

THE  
THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE  
STATE OF HAWAII  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2019  
JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE

FIRST DAY

Wednesday, January 16, 2019

In accordance with the provisions of Article III, Section 10 of the Constitution of the State of Hawaii, the House of Representatives of the Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2019, convened at 10:10 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 Kumu Keli'i Puchalski and Hui O Nā 'Opio.

At this time, the Temporary Chair stated:

"The House of Representatives of the Thirtieth 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 a decades-old tradition of the House of Representatives by presiding over the Opening Day ceremonies. *E komo mai*, everybody.

"Many thanks to Kumu Keli'i Puchalski and members of Saint Louis School's Hui O Nā 'Opio for that wonderful *oli*.

"At this time, I call upon Technical Sergeant Alison Bruce-Maldonado of the Hawaii Air National Guard to lead us in the singing of the national anthem and *Hawaii Pono 'i*. Thereafter, Naomi Francisco, student at Kekaha Elementary School and *hanai* daughter of Representative Dee Morikawa, 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 Technical Sergeant Alison Bruce-Maldonado. Thereafter the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Miss Naomi Francisco.

The invocation was then delivered by Sister Joan Chatfield of the Maryknoll Sisters.

**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 THIRTIETH 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 Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, was jointly offered by Representatives Belatti and Ward.

On motion by Representative Belatti, seconded by Representative Ward and carried, H.R. No. 1 was adopted.

At this time, the Temporary Chair stated:

"Members of the House of Representatives of the Thirtieth Legislature, thank you very much. 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 Lee for the report of the Committee on Credentials.

**REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES**

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

"Pursuant to the authority vested by Article III, Section 12, of the Hawaii State Constitution, which identifies each House of the Legislature as sole judge of the elections, returns, and qualifications of its own members, 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 Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2019, and finds that, based on the certificates of election issued by the Office of Elections (attached), the members elect are duly qualified to sit as members of the House of Representatives as follows:

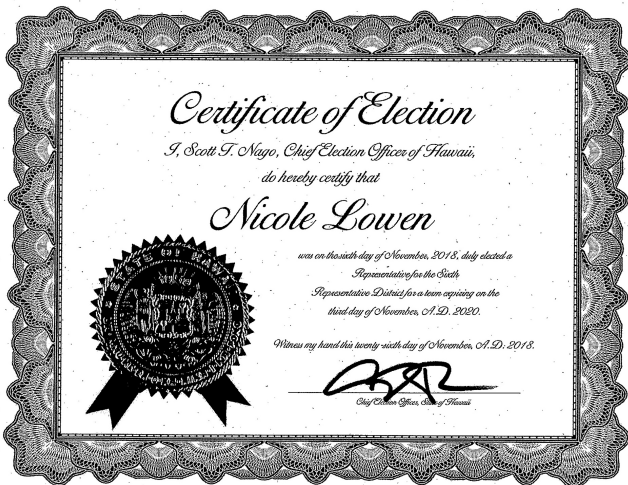
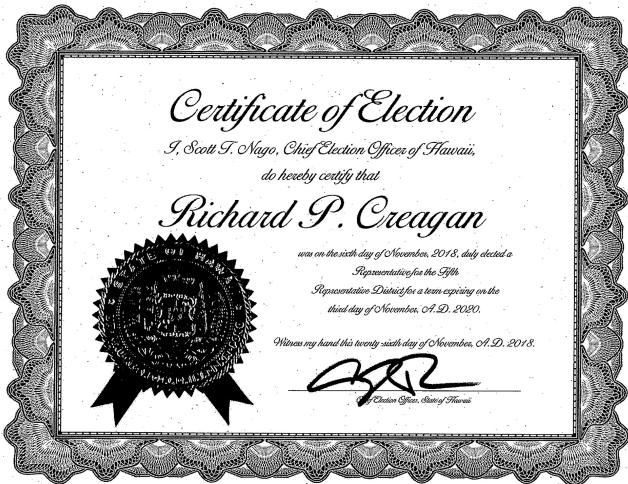
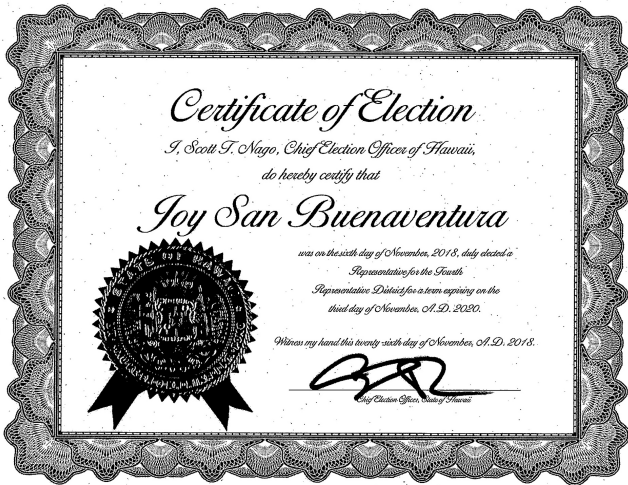
First District:	Mark M. Nakashima
Second District:	Chris Todd
Third District:	Richard H.K. Onishi
Fourth District:	Joy A. San Buenaventura
Fifth District:	Richard P. Creagan
Sixth District:	Nicole E. Lowen
Seventh District:	David A. Tamas
Eighth District:	Troy N. Hashimoto
Ninth District:	Justin H. Woodson
Tenth District:	Angus L.K. McKelvey
Eleventh District:	Tina Wildberger
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

