

FORTY-FIRST DAY

Monday, April 2, 2018

The House of Representatives of the Twenty-Ninth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2018, convened at 12:01 o'clock p.m., with Speaker Saiki presiding.

The invocation was delivered by Ms. Maia Mayeshiro, Miss Hawaii's Outstanding Teen 2017, after which the Roll was called showing all Members present.

By unanimous consent, reading and approval of the Journal of the House of Representatives of the Thirty-Ninth and Fortieth Days was deferred.

SENATE COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications from the Senate (Sen. Com. Nos. 460 through 462) were received and announced by the Clerk:

Sen. Com. No. 460, transmitting S.C.R. No. 122, SD 1, entitled: "SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REQUESTING AN INCREASED HONOLULU POLICE DEPARTMENT PRESENCE ON OAHU'S NORTH SHORE," which was adopted by the Senate on March 29, 2018.

Sen. Com. No. 461, transmitting S.C.R. No. 126, entitled: "SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION URGING THE HONOLULU POLICE DEPARTMENT TO OPEN A POLICE STATION ON OAHU'S NORTH SHORE," which was adopted by the Senate on March 29, 2018.

Sen. Com. No. 462, transmitting H.B. No. 2739, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH," which passed Third Reading in the Senate on March 29, 2018.

INTRODUCTIONS

The following introductions were made to the Members of the House:

Representative Nishimoto introduced fourth graders from Ala Wai Elementary promoting awareness of the critically endangered vaquita porpoise: Izabella Martin, Aki Oneyama De LaCayo, Payton Sigras, Kielely Garchinoreta, Kailah Nakamoto, Ramzy Fuifui, Mika Harper, Aliyah Canito, Jonathan Moala, Cyrus Low, James Kang, Carlos Gallegos, Takehiro Uesugi, Katsutochi Uesugi, Rage Kahao, Jeremy Nakana, Waylan Miner, Verna Alokoa, Andres Jimenez and Jay Huang; teacher, Ms. Lori Kwee; parent, Mr. Ricardo De LaCayo; and skills trainer, Ms. Marie Pagaragan.

Representative Nakashima introduced Maia Mayeshiro, 2017 Miss Hawaii's Outstanding Teen; her mom, Janelle Mayeshiro; and Mr. Larry Nakano and Mr. Tony Alcosiba, Miss Hawaii Organization.

Representative Gates introduced Senator Maile Shimabukuro.

ORDER OF THE DAY

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS
(FLOOR PRESENTATIONS)

The following resolution (H.R. No. 225) was announced by the Clerk and the following action taken:

H.R. No. 225, entitled: "HOUSE RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING AND CONGRATULATING THE HAWAII BUILDING FUTURE CHAMPIONS ORGANIZATION FOR CREATING A NO-WEIGHT LIMIT TACKLE FOOTBALL PROGRAM FOR LOW INCOME AND AT-RISK YOUTH," was jointly offered by Representatives Mizuno, Brower, Learmont and Morikawa.

Representative Mizuno moved that H.R. No. 225 be adopted, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

Representative Morikawa recognized the Hawaii Building Future Champions Organization, formerly the Pacific Big Boyz Football Conference, for providing a tackle football option for youth who are above the weight limits for traditional tackle football, serving low-income and at-risk youth in Kalihi, urban Honolulu and the Waianae coast by giving youth a safe and nurturing place, paying for registration fees, and providing tackle equipment through support from their church congregation.

Representative Brower recognized Building Future Champions for providing children with a positive, nurturing and safe environment with support from families, churches and schools, where they are able to thrive and be successful, and introduced honorees who were seated on the Floor of the House:

Pastor Taavao Alualu, CEO and Commissioner, Building Future Champions;
Pastor Muao Ava, Assistant Commissioner, Building Future Champions;
Mauga Tauiliili, Student/Player, Kalihi Rock Solid Crusaders;
Royce Wilms, Student/Player, Kapolei Raiders;
Talitonu Alauni, Student/Player, Kalihi Disciples; and
Mr. Tony Matautia, Jr., Student/Player, Kapolei Raiders.

Representative Har recognized additional coaches, players and supporters who were seated in the gallery:

Mr. Pule Toloumu, Coach, Kalihi Disciples;
Mr. Tony Matautia, Coach/Team Owner, Kapolei Raiders;
Melmolina Atdrik Piamon, Student/Player, Rock Solid Crusader Kalihi;
Freddie Gregorio, Student/Player, Kapolei Raiders;
Ms. Camille Rocket, Board Secretary; and
Mr. Clayton Tom, Board Director.

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and H.R. No. 225 was adopted, with Representative Aquino being excused.

The following resolution (H.R. No. 226) was announced by the Clerk and the following action taken:

H.R. No. 226, entitled: "HOUSE RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING THE NANAKULI HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS VARSITY VOLLEYBALL TEAM FOR WINNING THE 2017 OIA DIVISION II CHAMPIONSHIP," was offered by Representative Tupola.

Representative Tupola moved that H.R. No. 226 be adopted, seconded by Representative Gates.

Representative Tupola congratulated the Nanakuli Lady Golden Hawks for being the first volleyball champions from Nanakuli High School, and introduced honorees who were seated on the Floor of the House:

Janae Odom, Team Captain/Outside Hitter, Senior;
Shayann Hooihuli, Middle Blocker, Sophomore;
Kaanela Pae, Libero/Defensive Specialist, Sophomore;
Cheylah-Marie Marfil, Setter, Junior;
Shealyn Oilii, Middle Blocker, Junior; and
Jeanie Palsis, Defensive Specialist, Junior.

