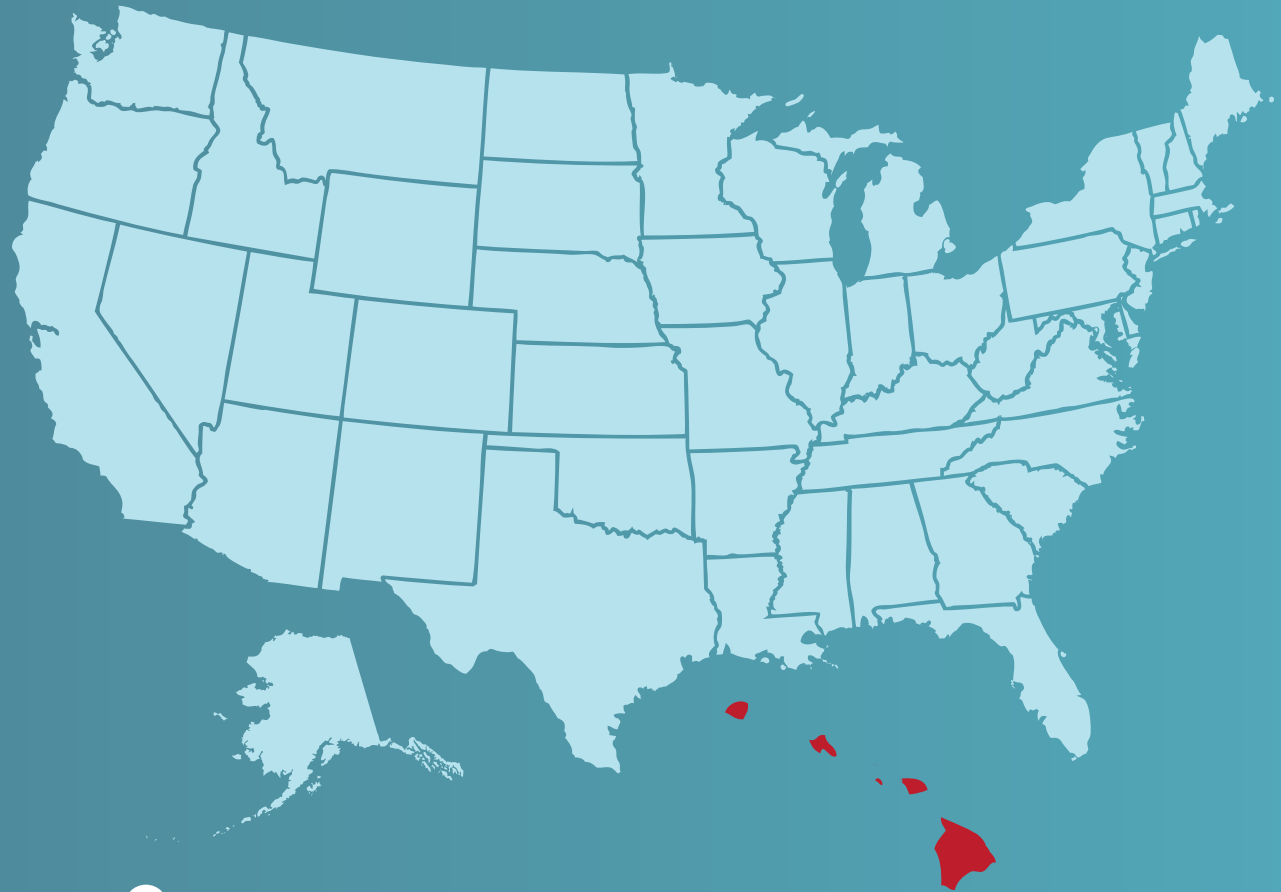
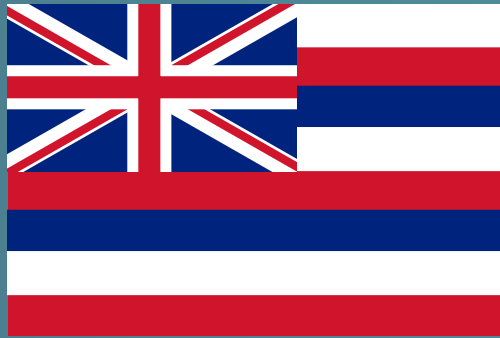




THE
AMERICAN
CONSERVATIVE
UNION

2015 RATINGS *of* HAWAII



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LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Dear Fellow Conservatives,

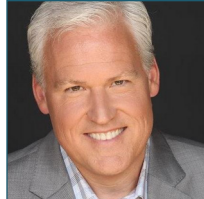
I am pleased to present the American Conservative Union Foundation's ratings for the 2015 meeting of the Hawaii State Legislature. Like our Congressional Ratings, our State Ratings reflect how elected officials view the role of government in an individual's life. The Hawaii legislators with the strongest scores voted most consistently with the ideals articulated in the US Constitution: limited and transparent government, individual rights, personal responsibility, and a healthy culture.

