

TWENTY-EIGHTH DAY

Monday, March 10, 2025

The House of Representatives of the Thirty-Third Legislature of the State of Hawai'i, Regular Session of 2025, convened at 12:06 p.m., with Speaker Nakamura presiding.

The Roll was called showing all members present with the exception of Representatives Cochran, Poepoe, and Ward, who were excused.

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

INTRODUCTIONS

The following introduction was made to the members of the House:

Representative Takenouchi introduced her staff, Taylor Lagorio.

ORDER OF THE DAY

SUSPENSION OF RULES

On motion by Representative Morikawa, seconded by Representative Garcia and carried, the rules were suspended for the purpose of considering a certain House Bill for Third Reading by consent calendar. (Representatives Cochran, Poepoe, and Ward were excused.)

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1170) recommending that H.B. No. 410, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

Representative Todd moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 410, HD 1 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. I stand in strong support. This OHA budget bill will essentially provide funding for operating expenses for the Office of Hawaiian Affairs for the fiscal biennium beginning on July 1, 2025, to June 30, 2027, as OHA continues to implement its strategic plan, Mana i Maui Ola, and also create 13 new staff positions to accelerate implementation of the plan.

"The primary reason for why we need to keep allocating funding to OHA by way of a measure such as this one is because we are not providing OHA with its full pro rata share of ceded land revenues. Once we do that, perhaps we no longer have to keep appropriating funding in this way, because OHA will receive what is rightfully theirs and will in turn, in line with their mission, continue to utilize those increased resources for the benefit of Native Hawaiians.

"With all of the funding cuts that are taking place at the federal level, especially in relation to diversity, equity, and inclusion, which does affect Hawaiians, and Hawaiians are included in this conversation, no matter how much some may be averse to utilizing the DEI acronym, we have to be extra vigilant at the state level in ensuring that Hawaiians are continuing to receive support and resources to thrive.

"As a Hawaiian, I will say that we cannot allow the current federal administration to undermine the progress that we have made as Hawaiians and the progress yet to be made as we continue our efforts centered on education, housing, health, and the list goes on. I strongly support this bill, Relating to the Budget of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, but also look forward to the day that no operating budget is necessary because OHA will have its full share of ceded land revenues. *Mahalo.*"

Representative Hussey rose in support of the measure and asked that the remarks of the representative from Makakilo 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 the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 410, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR

AN ACT RELATING TO THE BUDGET OF THE OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 48 ayes, with Representatives Cochran, Poepoe, and Ward being excused.

At 12:12 p.m., the Chair noted that the following bill passed Third Reading:

H.B. No. 410, HD 1

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1171) recommending that H.B. No. 400, as amended in HD 1, pass Third Reading.

By unanimous consent, consideration of Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1171 on H.B. No. 400, HD 1, was deferred and in accordance with Article III, Section 15 of the Constitution of the State of Hawai'i, printed copies of H.B. No. 400, HD 1, were made available to the Members of the House.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1172) recommending that H.B. No. 300, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 300, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE STATE BUDGET," passed Second Reading and was placed on the calendar for Third Reading, with Representatives Cochran, Poepoe, and Ward being excused.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Representative Quinlan: "Thank you, Madam Speaker. A man who makes you feel that you're never alone. He is witnessed, his head shiny and chrome. His heart and kindness are plain to see. Happy Birthday to our friend, Michael Lee."

Representative Kapela: "Thank you, Madam Speaker. I would also like to mention that Art at the Capitol is coming up. It's going to be on April 11th, and today is the deadline to let us know if you are going to open your office. We have over 33 offices that are participating, and it would be great to have all of you. So, you know who you are, and please let us know if you'd like to participate. Also, we do have the revival of our Capitol Talent Show. So, please, show off your hidden talents and sign up to participate. Thank you."

COMMITTEE REASSIGNMENTS

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

<u>S.B.</u> <u>Nos.</u>	<u>Re-referred to:</u>
133, SD2	Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection, then to the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, then to the Committee on Finance
894, SD3	Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems, then to the Committee on Education, then to the Committee on Finance
1319, SD1	Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

ADJOURNMENT

At 12:14 p.m., on motion by Representative Morikawa, seconded by Representative Garcia and carried, the House of Representatives adjourned until noon tomorrow, Tuesday, March 11, 2025. (Representatives Cochran, Poepoe, and Ward were excused.)