

THE  
 TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE  
 STATE OF HAWAII  
 REGULAR SESSION OF 2017  
 JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE

FIRST DAY

Wednesday, January 18, 2017

In accordance with the provisions of Section 10 of Article III of the Constitution of the State of Hawaii, the House of Representatives of the Twenty-Ninth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2017, convened at 10:04 o'clock a.m.

The Honorable Mark M. Nakashima, being the Representative who was elected from the First Representative District of the State of Hawaii, called the House to order, following the *Oli* delivered by Ms. Misty Kelai.

At this time, the Temporary Chair stated:

"The House of Representatives of the Twenty-Ninth Legislature of the State of Hawaii is now called to order.

"*Aloha*, I am Mark Nakashima, Representative from the First House District on the Big Island, and I am honored to follow the decades old tradition of the State of Hawaii House by presiding over the Opening Day ceremonies. *E komo mai*.

"At this time, I call upon Ms. Misty Kelai to lead us in the National Anthem and *Hawaii Pono'i*. Thereafter, Emma and Elyana Belatti, students at Washington Middle and Queen Kaahumanu Elementary Schools, and the daughters of Representative Della Au Belatti, will lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance. Will the members and audience please rise."

The Members of the House, guests and audience rose for the singing of the National Anthem followed by *Hawaii Pono'i*, which was led by Ms. Misty Kelai. Thereafter the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Misses Emma and Elyana Belatti.

The invocation was then delivered by Deacon Walter Yoshimitsu, Chancellor of the Catholic Diocese of Honolulu.

**INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS**

The following resolution (H.R. No. 1) was read by the Temporary Clerk and the following action taken:

H.R. No. 1, entitled: "HOUSE RESOLUTION ELECTING THE TEMPORARY CHAIR OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE," resolving that the Honorable Mark M. Nakashima, Representative from the First District, be and is hereby declared the duly elected Temporary Chair of the House of Representatives of the Twenty-Ninth Legislature, was jointly offered by Representatives Saiki and Fukumoto.

On motion by Representative Saiki, seconded by Representative Fukumoto and carried, H.R. No. 1 was adopted.

At this time, the Temporary Chair stated:

"Members of the House of Representatives of the Twenty-Ninth Legislature, thank you. Let us commence with the Order of the Day."

The Temporary Chair appointed Mr. Brian L. Takeshita as Temporary Clerk of the House of Representatives.

The Temporary Chair then called upon Representative Nishimoto for the report of the Committee on Credentials.

**REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES**

Representative Nishimoto, for the Committee on Credentials, presented a report (Spec. Com. Rep. No. 1) as follows:

"Your Committee on Credentials begs leave to report that it has thoroughly considered the matter of the seating of the members elect of the House of Representatives of the Twenty-ninth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2017, and finds that, based on the certificates of election issued by the Office of Elections (attached), and the Message from the Executive Chambers issued by the Governor on January 5, 2017, relating to an appointment to fill the remaining term of Clift Tsuji in the Second District (attached), the members elect and the member appointed are duly qualified to sit as members of the House of Representatives as follows:

First District:	Mark M. Nakashima
Second District:	Chris Todd
Third District:	Richard H.K. Onishi
Fourth District:	Joy A. San Buenaventura
Fifth District:	Richard P. Creagan
Sixth District:	Nicole E. Lowen
Seventh District:	Cindy Evans
Eighth District:	Joseph M. Souki
Ninth District:	Justin H. Woodson
Tenth District:	Angus L.K. McKelvey
Eleventh District:	Kaniela Ing
Twelfth District:	Kyle T. Yamashita
Thirteenth District:	Lynn DeCoite
Fourteenth District:	Nadine K. Nakamura
Fifteenth District:	James Kunane Tokioka
Sixteenth District:	Dee Morikawa
Seventeenth District:	Gene Ward
Eighteenth District:	Mark J. Hashem
Nineteenth District:	Bertrand Kobayashi
Twentieth District:	Calvin K.Y. Say
Twenty-First District:	Scott Y. Nishimoto
Twenty-Second District:	Tom Brower
Twenty-Third District:	Isaac W. Choy
Twenty-Fourth District:	Della Au Belatti

- Twenty-Fifth District: Sylvia Luke
- Twenty-Sixth District: Scott K. Saiki
- Twenty-Seventh District: Takashi Ohno
- Twenty-Eighth District: John M. Mizuno
- Twenty-Ninth District: Daniel Holt
- Thirtieth District: Romy M. Cachola
- Thirty-First District: Aaron Ling Johanson
- Thirty-Second District: Linda Ichiyama
- Thirty-Third District: Sam Satoru Kong
- Thirty-Fourth District: Gregg Takayama
- Thirty-Fifth District: Roy M. Takumi
- Thirty-Sixth District: Beth Fukumoto
- Thirty-Seventh District: Ryan I. Yamane
- Thirty-Eighth District: Henry J.C. Aquino
- Thirty-Ninth District: Ty J.K. Cullen
- Fortieth District: Bob McDermott
- Forty-First District: Matthew S. LoPresti
- Forty-Second District: Sharon E. Har
- Forty-Third District: Andria P.L. Tupola
- Forty-Fourth District: Cedric Asuega Gates
- Forty-Fifth District: Lauren Kealohilani Matsumoto
- Forty-Sixth District: Marcus R. Oshiro
- Forty-Seventh District: Sean Quinlan
- Forty-Eighth District: Jarrett Keohokalole
- Forty-Ninth District: Ken Ito
- Fiftieth District: Cynthia Thielen
- Fifty-First District: Chris Lee"

The report was submitted by Representatives Nishimoto, Fukumoto, Mizuno and Saiki, with the following Certificates of Election attached:



EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS  
HONOLULU

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR

January 5, 2017

**GOV. MSG. NO. 501**

The Honorable Joseph M. Souki  
 Speaker of the House of Representatives  
 Twenty-Ninth Legislature  
 State of Hawai'i  
 State Capitol, Room 431  
 Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Speaker Souki:

