

THE
THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE
STATE OF HAWAII
REGULAR SESSION OF 2020
JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE

FIRST DAY

Wednesday, January 15, 2020

The House of Representatives of the Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2020, convened at 10:01 a.m., with Speaker Saiki presiding.

At this time, the Chair stated:

"Before anything, the Chair would like to thank the entertainers who performed for us impromptu this morning. Lehua Kalima, Alika Kalauli, and Shawn Pimental, thank you very much for the entertainment."

The invocation was delivered by Mr. Micah Kane, Kamehameha Schools Trustee and CEO of Hawaii Community Foundation, after which the Roll was called showing all members present.

INTRODUCTIONS

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

Representative Nakashima introduced Rana Sarkar, consul general of Canada in San Francisco; and Yves Beaulieu, consul for foreign policy and diplomatic service.

Representative Quinlan introduced Ululani Beirne and former Representative Kaniela Ing.

Representative Thielen introduced her son, Peter Thielen, from Kauai.

Representative Matsumoto introduced members of Mililani High School's student council: Nolan Acosta, Elyssa Jade Arreola, Sasha Nicole Arreola, Cori Park, Gabrielle Pino, and Logan Riehle; and advisors, Leilani Ward and Danielle Castro.

Representative B. Kobayashi, on behalf of Speaker Saiki, introduced Fukuoka Prefectural Assembly Members: Kazuhisa Kiriake, Haruka Yoshimura, Hiroyuki Inoue, Seiji Kataoka, Kenichiro Yoshida, Hiroshi Harada, Hirohiko Abe, and Eiji Muto; former Governor George Ariyoshi and Mrs. Jean Ariyoshi; and relatives of the late US Senator Daniel Inouye from Fukuoka, Japan: Kenji Inoue, Kazue Inoue, and Yasumoto Matsuzaki.

Representative Wildberger introduced Maui County Councilmembers Kelly King and Keani Rawlins-Fernandez.

Representative Ward introduced Dave Rolf, executive director, Hawaii Automobile Dealers Association.

Representative Luke introduced from Kamehameha Schools: Micah Kane, trustee; Jack Wong, CEO; Kauai Burgess, director of community relations; and students, teachers, and faculty.

Representative San Buenaventura introduced Steve Sparks, president, Puna Community Medical Center Board of Directors; and Bruce Anderson, director of health, Department of Health.

Representative Cullen introduced Chris Lee, founder and director, UH Academy for Creative Media.

Representative Perruso introduced Osa Tui, vice president, Hawaii State Teachers Association; and Christine Russo, teacher at Campbell High School.

Representative Luke recognized Representative Cynthia Thielen and thanked her for her years of service to the state.

Representative Ohno introduced Superintendent Kishimoto and her team.

Representative Cachola introduced guests in the audience.

Representative Hashimoto introduced Mayor Michael Victorino, Maui County.

ORDER OF THE DAY

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

On motion by Representative Morikawa, seconded by Representative Matsumoto and carried, the following bills (H.B. Nos. 1598 through 1691) passed First Reading by title and were referred to Printing:

H. B. Nos.

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| 1598 | "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO FIREARMS."
Introduced by: Representative Takayama, by request. |
| 1599 | "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO FIREARMS."
Introduced by: Representative Takayama, by request. |
| 1600 | "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO FIREARMS."
Introduced by: Representative Takayama, by request. |
| 1601 | "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO WORKERS' COMPENSATION."
Introduced by: Representative Takumi. |
| 1602 | "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HUMAN REMAINS."
Introduced by: Representatives Takumi and Ichiyama. |
| 1603 | "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO TRANSIENT ACCOMMODATIONS."
Introduced by: Representatives Takumi and Ichiyama. |
| 1604 | "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CONSUMER PROTECTION."
Introduced by: Representatives Takumi and Lowen. |
| 1605 | "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO SERVICE CHARGES."
Introduced by: Representatives Takumi and Ichiyama. |
| 1606 | "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO PROFESSIONAL AND VOCATIONAL LICENSURE."
Introduced by: Representatives Takumi and Ichiyama. |
| 1607 | "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE DEPOSIT BEVERAGE CONTAINER PROGRAM."
Introduced by: Representatives Takumi and Ichiyama. |
| 1608 | "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO PRESCRIPTION DRUGS."
Introduced by: Representatives Takumi, Ichiyama, and Mizuno. |

