

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**HAWAII ALLIANCE FOR RETIRED AMERICANS (HARA)  
AND KOKUA COUNCIL JOINTLY SPONSOR  
2010 LEGISLATIVE REVIEW**

The Hawaii Alliance for Retired Americans (HARA) and Kokua Council will jointly host the **fourth annual Legislative Review**, affectionately known as "The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly," on **Thursday, May 27**, at the **Hawaii State Capitol, Room 325, from 8:30 a.m. to noon**. The public is invited to attend this **free forum**. Call 597-8838 to confirm attendance. A continental breakfast and light lunch will be provided.

The program will feature updates on the 2010 legislative session by:

Representative Calvin Say, Speaker, House of Representatives

Senator Rosalyn Baker, Chair, Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Senator Jill Tokuda, Member, Committee on Ways and Means

Representative Marilyn Lee, Vice Chair, Committee on Finance and

Co-Chair, Joint Committee on Aging in Place

Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Co-Chair, Kupuna Caucus

Senator Norman Sakamoto

**"Shining Light Awards"** will be presented to two individuals who have contributed to advancing senior issues in the community. **Senator Rosalyn Baker** has long been a supporter of senior issues and, a few years ago, shepherded the bill to establish Care Plus, a nominal tax proposal to provide support to family caregivers. The bill was vetoed but elements of Care Plus are included in the new federal health care reform. **Rob Perez**, reporter for the Honolulu Advertiser, will be recognized for his recent series on long-term care that shed light on the growing problems of providing care to the elderly and disabled.

Members of the community and more than 30 senior organizations have been invited to participate in the Legislative Review and offer their questions, comments, and insights on the session. A lively discussion is anticipated. The group is also asking seniors to urge the Governor to sign into law (or let it become law without her signature) S.B. 2469, which provides funding from the "Rainy Day Fund" to support programs such as Kupuna Care, which help frail seniors avoid institutionalization and remain at home.

The Legislative Review is a forum to hear from legislators about how senior issues fared this session and to share with them concerns that need to be addressed in the 2011 legislative session and beyond. HARA hopes to build a broader coalition of organizations and individuals with common public policy goals for Hawaii's seniors.

**The public is invited to this free forum. Call 597-8838 to confirm attendance.**

*The Hawaii Alliance for Retired Americans (HARA), an affiliate of the national Alliance for Retired Americans, is an alliance of organizations and individuals advocating for public policies that advance the health and welfare of senior citizens. Membership of HARA's affiliates and individuals total 17,000 statewide. HARA affiliates include: HGEA Retirees, HSTA-Retired, ILWU Retirees, UPW Retirees, AFT Retirees, Machinist Retirees, Kokua Council, Hawaii Caregiver Coalition, and Americans for Democratic Action/Hawaii.*

*Kokua Council, one of Hawaii's oldest advocacy groups, seeks to empower seniors and other concerned citizens to be effective advocates in shaping the future and well-being of our community, with particular attention to those needing help in advocating for themselves.*