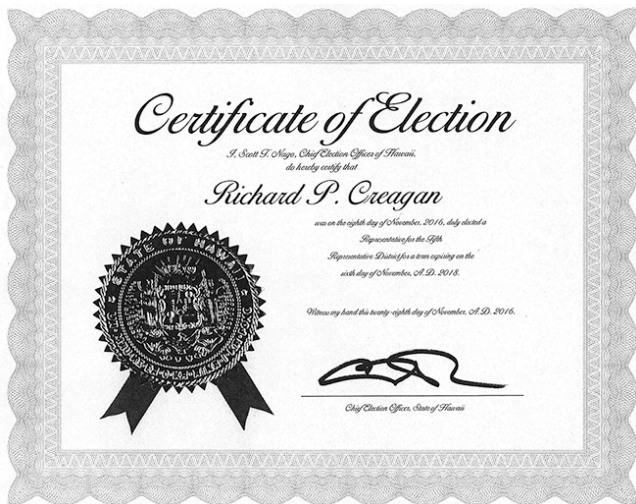
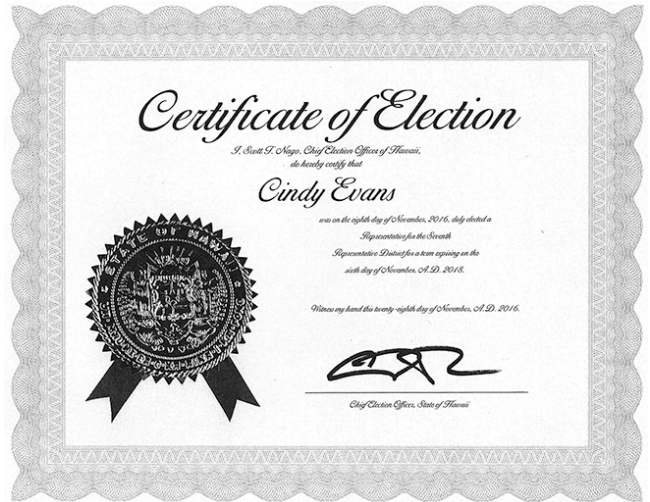
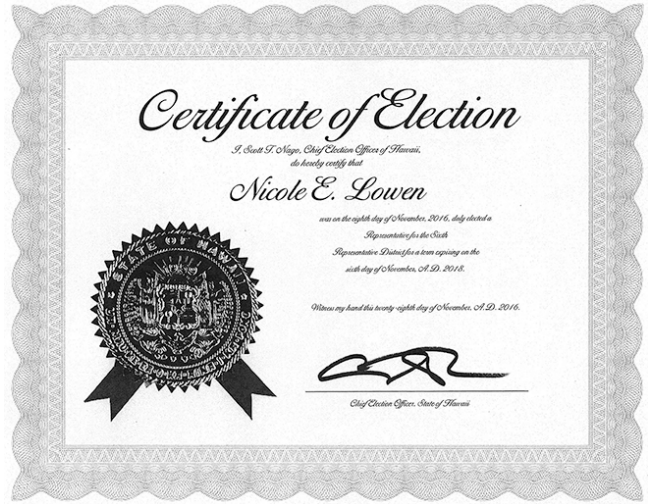
I am pleased to inform you that pursuant to section 17-4, Hawaii Revised Statutes, I have appointed Mr. Christopher Todd to serve as the Representative from the Second Representative District of the Twenty-Ninth Legislature of the State of Hawai'i. Mr. Todd's appointment fills the vacancy in the Second Representative District seat due to the passing of Representative Clift Tsuji effective January 5, 2017.

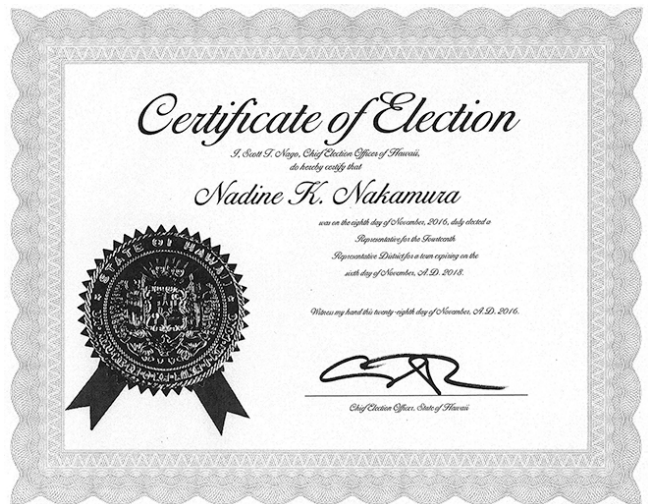
With warmest regards,

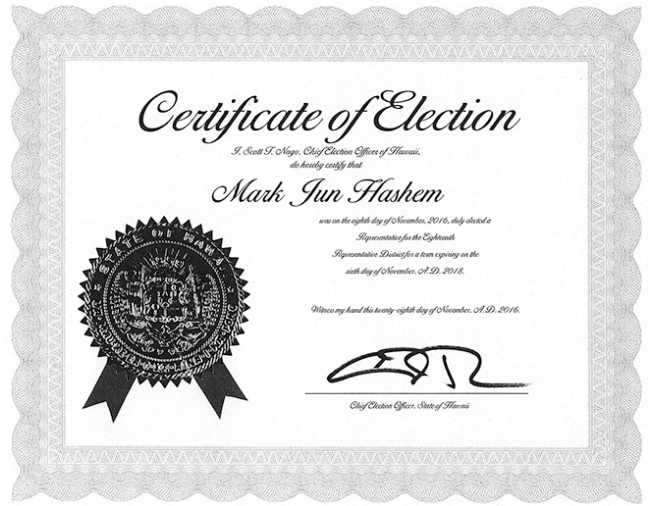
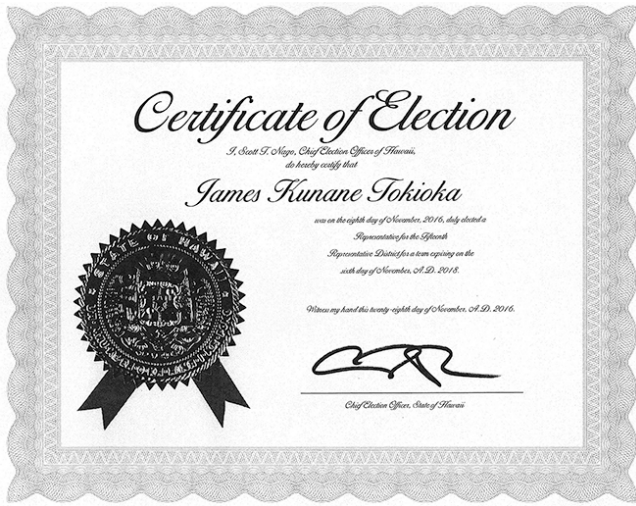
*David Y. Ige*  
 David Y. Ige  
 Governor, State of Hawai'i