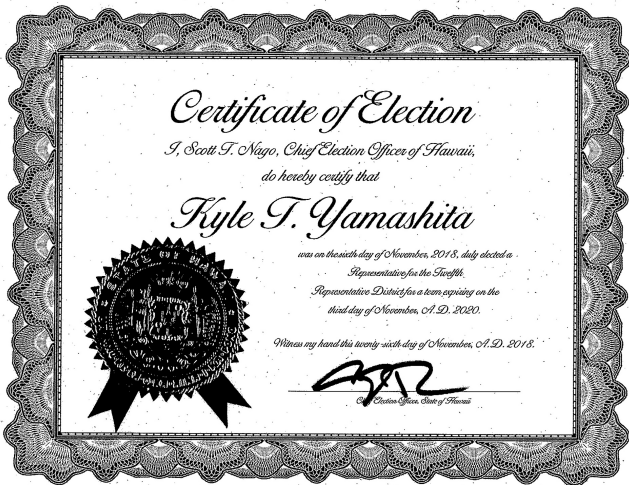
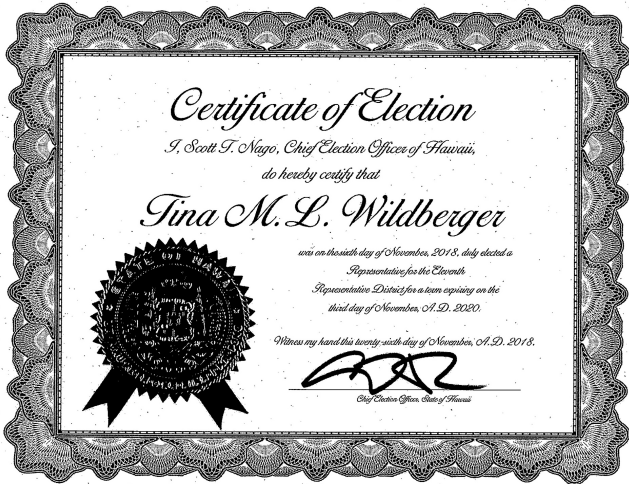
Eighteenth District:	Mark J. Hashem
Nineteenth District:	Bertrand Kobayashi
Twentieth District:	Calvin K.Y. Say
Twenty-First District:	Scott Y. Nishimoto
Twenty-Second District:	Tom Brower
Twenty-Third District:	Dale T. Kobayashi
Twenty-Fourth District:	Della Au Belatti
Twenty-Fifth District:	Sylvia 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:	Val Okimoto
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:	Rida Cabanilla Arakawa
Forty-Second District:	Sharon E. Har
Forty-Third District:	Stacelynn K.M. Eli
Forty-Fourth District:	Cedric Asuega Gates
Forty-Fifth District:	Lauren Matsumoto
Forty-Sixth District:	Amy A. Perruso
Forty-Seventh District:	Sean Quinlan
Forty-Eighth District:	Lisa Kitagawa
Forty-Ninth District:	Scot Z. Matayoshi
Fiftieth District:	Cynthia Thielen
Fifty-First District:	Chris Lee"



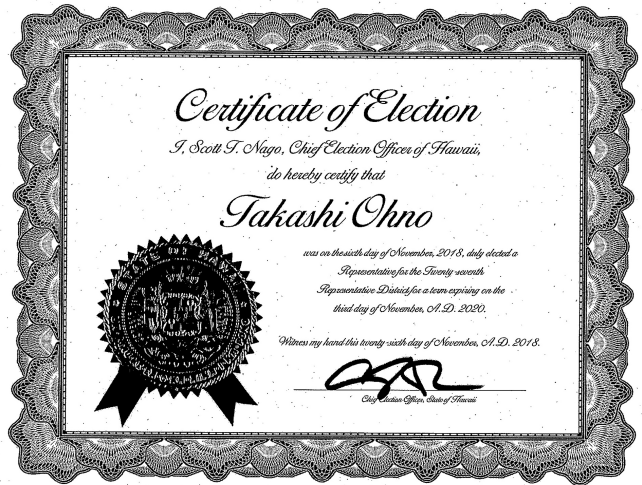
The report was submitted by Representatives Lee, Ward and Belatti, with the following Certificates of Election attached:



