am Bobo Lapenia. I support Malama Solomon for State Senator. I trust Malama. There is no one who works harder or does more for us and our families. We can count on her, even on tough issues."**



Kohala	\$26 Million
Waimea	\$35 Million
Honoka'a	\$33.5 Million
Waikoloa, Puako, & Kawaihae	\$16 Million
Laupahoehoe & Pa'auilo	\$3 Million
Kona	\$62 Million
Hilo	\$90.7 Million



**Hawai'i's Future is Now!**

**Please Re-Elect**



Hilo • Hamakua • Kohala • Waimea • Waikoloa • Kona

Paid for by Friends of Malama Solomon  
P.O. Box 370, Kamuela, HI 96743  
Treasurer: Hulali Covington 808-640-9181

# GETTING TO KNOW OUR FILIPINO CANDIDATES

By HFC Staff



The 2014 election season is in full swing and Filipinos are in the mix for several key races. One of the bigger elections is for the U.S. House of Representatives, where Will Espero Donna Mercado Kim and Joey Manahan are among candidates hoping to win the seat formerly held by Colleen Hanabusa, who resigned to challenge Brian Schatz for the U.S. Senate.

This year's list of Filipino candidates includes several familiar faces, including incumbents Henry Aquino, Della Belatti Au, Rida Cabanilla, Romy Cachola, Lorraine Rodero Inouye and Gill Coloma Keith-Agaran. Former state representatives Michael Magaoay and Alex Sonson are looking to re-enter the political arena via the State House, while Baybee Hufana-Ablan is running for the City Council.

To further educate our readers on those running for office in 2014, the Chronicle went the extra mile and briefly interviewed as many Filipino candidates as possible. However, at press time, not all responded to the Chronicle's questionnaire. For those candidates who did, we have provided a brief summary of their backgrounds and priorities. Their responses were edited for space and clarity.

## HENRY AQUINO

**Seat Running For: State House District 38**

**Party Affiliation: Democrat**



**Why I am Running:** To improve the quality of life for our residents and address important issues affecting us today and in the future. For the past six years, I worked on many legislative measures that

have become laws while ensuring that Waipahu gets its fair share of funding for needed projects and services. Effective, community-minded representation and trusted leadership are qualities I have to offer. I would be deeply humbled for another opportunity to serve Waipahu and our great state of Hawaii.

**Background:** Represented Waipahu since 2008 and actively served with many community organizations, including the Waipahu Community Association, Catholic Charities Hawaii, Waipahu Community Foundation, Leeward Oahu Lions Club, Santanians Association of Hawaii and St. Joseph Church.

**Priorities:** Crime and public safety have always been main concerns in the district. In addition, I am looking at ways to strengthen Hawaii's economy by creating and maintaining job opportunities which are vital for the future of residents and families. Advocating for continued funding to improve our schools and roads, supporting our top industries while supporting economic diversity, assisting local businesses, supporting our seniors and caregivers and ensuring needed state services and programs are things I will continue to work on if re-elected.

## BELLA AU BELATTI

**Seat Running For: State House District 24**

**Party Affiliation: Democrat**



**Why I am Running:** To be a strong, effective voice for residents and families in my District and to provide proven, independent and reasoned leadership to the challenges facing our communities and State.

**Background:** Currently works as an attorney and legislator. Represented her urban Honolulu community for the past six years in the State House. Was a former high school social studies teacher at Maryknoll School. Over the last six years, helped to pass legislation to improve public schools, advance the state's

efforts to achieve energy self-sufficiency, ensure access to affordable health care, protect the state's natural resources, and restore confidence in government by supporting good government reforms.

**Priorities:** I hope to continue my work as the State and county seek ways to strengthen and grow our economy, tackle public infrastructure challenges and address the unfunded liabilities of the State's pension and health care plans.

## RIDA CABANILLA

**Seat Running For: State House District 41**

**Party Affiliation: Democrat**



**Why I am Running:** I would like to stay on in office to pass legislation to protect services for the elderly and disabled, expand renewable energy, protect our agricultural lands and for the expansion of the tourism industry.

**Background:** Worked as an RN over 20 yrs and retired as a U.S. Army lieutenant colonel after 26 years of service. Is currently the House Majority Floor Leader with 10 years of seniority and is also a business owner. Voted as one of the 100 Most Outstanding Filipinas in the World and as one of the 100 most Influential Filipinas in the U.S. Also received the Legislator of the Year award.

## ROMY CACHOLA

**Seat Running For:**

**State House District 30**

**Party Affiliation: Democrat**



**Why I am Running:** To save taxpayers' money and represent the interests of those who live in my community and the state as a whole.

**Background:** Born in Vigan City, Ilocos Sur and received a Bachelor of Law (Juris Doctor) from M.L. Quezon University. Came to Hawaii in 1971 and resided in Salt Lake and Kalihi. Has over 29 years of experience as an elected official—17 years as a State representative and 12 years as a City councilmember.

**Priorities:** I hope to benefit the people of Hawaii by finding ways to save taxpayers' money without reducing essential government services to the people who need it most. This past legislative session, I did the following: 1) advocated for new ways to manage unfunded liabilities of State and County employees,

retirees and their dependents without raising taxes, 2) introduced legislation to assist care home operators, 3) advocated for the relocation of OCCC and the redevelopment of the land into something more beneficial to the community, 4) provided greater efficiency and transparency measures for the tourism industry via new rules for the Hawaii Tourism Authority, 5) advocated for Capital Improvement Projects within schools and other locations in the district that I represent, and 6) advocated for measures to address homelessness. I hope to continue in my mission to improve my district and improve the State of Hawaii.

## MARISSA CAPELOUTO

**Seat Running For:**

**U.S. House Representatives, District 2**

**Party Affiliation: Republican**



**Why I am Running:** I believe there is a better way forward for our state, a better way to run our government and a better future for Hawaii's families. I want Hawaii's economic, job and income growth

to keep pace with successful state economies by pursuing policies that foster prosperity and maximize self-reliance.

**Background:** Is a small business owner with extensive knowledge in service transportation business and international domestic trade and commerce. Also a member of the Kapolei Neighborhood Board, Kapolei Middle School Parents Community group and Kapolei High School Project Grad 2014. Also a member of the Kapolei, Waikiki and Wahiawa Rotary Clubs and sponsored the University of Hawaii Regional Robotics Competition.

**Priorities:** Education—I believe in the rights of parents to a quality education for their children and support parental choice to create competition among schools. Taxes—I believe in growth-oriented tax policies which would gradually eliminate punitive income taxes and move our tax system toward that originally established by our Founding Fathers. Free Enterprise—I believe in a free enterprise system as the best hope for men and women to fulfill their economic hopes and dreams. Decentralized government—I believe in the supremacy of the power of individual citizens over the powers they choose to delegate to the state, a principle enshrined in the Tenth Amendment. Family—I believe that the traditional American fam-

(continued on page S7)

FEATURE

PRIMARY ELECTION 2014

FILIPINOS... (from page S6)

ily, consisting of persons related by blood or adoption through the marriage of one man and one woman, is the cornerstone of our society, and the government is duty bound to protect the integrity of the family unit through legislation and tax policies. Right to bear arms—I believe in the right of citizens to keep and bear arms as provided by the Second Amendment.