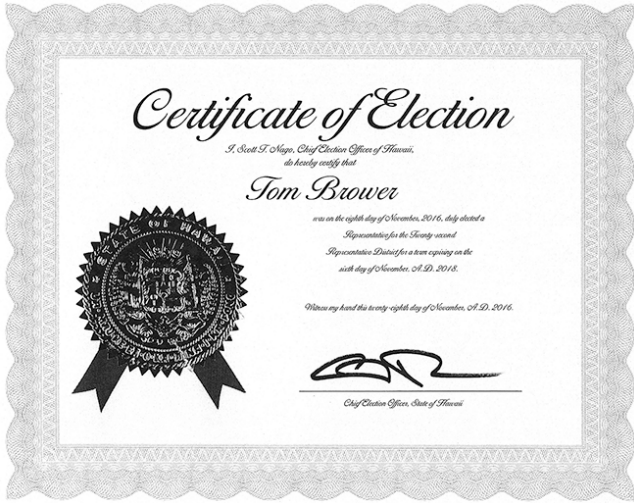
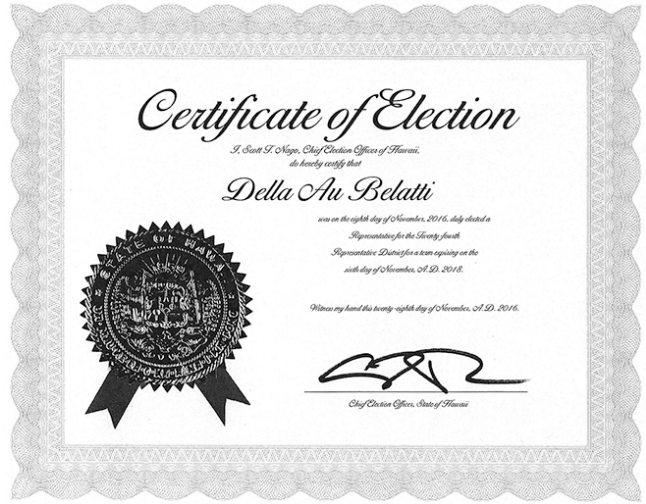
C: Lt. Governor Shan S. Tsutsui  
 Senate President Ronald D. Kouchi

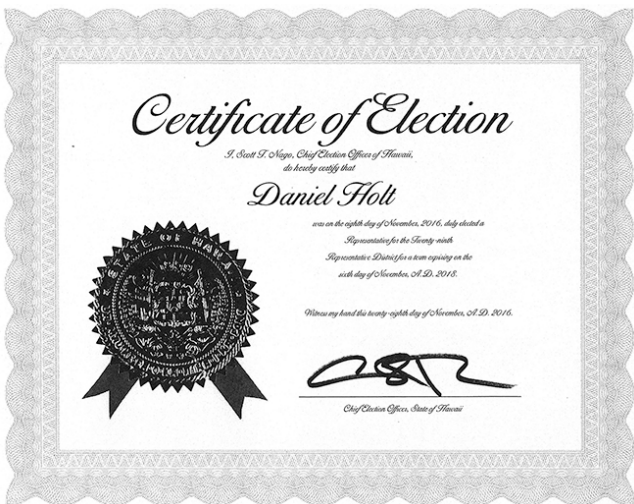
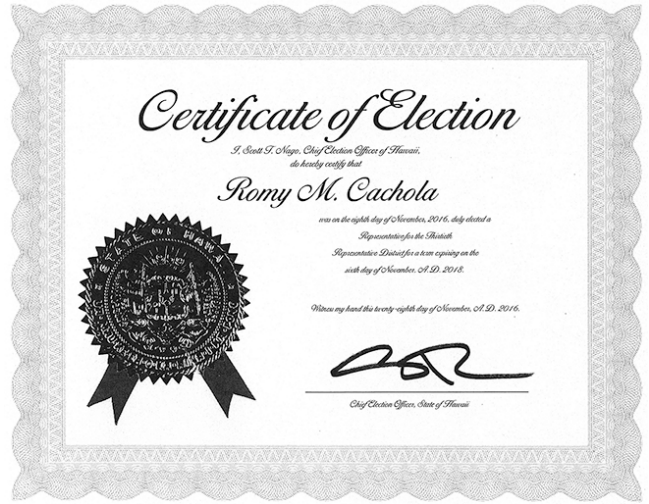


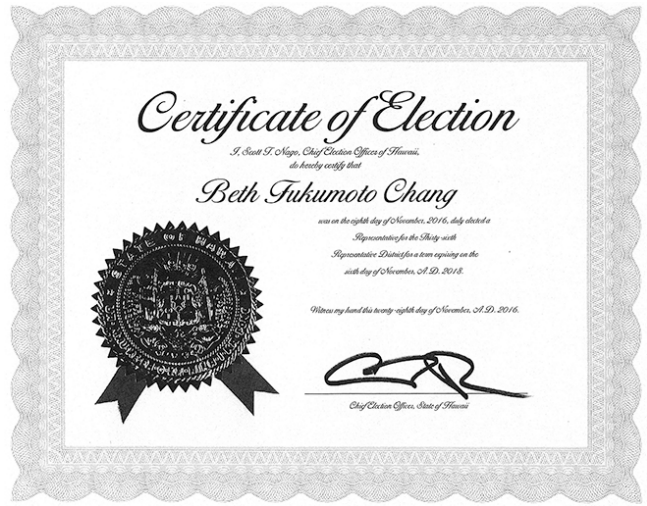




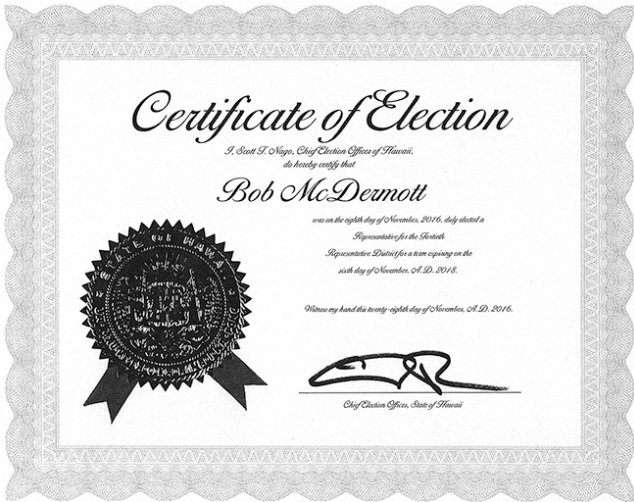












*Certificate of Election*  
*I, Scott T. Nguyen, Chief Election Officer of Hawaii,*  
*do hereby certify that*

**Lauren Cheape Matsumoto**  
*was on the eighth day of November, 2016, duly elected a*  
*Representative for the Eleventh*  
*Representative District for a term expiring on the*  
*sixth day of November, A.D. 2018.*

*Witness my hand this twenty-eighth day of November, A.D. 2016.*




*Chief Election Officer, State of Hawaii*

*Certificate of Election*  
*I, Scott T. Nguyen, Chief Election Officer of Hawaii,*  
*do hereby certify that*

**Jarrett K. Keohokalole**  
*was on the eighth day of November, 2016, duly elected a*  
*Representative for the Eleventh*  
*Representative District for a term expiring on the*  
*sixth day of November, A.D. 2018.*

*Witness my hand this twenty-eighth day of November, A.D. 2016.*

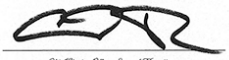



*Chief Election Officer, State of Hawaii*

*Certificate of Election*  
*I, Scott T. Nguyen, Chief Election Officer of Hawaii,*  
*do hereby certify that*

**Marcus R. Oshiro**  
*was on the eighth day of November, 2016, duly elected a*  
*Representative for the Eleventh*  
*Representative District for a term expiring on the*  
*sixth day of November, A.D. 2018.*

*Witness my hand this twenty-eighth day of November, A.D. 2016.*






*Chief Election Officer, State of Hawaii*

*Certificate of Election*  
*I, Scott T. Nguyen, Chief Election Officer of Hawaii,*  
*do hereby certify that*