- 1609 "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO PHARMACY BENEFIT MANAGERS."
Introduced by: Representatives Takumi, Ichiyama, and Mizuno.
- 1610 "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO AN INTERSTATE COMPACT TO PHASE OUT CORPORATE WELFARE."
Introduced by: Representative Takumi.
- 1611 "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO SHORELINES."
Introduced by: Representatives Thielen, B. Kobayashi, Perruso, and Wildberger.
- 1612 "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION."
Introduced by: Representatives Thielen, Lee, and Luke.
- 1613 "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES."
Introduced by: Representatives San Buenaventura, Belatti, B. Kobayashi, Mizuno, Nakamura, Say, and Tokioka.
- 1614 "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO JURORS."
Introduced by: Representatives Mizuno, Cachola, San Buenaventura, and Thielen.
- 1615 "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO FIREARMS."
Introduced by: Representative Takayama, by request.
- 1616 "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO PAROLE OFFICERS."
Introduced by: Representative Takayama, by request.
- 1617 "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO DRIVER'S LICENSES."
Introduced by: Representative Takayama.
- 1618 "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE SEXUAL ASSAULT OF AN ANIMAL."
Introduced by: Representative Takayama.
- 1619 "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO PENAL RESPONSIBILITY."
Introduced by: Representatives San Buenaventura, Belatti, Lee, and Takayama.
- 1620 "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE."
Introduced by: Representatives San Buenaventura, Belatti, Lee, and Takayama.
- 1621 "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CLIMATE CHANGE."
Introduced by: Representative Nishimoto.
- 1622 "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO TOURISM."
Introduced by: Representative Onishi.
- 1623 "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO TOURISM."
Introduced by: Representative Onishi.
- 1624 "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE ARTS."
Introduced by: Representative Onishi.
- 1625 "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION."
Introduced by: Representative Onishi.
- 1626 "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS."
Introduced by: Representative Onishi.
- 1627 "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE STATE BUDGET."
Introduced by: Representative Luke.
- 1628 "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO STATE FUNDS."
Introduced by: Representative Luke.
- 1629 "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO GOVERNMENT SERVICES."
Introduced by: Representative Luke.
- 1630 "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO GOVERNMENT."
Introduced by: Representative Luke.
- 1631 "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO STATE BONDS."
Introduced by: Representatives Luke and Cullen.
- 1632 "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO NON-GENERAL FUNDS."
Introduced by: Representatives Luke and Cullen.
- 1633 "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO AUDITORY DEVICES."
Introduced by: Representatives Luke and Cullen.
- 1634 "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CAMPAIGN FINANCE."
Introduced by: Representatives Luke and Cullen.
- 1635 "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO PLANNED COMMUNITY ASSOCIATIONS."
Introduced by: Representative Hashem, by request.
- 1636 "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO OFFENSES AGAINST VULNERABLE PERSONS."
Introduced by: Representative Mizuno.
- 1637 "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH."
Introduced by: Representative Mizuno.
- 1638 "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO DISCHARGE PLANNING."
Introduced by: Representatives Mizuno, Cachola, Ichiyama, McKelvey, and Nakamura.
- 1639 "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CRIME."
Introduced by: Representative Lee.
- 1640 "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO GUN VIOLENCE."
Introduced by: Representative Lee.
- 1641 "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CAMPAIGN FINANCE."
Introduced by: Representative Lee.
- 1642 "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO ETHICS."
Introduced by: Representative Lee.
- 1643 "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO PENALTIES."
Introduced by: Representative Lee.
- 1644 "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE CONVEYANCE TAX."
Introduced by: Representatives San Buenaventura, Aquino, Belatti, Brower, Cabanilla Arakawa, Hashimoto, Ichiyama, Matayoshi, Mizuno, Takumi, Woodson, and McDermott.
- 1645 "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HOMELESSNESS."
Introduced by: Representative San Buenaventura.
- 1646 "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HOMELESSNESS."
Introduced by: Representative San Buenaventura.
- 1647 "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES."
Introduced by: Representative San Buenaventura.
- 1648 "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES."
Introduced by: Representative San Buenaventura.

