



Working for Hawai‘i Values in the Senate

“I have worked with Senator Schatz on the issues that matter to Hawaii. Brian’s deep commitment to the people of Hawaii and his effective leadership are why I believe it is important to return him to the Senate. Senator Schatz is protecting Hawaii’s values and fighting every day on behalf of middle-class families. There is no question that Senator Schatz is the right choice to continue delivering for Hawaii.”

- President Barack Obama

“Senator Schatz is a fine Senator, a steadfast advocate on behalf of Hawaii in the Senate. I endorse him wholeheartedly and support President Obama’s decision to do the same. Brian has proven himself a champion for working families in Hawaii. He has been a leader in efforts to develop clean energy jobs and reduce the impact of climate change, and a strong advocate for ensuring a fair shot for all Americans. I’m pleased to join President Obama in supporting Brian and I look forward to his continued service on behalf of Hawaii in the United States Senate.”

- Majority Leader Harry Reid

Senator Schatz is fighting for Hawai‘i families by:

- Spearheading the **Harkin-Schatz bill to increase Social Security benefits by an average of \$65 a month**, and to secure Social Security for decades to come by requiring the wealthy to pay the same rate as the rest of us.
- Leading on Hawai‘i’s priorities as **the only Senator from the class of 2012 to Chair two Senate Subcommittees**:
 - The Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee **Subcommittee on Tourism, Innovation, and Competitiveness**, promoting Hawai‘i as a leader on tourism and securing federal money for our tourism economy; and
 - The Energy and Natural Resources Committee **Subcommittee on Water and Power**, increasing his capacity to work effectively on clean energy and environmental legislation for Hawai‘i’s future.
- **Writing the College Affordability and Innovation Act of 2014 with Senator Chris Murphy**. This new legislation will make college more affordable for students across the United States.
- Co-sponsoring legislation to reduce prescription drug costs for Medicare, and **fighting to require pharmaceutical companies to reduce drug prices** for low-income seniors and people with disabilities.

- Joining with Senator Kirsten Gillibrand to push for the **American Opportunity Plan, a package of legislation that strengthens and builds the middle class through:**
 - Paid family and medical leave
 - Raising the minimum wage
 - Affordable quality child care
 - Universal pre-K and
 - Equal pay for equal work
- **Working closely with senior Senate colleagues to make sure Hawai‘i receives our fair share of federal money.** Senator Schatz successfully fought for money for Hawai‘i priorities including:
 - \$16.7 million for the East-West Center, nearly \$6 million above the request in the President’s budget;
 - \$1 billion for defense programs benefiting Hawai‘i; with \$392 million for military construction, and more than \$450 million for road and transit grants and formula dollars;
 - \$250 million set aside for Honolulu’s rail project in FY 2014;
 - Continued funding for Native Hawaiian healthcare, housing, and education.
 - *"Senator Schatz was instrumental in securing the funding for the East-West Center. He's an effective advocate for the Center, which plays an important role in foreign policy and in our relations with other nations and regions."*
 - **Senator Patrick Leahy**
President Pro Tempore of the Senate
Senate Appropriations Subcommittee Chairman
- Co-sponsoring the bill that **prevented student loan interest rates from doubling. After the bill passed Senator Schatz was invited to join President Obama in the Oval Office** for the bill signing.
- Voting for **President Obama’s push for common sense gun safety legislation**, including universal background checks and a ban on assault weapons.
- Introducing a **measure that was signed into law by President Obama enabling building the long-awaited memorial honoring Native Hawaiian and other native veterans on the National Mall** in Washington DC; co-sponsored the Native Language Immersion Student Achievement Act.
- Promoting smart growth planning that will benefit Hawai‘i’s military installations by introducing the **Military Installations Enhancement Act**, signed into law by President Obama as part of the National Defense Authorization Act. **This is the second piece of legislation introduced by Senator Schatz that has become law.**
- Working across the aisle to introduce **bipartisan legislation** with U.S. Senators Lamar Alexander (R-Tenn.) and Dan Coats (R-Indiana) to **give federal agencies more options for energy reductions and cost savings.**
- Joining President Obama and Congressional Democrats to overcome Republican opposition and **pass an extension of the Violence Against Women Act.**