**Ken Ito**  
*was on the eighth day of November, 2016, duly elected a*  
*Representative for the Eleventh*  
*Representative District for a term expiring on the*  
*sixth day of November, A.D. 2018.*

*Witness my hand this twenty-eighth day of November, A.D. 2016.*






*Chief Election Officer, State of Hawaii*

*Certificate of Election*  
*I, Scott T. Nguyen, Chief Election Officer of Hawaii,*  
*do hereby certify that*

**Sean Quinlan**  
*was on the eighth day of November, 2016, duly elected a*  
*Representative for the Eleventh*  
*Representative District for a term expiring on the*  
*sixth day of November, A.D. 2018.*

*Witness my hand this twenty-eighth day of November, A.D. 2016.*

*Chief Election Officer, State of Hawaii*

*Certificate of Election*  
*I, Scott T. Nguyen, Chief Election Officer of Hawaii,*  
*do hereby certify that*

**Cynthia Thielen**  
*was on the eighth day of November, 2016, duly elected a*  
*Representative for the Eleventh*  
*Representative District for a term expiring on the*  
*sixth day of November, A.D. 2018.*

*Witness my hand this twenty-eighth day of November, A.D. 2016.*




*Chief Election Officer, State of Hawaii*



On motion by Representative Nishimoto, seconded by Representative Fukumoto and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted.

The Temporary Chair directed the Temporary Clerk to call the Roll, which being done disclosed that the following Members were present: Representatives Henry J.C. Aquino, Della Au Belatti, Tom Brower, Romy M. Cachola, Isaac W. Choy, Richard P. Creagan, Ty J.K. Cullen, Lynn DeCoite, Cindy Evans, Beth Fukumoto, Cedric Asuega Gates, Sharon E. Har, Mark J. Hashem, Daniel Holt, Linda Ichiyama, Kaniela Ing, Ken Ito, Aaron Ling Johanson, Jarrett Keohokalole, Bertrand Kobayashi, Sam Satoru Kong, Chris Lee, Matthew S. LoPresti, Nicole E. Lowen, Sylvia Luke, Lauren Kealohilani Matsumoto, Bob McDermott, Angus L.K. McKelvey, John M. Mizuno, Dee Morikawa, Nadine K. Nakamura, Mark M. Nakashima, Scott Y. Nishimoto, Takashi Ohno, Richard H.K. Onishi, Marcus R. Oshiro, Sean Quinlan, Scott K. Saiki, Joy A. San Buenaventura, Calvin K.Y. Say, Joseph M. Souki, Gregg Takayama, Roy M. Takumi, Cynthia Thielen, Chris Todd, James Kunane Tokioka, Andria P.L. Tupola, Gene Ward, Justin H. Woodson, Ryan I. Yamane and Kyle T. Yamashita, a total of fifty-one.

At 10:17 o'clock a.m., the Temporary Chair declared a recess, subject to the call of the Chair.

At this time, the Members of the House, their guests and audience were entertained by Taste of Harmony.

The House of Representatives reconvened at 10:32 o'clock a.m.

The Temporary Chair then appointed the Sergeant-at-Arms to escort the Honorable Mark E. Recktenwald, Chief Justice of the Hawaii State Supreme Court, to the rostrum, and requested that he administer the Oath of Office to the Members of the House.

**OATH OF OFFICE**

The Honorable Mark E. Recktenwald, Chief Justice of the Hawaii State Supreme Court, called upon the Members of the House of Representatives who had been elected to serve in the Twenty-Ninth Legislature of the State of Hawaii to rise, and the Oath of Office was administered in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution of the State of Hawaii to the following Members of the House:

**FIRST DISTRICT:**  
 Mark M. Nakashima

**SECOND DISTRICT:**  
 Chris Todd

**THIRD DISTRICT:**  
 Richard H.K. Onishi

**FOURTH DISTRICT:**  
 Joy A. San Buenaventura

**FIFTH DISTRICT:**  
 Richard P. Creagan

**SIXTH DISTRICT:**  
 Nicole E. Lowen

**SEVENTH DISTRICT:**  
 Cindy Evans

**EIGHTH DISTRICT:**  
 Joseph M. Souki

**NINTH DISTRICT:**  
 Justin H. Woodson

**TENTH DISTRICT:**  
 Angus L.K. McKelvey

**ELEVENTH DISTRICT:**  
 Kaniela Ing

**TWELFTH DISTRICT:**  
 Kyle T. Yamashita

**THIRTEENTH DISTRICT:**  
 Lynn DeCoite

**FOURTEENTH DISTRICT:**  
 Nadine K. Nakamura

**FIFTEENTH DISTRICT:**  
 James Kunane Tokioka

**SIXTEENTH DISTRICT:**  
 Dee Morikawa

**SEVENTEENTH DISTRICT:**  
 Gene Ward

**EIGHTEENTH DISTRICT:**  
 Mark J. Hashem

**NINETEENTH DISTRICT:**  
 Bertrand Kobayashi

**TWENTIETH DISTRICT:**  
 Calvin K.Y. Say

**TWENTY-FIRST DISTRICT:**  
 Scott Y. Nishimoto

**TWENTY-SECOND DISTRICT:**  
 Tom Brower

**TWENTY-THIRD DISTRICT:**  
 Isaac W. Choy

**TWENTY-FOURTH DISTRICT:**  
 Della Au Belatti

**TWENTY-FIFTH DISTRICT:**  
 Sylvia Luke

**TWENTY-SIXTH DISTRICT:**  
 Scott K. Saiki

**TWENTY-SEVENTH DISTRICT:**

Takashi Ohno

**TWENTY-EIGHTH DISTRICT:**

John M. Mizuno

**TWENTY-NINTH DISTRICT:**

Daniel Holt

**THIRTIETH DISTRICT:**

Romy M. Cachola

**THIRTY-FIRST DISTRICT:**

Aaron Ling Johanson

**THIRTY-SECOND DISTRICT:**

Linda Ichiyama

**THIRTY-THIRD DISTRICT:**

Sam Satoru Kong

**THIRTY-FOURTH DISTRICT:**

Gregg Takayama

**THIRTY-FIFTH DISTRICT:**

Roy M. Takumi

**THIRTY-SIXTH DISTRICT:**

Beth Fukumoto

**THIRTY-SEVENTH DISTRICT:**

Ryan I. Yamane

**THIRTY-EIGHTH DISTRICT:**

Henry J.C. Aquino

**THIRTY-NINTH DISTRICT:**

Ty J.K. Cullen

**FORTIETH DISTRICT:**

Bob McDermott

**FORTY-FIRST DISTRICT:**

Matthew S. LoPresti

**FORTY-SECOND DISTRICT:**

Sharon E. Har

**FORTY-THIRD DISTRICT:**

Andria P.L. Tupola

**FORTY-FOURTH DISTRICT:**

Cedric Asuega Gates

**FORTY-FIFTH DISTRICT:**

Lauren Kealohilani Matsumoto

**FORTY-SIXTH DISTRICT:**

Marcus R. Oshiro

**FORTY-SEVENTH DISTRICT:**

Sean Quinlan

**FORTY-EIGHTH DISTRICT:**

Jarrett Keohokalole

**FORTY-NINTH DISTRICT:**

Ken Ito

**FIFTIETH DISTRICT:**

Cynthia Thielen

**FIFTY-FIRST DISTRICT:**

Chris Lee

**INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS**

The following resolutions (H.R. Nos. 2 and 3) were read by the Temporary Clerk and the following action taken:

H.R. No. 2, entitled: "HOUSE RESOLUTION ELECTING THE SPEAKER AND VICE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE," resolving that the Honorable Joseph M. Souki, Representative from the Eighth District, and the Honorable John M. Mizuno, Representative from the Twenty-Eighth District, be elected as Speaker and Vice Speaker, respectively, of the House of Representatives of the Twenty-Ninth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, was jointly offered by Representatives Saiki and Fukumoto.