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| <p>1649 "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES."
Introduced by: Representative San Buenaventura.</p> <p>1650 "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO SEXUAL ASSAULT EVIDENCE COLLECTION KITS."
Introduced by: Representative Ichiyama.</p> <p>1651 "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO VEHICLE INSPECTIONS."
Introduced by: Representatives Hashimoto, Woodson, and Yamashita.</p> <p>1652 "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CAREGIVING."
Introduced by: Representative Hashimoto.</p> <p>1653 "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO RESIDENTIAL REAL PROPERTY."
Introduced by: Representative Hashimoto.</p> <p>1654 "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO AGRICULTURE."
Introduced by: Representative Creagan.</p> <p>1655 "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO AGRICULTURE."
Introduced by: Representative Creagan.</p> <p>1656 "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO AGRICULTURE."
Introduced by: Representative Creagan.</p> <p>1657 "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO AGRICULTURE."
Introduced by: Representative Creagan.</p> <p>1658 "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO AGRICULTURE."
Introduced by: Representative Creagan.</p> <p>1659 "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH."
Introduced by: Representative Mizuno.</p> <p>1660 "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH."
Introduced by: Representative Mizuno.</p> <p>1661 "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH."
Introduced by: Representative Mizuno.</p> <p>1662 "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH."
Introduced by: Representative Mizuno.</p> <p>1663 "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH."
Introduced by: Representative Mizuno.</p> <p>1664 "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES."
Introduced by: Representatives Mizuno, Aquino, Belatti, Brower, Cabanilla Arakawa, Cachola, Ichiyama, McKelvey, San Buenaventura, Say, Thielen, and Tokioka.</p> <p>1665 "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH."
Introduced by: Representatives Mizuno, Brower, McKelvey, Say, Thielen, and Cabanilla Arakawa.</p> <p>1666 "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH."
Introduced by: Representatives Mizuno, Aquino, Cabanilla Arakawa, Ichiyama, Nakamura, Say, Takumi, Thielen, Tokioka, Belatti, McKelvey, and San Buenaventura.</p> <p>1667 "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH."
Introduced by: Representatives Mizuno, Aquino, Brower, Cabanilla Arakawa, Cachola, Ichiyama, McKelvey, Nakamura, Say, Thielen, and San Buenaventura.</p> | <p>1668 "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO BALLOT HARVESTING."
Introduced by: Representatives Ward, Brower, Cabanilla Arakawa, Creagan, and Kong.</p> <p>1669 "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO RENEWABLE ENERGY."
Introduced by: Representative Hashem.</p> <p>1670 "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR VEHICLES."
Introduced by: Representative Ichiyama.</p> <p>1671 "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE THIRD REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT."
Introduced by: Representative Onishi.</p> <p>1672 "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE THIRTY-SECOND REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT."
Introduced by: Representative Ichiyama.</p> <p>1673 "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE STATE ETHICS CODE."
Introduced by: Representative Saiki.</p> <p>1674 "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO SECONDHAND DEALERS."
Introduced by: Representative Saiki.</p> <p>1675 "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO WILDLIFE."
Introduced by: Representative Saiki, by request.</p> <p>1676 "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HIGHWAY SAFETY."
Introduced by: Representative Saiki.</p> <p>1677 "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO STATE HOLIDAYS."
Introduced by: Representative Saiki, by request.</p> <p>1678 "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO MUSICAL PERFORMANCES."
Introduced by: Representatives Saiki and Onishi.</p> <p>1679 "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HOUSING."
Introduced by: Representatives Ohno and Brower.</p> <p>1680 "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO ENHANCED 911 SERVICES."
Introduced by: Representative Ohno.</p> <p>1681 "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO SENTENCING."
Introduced by: Representative Ohno.</p> <p>1682 "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS."
Introduced by: Representatives Say, Cabanilla Arakawa, Creagan, Kong, Quinlan, Tokioka, Ward, and Brower.</p> <p>1683 "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO APPRENTICESHIPS."
Introduced by: Representatives Say, Creagan, Kong, Quinlan, Tokioka, Ward, Brower, Cabanilla Arakawa, Hashimoto, and San Buenaventura.</p> <p>1684 "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT."
Introduced by: Representatives Say, Brower, Kong, Tokioka, Ward, Creagan, Hashimoto, Lowen, and San Buenaventura.</p> <p>1685 "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION."
Introduced by: Representatives Say, Brower, Creagan, Kong, Lee, Quinlan, Tokioka, Ward, and Hashimoto.</p> |
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- 1686 "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO SUSTAINING HAWAII."
Introduced by: Representatives Say, Brower, Cabanilla Arakawa, Creagan, Kong, Quinlan, Tokioka, Hashimoto, and San Buenaventura.
- 1687 "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO RESTROOM FACILITIES."
Introduced by: Representatives Say, Cabanilla Arakawa, Kong, Mizuno, San Buenaventura, Yamashita, Brower, Creagan, and Hashimoto.
- 1688 "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE ALA WAI BOAT HARBOR."
Introduced by: Representatives Say, Cabanilla Arakawa, Creagan, Kong, Tokioka, Ward, and Brower.
- 1689 "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO ANIMAL FUR PRODUCTS."
Introduced by: Representative Takayama, by request.
- 1690 "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO TELEHEALTH."
Introduced by: Representatives Mizuno, Aquino, Cachola, Ichiyama, Lowen, San Buenaventura, Say, and Ward.
- 1691 "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH."
Introduced by: Representatives Mizuno, Aquino, Belatti, Brower, Cabanilla Arakawa, Cachola, Ichiyama, Lowen, McKelvey, Nakamura, Say, Thielen, Tokioka, Ward, and San Buenaventura.