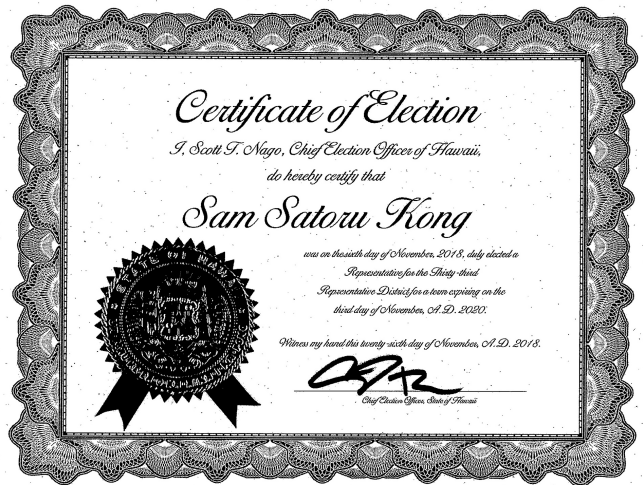






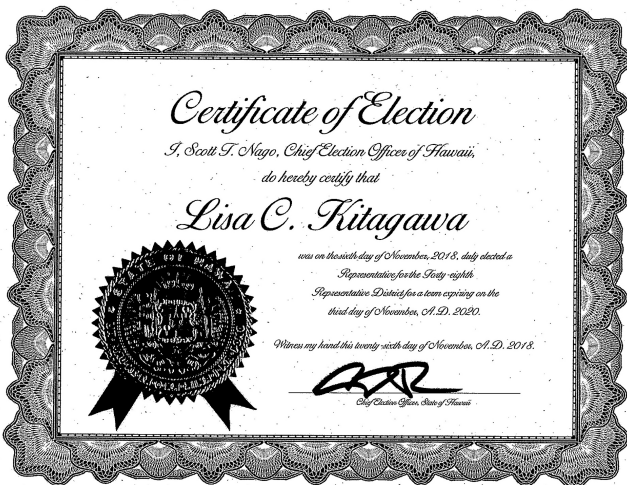












On motion by Representative Lee, seconded by Representative Ward and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted.



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, Rida Cabanilla Arakawa, Romy M. Cachola, Richard P. Creagan, Ty J.K. Cullen, Lynn DeCoite, Stacelynn K.M. Eli, Cedric Asuega Gates, Sharon E. Har, Mark J. Hashem, Troy N. Hashimoto, Daniel Holt, Linda Ichiyama, Aaron Ling Johanson, Lisa Kitagawa, Bertrand Kobayashi, Dale T. Kobayashi, Sam Satoru Kong, Chris Lee, Nicole E. Lowen, Sylvia Luke, Scot Z. Matayoshi, Lauren Matsumoto, Bob McDermott, Angus L.K. McKelvey, John M. Mizuno, Dee Morikawa, Nadine K. Nakamura, Mark M. Nakashima, Scott Y. Nishimoto, Takashi Ohno, Val Okimoto, Richard H.K. Onishi, Amy A. Perruso, Sean Quinlan, Scott K. Saiki, Joy A. San Buenaventura, Calvin K.Y. Say, Gregg Takayama, Roy M. Takumi, David A. Tarnas, Cynthia Thielen, Chris Todd, James Kunane Tokioka, Gene Ward, Tina Wildberger, Justin H. Woodson, Ryan I. Yamane and Kyle T. Yamashita, a total of fifty-one.

At 10:22 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 Henry Kapono and Kimié Miner.

The House of Representatives reconvened at 10:45 o'clock a.m.

The Temporary Chair 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 Thirtieth 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:**  
David A. Tarnas

**EIGHTH DISTRICT:**  
Troy N. Hashimoto

**NINTH DISTRICT:**  
Justin H. Woodson

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

**ELEVENTH DISTRICT:**  
Tina Wildberger

**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:**  
Dale T. Kobayashi

**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:**

Val Okimoto

**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:**

Rida Cabanilla Arakawa

**FORTY-SECOND DISTRICT:**

Sharon E. Har

**FORTY-THIRD DISTRICT:**

Stacelynn K.M. Eli

**FORTY-FOURTH DISTRICT:**

Cedric Asuega Gates

**FORTY-FIFTH DISTRICT:**

Lauren Matsumoto

**FORTY-SIXTH DISTRICT:**

Amy A. Perruso

**FORTY-SEVENTH DISTRICT:**

Sean Quinlan

**FORTY-EIGHTH DISTRICT:**

Lisa Kitagawa

**FORTY-NINTH DISTRICT:**

Scot Z. Matayoshi

**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 THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE," resolving that the Honorable Scott K. Saiki, Representative from the Twenty-Sixth District, and the Honorable Mark M. Nakashima, Representative from the First District, be elected as Speaker and Vice Speaker, respectively, of the House of Representatives of the Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, was jointly offered by Representatives Belatti and Ward.

On motion by Representative Belatti, seconded by Representative Ward and carried, H.R. No. 2 was adopted.

The Temporary Chair appointed Representatives Della Au Belatti, Dee Morikawa, Gene Ward and Lauren Matsumoto to escort the newly elected Speaker Scott K. Saiki to the rostrum.

The Temporary Chair then presented to the members of the House and audience the Honorable Scott K. Saiki, Speaker of the House of

Representatives of the Thirtieth Legislature, and presented him with the gavel.

At this time, the Chair stated:

"Thank you, members, for your support. I'd like to congratulate and ask everyone to please welcome the Vice Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Honorable Mark M. Nakashima."

The Chair then presented to the members of the House and audience the Honorable Mark M. Nakashima, Vice Speaker of the House of Representatives of the Thirtieth Legislature.

