

Dan Inouye

U.S. SENATOR FROM HAWAII



SENATOR INOUE HAILS “AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT OF 2009” CONFERENCE REPORT AS GOOD FOR AMERICA AND HAWAII

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Washington, DC – Senate Appropriations Committee Chairman Daniel K. Inouye (D-Hawaii) today hailed the imminent passage by the U.S. Senate of the “American Recovery and Reinvestment Act” Conference Report as a crucial step on America and Hawaii’s road to economic recovery.

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 combines tax relief and government spending for total investments of \$787 billion for America’s working families, funding that will not only jump-start our economy and create jobs in the near-term, but also help to build the foundation for America’s economic growth for many years to come.

“As Chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee, working with the House and the Obama Administration, I tried my best to craft a compromise legislative package that will put people back to work, invest in critical infrastructure such as roads and schools, prevent cuts to basic services, reduce the tax burden on working families, and then to position our nation for the future in the areas of renewable energy and broadband connectivity that will help enable our economy to thrive once again,” stated Senator Inouye. “We will move for a final vote in the Senate today and it will be on President Obama’s desk for signature in the very near future.”

Inouye further stated, “Throughout this whirlwind of discussion and debate, compromise and concession on the stimulus plan in our nation’s capitol, I always had one eye firmly on my beloved Hawaii to be sure that we not only got at least our fair share, but have a strategic plan of action to compete for additional federal funds that we desperately need to put Hawaii back on more solid economic footing. “

What does this mean for Hawaii?

In the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, there are four major areas of funding for Hawaii. They include: 1) formula based funds; 2) tax credits and benefits; 3) federal agency funding and competitive grant opportunities in areas such as highways, transit, ports, renewable energy and broadband infrastructure; and 4) authority for Hawaii agriculture disaster assistance and Filipino World War II veterans equity compensation fund.

1) Formula-based funding is estimated at **\$720.6 million** and this includes highway and transit, education and social services, housing and environment. *An **additional \$539.3 million** is coming to Hawaii through specific federal agency projects or via competitive means. **The total to date is \$1.26 billion.***

2) Tax benefits and credits to include: **\$400 for individuals and \$800 for married couples** under the Making Work Pay Tax Credit; **\$40 million per quarter for a total of \$360 million over 27 months** for additional Medicaid reimbursement to the State to help bear some of the health care cost; and **approximately \$30 million for extended unemployment benefits.**

3) Federal agency funding and competitive grant opportunities in such areas as federal facility construction and upgrades, renewable energy investments, flood prevention and watershed projects, highways, transit, airport and harbor infrastructure, energy and broadband infrastructure.

4) The Secretary of Agriculture is authorized to exercise his discretion to provide much needed crop disaster assistance to certain agricultural sectors, such as Hawaii sugar growers, which are not able to get crop insurance due to our unique growing cycles. Farmers hurt by prolonged vog will also be eligible for disaster assistance.

Authority is also included to direct previously appropriated funds in the amount of \$198 million for one-time payments to eligible Filipino World War II veterans as a small token of our appreciation for their service to our nation. (See separate release.)

Set forth below is a listing of the funding for Hawaii:

Hawaii's Infrastructure and Science

In order to rebuild our weakening economy, these investments in our physical and cyber infrastructure will put Hawaii residents immediately to work rebuilding crumbling roads and bridges, and also enable the creation of a stronger and more efficient infrastructure for the 21st century economy.

- \$19.7 million through the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund to address the backlog of drinking water infrastructure needs.
- \$30.8 million through the Clean Water State Revolving Fund to address the backlog of clean water infrastructure needs.
- *The Environmental Health Administration will receive \$1.73 million through the Diesel Emission Reduction Act, which is used to achieve reductions in diesel emissions that improve air quality and protect public health. (See Press Release dated April 8, 2009)*