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS

The following resolution (H.R. No. 1) and concurrent resolutions (H.C.R. Nos. 1 and 2) were announced by the Clerk and the following action taken:

H.R. No. 1, entitled: "HOUSE RESOLUTION RELATING TO COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE," 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.

H.C.R. No. 1, entitled: "HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION RELATING TO RECESS DAYS FOR THE REGULAR SESSION OF 2020," was jointly offered by Representatives Saiki and Nakashima.

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," was jointly offered by Representatives Saiki and Nakashima.

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

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

"As you know, members, we are really in a unique position. We are fortunate to serve our community as policymakers, and we are serving in a legislative session that marks the start of a new decade. This should be a positive time, especially given the achievements made over the course of our state's history.

"But there is one constant that has and will continue to dominate our work: Many people cannot make it in Hawaii. The questions before us are: Can we keep up? Can our state government keep up? Can our working families keep up? So far, the experiences of our families and the statistics tell us the answer is no.

"As a community, we are at best treading water, at worst we are drowning. Since 2016, 12,000 residents have left Hawaii. Two hundred fourteen thousand Hawaii households, or 47% of all households, cannot pay for basic necessities or are below the federal poverty level. Over 36,000 households need affordable housing. So let's take a few seconds to think about who these people are. They are high school graduates, college graduates, they are our sons and daughters, our friends, our neighbors, it has become someone in every family.