Representative Tupola shared that talent may win games but teamwork wins championships, and recognized coaches, parents and supporters who were seated in the gallery, including:

Mr. Junius Wong, Head Coach;
Ms. Crystal Kaeha, Assistant Coach;
Mr. Alfred Meyers, Assistant Coach;
Ms. Mercy Puni, Assistant Coach;
Sierra Nahulu, Outside Hitter, Sophomore; and
Senator Maile Shimabukuro.

Representative Gates congratulated the Nanakuli Lady Golden Hawks on their championship win over Pearl City, and thanked the coaches, players and staff for making this possible and providing opportunities to play sports in high school.

Representative Tupola also recognized her staff, Kelli Timoteo and Crystal Akana Pang; and Patrice, staff of Senator Shimabukuro, who were seated in the gallery.

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and H.R. No. 226 was adopted.

At 12:25 o'clock p.m., the Chair declared a recess subject to the call of the Chair.

The House of Representatives reconvened at 12:34 o'clock p.m.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Representative LoPresti, for the Committee on Veterans, Military, & International Affairs, & Culture and the Arts, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1749-18) recommending that H.R. No. 47, as amended in HD 1, be adopted.

On motion by Representative Belatti, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.R. No. 47, HD 1, entitled: "HOUSE RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE ADOPTEE CITIZENSHIP ACT OF 2018," was adopted.

Representative LoPresti, for the Committee on Veterans, Military, & International Affairs, & Culture and the Arts, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1750-18) recommending that H.C.R. No. 59, as amended in HD 1, be adopted.

On motion by Representative Belatti, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.C.R. No. 59, HD 1, entitled: "HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE ADOPTEE CITIZENSHIP ACT OF 2018," was adopted.

At 12:35 o'clock p.m., Representative Ichiyama requested a recess and the Chair declared a recess subject to the call of the Chair.

The House of Representatives reconvened at 12:35 o'clock p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Representative Ichiyama, for the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, requested a waiver of the 48-hour advanced notice requirement for the purpose of hearing the following measure on Tuesday, April 3, 2018, at 2:00 p.m. in Conference Room 329, and the Chair "so ordered."

H.C.R. No. 52

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

The following measures were referred to committee by the Speaker:

S.C.R.
Nos.

Referred to:

- 25 Committee on Education, then to the Committee on Finance
- 29, SD2 Committee on Finance
- 30 Committee on Finance

40, SD1 Jointly to the Committee on Public Safety and the Committee on Veterans, Military, & International Affairs, & Culture and the Arts, then to the Committee on Finance

51 Committee on Veterans, Military, & International Affairs, & Culture and the Arts, then to the Committee on Judiciary

57 Committee on Agriculture, then to the Committee on Finance

68 Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection, then to the Committee on Finance

122, SD1 Committee on Public Safety, then to the Committee on Finance

126 Committee on Public Safety, then to the Committee on Finance

COMMITTEE REASSIGNMENTS

The following measures were re-referred to committee by the Speaker:

S.B.
Nos.

Re-referred to:

- 2791, SD2, HD1 Committee on Health & Human Services, then to the Committee on Finance
- 2922, SD1 Committee on Education

ADJOURNMENT

At 12:36 o'clock p.m., on motion by Representative Morikawa, seconded by Representative Ward and carried, the House of Representatives adjourned until 12:00 o'clock noon tomorrow, Tuesday, April 3, 2018. (Representative Tokioka was excused.)

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OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

JOSEPH M. SOUKI
SPEAKER EMERITUS

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
STATE OF HAWAII
STATE CAPITOL
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813



JOSEPH M. SOUKI,
Speaker Emeritus
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On March 30, 2018, I will resign my position as an elected member of Hawai'i's House of Representatives. For over half a century I have had the high privilege and honor of faithfully serving not only my constituents on Maui, but all of the people of the State of Hawai'i. My political life began as an officer and Precinct Chairman on Maui in 1966.

Over the years I was honored by being a delegate to the State Constitution Convention, a member of the Hawai'i State Legislature since 1982, Speaker of the House from 1993 – 1999, and Speaker Emeritus from 2000 – 2012.

In all my years of public service, I have attempted to serve with honor and dignity. I have championed the rights of all without regard to race, ethnicity, or gender.

I have learned in the last few weeks that certain women have complained to the Hawai'i State Ethics Committee, accusing me of inappropriate and unwelcome conduct. That conduct included "touching" and "kissing" more than one woman inappropriately. I am told that the conduct complained of occurred between 3 and 8 years ago.

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I have absolutely no memory of ever acting inappropriately with any women at any time, as a member of the House or in a private setting.

I am greatly saddened that something I did was misunderstood and believed to be inappropriate conduct.

I have always been a fighter. I have fought to remedy injustices that affect our citizens' everyday lives. I have never avoided standing up for what I believed to be a just cause.

As to the allegations currently filed against me, I have made the difficult decision to avoid a media circus by stepping down without a public confrontation with my accusers.

I do not intend to have my wife and family agonize through public hearings before the Ethics Committee or elsewhere.

I do not want my colleagues in the legislature to waste their valuable time in deciding where the truth lies, and what sanctions against me, if any, are appropriate.

I will not force my accusers to be examined publicly by my attorney or others about what they perceived as my wrongful conduct.

I apologize to the women that believe I treated them in any unwanted and inappropriate manner.

At the age of 86, this was to be my last year of service to the people of Hawaii. I have agreed to resign before the end of the current session.

In conclusion, I can safely say to everyone who supported me in politics, or as a friend, I have always strived to conduct myself in a respectful manner befitting my office. I have never intentionally violated the trust, confidence, and integrity place on me by the people.

I thank everyone who has shared my life with me as a public servant.

Aloha