- *The Department of Health, Solid and Hazardous Waste Branch will receive \$1.32 million through the Leaking Underground Storage Tank programs, which oversee the assessment and cleanup of leaks from underground storage tanks. (See Press Release dated April 8, 2009)*
- \$127.5 million in Highway Funding to be used on activities eligible under the Federal-aid Highway Program's Surface Transportation Program and could also include rail and port infrastructure activities at the discretion of the states.
 - *\$63 million for 10 separate projects on Kauai, Oahu, Hawaii, Maui and Molokai*
 - *\$64.92 million divided by the County's:*
 - *Hawaii County -- \$35.6 million*
 - *City and County of Honolulu -- \$19.2 million*
 - *Kauai County -- \$6 million*
 - *Maui County -- \$4.12 million*
- *\$78.8 million for State Department of Transportation's Airport Division (see Press Release dated March 5, 2009, and May 8, 2009)*
 - *TSA's Explosive Detections Systems at Kahului Airport -- \$18.5 million*
 - *TSA's Explosive Detections Systems at Honolulu International Airport -- \$43 million*
 - *TSA's Explosive Detection Systems and Advanced Technology X-ray units for Hilo and Lihue Airports -- \$2.3 million*
 - *Kahului Airport new Apron -- \$15 million*
- \$43.8 million in Transit Formula Funding for investments in county bus transit systems.
 - *City and County of Honolulu -- \$40.9 million*
 - *\$2.9 million split between Maui, Hawaii and Kauai Counties*
- \$16.3 million through the Public Housing Capital Fund to enable local public housing agencies to address a national \$32 billion backlog in capital needs – especially those improving energy efficiency in aging developments – in this critical element of the nation's affordable housing infrastructure.
- \$9.6 million in HOME Funding to enable state and local government, in partnership with community-based organizations, to acquire, construct, and rehabilitate affordable housing and provide rental assistance to poor families.
- \$6.2 million through the Homelessness Prevention Fund to be used for prevention activities, which include: short or medium-term rental assistance, first and last month's rental payment, or utility payments. This will benefit an estimated 700 households in Hawaii.

Total: \$6,182,962

- *State -- \$2,166,888*
- *City and County of Honolulu -- \$4,016,074 (see City and County of Honolulu Press Release dated July 24, 2009)*
 - *Catholic Charities Hawaii -- \$973,432*
 - *Helping Hands Hawaii -- \$500,000*
 - *Institute for Human Services -- \$1,100,000*
 - *Kalihi Palama Health Center -- \$500,000*
 - *Waikiki Health Center -- \$180,000*
 - *Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center -- \$219,840*
 - *Legal Aid Society of Hawaii -- \$300,000*
 - *Volunteer Legal Services Hawaii -- \$100,000*

- *\$10.2 million for the Native Hawaiian Block Grant to the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands for infrastructure development.*
- *\$225 million in bond authority under the Recovery Zone Bonds Program. The breakout is as follows. (See Press Release dated June 12, 009)*
 - City and County of Honolulu – \$73.6 million*
 - Hawaii County – \$61.7 million*
 - Kauai County – \$30.4 million*
 - Maui County -- \$59.3 million*

Federal Agency Infrastructure Upgrades

- *\$165.5 million for military construction projects including:*
 - *\$49.95 million for energy upgrades*
 - *\$31.5 million for runway repair at Pacific Missile Range Facility. (See Press Release dated from Navy dated April 29, 2009)*
 - *\$19.3 million for the Child Development Center at Marine Base Kaneohe*
 - *\$31.2 million for wharf repairs at Naval Station and Pearl Harbor Shipyard. (See Press Releases from the Navy dated April 28 & 29, 2009)*
 - *\$31.5 million for Headquarters building repair at Hickam Air Force Base*
- *\$5 million for operations and maintenance repairs from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The following harbors will receive funding. (See Press Release dated April 28, 2009)*
 - *Haleiwa Small Boat Harbor -- \$3.1 million for maintenance dredging to the entrance channel.*
 - *Waianae Small Boat Harbor -- \$1.5 million for maintenance dredging to the entrance channel.*
 - *Barbers Point Harbor will receive \$348,000 to upgrade its visitor center exhibits, replace the air conditioner system, and renovate restrooms*
- *\$60 million from the Department of Army for the following construction projects. (See Press Release dated April 29, 2009).*
 - *\$683,000 -- Bradshaw Army Airfield (Big Island)*
 - *\$5.7 million – Fort Shafter (Oahu)*
 - *\$1.9 million – Pohakuloa Training Area (Big Island)*
 - *\$33.6 million -- Schofield Barracks (Oahu)*
 - *\$17.4 million – Wheeler Army Airfield (Oahu)*