The 2014 election completed a political transformation that began in 2010 and resulted in voters of almost half the states, 23 in all, entrusting Republicans with the governorships as well as control of both chambers in the respective state, the biggest sweep since the first half of the 20th Century.

By examining all our State Ratings (which cover a wide variety of issues) we can see which states have best used their Republican majorities to apply conservative principles, how others have struggled, and in yet other states, how conservatives have stood up against liberal majorities. I know that this guide will provide you with the most comprehensive evaluative tool to learn how your legislators measure up.

Sincerely,

Matt Schlapp
Chairman
American Conservative Union





ACU BOARD MEMBERS

Matt Schlapp <i>Chairman</i>	Larry Beasley	Kellyanne Conway	Michael Long
Thomas Winter <i>First Vice Chairman</i>	Bob Beauprez	Tom DeLay	Grover Norquist
Carolyn Meadows <i>Second Vice Chairman</i>	Kimberly Bellissimo	John Eddy	Becky Norton Dunlop
Jameson Campaigne, Jr. <i>Secretary</i>	Morton Blackwell	Luis Fortuno	Ron Robinson
	Ambassador John Bolton	Amy Frederick	Ned Ryun
	Al Cardenas	Charlie Gerow	Fred Smith, Jr.
	Jose Cardenas	Alan Gottlieb	Matt Smith
	Ron Christie	Van Hipp, Jr.	Lewis Uhler
	Muriel Coleman	James Lacy	Ed Yevoli

ACU FOUNDATION BOARD MEMBERS

Matt Schlapp <i>Chairman</i>	Kimberly Bellissimo	Carolyn Meadows
Millie Hallow <i>Vice Chairman</i>	Jose Cardenas	Thomas Winter
Van Hipp, Jr. <i>Treasurer</i>	Amy Frederick	
Tim Goeglein <i>Secretary</i>	Jonathan Garthwaite	
	Charlie Gerow	
	Colin Hanna	
	Willes Lee	

To contact ACU, please call 202-347-9388



1331 H Street NW, Suite 500
Washington, DC 20005
(202) 347-9388

SELECTING THE VOTES

ACU researched and selected a range of bills before the Hawaii State Legislature that determine a member's adherence to conservative principles. We selected bills that focus on Ronald Reagan's philosophy of the "three-legged stool": 1) *fiscal and economic*: taxes, budgets, regulation, spending, healthcare, and property; 2) *social and cultural*: 2nd amendment, religion, life, welfare, and education; and 3) *government integrity*: voting, individual liberty, privacy, and transparency. This wide range of issues are designed to give citizens an accurate assessment that conveys which of Hawaii's elected leaders best defend the principles of a free society: Life, Liberty and Property.



2015 WINNERS & LOSERS

90-100%

AWARD FOR CONSERVATIVE EXCELLENCE



SENATE

SLOM

HOUSE

n/a

80-89%

AWARD FOR CONSERVATIVE ACHIEVEMENT



SENATE

n/a

HOUSE

n/a

<10%

COALITION OF THE RADICAL LEFT



SENATE

Baker

Chun Oakland

Dela Cruz

English

Espero

Green

Harimoto

Ihara

Inouye

Kahele

Keith-Agaran

Kidani

Kim

Kouchi

Nishihara

Shimabukuro

Taniguchi

Tokuda

HOUSE

Aquino

Belatti

Cachola

Creagan

Cullen

DeCoite

Evans

Har

Hashem

Ing

Ito

Johanson

Kawakami

Keohokalole

LoPresti

Lowen

Luke

MATSUMOTO

Mizuno

Morikawa

Onishi

Rhoads

Saiki

Takayama

Takumi

Tokioka

Tsuji

Woodson

Yamane

Yamashita



HAWAII SENATE VOTE DESCRIPTIONS

1. **SB 349 Renewable Energy Subsidies.** This bill establishes a renewable fuel production tax credit and allows some to claim a “refundable” income tax credit on renewable fuel. It repeals the existing ethanol facility tax credit that was never used because there are no ethanol plants in Hawaii. ACU believes that all forms of energy should compete within the free market, that government should refrain from helping favored energy sources, and opposed this bill. The Senate passed the bill on March 10, 2015 by a vote of 24-1.

