



Congressman Ed Case

**Proudly Representing Hawai'i's Second Congressional District
Islands of Hawai'i, Maui, Kaho'olawe, Lana'i, Moloka'i, O'ahu (Windward, North Shore,
Central, Leeward), Kaua'i and Ni'ihau, and the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands**



Dear Friend:

I am proud and humbled to have represented you in the United States Congress since November 2002. As the first year of the current 109th Congress (2005-2006) heads into its final months, I want to report back to you again and to ask for your continued guidance.

Our country and world continue through trying times, and the issues I address in Congress are often difficult and controversial. The most complex are our country's foreign policy, especially relating to international terrorism and the Iraq and Afghan wars, and the continued deterioration of our federal budget. But they range through all our nation's and world's concerns, from taxes, jobs and Social Security/Medicare, to healthcare, homeland security, veterans, seniors, poverty, our global environment and relations with other countries, and much more. And in our Hawai'i we face special challenges on traffic, housing, gas prices, drugs, education, invasive species and much more as well.

My job is to combine your guidance with my knowledge and experience and the resources of my Congressional office to provide you with the best possible representation in our federal government. This means (1) making the best possible decisions on national and international issues, (2) making sure that our federal government is doing all it can to help us with our state and community concerns, and (3) helping you with your individual needs.

To do all this, I need to keep in constant touch with you and bring my office to your doorstep. That's why I've personally done 36 Talk Story community meetings this year throughout our Hawai'i (to go with the 79 I did in 2003-2004), and why I've scheduled 16 more Talk Stories with you this October (see schedule inside.) In 2005 I've also answered almost 40,000 communications from you, met with thousands of you at community events and my Hawai'i and D.C. offices, helped over 1,000 of you with individual concerns, sent a regular email newsletter/survey to thousands, and hosted a monthly public access television report.

Still, the opportunities and challenges of representing you in Congress never cease. In this newsletter I summarize just some of my efforts this year, and answer some most frequently asked questions. I also ask for your response to my survey, highlight my great staff, and invite you to sign up for my email newsletter. Finally, I summarize the new and confusing Medicare prescription drug benefit scheduled to start next January 1st, provide my upcoming Talk Story schedule, and tell you how you can get in touch.

Mahalo for reading my 2005 Congressional Report. It is a deep honor and privilege to represent you in our Congress, and I truly look forward to seeing and hearing from you soon!

With aloha,

Ed

Ed Case
United States Congressman
Hawai'i, Second Congressional District

2005 Congressional Report

2005 Congressional Highlights

It's impossible to list all of my 2005 efforts, but here are a few highlights. For more information, please contact me, or visit my website at www.house.gov/case.



Senator Daniel Inouye is interviewed by Congressman Case for his monthly public access TV report.