- *\$8.6 million from U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services for construction, repairs, energy efficiency improvements, habitat restoration and deferred maintenance. The breakdown for Hawaii is listed below. (See Press Release dated April 27, 2009)*
 - *Kealia Pond National Wildlife Refuge, Maui -- \$7,300,000 for design and construction of an energy efficient administrative and visitors building that replaces a structure previously destroyed by fire.*
 - *Hakalau Forest National Wildlife Refuge, Big Island -- \$590,000 for replacement of Pua Akala barn with a storage/maintenance building.*
 - *Hawaiian Islands National Wildlife Refuge -- \$406,000 for replacement of a solar energy system and a housing and storage unit at Laysan Island.*
 - *Pacific Islands Coastal Program -- \$220,000 for restoration of Lehua Island native habitat and Mokia coastal strand on Molokai; cattle and predator control fencing around Nuu Wetland on Maui.*
 - *Kilauea Point National Wildlife Refuge, Kauai -- \$120,000 for rehabilitation work on Kilauea Point Lighthouse.*
- *\$15.74 million in investments from the Department of Interior that will create jobs, enhance visitor experiences, and conserve Hawaii's heritage and history for future generations. The following parks will receive funding. (See Press Release dated April 22, 2009)*
 - *Haleakala National Park (Maui): \$1,338,000 to repair and replace fences park-wide; and repair flashflood damage to the Pipiwai Trail and remove debris.*
 - *Hawaii Volcanoes National Park (Hawaii): \$7,802,000 to demolish and replace dilapidated visitor contact stations to support visitor services; rehabilitate Halemaumau Trail from Iliahi Trail to Crater Rim Trail; replace boundary and pig fencing (multiple projects); and resurface rainshed roads.*
 - *Kalaupapa National Historical Park (Molokai): \$536,000 to rehabilitate historic Paschoal Hall phase 4.*
 - *Kaloko-Honokohau National Historical Park (Hawaii): \$20,000 to grade and re-gravel 2 miles of unpaved roads.*
 - *Puuhonua o Honaunau (Hawaii): \$61,000 to repair flood damage to historic Kiilae Archaeological Village, 1871 Trail and fence line.*
 - *USS Arizona Memorial (Oahu): \$5,983,000 to construct intermodal transfer station.*
- *\$6.1 million from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for coastal habitat restoration projects. The following 2 projects will receive funding. (See Press Release dated June 30, 2009)*
 - *\$3.4 million – removal of invasive algae in East Honolulu's Maunalua Bay by the Nature Conservancy.*
 - *\$2.7 million – restoration the coastal and marine habitat by reducing the amount of sediment on coral reefs through erosion control and replanting native upland vegetation in Pelekane Bay by the Kohala Center..*

- *\$121 million from the U.S. General Services Administration for the Prince Kuhio Kalanianaʻole Federal Building in Honolulu to renovate and modernize the federal courthouse and building. (See Press Release dated July 30, 2009)*
- *\$15.6 million from the U.S. General Services Administration for the Hilo Federal Building and Post Office to renovate and modernize the building. (See Press Release dated July 30, 2009)*
- *\$4.5 million from the U.S. Department of Agriculture to fight invasive plant species statewide. (See press release dated May 14, 2009)*

Education and Training in Hawaii

In order to compete in the 21st century, we must have a well-educated workforce, capable of adapting to an ever-changing economic environment. Investing in education now will ensure that the next generation of Hawaii's workers is ready and able to meet the challenge of global competition.

