



Governor's E-Newsletter

Nov 29 - Dec 5, 2003



Aloha and Welcome from the Governor's Office in Hawai`i!

It is with pleasure that we send you this e-newsletter.

Aloha from the Governor's Office in Hawai`i.

Major Headlines

Hawai`i Remembers AIDS Victims

USDA Under Secretary William Hawks Visits the Capitol

A New Beginning: The First Year in Office



Governor Lingle participates in a memorial service and celebration of life remembering Hawai`i's AIDS victims. Above, she presents a proclamation declaring "World AIDS Day."

Hawai`i Remembers AIDS Victims

In Hawai`i close to 3,000 people live with HIV/AIDS. Of the more than 120 new cases of AIDS reported in Hawai`i last year, 87 percent were male and 27 percent were Asian and

Pacific Islanders. Worldwide, five people die of AIDS every minute of every day. More than 42 million men, women and children have been infected - 5 million last year alone. This year's World AIDS Day theme, "AIDS Isn't Over," was selected to help change the perception that AIDS is no longer a threat. "We still have a fight ahead of us; our work is not over. Through education, compassion and understanding we will end the stigma and discrimination associated with AIDS," said Governor Lingle at the memorial service and celebration of life. Governor Lingle stressed no one should have to fear losing a job, housing, family and friends while trying to survive with AIDS. She added for those living with AIDS, the state in collaboration with public and private funding partnerships, is ensuring medical care and life-saving drug treatments will be available for every person who needs them. An example is the Hawai`i Drug Assistance Program (HDAP), which provides HIV medications to those without other options. [Read more about HDAP.](#)



Governor Lingle and Hawai`i Department of Agriculture (HDOA) Chairperson Sandra Lee Kunimoto welcomed United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Under Secretary William Hawks to the Capitol to discuss issues of importance to the state's agriculture industry.

USDA Under Secretary William Hawks Visits the Capitol

Governor Linda Lingle and Hawai`i Department of Agriculture (HDOA) Chairperson Sandra Lee Kunimoto visited this week with United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Under Secretary William Hawks. Under Secretary Hawks is in charge of USDA's marketing and regulatory programs, including the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS). The Governor highlighted issues of great importance to the state's agriculture industry, including the expansion of diversified agriculture and the future of the state's

agricultural development. "We are grateful to Under Secretary Hawks for making the long trip from Washington, D.C. to learn more about Hawai`i's agriculture and the unique challenges we experience, especially in the areas of exporting and marketing," said Governor Lingle. "State chairperson Kunimoto and I look forward to working with USDA to overcome the major barriers we face in taking Hawai`i-grown produce to domestic and foreign markets." Under Secretary Hawks toured O`ahu and the Big Island to meet with local, federal and state officials, farmers and agricultural industry groups. While in Hilo, Under Secretary Hawks also toured the state-of-the-art facilities at Hawai`i Pride irradiator. Read more about the [Hawai`i Department of Agriculture](#).

A New Beginning: The First Year in Office

The first year of the New Beginning has been highly successful for Governor Linda Lingle, Lt. Governor James R. "Duke" Aiona, Jr. and their administration. Focus was placed on restoring trust and integrity in government, bringing about fiscal discipline, bolstering the economy, improving health care and reforming the structure of Hawai`i's public education system. Read more in the [Honolulu Advertiser](#), and an editorial in [The Maui News](#).

Quote of the Week: "She doesn't appear to shy away from tough subjects. Lingle's message often comes across earnestly and it does not appear to be political maneuvering. She's speaking because she believes what she's saying, and she doesn't weigh the balance of political correctness or how it's going to affect the next political election," said David Koch president of Starr Seigle Communications in a statement about the Governor in the Honolulu Advertiser.

"Lingle, a strong-willed, populist politician with a corporate sense of organization and control, is perhaps the governor most accomplished at dealing with the public on a direct, face-to-face basis since John A. Burns..." From an editorial entitled "Lingle lays groundwork" in The Maui News dated Friday, December 5, 2003.

Key Upcoming Events

December 6-12 Governor Lingle will be in Washington, D.C. to participate in a National Governor's Association (NGA) conference on long-term health care. Governor Lingle has been selected to serve on the NGA's "A Lifetime of Health and Dignity Task Force."

December 7 Lt. Governor and Mrs. Aiona will welcome visitors to a free holiday open house at Washington Place, 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.