- Advocated for balanced federal budget, realistic federal revenue and spending, budget reform, national debt limits and other fiscal fixes as member of House Budget Committee
- Advanced interests of nation's and Hawai'i's small businesses in regulation, paperwork and tax reduction, federal procurement access, and healthcare affordability as member of House Small Business Committee
- Fought to preserve/enhance veterans benefits, especially healthcare
- Pursued education improvement through full funding of and increased local flexibility under No Child Left Behind and Individuals with Disabilities Education Act as member of House Education Committee (on leave)
- Hosted Social Security town meetings districtwide and advanced responsible longterm sustainability for Social Security and Medicare
- Secured millions in federal funds for crucial traffic improvement projects districtwide including Kapa'a bypass, Kapolei improvements, Honoapi'ilani Highway realignment, Queen Ka'ahumanu Highway widening, and East Hawai'i alternative
- Introduced/advocated for federal legislation and funding of war on crystal methamphetamine (ice)
- Sought federal government investigation/penalties regarding gas price gouging by oil companies; fought for alternative energy development and increased vehicle energy efficiency requirements and incentives
- Advocated for Hawai'i agriculture, aquaculture and ranching as member of House Agriculture Committee and Ranking Member of Livestock and Horticulture Subcommittee
- Traveled to Afghanistan/Pakistan (12/04) and Iraq/Kuwait/Qatar/Egypt (9/05) to visit troops and assess intervention and regional challenges
- Introduced Northwestern Hawaiian Islands National Marine Refuge Act and traveled to NWHI with "Educators at Sea" program
- Organized statewide meetings to inform communities of Native Hawaiian Education Act program funding opportunities and advocated successfully for subsequent grant applications
- Traveled to People's Republic of China (8/05) representing U.S. Congress on interparliamentary exchange and to assess personally military and economic growth of PRC and related issues and challenges
- Fought against reductions in funding and program content controls at Public Broadcasting Corporation
- Introduced Credit Union Regulatory Improvements Act to strengthen credit unions nationwide
- Advocated for full federal funding of state and local homeland security obligations
- Cosponsored resolution urging Senate ratification of international Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women
- Sought harbor improvement funding for Kikiaola, Kaulapau, Mahukona, Wailoa and others
- Cosponsored legislation to implement National Academy of Sciences recommendations to combat underage drinking crisis
- Sought federal protection of endangered Hawai'i lands including (Kaua'i) Kilauea Point NWR, (O'ahu) James Campbell NWR, Pupukeya-Paumalu (Maui) South Maui National Seashore, North Shore Heritage Park, and Nu'u, and (Hawai'i Island) Kahuku Ranch makai, Ka'u Coast/Honu'apo, and Wao Kele o Puna
- Advocated for more civil debate and bipartisan solutions as charter member of Center Aisle Caucus and otherwise
- Conducted 36 Talk Story community meetings across district (and in Fort Polk, LA and Balad, Iraq for our Hawai'i troops) and scheduled 16 more (see schedule below)



Congressman Case hosts his House Small Business Committee at O'ahu field hearing on small business' challenges in Hawai'i.

Frequently Asked Questions and Answers

How can I contact your office?

Get in touch with us by phone, fax, email, or through my website. Please see the information below.

How can I get more information on you and your office?

Contact us, or else go straight to my website at www.house.gov/case.

How do I keep up with what you're doing for us in Congress, in general or on specific issues?

You can always contact my office or specific members of my staff (see below.) Or, go to my website and click on Legislation/Committees, Current Issues, Press/Media, Photo Gallery, or Newsletters. I also have my email newsletter; please sign up on the back of the congressional survey below or else go to my website and click on E-Newsletter.

How do I check your voting record?

You can ask us how I voted on any specific vote, or go to my website and click on Voting Records for all of my votes since 2003.

How do I meet you personally or invite you to participate in a community event?

Contact my schedulers, Pamela Okimoto in my D.C. office or Roberta Weatherford in my Honolulu district office.

If your schedule doesn't allow you to meet soon enough or you can't make an event, can someone from your office help out?

Yes! You are welcome to meet directly with my staff, and please don't forget that I have county coordinators that live and work in each of Hawai'i's counties. We are also happy to provide congratulatory messages for events we can't make.



Congressman Case discusses our federal government with Maui Boy Scouts on Capitol steps.

I'm coming to D.C. Can you help me with tours?

Yes! We'll give you a personal tour of the Capitol, set you up on other tours, and I'd like to say aloha personally if I can. Contact Yvonne Kearns in my Honolulu district office or Caroline Morgan in my D.C. office, or go to my website and click on Visiting D.C.

I have an individual concern with our federal government or otherwise (like veterans' benefits or immigration of Social Security benefits); can you help?

Yes! We call this "casework" and you can contact my caseworkers, Jackie Conant or Liane Ashikawa.

I want to get my kids interested in government; do you have anything for them?

Yes! Contact my office, or go to my website and click on Kids' Page.

How To Contact Us—More Information on My Office



Congressman Case presents naturalization certificate to 97-year-old Clara Viveiros of Maui after successful casework effort.

Washington D.C. Office Address

115 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
202-225-4906 (tel)
202-225-4987 (fax)

* * Please note - Mail to our D.C. office is still delayed up to six weeks by inspection. Email, mail to our district office, or fax to our D.C. office are recommended.