**ROGER CLEMENTE**

**Seat Running For:**  
**State Senate District 17**  
**Party Affiliation: Democrat**



**Why I am Running:** Problems in our community are being neglected and not enough is being done to address them. We spend too much time in traffic instead of quality time with our family and loved ones. Our seniors need more services than what is currently available. They deserve better. The school system must be enhanced so the children can be better prepared for the future. We need to give teachers and schools the tools to better educate the children. We need new avenues to our economy and supplement tourism. For everyone's health, we have to be transparent in GMO/pesticide labeling and use. We all must feel safer in our own neighborhoods. I have the solutions to these problems.

**Background:** Family migrated to Hawaii from the Philippines. Attended Kalihi-Kai Elementary, Kalakaua Intermediate and Farrington High School. Graduated from Kapiolani Community College and Hawaii Pacific University. Work experience spans from management in private industry and government. Worked in the hotel industry for over 35 years and as a hotel management instructor. Founded the World Council of Kickboxing.

**Priorities:** I will work for solutions for a better quality of life.

**LUELLA TOLEDO COSTALES**

**Seat Running For:**  
**State House District 36**  
**Party Affiliation: Democrat**



**Why I am Running:** To ensure our community's continued

growth. I bring a new and fresh perspective on how we can improve our community. I know first-hand the challenges that families face today. Raising my

family and living in the district for over 20 years, I have worked on many important issues such as safety, schools, roads and traffic. We have more important issues that we will be facing, such as maintaining and improving our schools, fixing the morning rush hour traffic, increasing services for our senior citizens and making our community safer for everyone. I am the candidate who can provide new and innovative ideas on how best to fix these problems.

**Background:** Worked in the non-profit sector for nearly 30 years and established collaborative partnerships with community organizations, corporate entities, university leadership and community volunteers. Secured the first title sponsorship for an internationally recognized non-profit arts organization, establishing the Louis Vuitton Hawaii International Film Festival and later served as one of the first executive directors of the FilCom Center in Waipahu. Also served on the board of directors for several non-profits and as a member of the Hawaii State Economic Development Task Force and the Hawaii Biofuels Foundation. Single mother with three chil-

dren who attended public schools in Mililani and graduated from UH-Manoa. Understands the challenges associated with pursuing higher education.

**Priorities:** Bringing fresh ideas and effective leadership for my neighbors, our families, and the state of Hawaii.

**TY J.K. CULLEN**

**Seat Running For: State House District 39**  
**Party Affiliation: Democrat**



**Why I am Running:** I love my community and will continue to work hard to preserve this special place that is filled with great people and history, so that future generations can excel.

**Background:** Born in Hawaii and raised in Waipahu. Ethnic background is Hawaiian, Irish, Filipino and Japanese. Attended St. Joseph school in Waipahu, Damien Memorial and UH-Manoa. Received degrees in political science and sociology, and

(continued on page S11)

Welcome

EYE CENTER  
OF HAWAII

Camara Eye Clinic

Now serving the community of Waipahu

Camara Eye Clinic is happy to announce the opening of our new clinic in Waipahu. We are now in two locations: Honolulu and in the Pro Com Plaza in Waipahu.

**Our goal is to improve, preserve and protect your vision.**

*Come by and visit us!*



Dr. David Mai MD | Dr. Sharon Takayesu OD | Dr. Michael Bennett MD & Camara Eye Clinic Staff

Maraming salamat po. Dios ti agnigna.

**PRO COM PLAZA**  
94-216 Farrington Hwy. Suite B2-203  
Waipahu, Hawaii 96797

Phone 808.671-4778 Fax 808.671-4771

**RESTAURANT ROW . TOWER 5**  
500 Ala Moana Blvd., Suite 300  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Phone 808.533.0177 Fax 808.526.4871

Visit us on the web  
cechawaii.net

# Make Your Vote Count Especially In U.S. Rep., 1st District Race

By Edwin Quinabo

**T**he Filipino community is clearly in a dilemma this 2014 election in deciding who to throw their full support behind for the U.S. Congress, 1st district race among three Filipino American candidates: State Sen. President Donna Mercado Kim, State Sen. Will Espero and City Councilman Joey Manahan.

Our community has had an elusive dream for a long time now to have a Filipino to represent the state of Hawaii in Congress. The quandary is deciding who among the three is the most viable, meaning

who has the best chance of winning; then also taking into consideration who among the three have been actively in support and in close contact with our community over the years.

Based on this criteria, the result most likely will be that our community's vote will be fractured among the three. The obvious most viable candidate according to mainstream polls would be Mercado Kim, who is being closely followed by State Rep. Mark Takai. Whether by design or not, Takai happen to be the only candidate of Japanese ancestry in this race, and is in strong position to take over the lead.

As far as who among the

three Fil-Am candidates has been most consistently active in our community events. That isn't as clear, but Espero and Manahan perhaps have that edge. But Mercado Kim, who is also Korean American, has been supportive through the years as well.

Putting aside the dream of Filipino representation and who has been attending this or that Filipino event, ultimately voting should be based on the issues and who among the candidates would best represent your personal values, Filipino or non-Filipino. Our community should also think twice and have reservations about simply voting based on viability. Polls are just estimations and shouldn't be the means to rule out any candidate. So if voters believe Espero or Manahan would be their best candidate, even though the two trail behind in the mainstream polls, they

should carry through with their decision and make their vote count. That same logic should also apply to any candidate far behind in the polls, including a non-Filipino such as activist Kathryn Xian, who has been one of the most impassioned, political outsiders to enter a high profile race, with very sound populist ideas. Voters claim to want change, but consistently vote for candidates who are almost interchangeable; then later, complain that all politicians are the same and nothing changes. Xian would truly be unique in this aspect.

If it turns out that the Filipino vote will be a splintered one in this race, so be it. But what's important is that our vote count. With an overwhelmingly high voter turnout in our community, we should not be disappointed whatever the outcome may be. Should the two or even three Fil-Ams

come out short in this race, we encourage them to better prepared for a re-run. Consider running in the U.S. Congress, 2nd district, where that incumbent, Tulsi Gabbard, is arguably not steeply entrenched, yet.

Mercado Kim and Espero are more than seasoned and qualified to run a race at this high level, this time around, and in the future. Manahan's time is somewhat premature for Congress, but he cannot be faulted for wanting to establish name-recognition. Should he become a true leader in the City Council and continue to make tough decisions outside the mold of simply being a yes-man type politician, Manahan could quickly become that viable candidate that Mercado Kim is now.

