

# LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

## Senator Laura Thielen

DISTRICT 25: KAILUA - WAIMANALO - HAWAI'I KAI

March 2018



### *Aloha Hawaii Kai!*

The legislature is now in the second half.

Results from my survey of the first half are included on the backside.

Please contact my office for any legislative questions.

Mahalo, *Laura*

### Join us at 'Art at the Capitol' Then continue on to 'First Friday'



**WHEN:** Friday, April 6 @ 5-7pm

**WHERE:** Hawai'i State Capitol, 415 S. Beretania

The public is invited to view the art in lawmakers' offices. There will be live music, activities and demonstrations.

After *Art at the Capitol* you can take a stroll downtown for *First Friday* to enjoy restaurants, shops and art galleries; including the Hawaii State Art Museum just across the street. Kids are welcome!

## THE FIVE WISHES DOCUMENT, A Living Will

The Legislature is close to passing a Death with Dignity bill, which the Governor said he would sign. If this happens, Hawaii will become the sixth state (including D.C.) to have a medical aid in dying law.

This is a very personal, emotional and moral issue for all of us, both supporters and opponents of the bill. While I voted for this bill, I respect the reasons of people who oppose it.

Everyone, even people who never will use this law, still needs to deal with end of life issues, for themselves and loved ones. And while we all want the blessing of good health up to the end, and a pain-free end, that isn't always what happens.

Many families avoid talking about the topic, my own included.

Unfortunately, what happens then is someone doesn't talk to their doctor, and aren't aware of palliative medical care options that can relieve their pain. Or someone is incapacitated, and family tries to make the best decisions possible about end of life care, but is left second guessing their choices for years afterwards.

My hope is that Hawaii residents will have more conversations now, while you're healthy, about your personal, spiritual and medical wishes in the event you become seriously ill. I'm not talking about aid in dying – no law allows someone to make that decision for another person. I'm talking about what kind of medical treatment you want and who can make health care decisions for you.

Some of the Nation's leading experts in end of life care and the American Bar Association Commission on Law and Aging created a simple document that walks you through these choices, letting you decide. It's called Five Wishes.

Five Wishes has been used by more than 19 million people of all ages. You can download the document at this link: [www.agingwithdignity.org](http://www.agingwithdignity.org)

None of us want to think of a loved one or ourselves becoming seriously ill. The only thing worse is to be left to make decisions for a loved one who hasn't told you their wishes — or to leave your loved ones forever questioning the choices they were forced to make for you. Please take the time to talk with your loved ones and your doctor.



## LEGISLATIVE TIME LINE

### April 12th — House-Senate Conference Begins

Hearings conclude and surviving bills head to conference. Conference is the final negotiations between the house and senate.

### May 1st— Final Reading

Final vote for the entire legislature to approve all remaining bills, which will then go to the Governor for signature or veto.



## WORLD WETLANDS DAY

On February 3, Senator Thielen joined the community in celebrating our local wetland located off of Hawaii Kai Drive, Keawāwa Wetland.

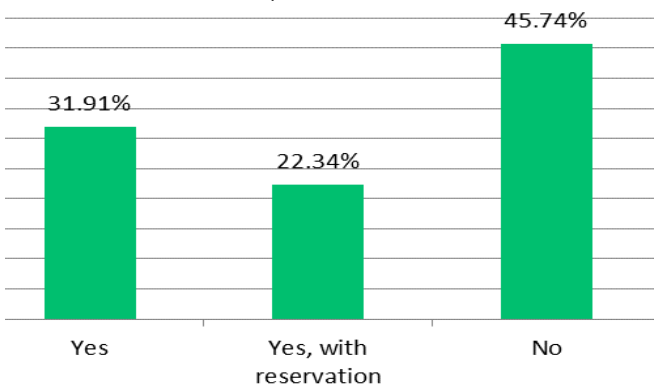


Thanks to all the dedicated hands that have worked in preserving and enhancing Keawāwa Wetland.