Hawai'i District Office Address

5104 Prince Kuhio Federal Building
Honolulu, HI 96850
808-541-1986 (tel)
808-538-0233 (fax)

Local Numbers for Neighbor Islands

Hawai'i County: 935-3756 Island of Maui: 242-1818 Island of Lana'i: 565-7199 Island of Moloka'i: 552-0160
Kaua'i County: 245-1951

Subscribe to my Email Newsletter

www.house.gov/case/email_list.html

Email: ed.case@mail.house.gov Webpage: www.house.gov/case

My Staff—Here to Serve You

My staff is your staff and is here to serve you. This is who they are, what they do, and how you can contact them directly.



Congressman Case and D.C. staff say aloha to summer intern Sarah Kaopuiki of Lana'i.

Washington D.C. Staff

Esther Kia'aina, Chief of Staff – Overall responsibility for all offices and staff. Media other than Hawai'i. Native Hawaiians, Pacific Island affairs, Asian American/Pacific Islander concerns, and census and data collection.
esther.kiaaina@mail.house.gov

Pamela Okimoto, Deputy Chief of Staff – All scheduling outside of Hawai'i. D.C. office administration.
pamela.okimoto@mail.house.gov

Michelle Ashitomi, Executive Assistant – Information and communications.
michelle.ashitomi@mail.house.gov

Caroline Morgan, Information Resources Manager – Office technology, data and filing system, and coordinating constituent outreach.
caroline.morgan@mail.house.gov

Anne Stewart, Legislative Director – Overall legislative agenda. Agriculture Committee. Agriculture, appropriations, environment, natural resources, and oceans and fisheries.
anne.stewart@mail.house.gov

Timothy Carson, Deputy Legislative Director – Education, labor, welfare, transportation, housing, telecommunications, energy.
timothy.carson@mail.house.gov

Jennifer Beppu, Legislative Assistant – Health, judiciary, civil rights, immigration, women and children, campaign finance and election reform.
jennifer.beppu@mail.house.gov

Russell Kudo, Legislative Assistant – Budget Committee. Foreign affairs, taxes, budget, economy, social security, medicare, seniors, culture.
russell.kudo@mail.house.gov

Christopher Abbott, Legislative Assistant – Small Business Committee. Defense, homeland security, small business, banking, veterans.
christopher.abbott@mail.house.gov

District Staff

Jimmy Nakatani, District Director – Overall responsibility for Hawai'i offices and staff.
jimmy.nakatani@mail.house.gov

Randy Obata, District Administrator/Press Secretary – Hawai'i media.
randy.obata@mail.house.gov

Roberta Weatherford, Office Manager – Hawai'i scheduling. Hawai'i office administration.
roberta.weatherford@mail.house.gov

Jacqueline Conant, Caseworker – Immigration.
jacqueline.conant@mail.house.gov

Liane Ashikawa, Caseworker – Social Security and veterans.
liane.ashikawa@mail.house.gov

Yvonne Kearns, Production Manager – Information and communications. D.C. tours. Service academy nominations.
yvonne.kearns@mail.house.gov

County Coordinators

Hawai'i County (East): **Jan Higashi** -
janhigashi@verizon.net

Hawai'i County (West): **Mary Love** - mlove@hawaii.rr.com

Maui County: **Patrick Wong** - wongp023@hawaii.rr.com

Kaua'i County: **Dean Toyofuku** -
dtoyofuku@hawaiiink.net

City and County of Honolulu: **Zeny Muyot** -
zeny.muyot@mail.house.gov



Congressman Case discusses Hawai'i veterans issues at the Kaua'i Veterans Cemetery.

Congressman Ed Case 2005 Congressional Survey

Please help me represent you well in Congress by filling out this survey. You can fold, stamp and mail, or fax to 808-538-0233. You can also always get in touch with me on any of these or other issues by the means outlined in this newsletter. Mahalo for your guidance!

Iraq. Iraq continues as our most difficult and controversial involvement overseas. Which of the following best describes your current views on Iraq?