- *\$192.2 million* through the State Fiscal Stabilization Fund specifically for preventing cutbacks and layoffs in education, and for school modernization; the Hawaii Department of Education and the University of Hawaii will share in these funds.
 - *\$157.2 million to fill programmatic shortfalls*
 - *\$35 million for school modernization*
- \$40 million for Special Education Part B State Grants to help improve educational outcomes for individuals with disabilities.
- \$3.1 million in education technology funds to purchase up-to-date computers and software and provide professional development to ensure the technology is used effectively in the classroom.
- \$44.5 million for Title I Education for the Disadvantaged to help close the achievement gap and enable disadvantaged students to reach their potential.
- \$1.5 million in State Employment Service Grants to match unemployed individuals to job openings through state employment service agencies and allow Hawaii to provide customized reemployment services. *We will receive \$891,404 for Reemployment Services, and \$534,842 for Wagner-Peyser. (Provided by State Department of Labor on March 31, 2009)*
- *\$507,317 for the Senior Community Services Employment Program. (Provided by State Department of Labor on March 31, 2009)*
 - Hawaii County -- \$76,844*
 - Oahu -- \$324,053*
 - Kauai -- \$25,370*
 - Maui -- \$50,611*
 - State -- \$30439*
- \$2.1 million in Dislocated Workers State Grants, particularly for grants that support immediate strategies for regions and communities to meet their need for skilled workers, as well as longer-term plans to build targeted industry clusters with better training and a more productive workforce.
- \$1.2 million for Department of Labor's Adult State Grants.
- \$2.9 million for Department of Labor's Youth State Grants.
- \$1.9 million for Vocational Rehabilitation to help individuals with disabilities prepare for and sustain gainful employment.

Hawaii's Energy

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 would provide investments in areas critical to the development of clean, efficient, American energy, including modernizing energy transmission, research and development of renewable energy technologies, and modernizing and upgrading government buildings and vehicles.

- \$25.9 million through the State Energy Program. *(See Press Release dated March 12, 2009)*
- \$4 million through the Weatherization Assistance Program. *(See Press Release dated March 12, 2009)*
- *\$15 million from the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block program which will allow Hawaii to reduce total energy use and lessen its dependence on fossil fuel emissions. (See Press Release dated March 26, 2009)*

State Energy Office of Hawaii -- \$9,593,500

Honolulu -- \$3,863,700

Big Island -- \$737,800

Maui -- \$605,300

Kauai -- \$267,900

- *\$750,000 from the U.S. Department of Energy to the Hawaiian Electric Company for the development of wind power initiatives through the Hawaii Utility Integration Initiative. (See Press Release dated July 15, 2009)*
- *The availability of \$1.23 million for a State-run rebate program for consumer purchases of new ENERGY STAR qualified home appliances. (See Press Release dated July 14, 2009)*

Protecting the Most Vulnerable in Hawaii

This funding will provide immediate relief for children, the poor, and others who may find themselves struggling to put food on the table or a roof over their head. It will also address the urgent need to provide safe and secure places to live.

- \$337,052 for National School Lunch Program Equipment Assistance.
- \$305,716 through the Emergency Food Assistance Program.
- \$106 million in Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program benefits (formerly Food Stamps).
- *\$292,549 for the Emergency Food and Shelter Program, which provides grants to nonprofit and faith-based organizations at the local level to supplement their programs for emergency food and shelter to provide for the immediate needs of the homeless. (Provided by Department of Homeland Security on April 9, 2009)*
- \$6.4 million in Child Care and Development Block Grants to provide quality child care services for low-income families who increasingly are unable to afford the high cost of day care. *(See Press Release dated April 9, 2009)*

- *\$988,990 for the Department of Health and Human Services Immunization Grant program which helps ensure that the underserved receive the vaccines they need. (See Press Release dated April 9, 2009)*
- \$2.1 million for Head Start to allow additional children to participate in this program, which provides development, educational, health, nutritional, social and other activities that prepare children to succeed in school.
- \$5 million in Community Services Block Grants to local community action agencies for services to the growing numbers of low-income families hurt by the economic crisis, such as housing and mortgage counseling, jobs skills training, food pantry assistance, as well as benefits outreach and enrollment. *(See Press Release dated April 10, 2009)*
- \$485,000 for Senior Meals Programs to help senior meals programs cope with steep increases in food and fuel costs. Many programs are reducing meal deliveries to seniors or closing meal sites. *(See Press Release dated March 18, 2009)*
 - *\$325,000 for congregate nutrition services programs*
 - *\$160,000 for home-delivered nutrition services program.*
- \$4.1 million for Community Development Block Grants to the counties to support our diverse communities from senior housing, health care, to bus transportation and community centers.