H.R. No. 3, entitled: "HOUSE RESOLUTION ELECTING THE OFFICERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE," resolving that Brian L. Takeshita, Rod Tanonaka, Rupert Juarez, and Tamah-Lani S.K. Noh be elected as Chief Clerk, Sergeant-at-Arms, Assistant Chief Clerk, and Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms, respectively, of the House of Representatives of the Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, was jointly offered by Representatives Belatti and Ward.

On motion by Representative Belatti, seconded by Representative Ward 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 THIRTIETH 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 Thirtieth Legislature, as listed below, was jointly offered by Representatives Belatti and Ward.

Majority Leader	Della Au Belatti
Majority Floor Leader	Dee Morikawa
Assistant Majority Leader	Tom Brower
Majority Whips	Henry J.C. Aquino Aaron Ling Johanson Bertrand Kobayashi Chris Lee Nicole E. Lowen Nadine K. Nakamura Takashi Ohno Joy A. San Buenaventura Justin H. Woodson
Minority Leader	Gene Ward
Minority Floor Leader	Lauren Matsumoto
Assistant Minority Leader	Bob McDermott
Assistant Minority Floor Leader	Cynthia Thielen
Minority Whip	Val Okimoto

Agriculture:

Richard P. Creagan           Chair  
Lynn DeCoite               Vice Chair

Rida Cabanilla Arakawa  
Romy M. Cachola  
Daniel Holt  
Richard H.K. Onishi  
Amy A. Perruso  
Val Okimoto

Consumer Protection & Commerce:

Roy M. Takumi               Chair  
Linda Ichiyama             Vice Chair

Henry J.C. Aquino  
Della Au Belatti  
Rida Cabanilla Arakawa  
Romy M. Cachola  
Sharon E. Har  
Sam Satoru Kong  
John M. Mizuno  
Richard H.K. Onishi  
Lauren Matsumoto

Economic Development & Business:

Angus L.K. McKelvey       Chair  
Lisa Kitagawa               Vice Chair

Stacelynn K.M. Eli  
Linda Ichiyama  
Aaron Ling Johanson  
Sean Quinlan  
Kyle T. Yamashita  
Lauren Matsumoto

Energy & Environmental Protection:

Nicole E. Lowen             Chair  
Tina Wildberger             Vice Chair

Sharon E. Har  
David A. Tarnas  
Chris Todd  
Ryan I. Yamane  
Cynthia Thielen

Finance:

Sylvia Luke                 Chair  
Ty J.K. Cullen               Vice Chair

Stacelynn K.M. Eli  
Cedric Asuega Gates  
Troy N. Hashimoto  
Daniel Holt  
Lisa Kitagawa  
Bertrand Kobayashi  
Scot Z. Matayoshi  
Nadine K. Nakamura  
Scott Y. Nishimoto  
Chris Todd  
Tina Wildberger  
Kyle T. Yamashita  
Bob McDermott

Health:

John M. Mizuno             Chair  
Bertrand Kobayashi       Vice Chair

Della Au Belatti  
Nadine K. Nakamura  
Joy A. San Buenaventura  
Calvin K.Y. Say  
James Kunane Tokioka  
Gene Ward

Housing:

Tom Brower                 Chair  
Scot Z. Matayoshi         Vice Chair

Henry J.C. Aquino  
Ty J.K. Cullen  
Mark J. Hashem  
Troy N. Hashimoto  
Justin H. Woodson  
Bob McDermott

Human Services & Homelessness:

Joy A. San Buenaventura   Chair  
Nadine K. Nakamura       Vice Chair

Della Au Belatti  
Bertrand Kobayashi  
John M. Mizuno  
Calvin K.Y. Say  
James Kunane Tokioka  
Gene Ward

Intrastate Commerce:

Takashi Ohno               Chair  
Dale T. Kobayashi         Vice Chair

Cedric Asuega Gates  
Sam Satoru Kong  
Scott Y. Nishimoto  
Gregg Takayama  
Bob McDermott

Judiciary:

Chris Lee                   Chair  
Joy A. San Buenaventura   Vice Chair

Tom Brower  
Richard P. Creagan  
Nicole E. Lowen  
Angus L.K. McKelvey  
Dee Morikawa  
Calvin K.Y. Say  
Gregg Takayama  
Ryan I. Yamane  
Cynthia Thielen

Labor & Public Employment:

Aaron Ling Johanson       Chair  
Stacelynn K.M. Eli         Vice Chair

Linda Ichiyama  
Lisa Kitagawa  
Angus L.K. McKelvey  
Sean Quinlan  
Kyle T. Yamashita  
Lauren Matsumoto

## Legislative Management:

Ty J.K. Cullen                   Chair  
Mark M. Nakashima           Vice Chair

Della Au Belatti  
Dee Morikawa  
Gene Ward

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."

## Lower &amp; Higher Education:

Justin H. Woodson           Chair  
Mark J. Hashem               Vice Chair  
Amy A. Perruso               Vice Chair

Lynn DeCoite  
Aaron Ling Johanson  
Dale T. Kobayashi  
Takashi Ohno  
Sean Quinlan  
David A. Tarnas  
James Kunane Tokioka  
Val Okimoto

On motion by Representative Belatti, seconded by Representative Ward and carried, H.R. No. 4 was adopted.