We encourage the Filipino community to rally together and come out in full force to vote like we did that historical year when we elected Gov. Ben Cayetano. We are in position to make history once again.

**Hawaii Filipino Chronicle,**  
Your connection to Hawaii's Filipino  
Community Is on the Web!  
Check us out at

[www.efilipinochronicle.com](http://www.efilipinochronicle.com)  
[www.thefilipinochronicle.com](http://www.thefilipinochronicle.com)



## Walang naiiwanan na discount

Save an average of \$500.\* Let us make sure you get all the discounts you deserve, as well as provide you with the right coverage. **GET TO A BETTER STATE®.**

**CALL ONE OF OUR AGENTS NOW!**



**Anita Diniega**  
Honolulu  
808-841-5915



**Marilyn Jacobe**  
Kaneohe  
808-254-7028



**Rachel Rooney**  
Kaneohe  
808-247-0091



**Robert Shimabuku**  
Keaau  
808-982-4530



**Wayde Omura**  
Wailuku  
808-249-0990

[statefarm.com](http://statefarm.com)

 **State Farm®**

\* Average annual per household savings based on a 2012 national survey of new policyholders who reported savings by switching to State Farm. The insurance's policies, applications, and required notices of State Farm are written in English. State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company, State Farm Indemnity Company - Bloomington, IL

# SONS & DAUGHTERS

## of Filipino Sakadas in the Abercrombie Administration



**Front Row (L-R):** **Abelina “Abby” Shaw** (Crime Victim Compensation Commission), **Zeny Muyot** (Secretary, Office of Community Services), **Dana Remigio** (Secretary, Department of Taxation), **Monica Chapman** (Constituent Representative), **Renee Sambueno** (Director, Constituent Services), **Governor Neil Abercrombie**, **Amy Agbayani** (UH Regents Search Committee), **Mila Kaahanui** (Executive Director, Office of Community Services), **Tish Acido-Mercado** (Secretary, Department of Health), **Ruth Mabanglo** (Office of Language Access Advisory Council), **Eva Rose Repollo-Washburn** (State Foundation of Culture and the Arts)

**Back Row (L-R):** **David Rodriguez** (Special Assistant to Director, Department of Transportation), **Wil Tungol** (HIPAA Security Officer, Department of Health), **Jade Butay** (Deputy Director, Department of Labor & Industrial Relations), **Barbara Yamashita** (Deputy Director, Department of Human Services), **Jeffrey Acido** (Student, Board of Regents University of Hawai‘i), **Ben Cabrerros** (Program Specialist, Office of Community Services), **Danny Villaruz** (Senior Accountant, Office of Community Services), **Jovanie Dela Cruz** (Program Specialist, Office of Community Services), **Charlene Cuaresma** (Board of Education), **Clementina Ceria-Ulep** (Healthcare Consumer/Oahu, Board of Directors of the Hawai‘i Health Connector), **Luis Salaveria** (Deputy Director, Department of Budget and Finance), **Mary Ann “Maan” Manahan** (Financial Community, Community-Based Economic Development Advisory Council), **Raymund Liongson** (At-Large, Civil Rights Commission), **Alfred Lardizabal** (Hawai‘i Workforce Development Council), **Zelda Viernes** (Secretary, Department of Human Services), **Randy Baldemor** (Director of Strategic Initiatives, Office of the Governor), **Randy Cortez** (Program Specialist, Office of Community Services), **Tony Benabese** (Director of Field Operations), **Michael Yadao** (Boards & Commissions Research Coordinator, Office of the Governor)

**“I hold Filipinos with great affection and high regard. The historic and cultural bonds between Hawai‘i and the Philippines are strong and our communities’ roots run deep. That’s why I am so proud to have so many leaders of Filipino ancestry in my administration. They truly represent the best and the brightest in Hawai‘i.” - Governor Neil Abercrombie**

### ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Awarded \$1.4 million biennium budget for Immigrant Resource Centers to welcome Filipino and other immigrants to Hawai‘i and help them get started in their new home.
- Awarded \$450,000 to the FilCom Center for a new photovoltaic roof.
- Awarded \$1.5 million for the construction of the Kua‘i Philippine Cultural Center.
- Awarded \$600,000 for subsidized job training to immigrants. Many who received tuition assistance have moved from entry level to higher paying jobs in the healthcare industry.
- Worked for the passage of legislation to increase compensation for care homes when he was a senator.
- Worked for the passage of the Family Reunification Act to help Filipino veterans unite with their families when he was a U.S. congressman.



**abercrombie** <sup>®</sup> **governor**

Paid for by Abercrombie for Governor  
1050 Ala Moana Blvd, Suite 2150 • Honolulu, Hawai‘i 96814  
808.589.2237 • [neilabercrombie.com](http://neilabercrombie.com) • [#neilforhawaii](https://twitter.com/neilforhawaii)

 Like on Facebook  
[facebook.com/neilforhawaii](https://facebook.com/neilforhawaii)

 Follow on Twitter  
[twitter.com/neilforhawaii](https://twitter.com/neilforhawaii)

# SONSON VOTE SOON



## State Representative Primary Election August, 9

Paid for by Friends of Sonson, running for State Representative in Waipahu, 94-210 Pupukahi Street, #204 Waipahu HI 96797



## Competent and Effective

## FEATURE

## PRIMARY ELECTION 2014

## FILIPINOS... (from page S7)

a Master's in public administration. Organized and actively participated in graffiti paint outs and community clean-up projects. Participates with HPD in the Keiki ID and Community Traffic Awareness Program (CTAP). Currently serves as the State Representative for House District 39.

**Priorities:** I will continue to work by prioritizing the state budget, re-investing in our safety net, supporting long-range infrastructure projects and creating jobs for local families. I will do this by following these simple rules—being honest with everyone, caring about others, actively listening, communicating, collaborating and doing what is right.

**BRANDON ELEFANTE****Seat Running For:****Honolulu City Council District 8****Party Affiliation: Non-Partisan**

**Why I am Running:** I have a first-hand understanding of the many challenges that we face. I care about our future and want to offer my solutions to improve our city. I have worked as a legislative

aide for Councilmember Breene Harimoto and am actively involved with the Filipino and Japanese Jaycees, Filipino Chamber of Commerce, Aiea Neighborhood Board and Young Democrats. I feel that I am the next leader that my community needs to lead our city in the right direction.

**Background:** Is a lifelong resident of the district, a second generation descendant of Filipino immigrants and graduate of public schools in the community. Legislative work involved shaping key policy issues such as zoning and planning, transportation, public works and sustainability, the city budget, and addressing constituents' needs. Also worked on the Complete Streets Ordinance, Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) policies, allowing more access for SNAP/EBT users at People's Open Markets, and much more.

**Priorities:** My top three concerns are traffic, public safety and infrastructure, and the rising cost of living in Hawaii. Residents have shared with me how much time they spend in traffic. We need to ensure that the rail system is built on time and on budget. Many residents have also expressed concerns for their safety. Maintaining our core infrastructure needs such as our roads, sewer and water are all critical to ensure a thriving community. Lastly, throughout the years, costs have gone up for many key services and basic needs.

