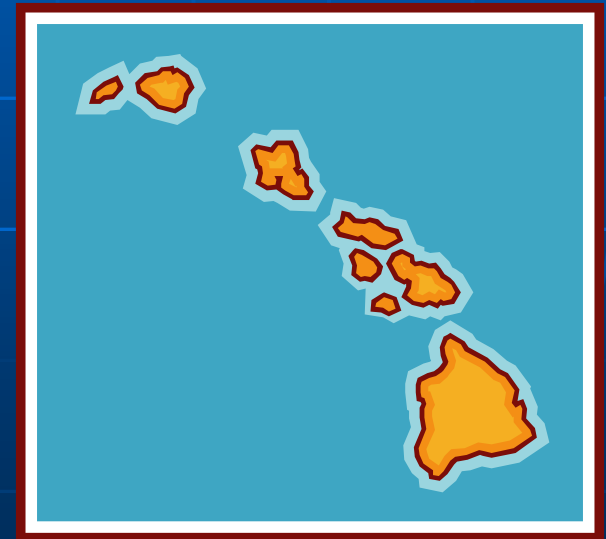




# Hawaii Senate's Paperless Initiative

Updating the Legislature  
for the 21st Century.

Senator Les Ihara, Jr.  
Majority Policy Leader



# State of Hawaii – Senate

- 1.2 million residents on 8 islands and in 4 counties
- 25 Senators elected to four-year staggered terms
- 60-day sessions convene annually 3rd week of January



# Senate Leadership Initiative

Senate President Colleen Hanabusa  
Announces Sustainability Platform on  
Opening Day of 2007 Session



# 2007 Interim

## Paperless Pilot Developed

- Senator David Ige appointed technology liaison
- Two work groups formed to explore feasibility of paperless processes
- Senate Leadership approved paperless pilot





# Hawaii Senate Paperless Project Goals

Senators and staff  
access legislative  
documents online  
and eliminate  
hardcopies



# Hawaii Senate Paperless Project Goals

Agendas of floor  
sessions and  
committees  
hyperlinked  
to bills, committee  
reports, testimony,  
and status

## ORDER OF THE DAY

### 8. Advise and Consent

2923

EDU

G.M. No. 341

[Testimony](#) [Status](#)

"Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Education Commission of the States, Gubernatorial Nominee, ANN R. BOTTICELLI, for a term to expire 6-30-2012."

## AGENDA

[HB 2306, HD2](#)

(HSCR953-08)

[Testimony](#)

[Status](#)

RELATING TO GENERAL EXCISE TAXATION.

Exempts from the general excise tax amounts received by managed care support contractors as reimbursements of costs or advances made pursuant to a contract for the administration of the federal TRICARE program. Effective 07/01/2020. (HB2306 HD2)

HTH, EDT, WAM

[HB 2540, HD1](#)

(HSCR869-08)

[Testimony](#)

[Status](#)

RELATING TO TAXATION.

Provides an income tax and general excise tax exemption for companies that provide potable water and are exempt under section 501(c)(12) of the IRC. Effective January 1, 2020. (HB2540 HD1)

HTH, EDT, WAM



# Hawaii Senate

## Paperless Project Goals

- Capitol wireless access to legislative documents
- Online access to public testimony
- Searchable bill contents
- Print shop stops bulk printing of legislative documents

# 2008 Session

## Senate Paperless Pilot



Two committees conducted proceedings in paperless format and members reviewed legislative testimony on laptops






# Reasons For Going Paperless

- Emulate a legislature of 21<sup>st</sup> century organization
- Support sustainability goals
- Increase public access to the legislative process





# Senate Paperless Pilot Planning & Collaboration

## Leadership Collaborates with Staff in Planning and Preparation

- Leadership sought input from senators and staff via survey; staff surveys external users
- Two pilot work groups incorporated input in designing paperless processes
- Processes tested in mock hearings, and public feedback resulted in free CDs of bills upon request

