

Ethnicity: Samoan and European **Place of Birth:** Fagatogo, American Samoa

Party Affiliation: Democratic **Highest Elected Position:** US Senate, Hawai'i (2006-now)

Other Positions: Honolulu City Council (2003-5)

Brandon Porcioncula (SFSU 2021)

Gerald Michael Gabbard (b. January 15, 1948)

Known as Mike, Gerald Michael Gabbard is the fourth of seven children growing up in a US Air Force family who eventually moved to Hawai'i. As a child, he was a bit of a troublemaker, and eventually grew to love music and tennis. Mike started in the local city council, then became the first person of Samoan descent to serve in the Hawai'i State Senate in 2006. He has authored over sixty bills that became law, including legislation related to the environment, marriage and family, renewable energy, and agriculture. In 2001, Mike and his daughter, former Congresswoman Tulsi Gabbard, cofounded Healthy Hawai'i Coalition (HHC), that is dedicated to protecting the environment. He switched from the Republican to Democratic party in 2007.