"Our mission is clear. We need to make it possible for our family members and the next generation to stay home. We can begin to do this by attacking the three main drivers that make Hawaii unaffordable: income inequality, lack of affordable child care and early learning, and lack of affordable housing. Our proposals are historic, dramatic, and will bring relief for our working families.

"Let me explain that over 80,000 persons in Hawaii earn less than \$30,000 per year. Our working-class families and individuals deserve tax relief. They are barely struggling to get by.

"We will make the Hawaii earned income tax credit refundable and permanent and we will also increase the food excise tax credit. This will put over \$75 million directly into the pockets of working class families and individuals. This is the most substantial tax relief we've done for working class folks in decades.

"But tax relief alone will not uplift people. The lowest paid workers should receive increases. We will increase the minimum wage from \$10.10 an hour to \$13.00 over a 4-year period. This wage increase together with the tax changes will result in an annual cash benefit of more than \$4,600 to each worker.

"The cost of child care also contributes to Hawaii being unaffordable for so many. We know that preschool allows children to learn and develop. It also enables parents to work. Many families cannot afford child care, and that is the reason nearly 20,000 children do not currently attend preschool before showing up to kindergarten.

"Our legislation will open more public early learning classrooms, while working with the private early learning schools and others to provide more learning opportunities to eligible students. In 10 years, we aim to close the gap for these 20,000 children so that all 3- and 4-year-olds are in early learning programs.

"A new housing report tells us that we need 17,000 units for working families. This number is achievable if we increase funding and modernize regulation. We will spend \$200 million for infrastructure at UH West Oahu for affordable housing development along the rail line. We will also spend \$75 million for neighbor island infrastructure. And we will free up state land and private land for affordable housing development along the rail line.

"The pervasive nature of this problem calls us all to a new standard of working together, being strategic, and demanding creativity. We can no longer approach issues in a siloed fashion. Business as usual has not worked for our people. Our landmark legislation will reverse that. Let's keep our families and the next generation home. Thank you and have a productive session."

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

"Thank you, Mr. Speaker. *Aloha mai kākou. Aloha.* Happy New Year and welcome to the 2020 session. Mr. Speaker, colleagues, and Governor Ariyoshi, you honor us with your attendance. Thank you for the effort of making it here, and very gracious on the part of Representative Luke for Representative Thielen.

"Mr. Speaker, this is a session that says, if we have 20/20 vision, we'd know what's going to happen. And I hope that posterity doesn't look at us as we've failed to do what we've done, and you've done some great things and you've said some great things in your speech which I hope will come true by the end of this session.

"Your House minority believes that we should do and have one thing that this is about. Your minority believes that this session is about one thing, and that's fighting to improve the lives of the people of Hawaii, just like you said, Mr. Speaker. We want to improve the focus on health, on safety, and economics, for people who want to stay here and not export their kids to the mainland.

"In example of making Hawaii safer, for the people of Hawaii, Mr. Speaker, right now, in most all of our neighborhoods, there's a crime spree going on, people don't feel safe. Since when was it where we could walk around in beautiful Hawaii and not feel safe, Mr. Speaker? This is a new phenomenon. It's something that's happening, that people are afraid, and it's where, for example, Dolores Corpuz, 85 years old, walking with her husband who had been married to her 67 years, walking around, someone grabbed her purse, threw her down, and she died. Mr. Speaker, that is not acceptable, it's not allowable, but it's something that we have to be mindful of.

"For example, Mr. Speaker, we are 312 officers in HPD short. We need to have a safer Hawaii by giving more pay to the police, we have to give more benefits to the police, and for everything that is now for policing our communities, we've got to have more boots on the ground, Mr. Speaker. And we should be keeping felony offenders behind bars where they belong and not on our streets and terrorizing our neighborhoods, and that's all of our neighborhoods. Mr. Speaker, I pray that this will never happen to another *kupuna* like Dolores Corpuz.