2. **SB 1028 Obamacare Implementation.** This bill adds another \$2 million to the bailout of the failed Obamacare state insurance exchange. One month later, after \$130 million in wasted funds, the state exchange shut down. ACU opposes a program that has driven up the cost of health insurance for millions of Americans and opposed this bill. The Senate passed the bill on March 10, 2015 by a vote of 23-2.

3. **SB 1030 Smoking Age.** This bill raises the legal age for buying or consuming tobacco products, including e-cigarettes, from 18-21. ACU believes that both tobacco and e-cigarettes are a personal liberty issue, that those of legal age to vote and serve in the armed forces should not be criminalized for using tobacco products, and opposed this bill. The Senate passed the bill on March 10, 2015 by a vote of 20-5.

4. **HB 888 Firearm Restrictions.** This bill makes possessing a loaded firearm a crime if the owner is intoxicated. The bill is particularly vague and would harm law abiding gun owners. ACU supports the founding fathers’ belief in the Second Amendment and opposed this bill, which is obviously designed to harass legal owners of firearms and opposed this bill. The Senate passed the bill on April 8, 2015 by a vote of 24-1.

5. **HB 1007 Illegal Immigrant Benefits.** This bill allows illegal immigrants to obtain drivers’ licenses in Hawaii. ACU opposes special benefits for illegal immigrants and opposed this bill. The Senate passed the bill on April 8, 2015 by a vote of 24-1.

6. **HB 623 Renewable Energy Mandates.** This bill requires that 100% of electricity in Hawaii come from renewable sources by the year 2045 regardless of the technology available or the cost. ACU believes that all forms of energy should compete within the free market, that government should refrain from helping favored energy sources and opposed this bill. The Senate passed the bill on April 9, 2015 by a vote of 23-1.

7. **HB 525 Smoking Bans.** This bill bans the use of any tobacco product in the state park system. ACU believes that tobacco is a personal liberty issue and government regulations on products are only appropriate when their use substantially impacts others and opposed this bill. The Senate passed the bill on April 14, 2015 by a vote of 24-1.

8. **HB 553 Unions for Teaching Assistants.** This bill allows graduate student assistants in the University of Hawaii system to form unions to bargain collectively for wages, hours and benefits, overriding the Board of Regents and the University Administration. ACU opposes turning student teaching assistants into a career, driving up the ever-increasing costs of education and opposed this bill. The Senate passed the bill on April 14, 2015 by a vote of 24-1.

9. **HB 940 E-Cigarettes.** This bill bans the use of e-cigarettes anyplace smoking is prohibited. ACU believes that both tobacco and e-cigarettes are a personal liberty issue, that government regulations on products are only appropriate when their use substantially impacts others and opposed this bill. The Senate passed the bill on April 14, 2015 by a vote of 24-1.

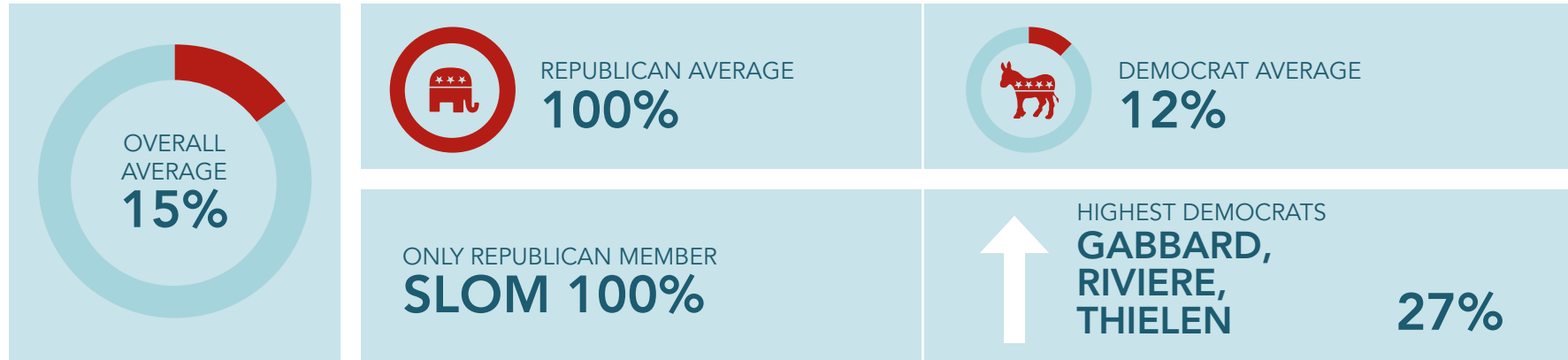
10. **HB 1075 State Government Hospital Operation.** This bill authorizes the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation to enter into a public-private partnership to operate three medical centers and caps the amount of state subsidies to these centers. ACU supports this modest effort to allow more private enterprises in the operation of these hospitals that are projected to have a combined operating deficit of \$800 million over the next ten years and supported this bill. The Senate passed the bill on April 14, 2015 by a vote of 24-1.