On motion by Representative Saiki, seconded by Representative Fukumoto and carried, H.R. No. 2 was adopted.

The Temporary Chair appointed Representatives Saiki, Evans, Fukumoto and Tupola to escort the newly elected Speaker to the rostrum.

The Temporary Chair then presented to the Members of the House and audience the Honorable Joseph M. Souki, Speaker of the House of Representatives of the Twenty-Ninth Legislature, and presented him with the gavel.

At this time, the Chair stated:

"Members of the House, I want to thank you for your vote of confidence and support. I pledge to you that I will execute my duties and responsibilities with fairness consistent with Hawaii's Constitution and statutes."

The Chair appointed Representatives Saiki and Fukumoto to escort the newly elected Vice Speaker to the rostrum.

The Chair then presented to the Members of the House and audience the Honorable John M. Mizuno, Vice Speaker of the House of Representatives of the Twenty-Ninth Legislature.

H.R. No. 3, entitled: "HOUSE RESOLUTION ELECTING THE OFFICERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE," resolving that Brian L. Takeshita, Rod Tanonaka, Rupert Juarez, and Leonard Paresa, Jr., be elected as Chief Clerk, Sergeant-at-Arms, Assistant Chief Clerk, and Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms, respectively, of the House of Representatives of the Twenty-Ninth Legislature, was jointly offered by Representatives Saiki and Fukumoto.

On motion by Representative Saiki, seconded by Representative Fukumoto and carried, H.R. No. 3 was adopted.

Thereafter, the Speaker administered the Oath of Office to the officers named.

**INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS**

The following resolution (H.R. No. 4) was read by the Clerk and the following action taken:

H.R. No. 4, entitled: "HOUSE RESOLUTION ACKNOWLEDGING AND RECOGNIZING THE CAUCUS LEADERS AND NAMING THE CHAIRS, VICE CHAIRS, AND MEMBERS OF THE STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE," acknowledging and recognizing the Caucus Leaders and naming the Chairs, Vice Chairs, and members of the Standing Committees of the House of Representatives of the Twenty-Ninth

Legislature, as listed below, was jointly offered by Representatives Saiki and Fukumoto.

Majority Leader	Scott K. Saiki
Majority Floor Leader	Cindy Evans
Majority Policy Leader	Marcus R. Oshiro
Majority Whip	Ken Ito
Assistant Majority Leaders	Chris Lee Dee Morikawa Roy M. Takumi
Minority Leader	Beth Fukumoto
Minority Floor Leader	Andria P.L. Tupola
Minority Policy Leader	Gene Ward
Minority Whip	Lauren Kealohilani Matsumoto
Assistant Minority Leader	Bob McDermott
Assistant Minority Floor Leader	Cynthia Thielen
Speaker Emeritus	Calvin K.Y. Say
Minority Leader Emeritus	Gene Ward

Agriculture:

Richard P. Creagan	Chair
Lynn DeCoite	Vice Chair
Cedric Asuega Gates	
Kaniela Ing	
Matthew S. LoPresti	
Gregg Takayama	
Cynthia Thielen	

Consumer Protection & Commerce:

Angus L.K. McKelvey	Chair
Linda Ichiyama	Vice Chair
Henry J.C. Aquino	
Ken Ito	
Calvin K.Y. Say	
Gregg Takayama	
Chris Todd	
Ryan I. Yamane	
Beth Fukumoto	

Economic Development & Business:

Mark M. Nakashima	Chair
Jarrett Keohokalole	Vice Chair
Daniel Holt	
Aaron Ling Johanson	
Roy M. Takumi	
Kyle T. Yamashita	
Lauren Kealohilani Matsumoto	

Education:

Roy M. Takumi	Chair
Sharon E. Har	Vice Chair
Richard P. Creagan	
Mark J. Hashem	
Kaniela Ing	
Takashi Ohno	
Richard H.K. Onishi	
Justin H. Woodson	
Lauren Kealohilani Matsumoto	

Energy & Environmental Protection:

Chris Lee	Chair
Nicole E. Lowen	Vice Chair
Ty J.K. Cullen	
Cindy Evans	
Linda Ichiyama	
Sam Satoru Kong	
Calvin K.Y. Say	
Ryan I. Yamane	
Beth Fukumoto	

Finance:

Sylvia Luke	Chair
Ty J.K. Cullen	Vice Chair
Romy M. Cachola	
Isaac W. Choy	
Lynn DeCoite	
Cedric Asuega Gates	
Daniel Holt	
Jarrett Keohokalole	
Bertrand Kobayashi	
Matthew S. LoPresti	
Nicole E. Lowen	
Nadine K. Nakamura	
Sean Quinlan	
James Kunane Tokioka	
Kyle T. Yamashita	
Andria P.L. Tupola	
Gene Ward	

Health:

Della Au Belatti	Chair
Bertrand Kobayashi	Vice Chair
Sharon E. Har	
Dee Morikawa	
Marcus R. Oshiro	
Chris Todd	
Andria P.L. Tupola	

Higher Education:

Justin H. Woodson	Chair
Mark J. Hashem	Vice Chair
Richard P. Creagan	
Sharon E. Har	
Kaniela Ing	
Takashi Ohno	
Richard H. K. Onishi	
Roy M. Takumi	
Lauren Kealohilani Matsumoto	

## Housing:

Tom Brower                      Chair  
Nadine K. Nakamura            Vice Chair

Henry J.C. Aquino  
Mark J. Hashem  
Sean Quinlan  
Joy A. San Buenaventura  
Bob McDermott

## Human Services:

Dee Morikawa                    Chair  
Chris Todd                      Vice Chair

Della Au Belatti  
Sharon E. Har  
Bertrand Kobayashi  
Marcus R. Oshiro  
Andria P.L. Tupola

## Intrastate Commerce:

Takashi Ohno                    Chair  
Isaac W. Choy                   Vice Chair

Romy M. Cachola  
Ken Ito  
Richard H.K. Onishi  
James Kunane Tokioka  
Justin H. Woodson  
Gene Ward

