

## SEVENTH DAY

**Monday, January 31, 2022**

The House of Representatives of the Thirty-First Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2022, convened at noon, with Vice Speaker Mizuno presiding.

The invocation was delivered by Representative Stacelynn K.M. Eli, after which the Roll was called showing all members present, with Representatives Har, LoPresti, Matayoshi, Matsumoto, Perruso, Tokioka, and Wildberger participating remotely via videoconference.

By unanimous consent, reading and approval of the Journal of the House of Representatives of the Sixth Day was deferred.

## SENATE COMMUNICATIONS

The following communication from the Senate (Sen. Com. No. 3) was received and announced by the Clerk:

Sen. Com. No. 3, transmitting S.B. No. 2018, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO MINIMUM WAGE," which passed Third Reading in the Senate on January 28, 2022.

On motion by Representative Morikawa, seconded by Representative Okimoto and carried, the following Senate Bill passed First Reading by title and further action was deferred:

S.B. No. 2018

## ORDER OF THE DAY

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

## H.R. No. 4:

Representative Belatti moved that H.R. No. 4 be adopted, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

Representative Ganaden rose to speak in support of the measure, stating:

"Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise in strong support. I'd like to articulate the necessity of continuing the work of the Red Hill committee and the necessity of this resolution. As the representative of Pearl Harbor-Hickam, our office has heard from constituents who continue to be displaced by this ongoing water crisis, doing their best to live out of hotels or transient accommodation, bus their children to schools where water is bottled and trucked in daily for usage.

"This resolution allows our Red Hill community to continue to consolidate the efforts of the House and continue to perform our state constitutional mandate of providing clean water to our communities. Our office and the world have now heard of the terrifying effects on our constituent's health, including not just dizziness and nausea, but neurological effects, seemingly unexplainable conditions on skin, eyes, and mental health. The long-term effects of this exposure, especially to children, is, to put it mildly, concerning.

"Mr. Speaker, almost daily, we are presented with new information. From the Navy's information, jet fuel and other materials were circulating in the Navy's water supply for over a week from on or about November 20th to after November 28th. Three wells which supply water to urban Honolulu remain shuttered. The Navy and our governor have not yet fully committed to defueling and decommissioning the cause of this crisis, the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility.

"Mr. Speaker, the public must know that this House is doing something about this conflict and will continue to perform our duty to consolidate and convey information, to hold agencies accountable, and to work with our federal counterparts to ensure the safety of this community. Thank you."

Representative Ward rose to speak in support of the measure, stating:

"Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I too arise in strong support. Mr. Speaker, I have a few caveats. First, congratulations for the leadership putting this up, getting the committee formed. It's very, very important. But my advice

would be this. No Band-Aids, please. All you committee members stay strong, don't compromise, don't Band-Aid, that fuel tank has to be moved, those fuel tanks have got to be relocated.

"I represent Hawaii Kai, all of our drinking water, including what I drank this morning, comes from those wells. And my people are one to say, national defense is important, but what I drink and what I put in my kid's mouth and stomach is more important than that for immediate purposes. So, my advice to the committee, you're fortunate to be on it. Stay strong and make sure you do the right thing. Thank you, Mr. Speaker."

Representative B. Kobayashi rose to speak in support of the measure, stating:

"Mr. Speaker, in strong support. Thank you. This committee has a big responsibility because this is not a minor issue and not a short-term issue. I think that this committee may last much longer than we all hope it would.

"May I point out that there is a slight problem in the second whereas of this resolution. The whereas reads, 'WHEREAS, on November 28, 2021, users of the Navy's Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam water system complained of a fuel odor coming from their water.' In fact, as a prior speaker had mentioned, there were complaints prior to this November 28th date. A Washington Post story talks about complaints going back as far as June, August, and October of 2021. These are not substantiated complaints, but from what little I know about people exposed to toxic and other, how would you say, contaminants, the sensitive people are extraordinarily sensitive. And so, there may have been a reaction by the most sensitive people to fuel long before this November 28th date.

"The bigger point is that the Navy is using November 28th as the start date to document exposure recordation. The Washington Post story, December 22nd, 2021, quote, the Navy has created a registry to record people's health concerns, McGinnis said, but it is currently set up to document exposure only from Nov. 28 and forward. He said it could be revised if officials determine exposure may have started earlier. Right now, McGinnis said, we're really focused on what we understand to be the beginning of this event, which is the 28th, unquote.

"So, the 28th is an artificial date selected by the Navy based on its understanding that this is the beginning of this event. But I think that should be one of the items the committee should look into. Thank you."

Representative Johanson rose in support of the measure and asked that the remarks of Representative Ganaden be entered into the Journal as his own, and the Chair "so ordered." (By reference only.)

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and H.R. No. 4, entitled: "HOUSE RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING THE HOUSE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON RED HILL TO ADDRESS ISSUES RELATED TO THE RED HILL BULK FUEL STORAGE FACILITY, WATER CONTAMINATION AND REMEDIATION, AND ALL RELATED IMPACTS," was adopted.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Representative Kitagawa: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to wish the representative from Moanalua Gardens a happy belated birthday. Yesterday, he celebrated his 42nd birthday, even though he doesn't look a day over 30. Thank you."

## COMMITTEE REASSIGNMENTS

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

**H.B.  
Nos. Re-referred to:**

1815 Committee on Economic Development, then jointly to the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce and the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, then to the Committee on Finance

- 1856 Committee on Health, Human Services, & Homelessness, then to the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, then to the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs
- 1861 Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, then to the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, then to the Committee on Finance
- 2254 Committee on Water & Land, then to the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 12:15 p.m., on motion by Representative Morikawa, seconded by Representative Okimoto and carried, the House of Representatives adjourned until noon tomorrow, Tuesday, February 1, 2022.