"Secondly, Mr. Speaker, all of us in this Chamber should be aware of the need for a healthier Hawaii for our youth. Mr. Speaker, I'm referring to the toxic smoke of vaping that's invaded our state and it's particularly among our youth. In fact, Mr. Speaker, we are number one in middle school vaping, isn't that something to be proud of? Number two in high school vaping. Mr. Speaker, I had a constituent, a very frustrated mother the other day who said, my daughter will not go into the class restroom, or the girl's room, because everybody's vaping. And then she said, her sister is a football player, and 80% of the football team is vaping. Mr. Speaker, we have a problem on our hands in this session, we have to settle it. It's unacceptable the way that that's hurting our youth.

"And Mr. Speaker, another way that we have to address working for the people of Hawaii is lowering the cost of living. You hit it spot-on. The only difficulty is the three drivers that you mentioned are kind of outside the purview of what I'm going to mention. Because right now, Mr. Speaker, I can show you what it's like to live in Hawaii if you buy bread, eggs, milk, and all of the things that I paid \$113.00 for, and I only got one little dinky bag and I had to bring my own so it didn't cost any more. Mr. Speaker, living in Hawaii, eating in Hawaii has become difficult.

"But the three drivers that you mentioned, Mr. Speaker, misses the macro of the whole thing. It's summarized by what Bill Clinton said, it's the economy, stupid. It's the economy. We've got to grow the economy, colleagues. All we do is generally cut up the pie and say, well we'll give you a better slice and then we'll get a little more tax here. We've got to grow the economy, and that's something I think we don't think about. We've got a billion-dollar film industry staring us right in the face. We have not taken advantage of it, or we are slowly taking advantage of it, but it's something that we have the ability to right size our economy, because Mr. Speaker, you said it differently, 70% of the people of Hawaii are making it, 30% are on the precipice of poverty. Half of the kids that get sent to school don't have lunch money because their parents don't make enough money. That is unacceptable, Mr. Speaker. We've got to grow the economy to fit the needs of our people.

"Speaking of which, I'm not sure how to introduce this, but all of you've seen the upside down flags. The State of Hawaii is flying upside down, why is that the case? Why so many flags that we see are upside down? You can hear the chatter outside of the Chamber, some of you have gone to the *mauna*, some of you have gone to Kahuku, some of you have heard the voices of the Hawaiian community crying out. One of the things of 2019 has been the great awakening of the Hawaiian community, and I understand there's almost 10,000 individuals who are out there now. Okay maybe 9,000. But Mr. Speaker, since same-sex marriage there's never been this participation at the capital. There's a new spirit on the horizon. And Mr. Speaker, let's face it. We've given Hawaiians preeminence in social and

cultural affairs, but when it comes to economic and political issues, Hawaiians are largely left out of the equation and barely have a seat at the table because the lack of political muscularity.

"Mr. Speaker, the year 2020 is the 100th anniversary of the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act. One hundred years ago, 203,000 acres were given, there's less than 10,000 lessees on the land now and there are 28,000 on the wait list. Mr. Speaker, that's three times the Stan Sheriff Arena that are on the wait list. In fact, one of the commissioners said, what do you mean it's a wait list, it's a death list. Mr. Speaker, we can do something about that and we can do it in this session.

"It's time to act, we have more Hawaiians living on the mainland than we have in Hawaii, and these numbers don't lie, they are exiting, as part of that 13,000, I don't believe it's 12,000 it's 13,000 who left last year. We need to meet the needs of our host culture in this session, Mr. Speaker. When Uncle Walter Ritte is out there signing up Hawaiians to vote, you know there's change in the air. If you guys know Walter Ritte, he is saying, let's get in the system, let's vote, let's make change. And Mr. Speaker, these are the votes on this floor that can do that change. But the Hawaiians are in the process.