## Judiciary:

Scott Y. Nishimoto              Chair  
Joy A. San Buenaventura       Vice Chair

Della Au Belatti  
Tom Brower  
Aaron Ling Johanson  
Chris Lee  
Dee Morikawa  
Mark M. Nakashima  
Marcus R. Oshiro  
Bob McDermott  
Cynthia Thielen

## Labor &amp; Public Employment:

Aaron Ling Johanson            Chair  
Daniel Holt                      Vice Chair

Jarrett Keohokalole  
Mark M. Nakashima  
Roy M. Takumi  
Kyle T. Yamashita  
Lauren Kealohilani Matsumoto

## Legislative Management:

Bertrand Kobayashi            Chair  
John M. Mizuno                 Vice Chair

Cindy Evans  
Scott K. Saiki  
Beth Fukumoto

## Ocean, Marine Resources, &amp; Hawaiian Affairs:

Kaniela Ing                      Chair  
Cedric Asuega Gates            Vice Chair

Richard P. Creagan  
Lynn DeCoite  
Matthew S. LoPresti  
Gregg Takayama  
Cynthia Thielen

## Public Safety:

Gregg Takayama                 Chair  
Matthew S. LoPresti             Vice Chair

Richard P. Creagan  
Lynn DeCoite  
Cedric Asuega Gates  
Kaniela Ing  
Cynthia Thielen

## Tourism:

Richard H.K. Onishi             Chair  
James Kunane Tokioka         Vice Chair

Romy M. Cachola  
Isaac W. Choy  
Ken Ito  
Takashi Ohno  
Justin H. Woodson  
Gene Ward

## Transportation:

Henry J.C. Aquino               Chair  
Sean Quinlan                    Vice Chair

Tom Brower  
Mark J. Hashem  
Nadine K. Nakamura  
Joy A. San Buenaventura  
Bob McDermott

## Veterans, Military, &amp; International Affairs, &amp; Culture and the Arts:

Ken Ito                             Chair  
James Kunane Tokioka         Vice Chair

Romy M. Cachola  
Isaac W. Choy  
Takashi Ohno  
Richard H.K. Onishi  
Justin H. Woodson  
Gene Ward

## Water &amp; Land:

Ryan I. Yamane                  Chair  
Sam Satoru Kong                Vice Chair

Ty J.K. Cullen  
Cindy Evans  
Linda Ichiyama  
Chris Lee  
Nicole E. Lowen  
Calvin K.Y. Say  
Beth Fukumoto

H.R. No. 4 further states that:

"BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that if any member of a Standing Committee is called to active duty in the military and is deployed and unavailable to participate in committee activities, then for that period of unavailability, the member shall not be considered a member of that Standing Committee."

On motion by Representative Saiki, seconded by Representative Fukumoto and carried, H.R. No. 4 was adopted.

### INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions (H.C.R. Nos. 1 and 2) were read by the Clerk and the following action taken:

H.C.R. No. 1, entitled: "HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION RELATING TO RECESS DAYS FOR THE REGULAR SESSION OF 2017," resolving that the dates of the mandatory recess for the Regular Session of 2017 are hereby determined to be the 23rd, 24th, 27th, and 28th days of February and the 1st day of March, on which dates the Regular Session of 2017 shall be recessed; and the dates of the recesses other than the dates of the mandatory recess for the Regular Session of 2017 are hereby determined to be the 24th and 26th days of January, the 8th day of February, the 6th and 8th days of March, the 10th and 12th days of April, and the 1st and 3rd days of May, on which dates the Regular Session of 2017 shall be recessed, was jointly offered by Representatives Souki and Mizuno.

On motion by Representative Saiki, seconded by Representative Fukumoto and carried, H.C.R. No. 1 was adopted.

H.C.R. No. 2, entitled: "HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE GOVERNOR TO ADDRESS THE LEGISLATURE ASSEMBLED IN JOINT SESSION," resolving that the two Houses of the Legislature assemble in Joint Session in the Chambers of the House of Representatives at 10:00 a.m. on Monday, January 23, 2017, for the purpose of receiving such address or greetings from the Governor of Hawaii as he should be pleased to make, was jointly offered by Representatives Souki and Mizuno.

On motion by Representative Saiki, seconded by Representative Fukumoto and carried, H.C.R. No. 2 was adopted.

At 10:45 o'clock a.m., the Chair declared a recess subject to the call of the Chair.

At this time, the Members of the House, their guests and audience were entertained by Raiatea Helm.

The House of Representatives reconvened at 11:17 o'clock a.m.

At this time, the Speaker delivered his address, stating:

"I would like to make some introductions before beginning. Governor David Ige and his wife and son, Matthew. Lieutenant Governor Shan Tsutsui. As a special guest, Governor Hiroshi Ogawa from Fukuoka, thank you. As a special guest, Speaker Nakao, thank you for being here. And up in the gallery we have the Fukuoka assembly members sitting strong, *aloha* to you all. Thank you.

"Chief Justice Recktenwald, Justice Paula Nakayama, Justice Sabrina McKenna, Justice Richard Pollack, Justice Michael Wilson, and Office of Hawaiian Affairs Chair Rowena Akana.

"Former Governor Ariyoshi and Mrs. Ariyoshi, former Governor Waihee and Mrs. Waihee, former Governor Ben Cayetano and Mrs. Cayetano, and Governor Abercrombie. Also members from the Congressional delegation, for Senator Schatz, Chuck Freedman. For Senator Hirono, Alan Yamamoto. For Congresswoman Hanabusa, Christen Lee. For Congresswoman Gabbard, Shingai Masiya.

"For the mayors, our Mayor Kirk Caldwell, the Kauai Mayor Bernard Cravalho, from the Big Island Mayor Harry Kim, and representing Mayor Alan Arakawa is Keith Regan. We have County Chairs Ron Menor from the City and County of Honolulu, from Maui County, Chair Mike White, from Hawaii County, Chair Valerie Poindexter. Also, to our members of the consular corps, a little hand, please. And if there are any representatives of the armed forces, please give them a hand.

"And very important to me of course, my wife Frances Souki, my son Mark Souki and his fiancée Jeanine, my campaign chairman of many years and why I'm here, Leonard Oka, and a good old friend, John Radcliffe. Thank you all. Now if you can hold your breath, I will make my speech.

"My good friends, *aloha* and welcome to the House of Representatives, the People's House. After more than 35 years in the Legislature, I never tire of seeing this place come alive and bursting with activity at the start of each session. And I am always impressed with the diversity of people that come together under this rotunda.

"We come from Waianae and Waimanalo, from Hilo and Kona, from Poipu and Princeville, from Kaupo and Kaanapali, and all points in between. And while our reasons and motivations may vary widely, we all share a common purpose, to participate in this government and help shape our collective future.

"We in Hawaii have a strong and compelling sense of place, who we are. We all share this overarching sense of place, whether you were born and raised here or chose it for your adopted home. Hawaii does that to you. And when change comes to this place, as it must, we begrudgingly accept it, but only after making sure that it is in the best interest of Hawaii.