**WILL ESPERO****Seat Running For:****U.S. House of Representatives, District 1****Party Affiliation: Democrat**

**Why I am Running:** I have a strong desire to improve the lives of all Hawaii residents and help solve the problems facing our nation. I want to dedicate the next 25 years of my career to bettering the

lives of Hawaii's elderly, children and working men and women. My experience, knowledge, commitment, achievements and vision give me the motivation and drive to continue my work as a public servant.

**Background:** Worked in Honolulu for almost 32 years with 22 years in the city and state government and 10 years in the private sector. Has a proven track record at the state level with 87 bills passed by the Legislature. Has 25 years of community volunteer work. Also coaches youth soccer.

**Priorities:** I am committed to lowering the cost of living in Hawaii, building affordable housing, creating safe neighborhoods, creating diverse job opportunities for working men and women and establishing a business-friendly environment for entrepreneurs. I will work for immigration reform so families that are separated may be reunited more quickly than the current system allows. I will continue to support our top two industries—tourism and the military. We can allow more visas for Asian visitors and the U.S. should invest more military funds in Hawaii due to our proximity to Asia and the Pacific. Alternative energy, protecting the environment, ending homelessness, building an aerospace industry, attaining benefits for Filipino WWII veterans and strengthening social security are other priorities of mine.

**BRICKWOOD GALUTERIA****Seat Running For:****State Senate District 12****Party Affiliation: Democrat**

**Why I am running for office:**

There is much more that I can contribute in the areas of kupuna care, public education and public safety. As current majority leader of the State Senate, I was instrumental in getting key kupuna care legislation passed and signed into law. Senate bill 2346 appropriates \$6.58 million to the Department of Health for community-based services and programs for older persons, including \$500,000 to the Executive Office on Aging to conduct a public education and awareness campaign on long-term care. Senate Bill 2345 appropriates \$50,000 for education and outreach to our kupuna on how to invest wisely and detect financial fraud. I want to continue building on the work I have done since I was first elected in 2008.

**Background:** Chair of Democratic Party of Hawaii, member of the Democratic National Committee and chair of the Hawaii Academy of Recording Arts. Also a board member of the Polynesian Voyaging Society, Hawaiian Music Hall of Fame, Native Hawaiian Culture and Arts Program, Hawaii Special Olympics and the Life Foundation.

**Priorities:** My campaign platform focuses on tourism. Sustainable tourism cannot be successfully implemented without the involvement of those affected by tourism. Second, is housing. With the shortage of public funds, high cost of construction and lack of available land, creative solutions must be found. The solutions are there but strong and cooperative leadership is required. Third is public safety. Although Honolulu ranks as one of the safest cities in America, we need to continue efforts to reduce crime. Last is education. A senator needs to be engaged and interested in the well-being of our keiki and their education, whether public or private. I am committed to supporting the needs of education from pre-K through the university level.

**DON GUZMAN****Seat Running For:****Maui County Council, Kahului****Party Affiliation: Non-Partisan**

**Why I am Running:** The success that we enjoy is due to the sacrifice, hard work and commitment of those who came before us so that we may have a better life. It is this "legacy" that motivates me to give back to the community. I care deeply about our community and believe that by working together we will be able to combine our resources to support the well-being of our families, friends and neighbors.

**Background:** Lives in Kahului with his wife Dr. Rose Guzman, a physician at Maui Medical Group, and their three children. Runs a small general practice law firm. Was a former deputy prosecutor for the County of Maui. Also served on Congresswoman Mazie Hirono's staff as the Maui Field Representative and as a legislative aide for State Rep. Tom Okamura. Has served with many community organizations, including as president of the United Filipino Council of Hawaii. Is a graduate of Creighton University and the Ohio Northern University College of Law.

**Priorities:** I am here to listen and to help develop a winning strategy for our future. I will live and work by the words of the Chinese philosopher Lao Tsu—"A leader is best when people barely know he exists. When his work is done and his aim fulfilled, the people will say: We did it ourselves."

**BAYBEE HUFANA-ABLAN****Seat Running For:****Honolulu City Council****District 8****Party Affiliation: Non-Partisan**

**Why I am Running:** This is a very critical time in our history where we have the opportunity to move Hawaii forward. This is not a time for on-the-job-training but to engage and move projects forward and create jobs for local families. I have volunteered and worked on a number of campaigns helping Democrats get elected and enjoy supporting the issues that impact Honolulu.

**Background:** Is a hardworking wife, mother and a grandmother. Worked in public service for six years as executive secretary of the City's Neighborhood Commission Office and as senior advisor to the director of the Honolulu Emergency Service Department. Is a current member and board secretary of the Pearl City Neighborhood Board. Worked at Kaiser Permanente Hospital for over 20 years and was a member of Local 5 Union. Is currently 1st Vice President of the Oahu Filipino Community Council, 1st Vice President of the La Union Circle of Hawaii and a member of the Hawaii Filipino Women's Civic Club and the Filipino Business Women's Association. Also volunteers with Adopt-A-Park and Adopt-A-Highway cleanups, feeding the homeless at HIS and with the Aloha Sirmata Medical Mission.

**Priorities:** I want to execute my vision of leadership, visibility and creating partnerships with elected

(continued on page S12)

## FEATURE

FILIPINOS... (from page S11)

officials, the community and labor unions. If elected, I plan to maximize my experience and talents to get the job done.

**GREGGOR ILAGAN****Seat Running For:****Hawaii County Council District 4.****Party Affiliation: Non-Partisan**

**Why I am Running:** As a veteran, I understand the meaning of fighting for the people and the discipline of being a public servant. I am a business minded person who cares about people and has the energy to keep up with the changing times.

**Background:** Moved to the Big Island from the Philippines at the age of 7. Graduated from Waiakea High School in 2004 and enlisted in the Hawaii Air National Guard. After six years of service, enrolled at the Hawaii Community College to study accounting.

**Priorities:** My passion drives me to never stop learning, along with my family and friends who support me in my goals. I will do my best to leave a legacy that the next generation can be proud of. We are fortunate to live in paradise which I do not take for granted.

**LORRAINE R. INOUE****Seat Running For:****State Senate District 4****Party Affiliation: Democrat**

**Why I am Running:** To work as hard as ever for our beautiful island, amazing people, businesses and future generations. My goal is to become yet again a major contributor of prosperity and sustainability for many years to come.

**Background:** Has over 30 years of public service experience as State senator, mayor of Hawaii County and a member of the Hawaii County Council. Has also private sector experience as president of a small business. Is a member of the Big Island Filipino Community Council and the Pepeekeo Filipino Community Association.

**Priorities:** Affordable housing, agriculture, education, energy, healthcare, jobs/ the economy, sustainability and traffic.