"I don't want to lose my speaking time, he's a strict disciplinarian in this place. The case in point, Mr. Speaker, we need to also not only pay attention to the Hawaiians, we need to pay attention to the other people who want openness and transparency in what we do in this body. Mr. Speaker, this is a call from your minority to get rid of gut and replace. We don't need it, only in emergencies. Gut and replace, I hope the League of Women Voters are here because you helped push it up to the State Supreme Court. But Mr. Speaker, we are now, according to the latest Star-Advertiser poll, 27% approval rating. One in four people out there, Mr. Speaker, think we're doing a good job. If we go gut and replace, I think it's going to make us even worse than that. So, to get faith back into this body, I would suggest the gut and replace be pushed aside. Your minority will be introducing a rule change or a bill that will do such a thing as that.

"Finally, Mr. Speaker, you know this is a cry of this side of the aisle from the beginning. Let's try to be more business friendly, Mr. Speaker. If we're going to grow the economy, we can't be against our business people who are, as you know, struggling to make ends meet, and now with the minimum wage it may even be more difficult.

"But let's hope we can make progress with the low-cost housing that you suggest. And I hope, Mr. Speaker, as we look at homelessness, and I know that wasn't mentioned, but it's a mutation that we've got to be able to resolve, and Mr. Speaker, I would suggest, unless we have someone smarter, wiser than the Lieutenant Governor, that we use his blue print to do this.

"So in conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I genuinely believe that if we work together, and we put our heads together, and we join with an effort with the political will, we can end this session healthier, safer, and a better Hawaii. And with a special sense of what otherwise people had not had hope that we could end with hope on the horizon, but especially we owe it to the people who think that we've lost solving big problems or getting away from big ideas. So, Mr. Speaker, let's listen to the people, and maybe even by the end of this session, we may see Hawaii's flag flying upright and proud that we have done something this session. Mr. Speaker, your minority is ready to do the business for the people of Hawaii. 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 and the members of this House for the opportunity to address this body on this momentous occasion. I promise to keep my remarks brief. We are starting this 2020 session at breakneck speed, but I am confident that we will survive the 60 legislative day marathon session. It only seems like yesterday that we were adjourning the 2019 session. But since that time, Mr. Speaker, the members of this body have been hard at work.

"Shortly after last session, members of the House majority policy committee convened with representatives from the community to learn about the CHANGE Initiative convened by the Hawaii Community Foundation, bringing together stakeholders from all sectors in our community to address the critical issues facing Hawaii. Throughout the

ensuing months, the Committees on Labor, Lower & Higher Education, Consumer Protection & Commerce, Judiciary, and Human Services & Homelessness collectively conducted 14 joint informational briefings with their Senate counterparts. We work during the interim.

"The Committees on Finance, Lower & Higher Education, Water, Land, & Hawaiian Affairs, and Public Safety, Veterans, & Military Affairs crisscrossed the state visiting communities, learning about the problems in community. Members reached out to their counterparts in other states, and in fact in other nations, to share the best practices that we are learning in Hawaii, but also to learn about the best practices in other states. We are bringing all of that *mana'o* to our legislative session. We work during the interim, Mr. Speaker, and it is no surprise to me that the majority has put together a momentous and historic package.

"I want to put a face to the families we are fighting for, and I don't want this opportunity to be missed to mention the momentous re-carpeting project that the House underwent. Really, that re-carpeting project caused a lot of disruption, caused us to have to move out of our spaces, caused me to have to look at things, and one of the things I dug up was a photo from my 2006 opening day session, and in it was a message from my family. And it says, 'I'm putting a face to the families we are helping, it says, 'The Radau Family. In the beginning it started at 1236 Kaumakapili Lane at the edge of Honolulu's Chinatown. David and Rose C. Au raised a family of three boys and two girls. Then each of these siblings married and the family grew to 12. Then came the Radau grandchildren and their spouses and the family numbered 39. With the addition of great-grandchildren it grew to 57.'

"I'm sad to say that I have two cousins, three cousins who have moved away from this state to places in California and Washington because of the better opportunities. These are the families we are talking about. And I don't just mention my families, because every single one of us have families like that in our communities. These are the ALICE families.

