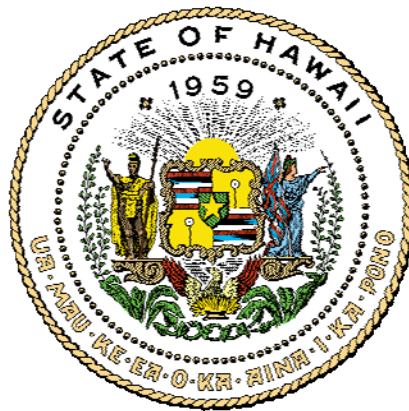


# State of Hawaii's Sister-States



**Business Development & Support Division  
Department of Business, Economic  
Development & Tourism**

**December 2016**

A Report to the legislature of the State of Hawaii as required by Act 150, SLH2006



## Hawaii Sister-State Committee

As of 2016, the Hawaii Sister-State Committee has three active members and awaits the nomination and appointment of two additional members representing the Native Hawaiian cultural organizations and the East West Center. With three committee members constituting a quorum, the Committee is still able to meet and continue its focus on the following goals and objectives:

**1. The Committee will take an active role in evaluating prospective and current sister relationships, for both cultural and economic development reasons, with attention to fostering the most productive ties.**

There is agreement that most successful sister relationships occur when:

- a. There is commonality between Hawaii and the sister, primarily from geographical, historical, cultural or economic standpoints.
- b. There are active and interested support groups, such as Chambers of Commerce, cultural and civic associations.
- c. There are economic benefits for both sisters, such as increased numbers of visitors, or enhanced investment or marketing opportunities.
- d. Close ties have been established between educational institutions of the two potential sisters, including both student and faculty exchanges.
- e. There is a clear, strong governmental interest in not only forming, but maintaining the relationship.

**2. To assure the productivity and viability of a sister relationship, the Committee reviewed and revised the sister-state application form originally developed by the Office of International Relations. The Committee also reviewed and revised the Policies and Procedures Manual which governs the process of nominating and evaluating prospective and existing sister-states.**

In addition to completing the revised application form, additional requirements include:

- a. A letter from the Governor of the proposed sister.
- b. A designated point-of-contact person.
- c. Recent activity reports between Hawaii and the proposed sister.
- d. Recommendations for future activities.
- e. Proposed calendar of future events.

**3. The Committee will periodically review the activities of each sister relation to determine which ties should be strengthened and which should be severed. The State has 16 sister relationships, dating back to 1981. Some relationships have been very active (e.g. Hiroshima, Fukuoka, Okinawa, Taiwan and Guangdong), while others have shown little or no activity (e.g. Azores Islands).**

<b>SISTER-STATES (Chronological order)</b>		
<b>COUNTRY</b>	<b>PROVINCE/PREFECTURE</b>	<b>YEAR ESTABLISHED</b>
Japan	Fukuoka	1981
Portugal	Azores Islands	1982
Greater China	Guangdong	1985
Japan	Okinawa	1985
Philippines	Ilocos Sur	1985
Korea	Jeju	1986
Greater China	Hainan	1992
Greater China	Taiwan	1993
Philippines	Cebu	1996
Japan	Hiroshima	1997
Philippines	Pangasinan	2002
Japan	Ehime	2003
Philippines	Ilocos Norte	2005
Philippines	Isabela	2006
Morocco	Rabat-Sale-Zemmour-Zaer	2011
Indonesia	Bali	2014

<b>SISTER-STATES (Alphabetical order by country and area)</b>		
<b>COUNTRY</b>	<b>PROVINCE/PREFECTURE</b>	<b>YEAR ESTABLISHED</b>
Greater China	Guangdong	1985
	Hainan	1992
	Taiwan	1993
Indonesia	Bali	2014
Japan	Fukuoka	1981
	Okinawa	1985
	Hiroshima	1997
	Ehime	2003
Korea	Jeju	1986
Morocco	Rabat-Sale-Zemmour-Zaer	2011
Philippines	Ilocos Sur	1985
	Cebu	1996
	Pangasinan	2002
	Ilocos Norte	2005
	Isabela	2006
Portugal	Azores Islands	1982

## **Fukuoka Prefecture, Japan (1981)**

**2016, marked the 35th anniversary of the Hawaii-Fukuoka sister-state relationship. Governor Hiroshi Ogawa and members of the Fukuoka Prefectural Assembly will lead a delegation to Hawaii in January 2017. A celebratory reception will be held at Washington Place that will be planned and coordinated by the Hawaii Fukuoka Kenjin Kai and the Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism.**

Representatives from Fukuoka's Prefectural Assembly travel annually to attend the Opening Day of the Hawaii State Legislature.

The prefectural government annually invites 11-year old children representing Fukuoka Kenjin Kai from around the world to spend ten days in Fukuoka. The Honolulu Fukuoka Kenjin Kai under the auspices of the Fukuoka Prefectural Government selects children of Fukuoka descent to participate in the annual program.

For 26 years, Fukuoka Prefecture has hosted the Asia-Pacific Children's Conference (APCC). In 2015, with coordination and facilitation by the Japan-America Society of Hawaii, six Junior Ambassadors from Hawaii were selected to participate in the annual event in Fukuoka.