**GIL COLOMA KEITH-AGARAN****Seat Running For:****State Senate District 5****Party Affiliation: Democrat**

**Why I am Running:** I've lived in Central Maui for most of my life. I want to make sure that hard work, education and opportunities continue to have meaning and value for all of us. Hawaii faces many challenges from changes locally, nationally and globally. We need people who are willing to address those issues. I have experience practicing law, volunteering with non-profits and community groups, working in state and county administrations for over a decade and serving as state legislator for my community.

**Background:** Current State senator and former State representative from 2009-2012. Is a partner in the law firm of Takitani Agaran & Jorgensen, LLP.

Served as director of Maui County's Department of Public Works and Environmental Management from 2003-2005, as chair of the Hawaii Board of Land & Natural Resources from 2000-2002, as director of the State Department of Labor & Industrial Relations (2000) and as deputy director of the State Department of Commerce & Consumer Affairs (1999-2000).

**Priorities:** Promoting education, strengthening public schools, improving UH-Maui Community College and Maui Memorial Medical Center through public/private ventures, providing workforce training and investing in key infrastructure, facilities and services necessary to encourage economic growth and diversity. Central Maui should be the place to live, work and raise our families.

**DONNA MERCADO KIM****Seat Running For: U.S. House of Representatives, District 1****Party Affiliation: Democrat**

**Why I am Running:** To give voters a choice of someone who has experience in starting and running a small business, who knows local and state government, and who has been a strong, proven leader. With

only two votes in the U.S. House of Representatives, Hawaii needs a leader who not only has legislative experience, but one with the courage to be at the forefront on many difficult and controversial issues.

**Background:** Grandfather Juan Mercado is from Batangas. Has served as an elected official for 32 years in the State Senate and House of Representatives, and City Council. Accomplishments include revamping the Hawaii Tourism Authority and the state's tourism marketing program, investigating problems with airport contracting and personnel and the University of Hawaii's botched Stevie Wonder concert, passing the automobile window tinting law, leading the rezoning of Ko Olina and authorizing certain timeshare projects.

**Priorities:** Protect Social Security and Medicare; expand federal support for such key Hawaii industries as tourism, agriculture, defense spending, education and research; be actively involved in Congressional oversight of federal spending and agency performance; and offer my leadership and ideas on resolving health care costs and veterans health care issues.

**JOEY MANAHAN****Seat Running For:****U.S. House of Representatives, District 1****Party Affiliation: Democrat**

**Why I am Running:** Leadership is service and I see government as a way to help people. Today, too many of the "representatives" in Washington, D.C. represent special interest groups or big donors catering to corporations rather than working families. We need voices that will stand with the people. I've always been someone who has served our community. I will look beyond party politics and powerful interests to help working families.

**Background:** Is one of only two candidates elected to serve in two levels of government—the City Council and the State Legislature. Spent eight years as an elected official and has 14 years of experience working as staff in the Legislature, as an elections specialist for the State Office of Elections and as a neighborhood assistant in the Neighborhood Commission Office.

**Priorities:** Hawaii needs someone in Congress with a proven record of creating jobs and economic opportunities that will sustain our quality of life and move us forward. In the near term, we can achieve this by funding projects that enhance existing infrastructure, namely the modernization of our harbors and airports, improving our highways and meeting the federal mandates for upgrading our sewer system. In the long-term, we can create new jobs by investing in clean energy initiatives such as the expansion of solar, wind and geothermal energy, along with the necessary infrastructure to deliver this clean, reliable energy statewide via submarine cables to a modernized electrical grid. We also need to invest in our military's operations and infrastructure, which will bring jobs and encourage more training exercises, conventions and summits such as APEC, ASEAN and the World Conservation Congress. Finally, as an immigrant, I believe in comprehensive immigration reform and the need to restore the American dream for all families.

## PRIMARY ELECTION 2014

cialist for the State Office of Elections and as a neighborhood assistant in the Neighborhood Commission Office.

**Priorities:** Hawaii needs someone in Congress with a proven record of creating jobs and economic opportunities that will sustain our quality of life and move us forward. In the near term, we can achieve this by funding projects that enhance existing infrastructure, namely the modernization of our harbors and airports, improving our highways and meeting the federal mandates for upgrading our sewer system. In the long-term, we can create new jobs by investing in clean energy initiatives such as the expansion of solar, wind and geothermal energy, along with the necessary infrastructure to deliver this clean, reliable energy statewide via submarine cables to a modernized electrical grid. We also need to invest in our military's operations and infrastructure, which will bring jobs and encourage more training exercises, conventions and summits such as APEC, ASEAN and the World Conservation Congress. Finally, as an immigrant, I believe in comprehensive immigration reform and the need to restore the American dream for all families.

**MICHAEL MAGAOAY****Seat Running For:****State House District 45****Party Affiliation: Democrat**

**Why I am Running:** There is more to give back to the people of Hawaii and life is too short.

**Background:** Served in the House of Representatives from 2000-2010 and was vice speaker during his last term. Works as electrical consultant with MYM Services and was senior project engineer with A-1 A-Lectrician Inc. from 1997 to 2009. Serves as a member of the board of directors of the Mililani Town Association, March of Dimes, Hale Kipa and the UH-Manoa Engineering Alumni Association. Also a member of the St. John Apostle & Evangelist Church Pastoral Council, Friends of Mililani Public Library, Mililani Lions Club

**Priorities:** As a state representative for 10 years, I played a role in preserving our 'aina, nurturing our economy and promoting the sustainability of a lifestyle where the adage "it takes a village to raise a child" resonates deeply. Born and raised in the plantation village of Waialua, my life's path was founded on the values of hard work, family, education, pulling together for the benefit of all, and aloha. I will keep working hard, hand-in-hand with our community leaders and residents, to keep District 45 the treasure that we all love.

**ERNIE MARTIN****Seat Running For:****Honolulu City Council, District II****Party Affiliation: Non-Partisan**

**Background:** Is current chair and presiding officer of the Council. Is a product of Hawaii's public school system. Graduated from UH-Manoa with bachelor's and master's degrees in sociology and a Juris Doctorate from the William S. Richardson School of Law. Was named an Outstanding Young Person of the Year by the Hawaii Jaycees in 1999.

**FEATURE**

FILIPINOS... (from page S12)

Started working for the City as a groundskeeper and worked his way up to acting director of the Department of Community Services. Has over 20 years of experience working for the City.

**ROSE MARTINEZ**

**Seat Running For: State House District 40**  
**Party Affiliation: Democrat**



**Why I am Running:** As the needs of our state and country change, our community needs leaders who are willing to take risks and stand up for what matters most including jobs, education, health care

and more.

**Background:** Earned a Bachelor's of Science in medical technology from Far Eastern University in the Philippines, Master's in Public Health from UH-Manoa and several doctoral credits from UH and Argosy University. Worked as a legislative aide in the State House, elementary school teacher at Lanakila Baptist, director of program services at Manawa Lea Health Services and as a clinical laboratory scientist at SmithKline Beecham Clinical.