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 2019," resolving that the dates of the mandatory recess for the Regular Session of 2019 are hereby determined to be the 21st, 22nd, 25th, 26th, and 27th days of February, on which dates the Regular Session of 2019 shall be recessed; and the dates of the recesses other than the dates of the mandatory recess for the Regular Session of 2019 are hereby determined to be the 23rd and 25th days of January, the 4th and 6th days of March, the 8th, 10th, and 29th days of April, and the 1st day of May, on which dates the Regular Session of 2019 shall be recessed, was jointly offered by Representatives Saiki and Nakashima.

## Public Safety, Veterans, &amp; Military Affairs:

Gregg Takayama           Chair  
Cedric Asuega Gates       Vice Chair

Dale T. Kobayashi  
Sam Satoru Kong  
Scott Y. Nishimoto  
Takashi Ohno  
Bob McDermott

On motion by Representative Belatti, seconded by Representative Ward 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 Tuesday, January 22, 2019, 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 Saiki and Nakashima.

## Tourism &amp; International Affairs:

Richard H.K. Onishi       Chair  
Daniel Holt                 Vice Chair

Rida Cabanilla Arakawa  
Romy M. Cachola  
Richard P. Creagan  
Lynn DeCoite  
Amy A. Perruso  
Val Okimoto

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

At 10:54 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 Henry Kapon, Kimié Miner and Alx Kawakami.

## Transportation:

Henry J.C. Aquino       Chair  
Troy N. Hashimoto       Vice Chair

Tom Brower  
Ty J.K. Cullen  
Mark J. Hashem  
Scot Z. Matayoshi  
Justin H. Woodson  
Bob McDermott

The House of Representatives reconvened at 11:15 o'clock a.m.

The Chair then stated:

"I just wanted to thank Henry Kapon. He started an initiative to groom young musicians to sustain local music. So I want to thank Henry and Kimié Miner, Alx Kawakami and Jim Cobb for being here today.

"So all of our guests have come over from the Senate side, they know that the House is the better half of the Legislature, and they're really excited to be here. So I'm going to begin with some remarks."

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

"I want to start with some introductions. There are several guests here today, so please hold your applause until the very end.

"First, Governor David Ige and Mrs. Ige. Lieutenant Governor Josh Green and Jaime Ushiroda. From the Hawaii Supreme Court, Chief Justice Mark Recktenwald, Associate Justices Paula Nakayama, Sabrina McKenna, Richard Pollack and Michael Wilson. From the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, Chair Colette Machado.

## Water, Land, &amp; Hawaiian Affairs:

Ryan I. Yamane           Chair  
Chris Todd               Vice Chair

Sharon E. Har  
Nicole E. Lowen  
David A. Tarnas  
Tina Wildberger  
Cynthia Thielen

"We have some former governors here, former Governor George Ariyoshi and Mrs. Ariyoshi, former Governor John Waihee and Mrs. Waihee. We also have county mayors with us today. From the Big Island, Mayor Harry Kim, Honolulu Mayor Kirk Caldwell, Kauai Mayor Derek Kawakami, and Maui Mayor Mike Victorino.

"County councils are also here today. Representing the Big Island and Chair Aaron Chung is Council Member Sue Lee Loy. Honolulu Council Chair Ann Kobayashi. Kauai Council Chair Arryl Kaneshiro. Maui Council Chair Kelly King.

"And we also have our congressional delegation represented today. For Senator Brian Schatz, Malia Paul. For Senator Mazie Hirono, Alan Yamamoto. For Congressman Tulsi Gabbard, Kainoa Penaroza. For Congressman Ed Case, Jackie Conant.

"We also have the newest judge from the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals here, he is also the former attorney general of Hawaii, Mr. Mark Bennett. We also have members of the Consular Corps, could you please stand to be recognized. And representatives of the Armed Forces, could you please stand to be recognized.

"And last, we have special guests from Fukuoka, the Chairman of the Fukuoka Prefectural Assembly Jungo Inoue, and six of his colleagues are here in the gallery, would you please stand. My parents are also here, Richard and Sue Saiki, and my wife, Patsy Saiki.

"I wanted to spend a couple of minutes to introduce our new House members, because this year we have 10 new members, so could you please stand and remain standing when I introduce you. First, from District 11, a small business owner, ocean paddler, and proud owner of two Rottweilers, Representative Tina Wildberger. From District 23, a Manoa native, former stock broker and accountant, and former neighborhood board chair, Representative Dale Kobayashi.

"From District 36, a former public school teacher, President of the Women's Relief Society, and Mililani AYSO team parent and coach, Representative Val Okimoto. From District 43, a Nanakuli High School graduate, a lifelong resident of the leeward coast and homesteader, and a former neighborhood board member, Representative Stacelynn Eli. From District 46, a former social studies teacher at Mililani High School, a fierce public school advocate, and a recipient of various outstanding teaching awards, Representative Amy Perruso.

"From District 48, a Castle High School graduate, a former University of Hawaii faculty member, and a mother of two, Representative Lisa Kitagawa. From District 49, a public school teacher and attorney who was once an intern with Senator Dan Akaka, and vice president of the Kaneohe Christmas Parade, Representative Scot Matayoshi.

"We have a hybrid freshman member because he has already served 11 days in the House, from District 9, a former executive assistant with the Maui County Council, a valedictorian at King Kekaulike High School, and a son of famous persimmon farmers in Kula, Representative Troy Hashimoto.