In 2006, 25th anniversary sister-state events coordinated by DBEDT, Fukuoka Prefecture and the Hawaii Fukuoka Kenjin Kai included a mission to Fukuoka which featured (1) a consumer products and culture show at Tenjin Lion Square where an estimated 35,000 residents experienced live Hawaiian music and hula, hands-on cultural demonstrations and "Made in Hawaii" product sampling; (2) a business trade show where ten vendors representing 24 Hawaii companies met with potential buyers from the Kyushu region; and (3) a celebration culminating with "The Hawaii Experience - Gala Reception" attended by 400 people from Hawaii and Fukuoka and included Hawaiian music and hula.

## **Azores Islands, Portugal (1982)**

**In spite of requests for updates to Sister-State related activities, there has been no response.**

The Azores Islands, a part of Portugal, are situated in the Atlantic Ocean, approximately 1,200 miles, or two hours' flying time from Lisbon, the capital city.

The impetus behind establishing a sister relationship was the approximately 50,000 Hawaii residents of Portuguese ancestry, many tracing their ancestry to the Azores. In addition, Hawaii and the Azores share many physical features. They are both ocean

islands of volcanic origin, with temperate climates, outstanding beaches and strong visitor industries.

The reality is that both sides have not shown evidence of an active relationship and the Hawaii Sister-State Committee has been unsuccessful in its attempts to reach the Honorary Consul General for Portugal in Honolulu to obtain information on the status of this sister-state relationship.

### **Okinawa Prefecture, Japan (1985)**

**In 2016, Governor Ige participated in the 6<sup>th</sup> Worldwide Uchinanchu Festival which is held every five years, in Okinawa, and offered a rare opportunity for Uchinanchu from all over the world to return to the islands and reconnect with their heritage and culture.**

**As part of the mission program in conjunction with the Worldwide Uchinanchu Festival, Governor Ige and DBEDT officials visited the Ocean Thermal Energy Conversion (OTEC) facility on Kumejima Island and an on-site company that is utilizing deep seawater.**

In 1991, the Hawaii Okinawa Center was built with major assistance from Okinawa Prefectural government and businesses and the Center celebrated its 25th anniversary in 2015.

Okinawa Governor Takeshi Onaga and a delegation of 100 traveled to Hawaii in July 2015, in recognition of the 30th anniversary sister-state relationship which included a Hawaii-Okinawa Energy Innovation Forum held in the House Chamber and a sister-state reception at Washington Place.

Hawaii Governor David Ige participated in a mission to Okinawa in honor of the 30th anniversary Hawaii-Okinawa sister-state relationship in October 2015. The visit was organized by the Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism (DBEDT) and focused on international student exchange and renewable energy cooperation. Over 30 individuals representing the Hawaii State Legislature, educational institutions and private industry traveled to Okinawa on this occasion. Governor Ige and First Lady Dawn Amano-Ige addressed attendees at three seminars: (1) Hawaii-Okinawa International Education Exchange Seminar; (2) Hawaii-Okinawa Energy Innovation Seminar; (3) Hawaii, U.S.A. Seminar hosted by the Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO). Governor and Mrs. Ige held separate courtesy calls on Okinawa Governor Takeshi Onaga and U.S. Ambassador Caroline Kennedy. The Governor and First Lady also attended a 30th anniversary sister-state reception hosted by the Okinawa Prefectural Government and participated in the Naha Festival.

Hawaii Governor David Ige participated in the International Energy Symposium in Urasoe City, Okinawa. The symposium featured worldwide viewpoints on energy from Okinawa, Hawaii, Brazil, Peru and the Philippines, and provided the opportunity for a free exchange of information, ideas and technology in the quest for 100 percent renewable energy.

In 2015, Okinawa Prefecture and the State of Hawai'i signed a Memorandum of Cooperation (MOC) on Clean and Efficient Energy Development and Deployment to mark the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of sister-state/province relations. The collaboration aims to advance clean energy technologies and promote renewable energy.

The Worldwide Uchinanchu Business Association (WUB) was established in 1993 and serves as the Okinawa Chamber of Commerce.

The Okinawan Festival began in 1981 and is held annually attracting thousands of residents and visitors from Okinawa and around the world to this ethnic cultural event in Hawaii.

The Okinawa Student Exchange program has been conducted annually between Hawaii and Okinawa and celebrates its 25th anniversary this year. To date, over 2,000 students have participated in the exchange program.

### **Guangdong Province, China (1985)**

**DBEDT, in collaboration with Study Hawaii (Educational Consortium) and the Hawaii Department of Education (DOE), led an education exchange and promotion mission to Guangdong from October 26-28, 2016. DBEDT's State of Hawaii Office in Beijing coordinated the meetings, school visits and presentations together with the U.S. Commercial Service and Guangdong Foreign Affairs Office. 17 individuals representing educational institutions and government participated in these activities. Guangdong Province, located in southern China, is China's largest province, with a total population exceeding 107 million people.**

In November 2015, the University of Hawaii at Manoa Shidler College of Business Executive Education Center and the Information and Computer Sciences Department welcomed 24 participants from the Guangdong Department of Human Resource and Social Security to attend the World Bank sponsored executive IT Program on "Best Practices for Implementing Integrated Information Systems." The program was first offered in 2014 at the University of Hawaii at Manoa. The program aims to train IT administrators to build state-of-the-art social protection systems in China to help migrant workers from inner provinces more easily access their social benefits such as health, disability and unemployment benefits from their home provinces. Que Guangchang, Bureau Chief of Guangdong's Social Insurance Fund Administration, and

his executive team, met with their counterparts at the State Department of Human Services.