**Priorities:** Responsible development and spending, open and transparent government, a safe environment, and economic development and job creation.

**JOE PONTANILLA**

**Seat Running For: County Council, Kahului,**  
**Party Affiliation: Non-Partisan**



**Why I am Running:** To bring common sense ideas from the people to the Maui County Council. I have been actively involved in civic and political issues since the early 1980s and have sought to create effective platforms that serve Maui county.

**Background:** Attended Baldwin High School and Maui Community College. Works as executive assistant for the mayor's office. Was previously district county manager for Maui GTE Hawaiian Tel, district governor for Hawaiian Lions Club District 50 and director for the 65th Maui County Fair.

**Priorities:** Affordable housing, our growing homeless population, programs for seniors and upholding our Constitution and constitutional rights. I want to see Hawaii's schools setting the standard for education, not trying to measure up to it.

**ART REYES**

**Seat Running For: U.S. Senate**  
**Party Affiliation: Non-Partisan**



**Why I am Running:** To serve and represent my constituents on diverse issues that affect our lives and our children's future.

**Background:** Has over 30 years of service with the military and federal government. Holds a Doctor of Medicine degree from Fatima College of Medicine in Manila, a Master's in Administration from Central Michigan and a Bachelor's in occupational education from Wayland Baptist University.

**Priorities:** To always provide for fairness, liberty and justice for all, and to always do things that are

right and in consonance with the fundamentals and principles of the U.S. Constitution.

**JOHN P. ROCO**

**Seat Running For: U.S. Senate**  
**Party Affiliation: Republican**



**Why I am Running:** Too many of us are not represented by our elected officials at the county, state and federal levels. SB1 is a perfect example. We need someone on the federal level to represent freedom of religion, family and religious rights.

**Background:** Holds master's degrees in counseling psychology and general psychology. Founded Saint Damien Advocates, a religious freedom advocacy group in 2011.

**Priorities:** First and foremost is freedom of religion and individual rights. I am a counselor and pianist, and now that SB1 has passed, I can be sued if I refuse to play for a gay or lesbian wedding, which is against my religion. This is wrong. My second priority is that the U.S. must be a key player in finessing international peace. We need to be "on the ball" and aware that we can facilitate a peaceful global community instead of just reacting. My third priority is economic sustainability that will provide people with the incentives to help themselves, pursue happiness and succeed in their endeavors.

**RANDY ROMAN, JR.**

**Seat Running For: Senate District 21**  
**Party Affiliation: Republican**



**Why I am Running For Office:** I have a passion to serve the people of the Leeward coast. I have spent my life on the Leeward coast and experienced its grand splendor as well as its gradual decay. There is a

need for a fresh and unique change that can only come from someone with fervor and aloha for our community.

**Background:** Born and raised on the west side of Oahu. Majored in science but decided to enter business. His business background provides him with a unique perspective on legislative matters.

**Priorities:** Our education system needs to be rehabilitated. There needs to be greater cooperation between community programs and government. Homelessness needs to be categorized into different groups in order to address this problem more effectively. Our traffic infrastructure needs to keep up with the growing population by forecasting and taking data to make immediate adjustments.

**JOY A. SAN BUENAVENTURA**

**Seat Running For: State House District 4**  
**Party Affiliation: Democrat**



**Why I am Running For Office:** As an attorney whose clientele are the middle class, I have witnessed the slide of more and more people into the despair of poverty. These are hard working people who assumed there would be available jobs, so they dipped into their savings/retirement and got into debt. Current laws in Hawaii do not help them climb out of debt or allow them to keep basic assets. The Creditor-Exemption Law, which is the safety net

**PRIMARY ELECTION 2014**

for workers, is 40 years old. Unlike California and other states, Hawaii lacks an anti-deficiency law to help debtors whose homes have been foreclosed. The payday loan industry, which specifically targets the working poor, allows for over 400 percent annual interest. I tried getting these bills through as an advocate and now I want to get them through as a legislator.

**Background:** Born in Manila and mother was born in Waikapu, Maui. Has 30 years of experience as an attorney and as a former Per Diem District Court Judge. Also a volunteer mediator with Kuikahi Mediation, volunteer court arbitrator and volunteer attorney at the Self-Help Center.

**Priorities:** Other than the need to modernize our laws to protect the working poor, I see connectivity—both roadways and cell phone/high-speed internet coverage—as Puna's greatest need. Tackling connectivity issues can provide us with the ability to telecommute and with better access to means of self-employment, better health care, education and emergency evacuation. Lower Puna can only be reached from Hilo through Highway 130—a 22-mile, two-lane road. With a 250 percent growth since 1980, Puna is the fastest growing district in the State but also the 2nd poorest district, thus the need for connectivity.

**ALEX M. SONSON**

**Seat Running For: State House District 38**  
**Party Affiliation: Democrat**



**Why I Am Running:** I wish to create opportunities for all of our children. One way is to provide all high school graduates free education through the UH system. I also want to empower Waipahu to cope with the impending change from a small town to a big city concept, complete with two rail transit stations, tall buildings, hotels and shopping centers. I can help provide leadership for sustainable growth. Homeless are also involuntarily migrating to Waipahu due to short term thinking by certain government bodies. I wish to provide more sensible solutions.

**Background:** Born in the Philippines and moved to Waipahu with his family in 1970. Worked to support himself until graduating from Waipahu High School in 1978. Then served in the U.S. Marine Corps for four years. Worked even harder to pay for college and law school and graduated with honors. Opened a law office in Waipahu in 1993 and first ran for office in 1994. Served as State representative for Waipahu from 2002-2008 and ran unsuccessfully in 2008 and 2012 for the State Senate.

**Priorities:** Support the caregiver industry, cut government waste, provide free college education and stop racial gerrymandering to allow Filipinos to have the same opportunities to run for office.

**"WE'RE NOW READ BY MILLIONS OF FILIPINOS AROUND THE GLOBE."**  
Go to [efilipinochronicle.com](http://efilipinochronicle.com) or [thefilipinochronicle.com](http://thefilipinochronicle.com) and see how the face of business is changing!  
**We are also on KWHE-TV 14**

# An Essential Guide For Hawaii's Voters

By HFC Staff

**V**oting is an essential part of our democratic process. When you vote, you choose the representatives who will make crucial decisions that will affect you, your family and your community. Those who truly care about Hawaii's future not only take time to register and vote, but also make sure to get to the polls on Election Day.

In every even numbered year, the State holds a Primary Election on the second to the first Saturday in August and a General Election on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November. The 2014 Elections will be held on the following dates:

- **Primary Election: Saturday, August 9, 2014**
- **General Election: Tuesday, November 4, 2014**

The **Primary Election** is a nomination process to choose candidates who will represent the political parties in the General Election. Voters select the candidates of the political party of their choice. Their choice of party and candidates remains secret.