"When school curriculums must be updated for a changing world, when the way we measure academic success no longer applies, and when our education system must evolve from the way we've always done things, we push back and cautiously ask, why? Why are they no longer good enough? But I know the DOE and the administration are hard at work implementing sound and necessary changes, and we look forward to working with them to improve our schools.

"In Maui, when we could no longer afford to deliver health care on Maui the way we used to, we understandably pushed back because we are protective of others who may be affected by the change. But we needed to find a better way of change. And we did. So this July, we look forward to completing the privatization of Maui's public hospitals and initiating a new era of health care delivery on the Valley Isle.

"When gridlock chokes our daily commute and threatens the efficient operation of our businesses and our quality of life, we resist dramatic changes. We hope lesser incremental ones will do the job. But they won't, and only serve to cost us more in the long run.

"So we look to solutions like rail to relieve traffic on our roads. It does come with a high cost, but make no mistake, rail is the key to the future of Oahu. The Mayor of Honolulu has proposed extending the general excise tax as a way of financing the growing cost of rail. I agree. We need to remove the sunset date on the original financing bill, but only if we reduce the tax rate, with the city making up the difference. In addition, we should also lower the amount allocated for administrative costs from 10% to 5%. I believe it's time.

"But rail alone will not solve the entire problem of traffic congestion on Oahu. We must employ a multi-faceted approach, utilizing our buses, flex scheduling and technology that allows distance learning, tele medicine and alternative workplaces to reduce commuter travel.

"Another way would be elevated toll roads, privately owned and funded by users, could be a part of our efforts to mitigate congestion. These roads would allow tour buses and other businesses to operate more efficiently, while removing them from our grade level streets.

"Other cities across the country and the world have successfully integrated elevated toll roads as part of their transportation network, including Singapore, which has similar limited space and population density as

Honolulu. Therefore, I am proposing that we do a feasibility study to see whether elevated toll roads make sense for Honolulu and how they might be integrated with rail, our buses and our existing highway system.

"We also seek change in the prisons. Change must also come to our prisons, where we can no longer house the numbers we are incarcerating. Presently, about 5,900 inmates fill our state prisons, 1,400 are in federal prisons, and 21,000 on probation. This totals to about 30,000 individuals who are being managed under our criminal justice system, either behind bars or under supervision.

"With no new prison in sight for at least 10 years, we need to find alternative ways for incarceration. So what can we do? The Legislature has already created a task force on improving the correctional system, and last year passed a law that allows the prison director to release some types of low-level nonviolent inmates. I think we read that in the paper this morning, it's beginning to move now, hopefully. We also provided funds for increasing the number of beds in Hilo, Maui and Kauai. But we must build on these efforts.

"For those awaiting trial and those guilty of misdemeanors, white collar or non-violent crimes, we can confine them to their homes by using electronic bracelets. With new technology, we can employ varying degrees of restrictions based on the crime committed, and monitor the movements of those under supervision.

"What I'm talking about is creating a whole new level of non-institutionalized incarceration. It would revamp our prison system, lessen the cost, and lessen the cost of incarceration. The benefits would not only include less crowded facilities, but allow us to better focus on rehabilitating the inmates.

"Protecting our residents also means keeping an eye on federal regulations that benefit our state. This session we will propose critical amendments to Hawaii's National Flood Insurance Program. We will amend our laws to comply with FEMA's floodplain management regulations. We will protect 60,000 flood insurance policyholders in jeopardy of losing this critical coverage. Since 1980, Hawaii has received more than \$400 million from FEMA through this program. Rest assured, we will fix this situation and make sure flood insurance coverage continues.

"Along with our sense of place is our compassion for others. With the new Trump Administration about to be sworn in in Washington D.C., we know the rich will be well looked after, but it is now incumbent upon individual states, like Hawaii, to make sure low-income families are given support when needed.

"There is nothing more important to human dignity than food on the table and a roof over your head, therefore a priority of the House will be to continue to provide food and rental tax credits for families in need.

"At times, our compassion can also be severely tested. Nowhere is this more evident than in recent discussions about whether Hawaii should allow compassionate care or the right to die with dignity. Those who are suffering from a terminal illness and are of sound mind should be given the opportunity to decide how they will end their own lives. Therefore, I will be submitting a bill this session to decide this issue.

"We have a lot on our plate, members, for this session, and the last revenue forecast by the Council on Revenues does not make our job any easier. It certainly gave gray hairs to the Finance Chairman Luke. But we've been there before as lawmakers and as a community, and we will together find solutions to our most pressing issues.

"So I call on each and every one of you to roll up your sleeves and join me in doing what we need for all of Hawaii. May God bless you all. Thank you, *aloha*. Thank you very much."

The Chair then recognized Representative Fukumoto, the Minority Leader, to deliver remarks on behalf of the Minority Caucus:

"Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members and guests. It's an honor to have the opportunity to serve you again this year as this body's Minority Leader, and to work with you, the Majority Leader, and the rest of my colleagues on solutions to our state's biggest problems. I'd also like to thank my minority colleagues for your unanimous vote to support me as leader this year.

"In my past opening day speeches, I didn't talk much about policy. Instead, I focused on the importance of working together and encouraging dialogue on every policy. Mr. Speaker, you and your majority have responded by listening to our ideas and incorporating our opinions in this legislature. Like in our state, I think we have learned that there is strength in diversity.

"That said, Mr. Speaker, I would like to talk a little more about issues this year, because I think our present situation demands it. This session we're facing a sizable budget deficit, as you've just mentioned, and the natural inclination of government is always to raise revenues and cut spending to find immediate solutions to impending problems. We may need to take some of those actions, Mr. Speaker, but we'd be doing a disservice to the people of Hawaii and to future generations if that is all we do.

"Two years ago, when I got elected as Minority Leader, I mentioned to this body that I was the first millennial to serve in this position. In 2016, I was also the youngest female in the country to hold a caucus leadership position. I give you these statistics to remind you that I speak for a growing demographic in this state who can no longer afford to live in a place that we grew up in and love. For us, Hawaii is not just paradise, it's our home, and we can't afford it anymore.

"Mr. Speaker, we talk a lot about the cost of living, and I know the Governor and others have already proposed tax increases. I'm sure there will be many more for us to look at this year. I hope that if your majority chooses to act on those increases, that you will do so with caution, and consider making those increases temporary.

"As minority members, we will be proposing measures to encourage tax equality and lessen the tax burden on middle and lower individual earners, recognizing that in the face of a deficit, these may be long-term ideas, but, as a body, we should never lose sight of the goal to make Hawaii more affordable for its residents.

"In terms of affordability, Mr. Speaker, the biggest thing we can do this session to help local families is to address our rising housing costs. In 2015, a nationwide survey of cities found that Honolulu had the fourth largest percentage of residents departing. When over 52% of a Hawaii resident's income goes towards fixed costs like housing and transportation, we can conclude that housing prices are a major reason for residents, particularly young people, leaving our state.