11. **HB 134 Tax Extension.** This bill allows the Honolulu City Council to extend a “temporary” excise tax surcharge for another 10 years. The funds will go to a rail project that faces a billion dollar shortfall after numerous cost overruns, construction delays and faulty revenue projections. ACU opposes this fiscally irresponsible project and opposed this bill. The Senate passed the bill on May 5, 2015 by a vote of 21-4.



HAWAII SENATE SCORES

HAWAII SENATE STATISTICS



HAWAII SENATE VOTE DETAIL

	Party	District	SB 349	SB 1028	SB 1030	HB 888	HB 1007	HB 623	HB 525	HB 553	HB 940	HB 1075	HB 134	ACU Votes	Votes Cast	2015 %	2014 %	LIFETIME AVG
Baker	D	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	1	11	9%	11%	10%
Chun Oakland	D	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	1	11	9%	11%	10%
Dela Cruz	D	22	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	1	11	9%	11%	10%
English	D	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	1	11	9%	11%	10%
Espero	D	19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	1	11	9%	11%	10%
Gabbard	D	20	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	3	11	27%	22%	25%
Galuteria	D	12	-	-	-	-	-	E	-	-	-	+	-	1	10	10%	11%	11%
Green	D	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	1	11	9%	11%	10%
Harimoto	D	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	1	11	9%	n/a	9%
Ihara	D	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	1	11	9%	n/a	9%
Inouye	D	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	1	11	9%	11%	10%
Kahele	D	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	1	11	9%	11%	10%
Keith-Agaran	D	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	1	11	9%	11%	10%
Kidani	D	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	1	11	9%	11%	10%
Kim	D	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	1	11	9%	11%	10%
Kouchi	D	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	1	11	9%	11%	10%
Nishihara	D	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	1	11	9%	11%	10%



HAWAII SENATE VOTE DETAIL

	Party	District	SB 349	SB 1028	SB 1030	HB 888	HB 1007	HB 623	HB 525	HB 553	HB 940	HB 1075	HB 134	ACU Votes	Votes Cast	2015 %	2014 %	LIFETIME AVG
Riviere	D	23	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	3	11	27%	n/a	27%
Ruderman	D	2	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	2	11	18%	11%	15%
Shimabukuro	D	21	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	1	11	9%	11%	10%
SLOM	R	9	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	11	11	100%	89%	94%
Taniguchi	D	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	11	0%	11%	6%
Thielen	D	25	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	3	11	27%	11%	19%
Tokuda	D	24	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	1	11	9%	11%	10%
Wakai	D	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	2	11	18%	11%	15%



HAWAII HOUSE VOTE DESCRIPTIONS

1. **HB 525 Smoking Bans.** This bill bans the use of any tobacco product in the state park system. ACU believes that tobacco is a personal liberty issue and government regulations on products are only appropriate when their use substantially impacts others and opposed this bill. The House passed the bill on March 5, 2015 by a vote of 48-1.

2. **HB 553 Unions for Teaching Assistants.** This bill allows graduate student assistants in the University of Hawaii system to form unions to bargain collectively for wages, hours and benefits, overriding the Board of Regents and the University Administration. ACU opposes turning student teaching assistants into a career, driving up the ever-increasing costs of education and opposed this bill. The House passed the bill on March 6, 2015 by a vote of 49-2.