# Senate Paperless Project

## Information Technology Infrastructure

**Total Expenditures = \$100,000**

- 25 tablet PCs – one for each Senator
- 120 Adobe licenses
- Enhanced wireless capacity in conference rooms and chamber
- Enhanced e-mail box capacity



# Senate Paperless Pilot Staff & Legislator Training



- Staff received group training on paperless process and one-on-one training on software and hardware
- Two committee chairs and members participated in several paperless pilot mock hearings and technical staff attended hearings

# 2008 Results • Paperless Pilot

## Paperless Committees



- Both pilot committees managed all committee hearings via interactive agendas on laptops

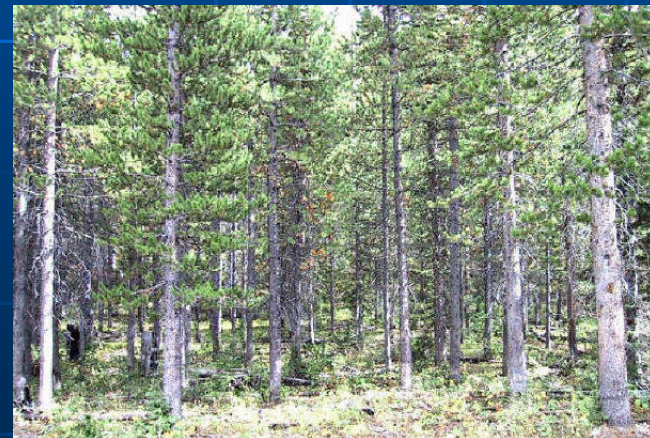


- And eliminated all paper folders of bills and testimony, except three folders (original, public and archives)
- During floor sessions, 23 of 25 Senators accessed daily orders of the day via laptops

# 2008 Results • Paperless Pilot

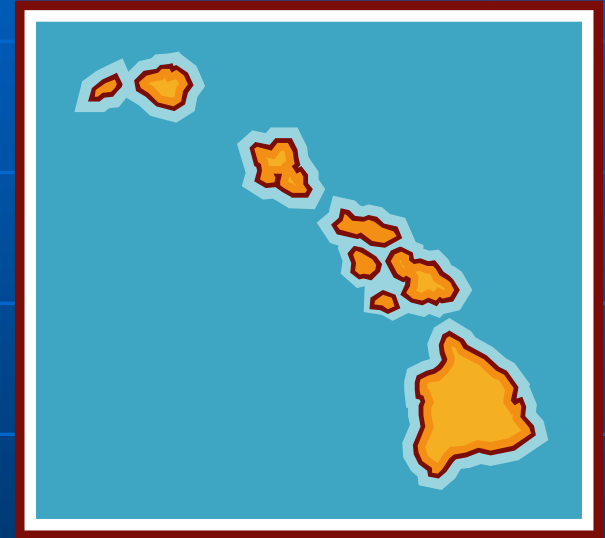
## Used Less Paper

- 1,340 cases of copier paper saved (13,400 reams of paper)
- Senate reduced paper consumption by 60 percent
- Saved a forest of 800 trees



# 2008 Results • Paperless Pilot Legislators & Public Response

- Senators, who were at first reluctant, became “believers”
- Lobbyists and stakeholder advocates provided positive feedback, especially neighbor island constituents
- Media commented positively on enhanced access to legislative documents



# Senate Paperless Project

## 2009 Session

- All committees go paperless
- Text messaging for subscribers
- On-demand video webcasts
- Web-based testimony form
- Testimony text-searchable
- Paper scanners for each senate office
- Digital audio recordings





# Senate Paperless Project

## Challenges Ahead

- Maintenance of IT infrastructure
- Technical proficiency
- Technology's impact on parliamentary and administrative procedures



# Senate Paperless Project

## Outstanding Issues

- Digital divide



- Policy on official documents



- Security issues



# For More Information on the Senate Paperless Project



[www.capitol.hawaii.gov/senate](http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/senate)

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