When voting in the primary, you must select only one party in the "Select a Party" section of the ballot card and then vote for the party you selected. If you do not select a party and you vote in more than one party ballot, your vote will not be counted.

County election contests are listed separately on the Primary Ballot Card. On the County Contests section, you may select candidates of your choice in addition to the candidates you may have selected on the party or nonpartisan ballot.

In the **General Election**, you may choose from among the candidates nominated in the Primary Election. You may vote for party or nonpartisan (not affiliated with a political party) candidates, and your choice of candidates will remain secret.

Federal, State and County

offices are listed on the General Ballot Card by contest. Candidates for each office are listed alphabetically and their partisan/nonpartisan affiliation is noted. You may select the candidate of your choice for each contest. You may also vote for the candidates of your choice for the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA). OHA may have multiple seats up for election. You may vote for no more than the number of candidates specified for each contest.

## Registering to Vote

But just who is allowed to vote? In order to cast a ballot in federal, state or county elections, eligible persons must first register to vote. You are eligible to vote if you meet the following qualifications:

1. You are a citizen of the United States
2. You are a resident of the State of Hawaii
3. You are 18 years old by the day of the election

Incarcerated felons [HRS 831-2] and those adjudicated as mentally-incompetent are not allowed to vote.

Registering to vote is easy. Eligible persons must simply complete the Affidavit on Application for Voting (also known as the Wikiwiki Voter Registration form) and submit it to the appropriate City/County Clerk's office before the registration deadlines.

Unfortunately, the deadline to register to vote for the Primary Election—July 10, 2014—has since passed. However, the deadline to register to vote for the General Election is Monday, October 6, 2014.

Oahu residents who wish to register for the General Election can do so in person at the Office of the City Clerk at Honolulu Hale or at the State Office of Elections at 802 Lehua Avenue in Pearl City. Neighbor island residents may register in person at the respective Office of the County Clerk. Forms can also be downloaded online at: [www.honoluluelections.org](http://www.honoluluelections.org).

First time registrants must



send a copy of their identification along with a completed application form. Acceptable forms of identification include a COPY of any one of the following—Hawaii drivers license, State of Hawaii Civil Identification card, U.S. Passport, utility bill, government issued check or government document bearing your name and current address.

For those who may have changed their name, residence or mailing address are encouraged to re-register to vote. On election day, election officials are required to re-verify the registration status of persons not listed in the poll books. Re-registering to vote will help to avoid delays at the polling place on election day.

Properly registered voters will receive a "Notice of Voter Registration and Address Confirmation postcard" (the yellow voter card) prior to the election. The card lists which election(s) a voter is eligible for, the voter's district/precinct number and polling place location.

If you received the postcard, you are properly registered. If not, please contact the following City & County Clerk:

Honolulu: 768-3800  
Big Island: 961-8277  
Kauai: 241-4800  
Maui: 270-7749

Election officials remind the voting public that persons who knowingly furnish false information on an Affidavit on Application for Voter Registration may be guilty of a Class C Felony, which is punishable by up to 5 years imprisonment and/or a \$10,000 fine. In 1996, Congress enacted the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Re-

sponsibility Act, which makes it a federal violation for non-citizens to vote in any federal, state or local elections. As a penalty, ineligible non-citizens who knowingly vote may be deported.

Additionally, a non-citizen who falsely claims to be a U.S. citizen is in violation of the law. False claims of U.S. citizenship in order to receive federal or state benefits or for any other purpose, is also grounds for deportation.

## Absentee Voting

For those who want to avoid standing in line at the polls, or cannot vote at their polling place for whatever reason, or will be out of town on election day, voting via absentee ballot may be the way to go.

Hawaii has a "no excuses" absentee voting law, meaning that any properly registered voter may request an absentee ballot by mail or vote early (absentee walk in) for any reason. However, those voters who desire to vote via absentee mail ballot must apply each election year.

Absentee mail voters are mailed a packet containing a ballot, yellow secrecy envelope, ballot return envelope and miscellaneous voting instructions. To avoid spoiled absentee mail ballots, voters are encouraged to avoid losing their ballots, spilling liquids on the materials, and marking incorrect choices as mistakes can take time to remedy.

Absentee mail voters are also reminded to sign the affirmation statement on the ballot return envelope. Their ballot will not be counted if the affirmation statement is not signed. Envelopes must also be mailed on time. Under state law, any absentee mail ballot received after 6 pm on election day will not be counted.

Hawaii law also allows voters to cast an absentee ballot early in person. To vote absentee in person, you must vote at an absentee polling place established by the City & County Clerk where you are

registered to vote. You do not need to request an absentee ballot to vote absentee in person.

Absentee polling sites are open approximately 10 working days prior to the election. All voting must occur at the site and ballots may not be removed from the absentee polling place.

The periods for Absentee Voting in person are:

- Primary Election: **July 28 – August 7, 2014**
- General Election: **October 21 – November 1, 2014**

## Uniformed and Overseas Citizens

The purpose of the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA) is to enable absent uniformed services and overseas citizens to vote by absentee ballot in the Primary, General and special elections for Federal Offices. The Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) assists absent uniformed services and overseas citizens in registering to vote and requesting absentee ballots.

If a requested absentee ballot is late in reaching the voter, a Federal-Write-in Absentee Ballot (FWAB) may be used to vote in the General Election for Federal offices. FWABs are available through Voting Assistance Officers at military installations or at U.S. embassies/consulates. Additional information is available on the FVAP website at <http://www.fvap.gov/index.html>.

## What to Expect On Election Day

Polling places open at 7 am and close at 6 pm. To avoid long lines at the polls, voters are encouraged to vote during non-peak hours: during the morning between 9:30 am and 11 am, and in the afternoon, between 1 pm and 4 pm.

Hawaii law provides that those who are employed may be allowed two hours of time away from work to vote. Voters are encouraged to coordi-

(continued on page S15)

PRIMARY ELECTION PULSE

PRIMARY ELECTION 2014

# If the Primary Election were held today, who would you vote for governor and why?

**“A** pay ni Gov. Abercrombie?” my family members would ask. I have many reasons that I tell them—he helped improve the economy of Hawaii where we now have one of the lowest unemployment rates; he helped increase minimum wage; he increased compensation for care homes when he was a senator, and many others good things for the people of Hawaii.

However, what is very special about Gov. Abercrombie is his aloha for the Filipino community. I am very moved by his decisions to appoint many Filipinos to the Board of Education, the Civil Rights Commission and especially the Board of Regents

**I** believe David Ige is a man of honor and respect. He is a leader who we can all trust. One of the main reasons I am voting for David Ige is that he is “quiet and effective.” He doesn’t do things to get votes. He does what he believes is the right thing for all of us, just like Gov. Ariyoshi, who was also “quiet and effective.”