3. **HB 623 Renewable Energy Mandates.** This bill requires that 100% of electricity in Hawaii come from renewable sources by the year 2045 regardless of the technology available or the cost. ACU believes that all forms of energy should compete within the free market, that government should refrain from helping favored energy sources and opposed this bill. The House passed the bill on March 10, 2015 by a vote of 48-3.

4. **HB 888 Firearm Restrictions.** This bill makes possessing a loaded firearm a crime if the owner is intoxicated. The bill is particularly vague and would harm law abiding gun owners. ACU supports the founding fathers' belief in the Second Amendment and opposed this bill, which is obviously designed to harass legal owners of firearms and opposed this bill. The House passed the bill on March 10, 2015 by a vote of 47-3.

5. **HB 940 E-Cigarettes.** This bill bans the use of e-cigarettes anyplace smoking is prohibited. ACU believes that both tobacco and e-cigarettes are a personal liberty issue, that government regulations on products are only appropriate when their use substantially impacts others and opposed this bill. The House passed the bill on March 10, 2015 by a vote of 50-1.

6. **HB 1007 Illegal Immigrant Benefits.** This bill allows illegal immigrants to obtain drivers' licenses in Hawaii. ACU opposes special benefits for illegal immigrants and opposed this bill. The House passed the bill on March 10, 2015 by a vote of 47-3.

7. **HB 1075 State Government Hospital Operation.** This bill authorizes the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation to enter into a public-private partnership to operate three medical centers and caps the amount of state subsidies to these centers. ACU supports this modest effort to allow more private enterprises in these hospitals that are projected to have a combined operating deficit of \$800 million over the next ten years and supported this bill. The House passed the bill on March 10, 2015 by a vote of 41-10.

8. **SB 349 Renewable Energy Subsidies.** This bill establishes a renewable fuel production tax credit and allows some to claim a "refundable" income tax credit on renewable fuel. It repeals the existing ethanol facility tax credit that was never used because there are no ethanol plants in Hawaii. ACU believes that all forms of energy should compete within the free market, that government should refrain from helping favored energy sources, and opposed this bill. The House passed the bill on April 14, 2015 by a vote of 49-2.

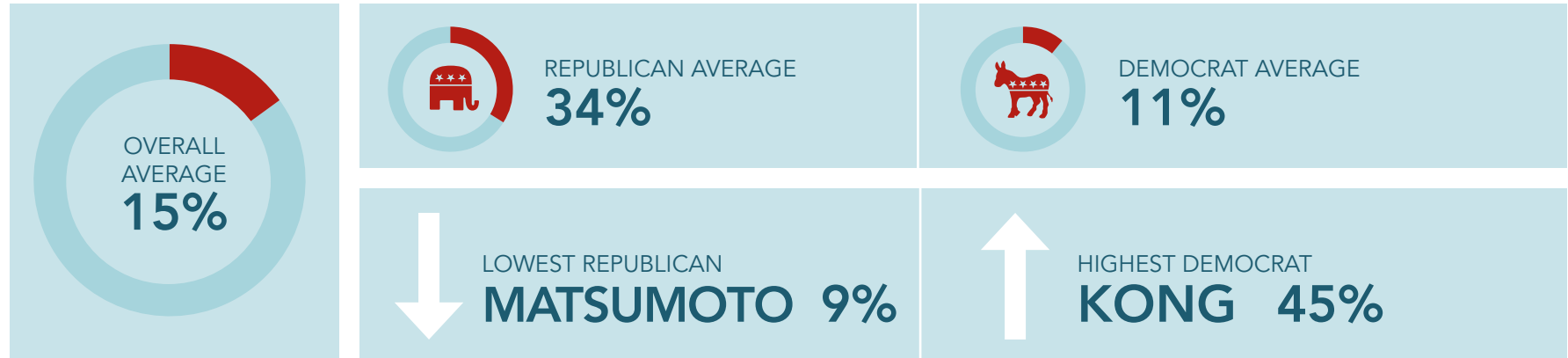
9. **SB 1028 Obamacare Implementation.** This bill adds another \$2 million to the bailout of the failed Obamacare state insurance exchange. One month later, after \$130 million in wasted funds, the state exchange shut down. ACU opposes a program that has driven up the cost of health insurance for millions of Americans and opposed this bill. The House passed the bill on April 14, 2015 by a vote of 45-6.

10. **SB 1030 Smoking Age.** This bill raises the legal age for buying or consuming tobacco products, including e-cigarettes, from 18-21. ACU believes that both tobacco and e-cigarettes are a personal liberty issue, that those of legal age to vote and serve in the armed forces should not be criminalized for using tobacco products, and opposed this bill. The House passed the bill on April 14, 2015 by a vote of 44-7.