"My father, when he purchased his family home in Manoa in 1966, he paid \$54,000, for a Manoa home in 1966. They left their Chinatown home with a sign posted on the wall saying, unfit for living persons, evicted. That is why my family fled. And that story is repeated in our communities.

"I talk about that family because what we are fighting for here today is to fight for a place and carving a place for our *keiki* to return. We should no longer sell paradise only to the highest bidder. We need to carve out the affordable housing so that our *keiki* can return. But not just them, we must also open our shores and carve out that affordable housing for the *malihini* who we welcome who are coming to our shores and committing to growing roots in our community. And most importantly, most importantly, we must ensure that the first peoples of these islands, Native Hawaiians, are able to thrive in their own homeland and continue to show the world how to be good stewards of our global community. Mr. Speaker, that's what we fight for today.

"I will close by just mentioning, 2020 is quite momentous. There are three things that we need to really keep in mind as we go along. Census 2020, I want to take this opportunity to remind members and remind community that we must be all in in counting. Every single community member needs to be counted when the census comes around in March and April.

"Second momentous occasion, all mail-in voting begins to occur this year 2020. Because of the hard work of the members of this House and the Senate, we will have all mail-in voting this year.

"Finally, and I don't want to leave this opportunity, we celebrate many anniversaries, but this year is the centennial celebration of the 19th Amendment of the women's right to vote. I would like everyone to imagine, in this room and up there, if half of the population was told, you could not participate. If half of the population was told, you do not have a seat at the table. If half of the population could not contribute their ideas. Let me put forward to you that without the women in this House, we would not have the joint historic package that we have before us today.

"So, Mr. Speaker, we have much work ahead of us. The members of this House, your committee chairs, your leadership team, stand ready to work, and we are ready to work with all. Thank you, Mr. Speaker."

LATE INTRODUCTIONS

The following late introductions were made to the members of the House:

Representative Tokioka introduced Chief Justice Mark Recktenwald, Brigadier General Kenneth Hara, and union leaders: Pane Meatoga, John Monis, and Richard Jose.

Representative Hashimoto introduced Maui County Councilmember Yuki Lei Sugimura.

Representative Cullen introduced Curt Otaguro, state comptroller, and other state department directors and executives.

Representative Cabanilla Arakawa introduced Jade Butay, director, Department of Transportation.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Representative Takayama: "Mr. Speaker, I wanted members to know that measures proposed by our Kupuna Caucus are available for signing in my office, Room 323, until 5:00 p.m. this afternoon. Thank you."

ADJOURNMENT

At 10:47 a.m., on motion by Representative Morikawa, seconded by Representative Matsumoto and carried, the House of Representatives adjourned until noon tomorrow, Thursday, January 16, 2020.

OTHER COMMUNICATIONS



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
STATE OF HAWAII
STATE CAPITOL
415 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

January 15, 2020

Speaker Scott K. Saiki
Hawaii House of Representatives
415 South Beretania Street, Room 431
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Speaker Saiki,

Exactly three weeks ago my husband and I welcomed our second child, Noelle Kealohilani Matsumoto, into our family. Although I'm eager to return to my official duties as a State Representative, this early stage of infancy will require much of my time and attention. Doctors recommend frequent feeding and close observation to ensure she remains happy, healthy, and develops normally. Unfortunately, this will mean that I will be absent from certain committee hearings and potentially floor sessions at the beginning of the 2020 Legislative Session.

I take my commitment to my constituents seriously and remain dedicated to my duties as a legislator. I plan to return to all of my legislative duties as soon as possible. As there is no official form of maternity leave for legislators, I intend this letter to serve as an explanation for absences when my job as a mother conflicts with my legislative responsibilities. Although I may not be present in person at hearings, I have made arrangements with our research staff to attend and keep me informed about legislation. Furthermore, I am in daily contact with my office staff who do a great job tracking legislation and supporting constituent needs.

Thank you very much for your understanding. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,


LAUREN MATSUMOTO
State Representative