Hawaii Governor David Ige led a 40 member delegation to Guangdong Province to celebrate the 30th anniversary of Hawaii-Guangdong sister-state relationship from October 11-14, 2015. The mission was organized by the Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism (DBEDT) and focused on international student attraction and exchange. 15 member institutions from the Study Hawaii Educational Consortium and Representative Ryan Yamane traveled to Guangdong for the mission. Governor Ige and First Lady Dawn Amano-Ige gave the opening remarks to attendees of the Study Hawaii Education Seminar. Governor and Mrs. Ige met with Guangdong Governor Zhu Xiaodan to discuss opportunities for Hawaii and Guangdong to consider including direct flights between Hawaii and Guangzhou. Governor and Mrs. Ige joined Governor Zhu and invited guests from Hawaii and Guangdong at the 30th anniversary sister-state reception hosted by Guangdong Province.

In 2010, the State of Hawaii hosted a reception to celebrate the 25th anniversary of sister-state relations with Guangdong Province in Guangzhou. Guangdong Governor Huang Huahua signed a Memorandum of Understanding to extend sister relations with Hawaii for another 25 years.

In December 2007, a 15-member delegation from the Guangdong Provincial Government, led by Mr. Fu Lang, Director-General of the Guangdong Foreign Affairs Office, visited Hawaii to meet with senior faculty and administration officials at the University of Hawaii at Manoa. At the meeting, both parties discussed the creation and implementation of an internship program for UH students with the Guangdong chapter of the China Council for the Promotion of Industry and Trade (CCPIT) member companies. Director-General Fu is a graduate of the Guangdong Province Senior Executive Leadership Training Program. In April 2008, Director-General Fu was promoted to head Guangdong's Foreign Affairs Office (GDFAO). The GDFAO plays a very important role in Hawaii's quest to globalize its citizens and workforce and expand its trade ties to China.

Guangdong has emerged as the nation's economic powerhouse and enjoys the highest per capita income and standard of living in China. China's Central Government has allowed Guangdong a high degree of autonomy in handling its economic affairs. The province was one of the first to introduce economic reform and has the largest industrial base in China.

The University of Hawaii College of Business Administration and DBEDT developed the Guangdong Province Senior Executive Leadership Training Program in 1999. Each year, for five years, a group of ten senior civil service administrators and State-owned private enterprise executives attended classes related to their professional interest; visited businesses and governmental institutions; performed internships; and learned American



customs and culture. Currently, the 50 alumni of this program are among the upper echelon of Guangdong's provincial government leadership and are actively involved in China's international relations and trade with other nations. Their fields include medicine, law, forestry, textiles, electric power, agriculture, aquaculture, engineering, economic development, and environmental preservation. One graduate was promoted to the rank equivalent to a Vice Governor.

The establishment of a sister relationship with Guangdong in 1985, which set up formal ties to the province, had much to do with Hawaii's success in developing a bridge to China. The House resolution noted that "developments in the People's Republic of China make this a particularly propitious time in which to establish firm relations of goodwill and friendship." Guangdong was a logical choice as the state's first Chinese sister, as a large percentage of immigrants from China came to Hawaii from Guangdong. Dr. Sun Yat-sen, the first president of China (the "Father of Modern China"), who studied at Iolani and Punahou Schools, was born in Zhongshan City in Guangdong.

Since 1985, Guangdong has developed into one of Hawaii's closest sisters, eager to expand the relationship beyond traditional cultural exchanges. Legislators, Chinese Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii leaders, university officials and participants in trade missions have visited Guangdong. The province, in turn, has sent many delegations to Hawaii for business and professional training.

### **Ilocos Sur Province, Philippines (1985)**

**Ilocos Sur Governor Ryan Luis Singson visited Hawaii in September 2016 to attend the 39<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration of the Ilocos Surian Association of Hawaii, the umbrella organization of all Filipino American organizations in Hawaii affiliated with Ilocos Sur. While in Honolulu, Governor Singson paid a courtesy visit to Governor Ige.**

On December 20, 2015, 14 sakadas (plantation workers) were honored at the inaugural Sakada Day Celebration at the State Capitol, 109 years after the first arrival of sakadas in Hawaii in 1946. Governor David Ige, Consul General Gina Jamoralin, and U.S. Representative Tulsi Gabbard were among the dignitaries present to honor these Filipino pioneers and acknowledge their contributions to Hawaii's history and development. The Filipino community in Hawaii and the Philippine Consulate General are preparing for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sakada Day Celebration in December 2016.

The Filipino Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii has organized trade missions to the Philippines attended by state and county government officials and local business executives. The Chamber visit included Ilocos Sur in 2013 and 2014. The 2015 mission was led by Lieutenant Governor Shan Tsutsui and Honolulu Philippine Consul General

Gina Jamoralin and included Kauai County Mayor Bernard Carvalho and 30 local business executives.