- It was a mistake for us to get involved in Iraq and we should get out as fast as possible.
- It was a mistake for us to get involved in Iraq but we have to see it through now.
- We did the right thing in getting involved in Iraq but it's not working out and we should get out.
- We did the right thing in intervening in Iraq and we have to see it through.
- Other: _____

Social Security. Various proposals have been made to alter Social Security, ranging from the President's "partial privatization" plan to balancing Social Security income and expenses and otherwise. Which of the following best describes your current views on Social Security? (Check more than one if you want.)

- Implement the President's partial privatization plan.
- Reject the President's partial privatization plan.
- Increase the payroll tax to provide more income.
- Lift the salary cap so incomes over \$90,000/year are also subject to the payroll tax.
- Reduce Social Security benefits across-the-board.
- "Means test" Social Security benefits (fewer benefits for higher incomes.)
- Do not change Social Security at all.
- Other: _____

Energy/Gas Prices. Gas prices have rocketed through the roof not just in Hawai'i but nationwide. Which of the following best describes what you think we should do about it? (Check more than one if you want.)

- For Hawai'i, retain our maximum profit limit law (sometimes referred to as the "gas cap.")
- For Hawai'i, repeal our maximum profit limit law.



Congressman Case and House colleagues address U.S.-PRC relations with National Peoples' Congress counterparts in Beijing, People's Republic of China.



Congressman Case discussing ice and other crime issues with local police in Hana.

- Increase oil production in out country through tax benefits and subsidies and other government assistance to oil companies.
- Pressure other countries to increase oil production.
- Incentivize alternate energy development and production through tax benefits and subsidies and other government assistance.
- Allow drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR), the continental shelf, and other environmentally sensitive areas.
- Prohibit drilling in ANWR and other such areas
- Make federal government investigate oil companies for monopolistic behavior and price gouging and/or strengthen laws against such actions.
- Require more efficient energy production of vehicles and other machinery.
- Other: _____

Hawai'i. The most crucial challenges facing our Hawai'i are (please list in priority): _____

Our federal government should do these two things for us in Hawai'i (please list in priority): _____

Evaluation. What are your comments on my performance as your Congressman? _____

Other. Please provide any other questions, comments, guidance or needs here: _____

Sign Up for Your Congressional Email Newsletter



Congressman Case recognizes Kamika Smith of Kaua'i (center in tie), the Small Business Administration's Family-Owned Business Champion, and family in D.C. office.

2nd District Email Newsletters

I want to keep you informed and get your input through an email newsletter. Please sign up by providing your email address and returning this survey, or else sign-up by visiting my website at www.house.gov/case. I cannot and will not use your email address for any other purpose.

Email Newsletter Sign Up

Your email address: _____

Your zip code: _____

Subjects you'd like my newsletter to cover: _____



Congressman Case and Honolulu Mayor Hannemann answer questions at Base Realignment and Closure Commission hearing on Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard in D.C.

(optional)

Please place postage here

Congressman Ed Case
5104 Prince Kuhio Federal Building
Honolulu, HI 96850-1986

Focus on Medicare and Prescription Drugs

Medicare is our nation's health insurance program for our seniors and disabled, with almost 200,000 beneficiaries in our Hawai'i alone. The Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act of 2003 (MMA) made major changes to Medicare. I voted against the bill as written because it did not truly reform Medicare, rein in the costs of health care, place Medicare on a stable long-term financial footing, or adequately help those truly in need.

Despite much opposition, MMA passed and is now law. A major portion of MMA is new Medicare Part D, a prescription drug benefit to start in a few short months on January 1, 2006. I support a fair and affordable prescription drug benefit under Medicare, but must report that Part D falls short of this goal and many are likely to be disappointed in its details. Nonetheless, it is the law of our land and available as passed to all Medicare beneficiaries.