City and County of Honolulu

- *Kokua Kalihi Valley- Community Health Center Expansion – \$800,000*
- *Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center - Water Reuse System – \$732,817*
- *Gregory House Programs - Renovations of Group Homes – \$298,333*
- *Alternative Structures International - Ohana Ola O Kahumana, Phase I Renovations – \$265,875*
- *Hawaii Family Law Clinic (Ala Kuola) - Assistance for Victims of Domestic Violence – \$137,000*
- *Legal Aid Society of Hawaii - Home Preservation Project – \$100,000*
- *Central Oahu Youth Services Association - Group Home Renovation – \$30,000*
- *City and County of Honolulu for Administration – \$262,669*

Hawaii County

- *Hospice of Hilo - In-Patient Facility Site Improvements – \$367,628*
- *Kamuela Elderly Housing - Solar Water Heating System – \$215,000*
- *Hawaii County for Administration – \$64,736*

Maui County

- *Maui Food Bank Rehabilitation – \$300,000*
- *Easter Seals Maui Facility Rehabilitation – \$252,976*

Kauai County

- *Kauai Head Start Improvement Project – \$16,300*
- *Kapaa Infrastructure Improvements – \$198,856*

- \$6 million in matching federal funds for child support enforcement to improve Hawaii's ability to collect child support.

- *\$11.2 million to federal community health centers to meet the increased demand for uninsured health care services and to improve facilities and purchase equipment. (See Press Releases dated March 13, 2009 and June 29, 2009)*

OAHU

- *Waianae District Comprehensive Health and Hospital Board – \$1,530,726*
- *Kalihi-Palama Health Center – \$1,183,574*
- *Kokua Kalihi Valley Comprehensive Family Services with six locations - \$796,238*
- *Waikiki Health Center – \$728,509*
- *Koolauloa Community Health and Wellness Center - \$535,909*
- *Waimanalo Health Center – \$506,443*
- *Ke Ola Mamo – \$320,700*

BIG ISLAND

- *The Bay Clinic – \$1,058,693*
- *West Hawaii Community Health Center – \$634,122*
- *Hui Malama Ola Na Oihi – \$297,585*
- *Hamakua Health Center – \$444,743*

MAUI

- *Community Clinic of Maui – \$747,370*
- *Hana Community Health Center – \$430,302*
- *Hui No Ke Ola Pono – \$298,230*

MOLOKAI

- *Na Puuwai, Inc – \$315,415*
- *Molokai Ohana Health Care – \$421,933*

LANAI

- *Lanai Women’s Center/Lanai Community Health Center – \$352,303*

KAUAI

- *Hoola Lahui Hawaii – \$647,805*
- *Native Hawaiian Health Care System – Papa Ola Lokahi (See Press Release dated March 27, 2009)*
 - Ke Ola Mamo, Inc (Honolulu) -- \$129,239*
 - Hui Malama Ola Na Oihi (Hilo) -- \$110,430*
 - Na Puuwai, Inc. (Kaunakakai) -- \$111,385*
 - Hui No Ke Ola Pono, Inc. (Wailuku) -- \$109,085*
- *\$850,000 for upgrades to the Matsunaga Veterans Medical Center at Tripler*
- *\$192,574 for upgrades to the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific (Punchbowl)*