"And finally, two of our new members are returnees. From District 7, an environmental planner, Representative David Tarnas. And from District 41, a nurse and a lieutenant colonel in the Army Reserve, Representative Rida Cabanilla Arakawa. Could we all please give our new members another round of applause. Thank you.

"So, as you can see, this is one of the largest and most diverse group of freshmen members we have seen in a while. More than half are women, their ages range from 34 and up, their backgrounds and experiences vary. This group represents a new generation of political leaders. They are focused and are anxious to get to work. And they know that there are some serious challenges ahead of us.

"There is one condition that I want to discuss, because it affects all of us. As we already know, regular people are having an increasingly difficult time making ends meet, and the divide between those with and without resources is growing.

"In 2017, the Aloha United Way and Hawaii Community Foundation joined with private sector partners to conduct the first ALICE report in Hawaii. ALICE is the acronym for Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed. ALICE includes people who have income above the federal poverty level, but not enough to afford a basic household budget that includes housing, child care, food, transportation, and health care.

"The findings are troubling. There are 165,000 ALICE households in Hawaii, which represents 37% of total households. There are another 47,000 households that live below the federal poverty level, which represents 11% of households. This means that 48% of Hawaii households are ALICE and below.

"There is another sobering statistic. For the first time since statehood, we have experienced two consecutive years of population loss. Last year, 12,430 residents moved to other states.

"The question is, how do we help ALICE households? The major drivers, income and housing, are issues that the Legislature can and has worked on over the years. But it is time to revisit them. We need to re-examine wage disparity, but while also considering the impact on those who pay wages, and especially small businesses that, unlike those in other states, provide medical insurance and other benefits to their workers.

"Another cause is the availability of affordable housing. Last year, the Legislature appropriated \$200 million in cash and \$300 million in tax credits to subsidize the development of affordable rental housing units. It was an unprecedented package, and this year, we will work with the administration to ensure prompt implementation of these funds.

"We also appropriated \$30 million to develop transitional units for homeless persons modeled after Kahauiki Village. The village is a self-contained community that was initially comprised of 153 transitional homes, a preschool, a market, and a police meeting room that operates from a PV-generated battery system. This model can be extended to populations with substance abuse and mental health conditions. This year, the House will oversee the administration's implementation of projects like Kahauiki Village.

"It is within our control to ensure that government funds are well-spent and produce their intended results. All pocketbooks are hit when funds are misspent, the pocketbooks of those who pay taxes and those who expect to receive services.

"The House intends to fulfill its role as an important check on its fellow branches of government, and we will do so in the following ways. First, we must reaffirm the Legislature's policymaking role. The Hawaii Constitution gives the Legislature the authority to approve the state budget, appropriate public funds, and to enact laws. This is how the Legislature sets policy for our state. No other branch has this authority. At times, the Legislature has abrogated this role to the executive and judiciary. But to fulfill its constitutional purpose, we need to reassert the Legislature's policymaking role. Unlike the Executive and the Judiciary, the Legislature provides a venue in which ideas may be regularly introduced, debated and voted upon. In other words, policy is made here in this Chamber through a democratic process.

"The House has an advantage because of our composition. We are comprised of 51 members. We represent some of the smallest units of government. Our members know their constituents and have a pulse on what real people are thinking. And, unlike the Executive and Judiciary, our ideas and decisions are tested every two years by our constituents through the election process.

"The Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court, John Roberts, said it succinctly when he wrote the following. 'In a democracy, the power to make the law rests with those chosen by the people. [The Supreme Court's] role is more confined – to say what the law is. That is easier in some cases than in others. But in every case we must respect the role of the Legislature, and take care not to undo what it has done.'

"The bottom line is that for everyone to do their job effectively, the three branches of government must not overlap. If one branch of government

exceeds or disregards its authority, then government becomes dysfunctional. If government is dysfunctional, then the public interest suffers.

"Number two, we must listen to others and particularly those who are affected by our work. Eleanor Roosevelt once said, 'it is not only important but mentally invigorating to discuss political matters with people whose opinions differ radically from one's own... Find out what people are saying, what they are thinking, what they believe. This is an invaluable check on one's own ideas.'

"We should spend more time listening to others. We especially need to view circumstances through the lens of those who are impacted by them. Some of the most contentious issues in Hawaii arise when people believe that government does not consider their perspective or history. We need to draw upon the experience, circumstances, and knowledge of all our people, and especially those impacted by our work. Single working mothers, seniors on fixed incomes, small business owners, cultural advocates, counties, recent college graduates who want to stay in Hawaii, and even astronomers.

"Number three, be prepared to compromise. Governor John Burns said, 'any fool can take a stand.' Now that we serve in the Legislature, we know that Governor Burns was correct. It is easy to be a liberal. It is easy to be a progressive. It is easy to be a conservative. But it is not easy to be a problem solver when the problem is complicated and has no real answer. Problem solving requires hard work, reflection, and, most importantly, compromise.

"President Barack Obama said it best in his farewell address to the nation. He said, 'Understand, democracy does not require uniformity. Our founders quarreled and compromised, and expected us to do the same. But they knew that democracy does require a basic sense of solidarity – the idea that for all our outward differences, we are all in this together; that we rise or fall as one.' He went on to say, 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.