Ilocos Sur Vice Governor Deogracias Victor Savellano visited Honolulu in June 2015 to attend the first Filipino Food Fair held on the Philippine Consulate General grounds. Vice Governor Savellano also paid a courtesy visit to Lieutenant Governor Shan Tsutsui during his stay in Hawaii.

Ilocos Sur Governor Luis Singson signed an agreement with Kapiolani Community College to help Filipino nurses educated in the Philippines improve their English and pass the State nursing examination. Kapiolani Community College is also helping University of Northern Philippines faculty to improve their curriculum and provide faculty exchanges so that the faculty from the University of Northern Philippines can learn about new technology and teaching techniques.

In March 2015, the Philippine Consulate General, in partnership with the Candonians of Hawaii, the Filipino Community Center, the University of Hawaii, Philippine Airlines, Etrata Foundation and Western Union organized and held the first Ilocano language immersion course targeting young Filipino Americans living in Hawaii. The three month program is called the Ilocano Language Acquisition and Immersion for the New Generation (iLAING) and the five students who successfully completed the program traveled on a two week, all-expense paid immersion trip to Ilocos Sur and Ilocos Norte in June 2015.

### **Jeju Province, Korea (1986)**

**DBEDT, in collaboration with the Hawaii Korean Chamber of Commerce, organized a legislative mission from May 7-15, 2016, to celebrate the 30th anniversary of Hawaii's sister-state relationship with Jeju. During the mission, Hawaii participants met with the Jeju Energy Department and learned about the Carbon Free Island Jeju initiative where plans are aimed to make the island carbon free and self-sustainable through renewable energy resources by 2030. The delegation also met with Governor Won Heeryong and members of his cabinet to discuss future events and activities throughout 2016. One of the highlights of the mission was the Jeju-Hawaii Food & Wine Festival which was modeled after the Hawaii Food & Wine Festival and promoted chefs and products from Hawaii.**

**In September 2016, Jeju Governor Won led a delegation to Hawaii to celebrate the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of sister relationship between the State of Hawaii and Jeju. A commemorative reception was held, hosted by DBEDT and the Hawaii Korean Chamber of Commerce, on the grounds of Iolani Palace.**

**DBEDT, partnering with the Hawaii Korean Chamber of Commerce also planned and organized a Hawaii Education Promotion Mission to South Korea from October 1-7, 2016. As part of the mission program, the Hawaii Department of Education was represented in numerous school visits in Jeju.**

**In November 2016, the Jeju Provincial Development Corporation (JPDC) invited people from Hawaii to speak at the 8<sup>th</sup> annual Jeju Water World Forum. The four invited speakers from Hawaii were: a representative from the University of Hawaii at Hilo; a representative from the Natural Energy lab of Hawaii; and the Deputy Director of DLNR's Commission on Water Resource Management and one staff. Discussions are ongoing for a possible international water forum in 2018 to include other Hawaii sister-states and to be held in either Jeju or Hawaii.**

**One event that has resulted from this relationship is Hawaii's participation in the annual Jeju Youth Forum which has been held on Jeju Island since 2011. The Forum is a creative platform for youth from around the world to exchange their opinions and ideas on a variety of topics including world peace, environmental concerns and bullying. Students from around the globe honed skills in global leadership and helped to formulate international consensus. The Forum serves as a platform to establish global friendships and cooperation through the virtues of understanding, enthusiasm, wisdom, and trust. Kalani High School, with assistance from DBEDT, sent four students to the 2016 Jeju Student Forum representing Hawaii and the United States. Austin Young, along with another student from Jeju, received a Certificate of Appointment from the Governor of Jeju as Jeju Honorary Youth Ambassadors at the conclusion of the Jeju Youth Forum.**

Jeju Province, with a population of over 605,000 people, is located off the southwest coast of Korea. Jeju has a well-established reputation as an international tourist destination and is sometimes called "Korea's Hawaii." The island has a mild climate, and is rich in plant and marine resources. Halla Mountain, a dormant volcano, dominates the island.

Like the Azores, Okinawa, Guangdong and Ilocos Sur, the sister relationship with Jeju acknowledged an important segment of Hawaii's population—persons of Korean ancestry, estimated at over 22,000 persons. In addition, Jeju and Hawaii's economy is heavily dependent on the visitor industry.

In May 2007, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was entered into by the State Department of Education and the Jeju Special Self-Governing Provincial Office of

Education. The MOU outlined specific activities including: (1) senior staff exchanges; (2) teacher exchanges (participation in classroom programs, development of instructional material, seminars and other activities); (3) student exchanges (middle and high school student exchanges via the Internet, school-to-school exchanges, sports and other cultural activities); and (4) assisting in the establishment of sister-school relationships.

### **Hainan Province, China (1992)**

**In spite of requests for updates to Sister-State related activities, there has been no response.**

The State of Hawaii, Hainan Province, and Guangdong Province have held a Hawaii-China legal administration seminar at the University of Hawaii Richardson School of Law, the East-West Center, and the Splendor of China. Organizers are planning a fifth seminar to be held in Hainan or Zhongshan, Guangdong Province. The seminars have had a significant impact on the early development of China's court and legal system.