Law Enforcement in Hawaii

- \$10.7 million in Byrne/JAG grants to support law enforcement efforts.
(See Press Release dated March 6, 2009)
 - *State of Hawaii -- \$3.24 million*
 - *City and County of Honolulu -- \$3,450,742*
 - *Hawaii County -- \$366,489*
 - *Maui County -- \$274,649*
 - *Kauai County -- \$191,079*
 - *\$3.1 million will also be distributed to the counties via a competitive grant process)*
- \$269,221 for crime victims compensation and assistance.
- *\$5.2 million to the Honolulu Police Department from the U.S. Department of Justice Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) program to allow for the hiring of 21 police officers. These funds will provide 100% of the approved salary and benefits for these officers for 3 years. (See Press Release dated July 28, 2009)*
- \$1.1 million in Internet Crimes Against Children Grants to help law enforcement agencies enhance their investigative response to offenders who use the Internet, online communication systems, or other computer technology to sexually exploit children.
- \$1.2 million in Violence Against Women Grants for victim services programs to improve the criminal justice system's response to violent crimes against women and to assist victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking who are in need of transitional housing, short-term housing assistance, and related support services.

Tax Cuts and Credits for Hawaii

In addition to the formula funds listed above, Hawaii will also qualify for a number of additional benefits in terms of tax credits and cuts for working families:

Unemployment Benefits in Hawaii. According to the U.S Department of Labor, Hawaii could receive approximately \$30.7 million in new funding if Hawaii fully enacts the Unemployment Insurance modernization incentives that the legislation would provide. There are approximately 36,400 unemployed workers to be covered by extended unemployment insurance benefits.

Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP). The FMAP is the rate at which states are reimbursed for most Medicaid service expenditures. Under the temporary FMAP increase, Hawaii could receive about \$40 million per quarter for a total of about \$360 million over 9 quarters or 27 months.

Tax Relief for Hawaii Families and Businesses. The following are examples of tax provisions in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 that will help Hawaii businesses and families, create jobs and get Hawaii's economy moving:

- Up to \$400 for individuals and \$800 for married couples for the Making Work Pay Tax Credit, with an estimated 490,000 eligible workers in *Hawaii for an estimated \$333 million in tax reductions. This will mean a take-home pay increase of about \$65 a month for working families. (See Press Release dated April 1, 2009)*
- \$250 to Social Security beneficiaries, SSI recipients, and disabled veterans.

- \$2,500 for 11,000 additional families in Hawaii that will qualify for the American Opportunity Tax Credit making college more affordable.
- An additional 14,000 Pell Grants will be awarded in Hawaii.
- An additional 86,000 residents would be protected from the Alternative Minimum Tax in 2009.
- Extended Homebuyer Tax Credit to both help aspiring homeowners and stabilize plummeting home prices.
- Extended Bonus Depreciation and Small Business Expensing through 2009, allowing businesses that make capital investments to immediately deduct one-half the cost. Small businesses can immediately deduct 100 percent of the cost of these investments.
- *\$48 million in guaranteed home loans from the U.S. Department of Agriculture for qualified families in rural areas. (See Press Release dated April 1, 2009)*

Authorities

Agriculture Disaster Assistance. Hawaii sugarcane growers have been unable to secure federal crop insurance because currently available sugarcane policies apply only to those sugarcane crops that are planted and harvested within a 12-month period. Hawaii has a crop cycle that is nearly 24 months – a crop model that enables economic viability due to higher yields over a longer production period when compared to 12-month sugarcane crops and economies associated with a single planting for a two-year period. The provision included in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 would give the Secretary of Agriculture the discretion to provide much needed crop insurance that is extended to producers of the same crop in other parts of the country. Farming practices differ in all regions of the country. This provision would ensure fairness and equitable treatment to those regions of the country that are unable to obtain assistance from the federal government. Farmers hurt by the prolonged vog are also eligible for disaster assistance.

Filipino World War II Veterans. Under the 2009 Continuing Resolution, the Congress appropriated \$198 million for a one-time payment to eligible persons who served in the Philippines during World War II. The release of the appropriated funds is subject to authorization. The language included under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, would direct and ensure that payments made from previously appropriated funds will be received by eligible Filipino World War II veterans.