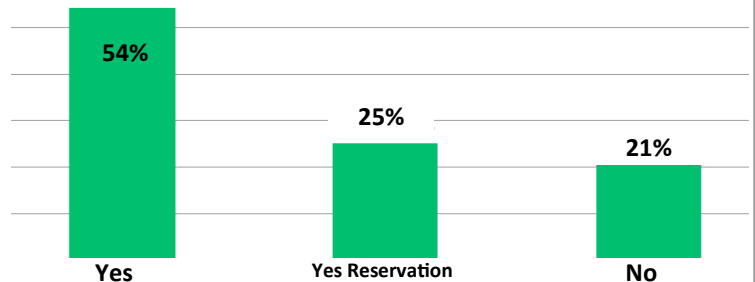
**Thank you for taking my survey! Please check my website, [www.senatorlaurathielen.com](http://www.senatorlaurathielen.com), to find out how I voted and why. All these bills passed the Senate and have moved to the House.**

### MAUANA KEA MANAGEMENT SB3090

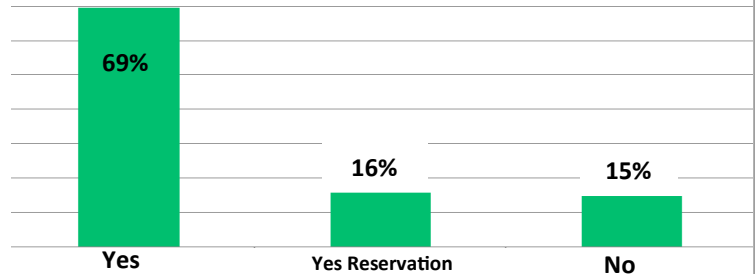
Should the current managers, UH and DLNR, be replaced?



RETIREMENT SB2333 Shall Hawaii establish a way for all private sector workers to save for retirement?

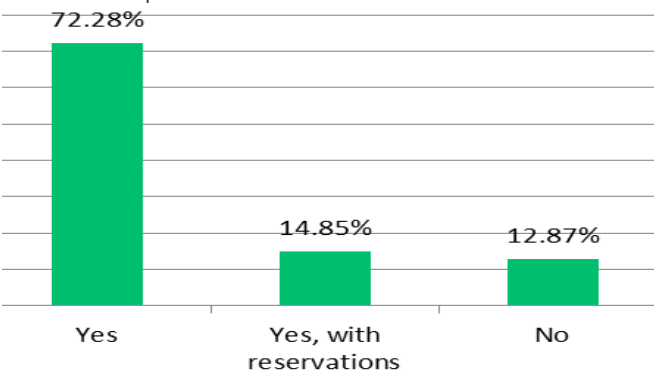


### BAN SUNSCREEN WITH OXYBENZONE SB2571

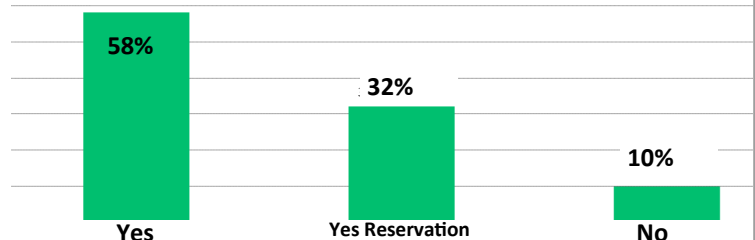


### SERVICE ANIMALS SB2461

Should civil penalties be established for misrepresentation of service animals?



SAFE ZONES SB2501 Should the state establish safe zones?



CONTACT THE OFFICE OF SENATOR LAURA H. THIELEN

Hawaii State Capitol, Room 231 | Phone: (808) 587-8388 | Fax: 587-7240 | Email: [senthielen@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:senthielen@capitol.hawaii.gov)

Website: [www.SenatorLauraThielen.com](http://www.SenatorLauraThielen.com) | Facebook: [www.facebook.com/SenatorLauraThielen](http://www.facebook.com/SenatorLauraThielen)