There is much confusion over how Part D works and how to sign up. This is to provide the following summary and ways to get further information:

- If you're entitled to Medicare Part A (hospital, post-hospital, home health and hospice services) and/or enrolled in Part B (complementary services like physician, lab and outpatient as well as equipment), you're eligible for Part D prescription drug coverage.
- If so, you should receive program and signup information, details and forms from Medicare this fall.
- Your six-month open enrollment will begin November 15, 2005; if you join by December 31, 2005, your coverage begins January 1, 2006; if on or after January 1, 2006, your coverage begins the first day of the month after you join.
- On enrollment you will choose coverage according to your needs from among various private companies at various monthly premiums under various coverage, deductible and other alternatives; Medicare says that while details are not yet set, there will be over ten companies offering Hawaii coverage at monthly premiums ranging from under \$20 to over \$35, along with additional "Medicare Advantage" coverage at additional cost.
- In general, Part D becomes more beneficial as your monthly prescription drug costs increase, with your out-of-pocket expenses (including most costs) limited to \$3,600 in 2006.
- If you have a low income, Part D may provide subsidies like no or reduced premiums or deductibles.



Congressman Case congratulates 104-year-old Jose Carpio, our oldest sakada, at United Filipino Council of Hawai'i Progress Award banquet.



Congressman Case answering questions at O'ahu Talk Story.

These are just the basics of new Part D. If you want more information now, call Social Security at 1-800-772-1213 or visit www.socialsecurity.gov.

If you still have questions, or need help, please be sure to call my office and we will get you answers.

2005 Congressional Report



Postal Customer
Second Congressional District
Hawai'i

Congressman Case checks up on Hawai'i troops in Kandahar, Afghanistan.



ECRWSS
M.C.

Ed Case

Congressman Ed Case
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Upcoming Talk Story Schedule

O'ahu

Saturday, October 8, 2005

La'ie: 4:00-5:00 p.m.
BYU-Hawai'i McKay Foyer (campus front entrance)
55-220 Kulanui Street

Sunday, October 9, 2005

Kapolei: 12 noon-1:00 p.m.
Kapolei Hale Conference Room
1000 Uluohia Street (off Kamokila Blvd.)
Whitmore Village: 2:00-3:00 p.m.
Helemano Elementary School Cafeteria
1001 Ihi Ihi Avenue

Kailua/Kane'ohe: 4:00-5:00 p.m.
'Aikahi Elementary School Cafeteria
281 'Ilihaui Street

Moloka'i

Saturday, October 15, 2005

Kalaupapa: 12 noon-1:00 p.m.
McVeigh Hall

Lana'i

Saturday, October 15, 2005

Lana'i City: 3:00-4:00 p.m.
Lana'i Senior Citizen Center

Maui

Sunday, October 16, 2005

Lahaina: 12 noon-1:00 p.m.
Lahainaluna High School Library
980 Lahainaluna Road
Pukalani: 2:30-3:30 p.m.
King Kekaulike High School Cafeteria
121 Kula Highway
Wailuku: 4:30-5:30 p.m.
Baldwin High School Cafeteria
1650 Ka'ahumanu Avenue

Kaua'i

Sunday, October 23, 2005

Koloa: 12 noon-1:00 p.m.
Koloa Neighborhood Center
3451 Weliweli Road
Kapa'a: 3:00-4:00 p.m.
Kapa'a Elementary School Cafeteria
4886 Kawaihau Road

Hawai'i Island

Saturday, October 29, 2005

Hilo: 5:00-6:00 p.m.
Chiefess Kapi'olani Elementary School
Dining Room, 966 Kilauea Avenue

Sunday, October 30, 2005

Pahoa: 9:00-10:00 a.m.
Pahoa High & Intermediate School Dining Room,
15-3038 Puna Road
Wai'ohinu: 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Wai'ohinu Hula Studio
95-6034 Mamalahoa Highway
Kailua-Kona: 2:00-3:00 p.m.
Kahakai School Cafeteria
76-147 Royal Poinciana Drive
Kawaihae: 4:30-5:30 p.m.
Kawaihae Canoe Club Hale
End of Kawaihae Harbor Road



Congressman Case listens to concerns at Hawai'i Island Talk Story.