In 2006, Kapiolani Community College entered into an agreement to provide a food safety and sanitation instruction and certification program 2006 in Hainan. It was the first ever formalized food safety and sanitation program conducted in Hainan.

### **Taiwan, Greater China (1993)**

**The State of Hawaii Office in Taipei organized a Study Hawaii mission to Taiwan from October 8-11, 2016. As part of the mission, Hawaii schools participated in the Oh! Study International Education Expo and actively promoted Hawaii as a study location to hundreds of students and parents interested in Hawaii as a study abroad location. During 2016, the Office continued to deliver speeches and make presentations to schools, government agencies, Rotary Clubs and other organizations in Taiwan to promote study abroad opportunities in Hawaii.**

**Also in 2016, the State of Hawaii Office in Taipei worked closely with the Taiwan Hula Association to promote Hawaiian culture in Taiwan, including assisting in scheduling performances at the Taipei International Travel Fair, Sogo Department Store and other venues. A group of 54 hula dancers from Taiwan participated in the 2016 Merrie Monarch Festival.**

In September 2008, a nine member delegation led by Director-General Huey-Ching Yeh, head of the Taiwan Bureau of Energy, met with the Lieutenant Governor Duke Aiona and DBEDT, and also met with Lockheed Martin Company, the Hawaii Natural Energy Institute, Project Better Place, the Hawaii Agricultural Research Center, the University of Hawaii College of Tropical Agriculture & Human Resources, the State Department of

Agriculture, Hawaii BioEnergy Company, First Wind and the Hawaiian Electric Company. The topics of discussion included the Hawaii Clean Energy Initiative, Ocean Thermal Energy Conversion, renewable energy technologies, power grid integration, electric vehicles, biofuels, wind energy, algal development as a biofuel feedstock; bioenergy conversion and bioenvironmental projects, research and development and capital investment strategies to fund renewable energy projects in Hawaii.

Delegations and dignitaries from Taiwan visiting Hawaii included:

- **In 2016, Taiwan Council of Indigenous Peoples delegation, led by Minister Lin Mayaw Dongi and 34 township mayors, traveled to Hawaii to meet with Governor Ige, the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, Kamehameha School, Kapiolani Community College, Brigham Young University Hawaii and the Polynesian Cultural Center to discuss how cultural and economic development initiatives for Native Hawaiians as compared to Taiwan's efforts for their indigenous population**
- Kaohsiung City Mayor Chu Chen and Kaohsiung City Council Speaker Kang Yu-Cheng led a delegation in June 2015
- Deputy Minister Huang Tian-Mu of Financial Supervisory Commission delivered a speech on cross-straits relations with China at Iolani School in 2015
- President Ma Ying-jou led delegations in 2009 and 2014
- Deputy Minister Lu Yuan-Lung of Overseas Community Affairs Council visited in 2013
- Taiwan Governor Lin Jung-Tzer visited in 2013 to celebrate the 20th anniversary of sister-state relations with Hawaii
- Deputy Minister Joseph Shih led a delegation in 2013 to attend the opening ceremony of the PILP programs at the East-West Center
- Deputy Minister Huang Wan-Hsiang of Council for Economic Planning led a clean energy delegation to visit in 2012
- Mayor Jason Hu of Taichung City led a delegation to attend the 3rd Asia Pacific Clean Energy Summit & Expo in 2011
- Secretary General Chen Hui-Ling Chen, Taiwan Energy Bureau, Ministry of Economic Affairs, led delegations to the 1st and 2nd Asia Pacific Clean Energy Summit & Expo in 2009 and 2010

Hawaii delegations and dignitaries visiting Taiwan:

- **Senator Kalani English visited Taiwan at the invitation of the Taiwan Council of Indigenous Peoples to attend the 2016 International Austronesian Conference. Senator English was one of the featured speakers at the conference**
- **Honolulu City Councilman Trevor Ozawa visited Taiwan as a member of a U.S. City Council delegation in November 2016**

- **In August 2016, Senate President Ronald Kouchi lead a legislative delegation made up of Senators Kalani English, Gilbert Keith-Agaran and Gil Riviere. The delegation's official visits included meetings with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Environmental Protection Agency, Bureau of Energy, Council of Indigenous Peoples and the Bureau of Taipei Metro**
- Governor Neil Abercrombie visited in 2013 and 2014
- State Attorney General David Louie joined the U.S. State Attorneys General delegation in 2013
- House Speaker Joseph Souki led a legislative delegation in 2013 Lieutenant Governor Brian Schatz, Speaker Calvin Say, Senate Vice President Donna Kim and Senator Ronald Kouchi visited in 2012

### **Cebu Province, Philippines (1996)**

**The Cebuano Association of Hawaii, whose membership is made up of Hawaii residents who originally came from Cebu, is planning to launch its "Educational Assistance Program" in early 2017 to extend financial and/or material assistance to needy public schools in Cebu and other Visayan provinces in the Philippines. The goal of the program is to help public and private schools in economically depressed areas initiate or complete needed repairs or improvements of their school facilities.**