11. **HB 134 Tax Extension.** This bill allows the Honolulu City Council to extend a "temporary" excise tax surcharge for another 10 years. The funds will go to a rail project that faces a billion dollar shortfall after numerous cost overruns, construction delays and faulty revenue projections. ACU opposes this fiscally irresponsible project and opposed this bill. The House passed the bill on May 5, 2015 by a vote of 39-12.

HAWAII HOUSE SCORES

HAWAII HOUSE STATISTICS



HAWAII HOUSE VOTE DETAIL

	Party	District	HB 525	HB 553	HB 623	HB 888	HB 940	HB 1007	HB 1075	SB 349	SB 1028	SB 1030	HB 134	ACU Votes	Votes Cast	2015 %	2014 %	LIFETIME AVG
Aquino	D	38	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	11	0%	30%	15%
Belatti	D	24	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	1	11	9%	10%	10%
Brower	D	22	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	2	11	18%	10%	14%
Cachola	D	30	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	1	11	9%	11%	10%
Choy	D	23	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	+	+	-	4	11	36%	30%	33%
Creagan	D	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	1	11	9%	11%	10%
Cullen	D	39	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	11	0%	30%	15%
DeCoite	D	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	1	11	9%	n/a	9%
Evans	D	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	1	11	9%	10%	10%
FUKUMOTO-CHANG	R	36	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	4	11	36%	50%	43%
Har	D	42	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	1	11	9%	50%	30%
Hashem	D	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	1	11	9%	10%	10%
Ichiyama	D	32	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	2	11	18%	10%	14%
Ing	D	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	1	11	9%	10%	10%
Ito	D	49	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	1	11	9%	n/a	9%
Johanson	D	31	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	1	11	9%	20%	15%
Jordan	D	44	-	-	-	-	-	E	+	-	-	-	-	1	10	10%	30%	20%
Kawakami	D	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	11	0%	30%	15%



HAWAII HOUSE VOTE DETAIL

	Party	District	HB 525	HB 553	HB 623	HB 888	HB 940	HB 1007	HB 1075	SB 349	SB 1028	SB 1030	HB 134	ACU Votes	Votes Cast	2015 %	2014 %	LIFETIME AVG
Keohokalole	D	48	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	1	11	9%	n/a	9%
Kobayashi	D	19	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	2	11	18%	10%	14%
Kong	D	33	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	+	+	+	5	11	45%	n/a	45%
Lee	D	51	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	2	11	18%	10%	14%
LoPresti	D	41	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	1	11	9%	n/a	9%
Lowen	D	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	1	11	9%	10%	10%
Luke	D	25	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	1	11	9%	10%	10%
MATSUMOTO	R	45	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	1	11	9%	20%	15%
McDERMOTT	R	40	+	-	+	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	-	6	11	55%	60%	57%
McKelvey	D	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	2	11	18%	10%	14%
Mizuno	D	28	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	1	11	9%	11%	10%
Morikawa	D	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	11	0%	10%	5%
Nakashima	D	1	-	-	-	E	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	1	10	10%	10%	10%
Nishimoto	D	21	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	2	11	18%	10%	14%
Ohno	D	27	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	3	11	27%	10%	19%
Onishi	D	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	11	0%	10%	5%
Oshiro	D	46	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	2	11	18%	40%	29%
POUHA	R	47	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	2	11	18%	n/a	18%
Rhoads	D	29	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	1	11	9%	10%	10%
Saiki	D	26	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	1	11	9%	10%	10%
San Buenaventura	D	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	2	11	18%	n/a	18%
Say	D	20	E	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	1	10	10%	30%	20%
Souki	D	8	E	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	1	10	10%	10%	10%
Takayama	D	34	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	1	11	9%	10%	10%
Takumi	D	35	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	1	11	9%	11%	10%
THIELEN	R	50	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	+	3	11	27%	20%	24%
Tokioka	D	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	1	11	9%	50%	30%
Tsuji	D	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	1	11	9%	20%	15%
TUPOLA	R	43	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	+	5	11	45%	n/a	45%
WARD	R	17	-	+	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	+	5	11	45%	30%	38%
Woodson	D	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	1	11	9%	10%	10%
Yamane	D	37	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	11	0%	30%	15%
Yamashita	D	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	1	11	9%	10%	10%