"This year, Mr. Speaker, you will see minority members contributing a variety of measures that offer housing solutions for individuals and families at every level of need, from homeless individuals who need temporary housing, to middle income wage earners that want to buy their first home at an affordable price.

"As a local economist pointed out, Hawaii has become a preferred place for the international 1% to buy property. This desire to purchase paradise is making it harder and harder for local residents to keep Hawaii their home. And Mr. Speaker, we look forward to working with you and the majority to reverse that trend.

"Every year this legislature comes up with a handful of measures to address housing and homelessness, but those are not enough. By 2025, we will be short nearly 65,000 housing units in our state, and many of our local families will be priced out of their communities if we don't increase the availability of affordable housing. This, Mr. Speaker, is a crisis. We need to start treating it like a crisis. Local families have watched this state become less and less affordable for decades. It's time to find the political courage to take risks, to pass real reform, and to solve that problem.



"Together we can take control of our future. We need to be leaders that listen to the needs of the people that we represent. We need to hear the concerns of recent college graduates who return home, only to find that their home has undervalued them in favor of out-of-state financiers. And we need to find a way to take care of those working families who can make an average wage but can't earn a sufficient living.

"We were once a state that not only took care of the everyday people, we made sure they felt accomplished. We made sure that anyone, regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, and socio-economic status, saw a better life as something achievable and something to aspire to.

"We can be that state again. We have difficult decisions in front of us, and most of those decisions will need to be made quickly. But a comprehensive plan to address housing at every level of need can't be put aside just because of a budget deficit.

"We can't keep planning our state's economy in two-year cycles. We may need some short-term fixes, but we also need a long-term economic plan. That long-term plan must include making it easier for our young people, our working families and our retirees to stay and live in this state that they call home.

"Mr. Speaker, we look forward to working with you and the majority on creating that long-term plan to reduce the cost of living for our local residents.

"Finally, Mr. Speaker, I want to close by acknowledging and thanking our Mililani High School students that are in the gallery and sitting with me today here on the floor. Everything we're doing here and everything I'm talking about is really to make a better future for you guys. So thanks, Mr. Speaker, thank you members and guests for listening."

The Chair then recognized Representative Saiki, the Majority Leader, to deliver remarks on behalf of the Majority Caucus:

"Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to begin my comments with two acknowledgements. First, I wanted to take the liberty on behalf of all of the members to thank the residents of our respective communities for giving us the opportunity to represent them in the Legislature. And second, I wanted to acknowledge the newest Members of the House. So could they please stand when I introduce them?

"First, from District 2, a Hilo native, distribution manager, and Hilo High School coach, Representative Chris Todd. From District 14, a former managing director of Kauai County, Kauai County Councilmember, and a long time planner, Representative Nadine Nakamura. From District 29, a lifelong Kalihi resident, Kamehameha Schools graduate, and former Hawaii State Senate Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms, Representative Daniel Holt. From District 44, a lifelong Waianae resident, Waianae High School graduate, and former neighborhood board chair, Representative Cedric Gates. And finally from District 47, a bi-lingual former English teacher in China, successful small businessperson and wholesaler, and surfer and scuba diver, Representative Sean Quinlan. Can everyone please join me in again congratulating and welcoming our five freshman members?

"Mr. Speaker, I wanted to emphasize that the freshman members epitomize the best characteristics of your Majority Caucus. They are diverse, have ideas, and are resilient. They are a team. They aspire to be leaders and not politicians. They want to be constructive and to find common ground on some of our most pressing challenges which we know include the State's finances, public infrastructure, climate change, public schools, the economy, health care, and affordable housing.

"As we begin this session, I wanted to mention an overarching cause that has become more prevalent in Hawaii. The cause is justice, to protect the principles that are so important to us. The cause of justice has arisen in varying degrees and forms, and sometimes clashes with government initiatives and programs, for as we have seen, the advancement of Hawaii's economy and infrastructure sometimes conflicts with cultural, environmental and social principles.

"Our responsibility is to reconcile such principles with the modern challenges that face Hawaii. This will not be an easy process, but we must remember what President Obama said a few months ago. This is what he said, 'most issues are rarely black and white. That even when you're 100% right, getting things done requires compromise. That democracy doesn't work if we constantly demonize each other. That for progress to happen, we have to listen to each other, see ourselves in each other, fight for our principles but also fight to find common ground, no matter how elusive that may seem.'

"Mr. Speaker, our policy goals and the principles of justice are not mutually exclusive, and must be reconciled. True reconciliation comes from finding common ground through compromise. And I believe that the reconciliation of any differences must occur within the Legislature, and particularly the House of Representatives, and specifically within your Majority Democratic Caucus.

"The House has a distinct advantage to achieve reconciliation due to our composition. Our members are elected to two-year terms, our districts are the smallest units of government, our members are closest to the ground and have a pulse on what people are really thinking.

"Because of these circumstances, the House is uniquely positioned to carry out the fundamental duties of the Legislature, to approve the state budget, to appropriate funds, and to pass laws. But we rely on the executive branch to ably and efficiently implement our laws. And we also rely on the Judiciary to recognize and honor legislative intent when interpreting and applying our laws. Each branch of government must fulfill its respective constitutional duty. If one branch does not, government will become dysfunctional. If government is dysfunctional, the public interest suffers.

"The need for Hawaii to be functional has never been more critical. In just two days, the United States will undergo profound change. We need to be ready, and we need to overcome differences so that we can make Hawaii more effective and viable.

"So as we begin this legislative session, let's take a play out of our freshman Representatives' playbook. Let's be visionary, but also practical. Let's be independent, but also united. Let's be leaders, but not politicians. Mr. Speaker, thank you and best wishes for a productive year."

## INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS

The following resolution (H.R. No. 5) was read by the Clerk and the following action taken:

H.R. No. 5, entitled: "HOUSE RESOLUTION SENDING MESSAGES THAT THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE HAS ASSEMBLED AND IS READY TO TRANSACT BUSINESS," resolving that messages be sent to the Governor and the Senate of the State of Hawaii, that the House of Representatives of the Twenty-Ninth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2017, has assembled and is ready to transact business with the officers as listed below, was jointly offered by Representatives Saiki and Fukumoto.

Joseph M. Souki, Speaker  
 John M. Mizuno, Vice Speaker  
 Brian L. Takeshita, Chief Clerk  
 Rod Tanonaka, Sergeant-at-Arms  
 Rupert Juarez, Assistant Chief Clerk  
 Leonard Paresa, Jr., Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms

On motion by Representative Saiki, seconded by Representative Fukumoto and carried, H.R. No. 5 was adopted.

At this time, the Chair appointed the Sergeant-at-Arms to escort Reverend Alan Urasaki of Honpa Hongwanji mission of Hawaii to the rostrum.

Reverend Alan Urasaki then offered the benediction.

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 11:58 o'clock a.m., on motion by Representative Saiki, seconded by Representative Fukumoto and carried, the House of Representatives adjourned until 12:00 o'clock noon tomorrow, Thursday, January 19, 2017.