"This year marks the 60th commemoration of Hawaii's statehood, and look at how our state has changed. In 1959, the state population was 622,000 people. Today it is 1.4 million. In 1959, gross state product was \$1.5 billion. Today it is \$88 billion. In 1959, there were 29,000 senior citizens. Today there are 254,000. In 1959, there were 273,000 students in high school and below. Today there are 306,000.

"With these changes come different benefits and challenges. But remember that along the way, Hawaii has been significantly ahead of the curve. Hawaii was the first state to require employers to provide medical insurance to their employees. Hawaii was the first state to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment to the United States Constitution. Hawaii was the first state to require that 100% of its electricity be produced from renewable sources. The list goes on because Hawaii has been pursuing a progressive agenda even before it became vogue.

"The House will continue a progressive course in a pace that is appropriate and best for all of Hawaii's people. And remember that what sets Hawaii apart from all other states and Washington D.C., is that we govern as a family. We gather, we argue, we decide, and then we eat together. The House is a leader. Be confident, stay focused, take risks, and then you will effect profound change for our entire state. Thank you and have a great legislative session."

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

"Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Well said, I like the last part. Let's eat. And we are the only thing in the way between now and your *pupus* and celebration. I will not repeat the elaborate introduction of all of you, but you honor us by being here, all of you other officials, and particularly you who are the new members, welcome to you, congratulations, and especially to our new member from Mililani, Val Okimoto, we are proud that you've joined us today.

"I only have a few minutes to say a few things. I want to tell you how much the five of us love the State of Hawaii, the people of Hawaii, and why we expect a lot of things that we can do here in the State of Hawaii in the next 60 days. That's all the time that we've got, 60 days.

"I want to talk from the point of view of the loyal opposition. We are the ones, Mr. Speaker, that after we wrestle on the floor, we go out and eat and then drink, but there are some things that I want to talk about that we want to emphasize in playing both offense and defense. I want to talk about the way we've forgotten some of the ordinary guy, or the one that Frank Fasi used to call the small guy, the little guy. I think Hawaii is forgetting that person.

"And what we're going to do when we do offense, is have a package that remembers the small guy. And particularly, as someone said earlier, we are exporting our youth, we are exporting our brains, and we have a package entitled Calling All Kama'āina. The first part of it is Kama'āina Come Home. We have an incentive system whereby one of the biggest difficulties of coming home and settling is we don't have a down payment for a home. So, Mr. Speaker, we're going to do it like the GI Bill, where you have no down payment, but you can get a house and you can come home and we can unite our families. It's a big piece missing.

"We also have for the *kama'āina* stay home, we have a rent-to-own version that's coming out. Those are two issues that will come back and bring our families together. There is also a Kama'āina Education. Mr. Speaker, we know the DOE has missed some money by the lack of the amendment that failed or was actually struck down by these good members of the supreme court.

"Your Minority Caucus, Mr. Speaker, has compensated in a small way. We have 1% of every CIP that goes to public art, but what most of you don't know is we've got six warehouses filled with public art. We want to channel at least half of that money into the classroom where we, and I can't believe, some places don't even have books, they don't even have computers. And I understand, Mr. Governor, that some of the air conditioning is faltering a bit, so we may need some money on that one also. The point is, Mr. Speaker, we need an agenda that helps these people out.

"I'm an old football player, there is an offense and there is the defense. I always liked to play offense, but let's be frank, the majority plays offense, the minority, the loyal opposition, plays defense. But as you play offense, Mr. Speaker, I would hope that you would conform to things like free markets, free people without the shackles of the government, and also, and as you pointed out so well, that we build an economy, Mr. Speaker.

"I'm embarrassed when we say 57% of the people in this state have fathers who can't send their kids to school with money for lunch. And we as the legislators have our hand on the economic things, so I'm really glad that you presented an economic revival for these families that you said are just not able to make it. We need to concentrate on prosperity for all, and we're becoming increasingly the haves and the have-nots, and I think we have to narrow that.

"Mr. Speaker, we will also be playing defense. Now when you play defense, you try to, obviously, do the good things in good bills, but you also try to either ban or block or kill bad bills. In our defense, Mr. Speaker, we have support for your minimum wage. I know that's something that a lot of you have been thinking about. But please make it reasonable, Mr. Speaker. Not giant steps, but reasonable increments, and we're behind you 100%.

"Another issue that we are very, very keen on, and I salute your Chair Sylvia Luke for having performance-based, zero-based budgeting. Mr. Speaker, it's interesting how the interaction of the minority and the majority, if I may add, years ago we proposed that. I don't know if it was at the minority speaker's Opening Day address, but Mr. Speaker, we're really proud of that, and we know that the \$17 billion that we have in unfunded liabilities, saving those monies by having performance-based budgeting is going to make a huge, huge difference.

"We also want to help you tackle housing and homelessness. Mr. Speaker, that's a thing that we've kicked down the can. We've got a lot of money, but it costs a lot of money to build and to house our people here.

"For the neighbor islanders, I want you to know, we assure you, we're behind you in your recovery. Whether it was from floods or whether it was from lava from the Big Island. I know that's going to be a big finance issue, and we are with you.