**In December 2017, the Cebuano Association of Hawaii will be co-sponsoring a medical mission to Cebu for poor and needy patients in partnership with the Ohana Medical Missions Inc. The delegation will be composed of 15 to 20 doctors and 5 to 10 nurses and the Association is coordinating the medical mission with Governor Davide to select the target areas and to identify medical volunteers from Cebu who will supplement the contingent from Hawaii.**

The Filipino Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii has organized annual trade missions to the Philippines attended by state and county government officials and local business executives. The Chamber visited Cebu in 2015 and 2016. The 2015 trade mission was led by Lieutenant Governor Shan Tsutsui and Honolulu Philippine Consul General Gina Jamoralin and included Kauai County Mayor Bernard Carvalho and 30 local business executives. During the 2016 mission, the Chamber delegation paid a courtesy call on Cebu Governor Hilario Davide III.

Cebu Pacific Air, one of the Philippines' largest airlines, met with the State Department of Transportation Airports Division and Consul General Gina Jamoralin in November 2014 along with travel agencies and members of the Filipino community to discuss their

plans to offer non-stop travel between Manila and Honolulu. Cebu Pacific Air plans to target Honolulu as the carrier's first route to a U.S. city.

### **Hiroshima Prefecture, Japan (1997)**

**In 2016, First Lady Dawn Amano-Ige and members of the Hawaii Education Promotion Mission delegation made courtesy calls on Hiroshima Governor Hidehiko Yuzaki, Hiroshima Prefectural Assembly Chairman Shin Uda, and Hiroshima Prefectural Board of Education Chairman, Kuniaki Shimosaki. During the visit to Hiroshima, a Study Hawaii Seminar was held at the ANA Hiroshima Hotel and attended by over 100 educators, travel professionals and government officials including Governor Yuzaki, Assembly Chair Uda and Superintendent Shimosaki.**

**Also as part of the 2016 education mission to Hiroshima, the Hawaii delegation visited Hawaii's sister-schools including Yasunishi, Inokuchi, Koyo and Kokutaiji High Schools. These schools continue to choose Hawaii as a destination for short-term study and school excursions to the state.**

A Hiroshima Commemoration and Peace Service was held in Hawaii in August 2015.

The U.S. premier of the Hiroshima film "Peace Commemorative City-Hiroshima" was screened in Hawaii on August 2015.

In 2015, Hiroshima Governor Hidehiko Yuzaki traveled to Hawaii in honor of the 60th anniversary of the Hawaii Hiroshima Kenjin Kai. The Kenjin Kai continues to be active and engaged in promoting exchanges between the state and prefecture.

Hiroshima established a sister high school relationship with Honokaa High School. In 2013, under the direction of the Governor of Hiroshima, Koyo Senior High School established a sister school relationship with Kalani High School. In August 2015, students from Koyo Senior High School traveled to Hawaii and stayed with host families from Kalani High School. In November 2015, students from Kalani High School traveled to Hiroshima in a reciprocal visit to Koyo Senior High School.

In 2012, Hawaii and Hiroshima signed a Memorandum of Understanding under the auspices of the U.S. Japan Council (USJC) to engage in greater business-to-business activities in renewable energy and other technologies.

In 2012, the Hiroshima Hawaii Sister-State Committee worked with Hawaii's Nippon Golden Network television station to establish a sister television relationship with Hiroshima Telecasting Company.

In 1997, a Hiroshima Hawaii Sister-State Committee (HHSSC) was created by the Hawaii State Legislature. HHSSC has worked with Hiroshima Prefecture on mutually beneficial programs which includes themes such as: (1) education exchange programs; (2) business and economic development; (3) promotion of culture and the arts; (4) athletic exchanges; (5) peace initiatives.

### **Pangasinan Province, Philippines (2002)**

**The Ohana Medical Mission, with Hawaii-based medical professionals, will visit Pangasinan in 2017 as part of their semi-annual mission to the Philippines.**

In 2008, a Sister-State Goodwill Dental Mission, led by Dr. David Fray, Department of Health's Chief of the Developmental Disabilities Division (as a volunteer) and Dr. David Breese, a dentist with Kokua Kalihi Valley, along with seven dental interns from the United States was planned and coordinated by former State Representative Dennis Arakaki. The dental delegation visited sister provinces in Ilocos Sur, Ilocos Norte and Pangasinan to provide free dental services at clinics in each of the provinces.

### **Ehime Prefecture, Japan (2003)**

**November 18 - 27, 2016, three teams from Hawaii – two 15 and under teams and a 12 and under team – made up of 41 players traveled in a group made up of 160 people to Ehime to participate in the Ehime-Hawaii Goodwill Youth Baseball Exchange. Traveling with the group was Representative Ken Ito and Senator Glenn Wakai. The group participated in a variety of activities:**

- **A homestay for the participants in both Uwajima and Matsuyama.**
- **A visit to Uwajima Fisheries High School to participate in a memorial service hosted by the principal of the school.**
- **Two baseball games were played in Uwajima.**
- **A reception was held for the group hosted by Mayor Ishibashi and members of the Uwajima City Council. At the reception, members of the bereaved families attended. Representative Ito and Senator Wakai presented Mayor Ishibashi with a message from Governor Ige.**
- **The group traveled by train to Imabari. At Imabari, the group went cycling on the Shimanami Kaido road.**
- **Two games were played in Matsuyama.**

**Finally, a reception was held in Matsuyama at which Governor Tokihiro Nakamura attended and welcomed the Hawaii delegation. Representative Ito and Senator Wakai presented a special message to Governor Nakamura from Governor Ige. Also at the reception, a moment of silence was held to**



remember Dr. Seiji Naya. Since 2002, over 100 youth baseball players from Ehime Prefecture and Hawaii have participated in the annual goodwill youth baseball exchange. Since 2006, Ehime Prefecture International Center has invited summer interns from Hawaii to spend three months working in Ehime.