I also support David Ige because he believes in representing the Filipino community. I was happy to recently hear that he will actively seek input from members of our community along with other ethnicities across Hawaii. Finally, he received the endorsement of the Hawaii State Teachers Association, so I know that David believes in education, which is very important to me, my family and the future of Hawaii. The reason the teachers of Hawaii support David Ige is they know that he will always support them.

As governor, I know David will work to improve our education system and grow our local economy. We need to create more opportunities for our children and their children so they can find good paying local jobs and affordable housing right here at home. David Ige will get the job done!

**BENJAMIN D. MARTIN**, Attorney at Law  
Honolulu

for the University of Hawaii (I was appointed by him in 2012).

Across Hawaii, he awarded \$1.4 million in the biennium budget for Immigrant Resource Centers to welcome and serve arriving immigrants, mostly Filipinos. He also helped fight for \$1.5 million dollars to build the Philippine Cultural Center in Kauai. For Oahu, he awarded \$450,000 for a new photovoltaic roof for the FilCom Center.

When the Philippines was devastated by Typhoon Haiyan, he mobilized the Hawaii National Guard to go to Tacloban and rebuild areas that was hit. He also helped pass the Family Reunification Act to help Filipino veterans unite with their families when he was a U.S. Congressman.

As a young Filipino student who was born in Bacarra and graduated from Farrington High School, with my mother working in house keeping in Waikiki, and my retired father who worked as a janitor, I know that he supports my aspirations and dreams in fighting for the dignity and future of the Filipino Community.

Gov. Abercrombie shares our hopes, understands our history in Hawaii and has demonstrated that he is a true friend of Filipinos. If we want to continue to support and empower the Filipino community, we must vote for Gov. Abercrombie.



**JEFFREY TANGONAN ACIDO**,  
UH-Manoa Ph.D. student and Farrington alum  
Kalihi

**WHY INCUMBENTS...** (from page S2)

at home, whose jobs focus on helping constituents. They find lost Social Security checks, help get funding for economic development projects, cut through red tape to secure veterans’ benefits. At election time, voters remember this.

That’s not the only help members can expect. They’re buttressed in ways challengers can only dream about. They’re paid a good salary, so they don’t have to worry about supporting their families while they campaign. They get to spend their terms effectively campaigning year-round, not just at election time, and they are able to saturate their state or district

with mass mailings. The nature of their work allows them to build ties to various interest groups back home — which quite naturally seek out the incumbents and ignore challengers.

Incumbents receive invitations to more events than they can possibly attend; challengers have trouble finding a meeting interested in having them. Incumbents get the honored place in the parade, the prime speaking position, the upper hand when it comes to raising money; challengers have to fight for visibility and money. And the news media seek out incumbents, often ignoring the challengers.

In fact, challengers are at a disadvantage at almost every point in a campaign. From building name recognition to arranging meetings to building credibility with editorial boards, donors, and opinion leaders, they’re trudging uphill. They do get one leg up — they’re in the district all the time, while the incumbent has to be in Washington regularly — but that’s a small advantage compared to the obstacles arrayed against them. Especially when districts are gerrymandered, as they often are, to protect incumbents. This means that in primaries, incumbents generally need to focus just on the most active

voters, while in general elections the vast majority can consider themselves on safe ground.

But there’s another reason incumbents keep getting re-elected that’s also worth considering: voters — that’s you and me. Most Americans don’t vote, which means that a U.S. senator or representative might be elected by only 20 percent of the eligible voters. And those who do vote often cast their ballots for narrow or unusual reasons. They like the way they got treated by the incumbent’s staff, or they shook his or her hand at a county fair, or they like his or her stand on a particular social or economic issue, or

perhaps they just recognize the name. Whatever the case, they don’t look at an incumbent’s entire record: votes on a cross-section of vital issues; willingness to work with members of different ideologies and backgrounds; ability to explain Washington back home and represent home in Washington; skill at forging consensus on tough policy challenges.

It’s really no mystery that incumbent members get re-elected. Their advantages are baked into the system.

**LEE HAMILTON** is Director of the Center on Congress at Indiana University. He was a member of the U.S. House of Representatives for 34 years.

**AN ESSENTIAL...** (from page S14)

nate time off with their employer by voting before or after work if possible.

Be sure to bring a picture ID with a signature on it for verification of your identity. You will be asked to sign a poll book to record that you voted at that polling place. Your Voter Registration Notice will not be accepted as a valid form of identification.

When you arrive at the polling place, there will be an Information and Ballot Demonstration Station located outside. A precinct official will be on-hand to assist in checking that their name is on the List of Registered Voters. The official will also verify that the voter is at the correct polling place, that he or she is properly registered and will instruct the voter on the proper

voting procedures.

Voters will next proceed to the Poll Book Station, where names are arranged in a poll book alphabetically by last name. Voters will be asked to verify their identity with a picture ID, verify the information in the poll book and sign the poll book.

Next, voters will proceed to the Ballot Issuing Station, where an official will issue

ballots and a ballot secrecy folder. The amount of ballots a voter receives and the procedures for voting varies according to the type of election (special, primary or general).

After voting, voters will proceed to the Ballot Box Station, where they cast ballots by depositing it into the precinct counter machine.

Voters requiring special assistance at the polling place

on Election Day should speak to the Voter Assistance Official at their polling place. If you are unsure how to properly use the voting equipment, please ask a precinct official.

Voters are also asked to report problems or violations of election laws, treat precinct workers with courtesy and to be on time and know their precinct’s hours of operation.

# **EMPOWER YOURSELF AND OUR COMMUNITY!**

## **GO OUT AND VOTE!**



FILIPINOS COMPRISE THE LARGEST ETHNIC GROUP IN HAWAII, ACCORDING TO THE 2010 U.S. CENSUS. WITH OUR NUMBERS, FILIPINOS CAN BE AN INFLUENTIAL FORCE IN FORMULATING PUBLIC POLICY THAT WILL IMPACT OUR COMMUNITY NOW AND INTO THE FUTURE.

IF YOU WANT TO EFFECT A CHANGE THAT WILL POSITIVELY SHAPE THE LIVES OF YOUR CHILDREN AND OF FUTURE GENERATIONS, THEN VOTE FOR LEADERS WHO SHARE YOUR VALUES AND IDEALS. IF YOU DON'T, THEN SOMEONE ELSE WILL. AS THE ENGLISH PHILOSOPHER EDMOND BURKE ONCE SAID, "ALL THAT IS NEEDED FOR EVIL TO PREVAIL IS FOR GOOD MEN (AND WOMEN) TO DO NOTHING."

BY CASTING YOUR BALLOT, YOU CAN ELECT THE RIGHT PEOPLE TO LEAD OUR GREAT CITY AND STATE FORWARD. THE CHOICE IS YOURS AND THE POWER IS IN YOUR HANDS!

**PLEASE VOTE ON AUGUST 9  
AND LET YOUR VOTE COUNT!**

A PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE HAWAII FILIPINO CHRONICLE