"Mr. Speaker, I want to add one identity marker. We only have one out of the 10 new members. We're only 5 out of 51, we're 10%. But I want you to look at it a little bit differently than usual. Mr. Speaker, generally in terms of elections, on this side of the aisle we get 20% to 40%, let's round it off to one third. Let's round our population off to 1.5 million. So Mr. Speaker, when we five speak, think of the 500,000 people that we're speaking for. Those 500,000 people are leaning at least conservative or are conservative but have another perspective. So our job as the watchdog, our job as the minority, is to keep you honest, keep the state going forward, and doing as much progressive with your agenda as possible.

"So, Mr. Speaker, I'm grateful that you mention that we eat and then we become one. I want you to know that we met together on December 3 and we vowed, we pledged, we didn't cut our thumbs or anything like that, but we said we're going to be a model, the way that he and I behave together, for others. And my colleagues keep us honest in case we break ranks on that. How we are going to show, not what the mainland does, but civility and decorum, what it means here, in the State of Hawaii. Now it doesn't mean that we're not going to scrap on the floor, but it means afterwards we're going to go to dinner, we're going to have some drinks, and we're going to be collegial. We're going to agree to disagree, but not be disagreeable. We can do that.

"What's the *aloha* spirit for, except for the imparting is particularly in the political arena that has become pretty toxic and pretty, if you will, the politics of personal destruction. So the bottom line, Mr. Speaker, your minority is ready to do business, please show us the way, lead the way, and remember your loyal opposition is behind you all the way. Thank you and *aloha*."

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

"Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to start, first, by thanking the hard-working staff of the House. The Clerk's Office, the Sergeant-at-Arms, the Legislative Reference Bureau, the House Minority and Majority Staff Offices, and all of our individual staff and offices. A day like this could not happen without them. Please, a round of applause for them.

"Now, we did have many special guests, but I want to introduce some very special guests from the public. These eight special individuals are the leaders of a movement. They are beacons of empowerment and engagement, and it is so fitting that in this *'āina* it is *kanaka maoli* youth who are leading the way by encouraging first time voters. If I can have the Kamehameha School students stand as I call them, Mirai Mawae, Mahea Lewis, Hokupa'a Melim, Kaulana Kano, Sierra Furukawa, Karina Jacang, Rory Keliikipi and Connor Kalahiki, who could not vote this time, but inspired his classmates to do so. Let's give them a round of applause. Thank you.

"As I said, these are leaders for the future. Beacons of empowerment and engagement. We are only here because of the trust placed in us by voters. To much is given, much is expected. We all know that here. We know that we are faced with difficult problems. A dysfunctional federal government. Concerns about increasing health care costs, energy costs. All of us struggling with astronomical housing costs. We have communities recovering from disaster. From floods, and fires, and lava eruptions. We have entire coastlines that are concerned about the problems of rising shorelines. And we have communities struggling and being destroyed by substance abuse.

"But, Mr. Speaker, I'm hopeful that even with these challenges ahead of us, on the horizon, we have hope. We have a hard-working group of individuals here who are willing to roll up their sleeves and be, as you said, Mr. Speaker, problem solvers.

"We will not govern simply by slogans, but we will dig into the issues. We will weigh all of the competing interests. We will collaborate with all of

the stakeholders, and we will keep our eyes on how to advance the good for the public. I am confident in this group of legislators.

"I would like to end, as I promised I would be brief to my colleagues, with a personal comment to my colleagues, if you will indulge me. There are so many smiling faces amongst us. There are so many babies and *keiki* in this room, and with them they carry the hopes of generations ahead of us. We have a lot of graying hair, mine included. And we remember the people we have lost. I can think back on my very first opening day and how for the past 12 years my father would not have missed this great day, and I know he is looking down on us, smiling and knowing that we can do the work ahead.

"To my colleagues, what I say to you, to the people who you have seated next to you, thank them. Thank them and say, sorry, I might not see you for the next 60 days. But thank them because they are the individuals that you work for. They are the individuals who will support you in your darkest times. You will not always agree with them. You will not, but they will love you unconditionally. And it is through their strength that you will have the strength to face the challenges ahead in this building. *Aloha*, Mr. Speaker, and I wish the House the very best in 2019. Thank you."

## 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 THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE HAS ASSEMBLED AND IS READY TO TRANSACT BUSINESS," resolving that messages be sent to the Honorable David Ige, Governor of the State of Hawaii, and to the Senate of the Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, in Regular Session assembled, that the House of Representatives of the Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2019, has assembled and is ready to transact business with the officers as listed below, was jointly offered by Representatives Belatti and Ward.

Scott K. Saiki, Speaker  
 Mark M. Nakashima, Vice Speaker  
 Brian L. Takeshita, Chief Clerk  
 Rod Tanonaka, Sergeant-at-Arms  
 Rupert Juarez, Assistant Chief Clerk  
 Tamah-Lani S.K. Noh, Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms

On motion by Representative Belatti, seconded by Representative Ward 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 11:53 o'clock a.m., on motion by Representative Belatti, seconded by Representative Ward and carried, the House of Representatives adjourned until 12:00 o'clock noon tomorrow, Thursday, January 17, 2019.