On November 6, 2016, participants in the exchange, their families, Japanese Consul General Misawa, Governor and Mrs. Ige, and Representative Ito and Senator Will Espero participated in a memorial service at Kakaako Waterfront Park.

On July 31, 2016, Consul General Yasushi Misawa hosted a culture and language training event at the Consulate General of Japan in Honolulu for the baseball exchange participants and their families. At this event, Representative Ken Ito and Senator Will Espero were recognized by Consul General Misawa for their support of the exchange and the positive contributions the exchange has made to Japan-American relations.

**2016 marked the passing of Dr. Seiji Naya, the founder of the Ehime-Hawaii Goodwill Youth Baseball Exchange for the Hawaii-side.**

In November 2015, a delegation from Ehime Prefecture participated in the Ehime-Hawaii Youth Baseball Exchange Tournament. The group visited the Ehime Maru Memorial at Kakaako Waterfront Park to pay respects to the nine victims from the Ehime Maru. The Ehime delegation was led by members of the Ehime Prefectural Assembly and Mr. Junnosuke Kaino, Chairman of the Ehime-Hawaii Goodwill Baseball Tournament.

In early 2015, students from Matsuyama University in Ehime visited the University of Hawaii as part of the U.S.-Japan Council's Tomodachi Inouye Scholars Program.

In 2014 and 2015, University of Hawaii students were selected as Ehime Prefecture Interns. The internship program is sponsored and funded by the Ehime Prefectural International Center (EPIC). The program is one of several goodwill measures established to foster good relations between the people of Ehime and Hawaii after the tragic collision between the U.S.S. Greenville nuclear submarine and the Ehime Maru, an Uwajima Fisheries High School training vessel.

In November 2013, Governor Nakamura and a delegation from Ehime Prefecture traveled to Hawaii in recognition of the 10th anniversary sister-state relationship. During this time, the annual youth baseball exchange was held in Hawaii and a reception at Washington Place was held in recognition of the anniversary.

February 9, 2013, was the important "Jusankaiki," or 13th anniversary of the Ehime Maru incident according to Buddhist tradition. Several hundred supporters gathered at Kakaako Waterfront Park to pay tribute to the nine Japanese victims, including four students. Those gathered included bereaved family members, government officials from Ehime Prefecture and Uwajima City, and local Hawaii State and City representatives.

### **Ilocos Norte Province, Philippines (2005)**

The Filipino Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii has organized trade missions to the Philippines attended by state and county government officials and local business executives and Hawaii delegations visited Ilocos Norte in 2013 and 2014. Between March and June 2015, the Philippine Consulate General, in partnership with the Candonians of Hawaii, the Filipino Community Center, the University of Hawaii, Philippine Airlines, Etrata Foundation and Western Union, organized and conducted the first Ilocano language immersion course targeting young Filipino Americans living in Hawaii. The three month program is called the Ilocano Language Acquisition and Immersion for the New Generation (iLAING) and in June 2015, five students who successfully completed the program traveled on a two week, all-expenses paid immersion trip to Ilocos Sur and Ilocos Norte. Following the success of iLAING, the program was renewed in 2016. The top 5 students of the program will participate in the two week Ilocano language immersion program taking place in Manila, Ilocos Sur and Ilocos Norte.

In June 2009, Ilocos Norte Governor Michael Marcos Keon led a delegation of 12 mayors and 2 vice mayors to Maui and Oahu to meet with members of the Ilocano community in Hawaii. Ilocos Norte is the home province of the largest number of Filipinos in Hawaii.

### **Isabela Province, Philippines (2006)**

**In spite of requests for updates to Sister-State related activities, there has been no response.**

Isabela was visited in October 2010 in response to the devastation caused by Typhoon Juan.

Isabela was visited by the Ohana Medical Mission in 2009 where over 3,000 patients were served including over 300 cases of minor surgery.

In 2006 and 2007, the Filipino community organized sister-state goodwill missions. The mission activities included a Governor's Reception Dinner to welcome delegates from Hawaii; Sister-State-Province Conference to discuss areas of exchange between Hawaii and Isabela; visit to elementary and high schools to established sister schools with

presentation of books and computers; Mahalo Reception hosted by Hawaii delegates with presentation of a Hawaiian style cultural show.

### **Greater Region of Rabat-Sale-Zemmour-Zaer, Kingdom of Morocco (2011)**

**A group of ten college students from Hawaii traveled to Morocco in July 2016 to participate in the 3<sup>rd</sup> World Youth Congress in Rabat and Dakhla. During the Congress, the students participated in planning sessions to prepare for the 2017 World Youth Congress which will take place in Hawaii and will be hosted by the Student Sustainability Coalition of Hawaii and Peace Child International Hawaii. The recommendations that the group developed were presented at the Congress. The itinerary also included events in Rabat and the Dakhla area. In addition, the group was also able to present their summary of recommendations at the 22<sup>nd</sup> session of the Conference of Parties and UN Climate Change Conference held in Marrakech in November 2016.**

At the invitation of the Moroccan Government and the Moroccan Association of Studies and Research for Development, based in the Greater Region of Rabat-Sale-Zemmour-Zaer, a delegation from Hawaii visited Morocco from December 1-8, 2015. In addition to three members of the Hawaii-Morocco Friendship Association, three Hawaii legislators were part of the delegation.

Accomplishments from the mission included:

- Kapiolani Community College Chancellor Leon Richards and Jan Rumi, Honorary Consul of Morocco in Hawaii were speakers at the Third International Meeting of Dakhla on the theme of "The New Economic Territories, Actors and Factors in the Emergence, Comparative International Experiences" sharing their insights from an Asia-Pacific perspective.
- A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed between King Mohammed V University and Kapiolani Community College. The MOU calls for Kapiolani Community College to assist the King Mohammed V University, located in the Region of Rabat-Sale-Zemmour-Zaer, to develop a community college model for the university's human resource capital development initiative.

Jan Rumi, Honorary Consul of Morocco, and the Hawaii-Morocco Friendship Association organized a, "Week of His Majesty King Mohammed VI in Hawaii" in November 2012 which included the construction and formal dedication of a Moroccan fountain as a symbol of friendship between the State of Hawaii and the Greater Region of Rabat-Sale-Zemmour-Zaer.

Bouamor Taghouan, President of the Greater Region of Rabat-Sale-Zemmour-Zaer, and the Ambassador of the Kingdom of Morocco to the United States, His Excellency Rachad Bouhlal, attended the ceremony to celebrate the Kingdom of Morocco's official gift to the State of Hawaii of an authentic Moroccan fountain located on the grounds of the Hawaii State Art Museum.

In October 2012, a high level delegation from Rabat-Sale-Zemmour-Zaer, including the President of the King Mohammed V University and the President of the Moroccan Association of Studies and Research for Development visited Honolulu. The delegation visited several University of Hawaii System campuses and met with the university officials for possible collaboration. The delegation also held discussions with Hawaii civic leaders looking to develop collaborative projects in the areas of youth and cultural exchanges.

### **Bali, Indonesia (2014)**

**The watershed village project remains active and the Hawaii Indonesia Chamber of Commerce (HICHAM) has informally partnered with another organization to seek Federal/international funding and this work has been diligently pursued throughout 2016. The Bali village project essentially mirrors an Ala Wai watershed cleanup/mitigation project which is likely to receive funding first as a means of proof of the systems approach concept here on Oahu before it is carried to Bali. HICHAM is looking to transition into the initial assessment work and preliminary feasibility studies for the Bali village watershed project in late 2017.**

**In addition to the substantial efforts involved in developing the funding sources above, HICHAM coordinated with the Consulate General of Indonesia in Los Angeles to recruit Indonesian firms to participate in the annual Hawaii Lodging, Hospitality and Foodservice Expo. During the expo, HICHAM served as the coordinating organization for a cordial visit and conversation on the status of the Hawaii-Bali Sister-State relationship as well as the potential for developing other relationships and business between Hawaii and Indonesia with Governor Ige.**

**In Mid-November of 2016, HICHAM's Chairman, David Day conducted a lengthy briefing for an economic team from the Indonesia Embassy in Washington, D.C. The Embassy was interested to learn more about Hawaii's potential business with Indonesia and also more about the sister-state relationship. The Embassy is currently undertaking the development of a**

**white paper to detail how Indonesia might work to improve its 2-way business with the State of Hawaii.**

Following the execution of the Hawaii-Bali MOU on August 17, 2015, HICHAM began efforts to develop funding for a village project to cleanup of a watershed (from the mountain to the ocean reefs below) combined with a renewable energy component at the village level. Specific villages were identified by HICHAM's Balinese counterparts as test sites and were visited by representatives of HICHAM. In addition, work was initiated to attempt to bring in a Chinese firm to assist in the conversion of a large, accumulated trash dump into a power- generation site, using technology along the lines of Hawaii's successful H-Power facility. Due to existing legal entanglements with the current vendor, this project had to be set aside in the Fall of 2015.

In the Spring of 2015, the HICHAM Board of Directors coordinated closely with the Polynesian Voyaging Society for the Hokulea's Summer 2015 visit to Indonesia and landing on the island of Bali. Coordination included cultural preparation and training for the crew of the Hokulea as well as assistance in the documentation and details required for the vessel's entry into Indonesia.

Following the successful landing of the Hokulea, HICHAM representatives conducted a series of meetings with Bali Governor Pastika and the Bali Coordinating Committee which resulted in a Memorandum of Understanding detailing the initial undertakings that the Hawaii and Bali teams looked to accomplishing together.

The Indonesian island of Bali became the latest sister province with the State of Hawaii, in April 2014.