

THIRTY-FIFTH DAY

Wednesday, March 19, 2025

The House of Representatives of the Thirty-Third Legislature of the State of Hawai'i, Regular Session of 2025, convened at 12:09 p.m., with Speaker Nakamura presiding.

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

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

INTRODUCTIONS

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

Representative Ilagan introduced from CSG West: Edgar Ruiz, director; and Will Keyse, professional development manager.

Representative Takayama introduced his friend, Laraine Yasui; and Carrie Johnson from Maryland.

Representative Lamosao introduced her son, Calford Pader Jr; and his friend, Christopher-Davin Pasion-Ramiro.

Representative Matayoshi introduced students here for Take Down Tobacco Day from Kamehameha Schools, Hawai'i Campus; Honoka'a High and Intermediate; Kohala High School; Maui High School; Kaua'i High School; Baldwin High School; Seabury Hall; Lahainaluna High School; Aka'ula School; Pōmaika'i; University of Hawai'i, Maui Campus; Prisma School; University of Hawai'i at Mānoa; Pearl City High School; James Campbell High School; Mid Pacific Institute; University Laboratory School; Punahou School; and Kaimuki High School.

Representative Reyes Oda introduced her intern, Jethro Bumanglag.

Representative Matsumoto introduced Mililani Middle School staff: Shannon Tamashiro, principal; and Sharilyn Pang, assistant principal.

Representative La Chica introduced guests of our education week honorees: David Pimentel, Corbin Pimentel, Sofia Pimentel, Doug Boyer, Kristen Ono, Noelani Takayesu, Randi Passantino, London Passantino, Marshall Brown, Jocelyn Chang, Avery Butcher, Alisa Bender, Rebecca Winkie, Shannon Tamashiro, Sharilyn Pang, Heidi Armstrong, and Ernest Muh.

ORDER OF THE DAY

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS (FLOOR PRESENTATIONS)

The following resolution (H.R. No. 209) was announced by the Clerk and the following action taken:

H.R. No. 209, entitled: "HOUSE RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING THE 2024 HAWAI'I PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR, 2024 NATIONAL OUTSTANDING ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL, 2024 HAWAI'I ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR, 2024 MASAYUKI TOKIOKA EXCELLENCE IN SCHOOL LEADERSHIP AWARDEE, AND 2025 HAWAI'I SCHOOL COUNSELOR OF THE YEAR," was offered by Representative Poepoe.

Representative Poepoe moved that H.R. No. 209 be adopted, seconded by Representative Woodson.

Representative Hashem recognized individuals who have excelled in school leadership, demonstrating outstanding dedication, vision, and commitment to creating a positive and impactful learning environment for their students; honored Mr. Passantino for his leadership in seeing significant improvements in staff morale, student engagement, and academic success, fostering a positive, inclusive school culture that boosts staff satisfaction and creates a sense of belonging for students; and congratulated and introduced honoree who was seated on the Floor of the House:

Joseph Passantino, Principal, Ke'elikōlani Middle School, 2024 Hawai'i State Principal of the Year.

Representative Poepoe commended Ms. Pimentel's commitment to building strong community relationships which have greatly enhanced community involvement, leading to increased volunteerism and reduced absenteeism; recognized her innovative mentorship programs; and congratulated and introduced honoree who was seated on the Floor of the House:

Jennifer Hera Pimentel, Vice Principal, Lāna'i High & Elementary School, 2024 National Outstanding Assistant Principal.

Representative Matsumoto highlighted the significant contributions of Mr. Horstman supporting student growth and uplifting student voices, empowering students to share their perspectives; noted how his leadership has positively impacted the school community, earning him the respect of colleagues, students, and community members; and congratulated and introduced honoree who was seated on the Floor of the House:

Jeff Horstman, Vice Principal, Mililani Middle School, 2024 Hawai'i Assistant Principal of the Year.

Representative Evslin recognized Mr. Cox as a dedicated educator who has served in many roles over the years, contributing significantly to the tight-knit, supportive environment that provides students with the best opportunities for success; commended his advocacy for extracurricular opportunities; and congratulated and introduced honoree who was seated on the Floor of the House:

Tommy Cox, Principal, Kapa'a High School, 2024 Masayuki Tokioka Excellence in School Leadership award recipient.

Representative Morikawa honored Ms. Butcher for her outstanding and dedicated advocacy for students' academic, social-emotional, and college and career development; commended her passion to help students successfully navigate the challenges of middle school and her creation of impactful programs for her students; recognized her unwavering commitment to student well-being; and congratulated and introduced honoree who was seated on the Floor of the House:

Noelani Butcher, Counselor, Chiefess Kamakahelei Middle School, 2025 Hawai'i School Counselor of the Year.

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and H.R. No. 209 was adopted, with Representatives Cochran and Ward being excused.

At 12:27 p.m., the Chair declared a recess to allow the members to meet and congratulate the honorees.

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

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Representative Kahaloa, for the Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1362) recommending that S.B. No. 1185, SD 1, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Finance.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 1185, SD 1, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO AGRICULTURE," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Finance, with Representatives Cochran and Ward being excused.

Representative Kahaloa, for the Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1363) recommending that S.B. No. 1304, SD 2, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Finance.

Representative Todd moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 1304, SD 2, HD 1 pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Finance, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

Representative Pierick rose and asked that the Clerk record a no vote for him, and the Chair "so ordered."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 1304, SD 2, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO PESTICIDE DRIFT MONITORING," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Finance, with Representative Pierick voting no, and with Representatives Cochran and Ward being excused.

Representative Kahaloe, for the Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1364) recommending that S.B. No. 1022, SD 2, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 1022, SD 2, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO ANIMAL ENDANGERMENT," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, with Representatives Cochran and Ward being excused.

Representative Kahaloe, for the Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1365) recommending that S.B. No. 140, SD 2, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 140, SD 2, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO INVASIVE SPECIES," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, with Representatives Cochran and Ward being excused.

Representative Kahaloe, for the Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1366) recommending that S.B. No. 301, SD 1, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 301, SD 1, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO DOGS," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, with Representatives Cochran and Ward being excused.

Representative Takayama, for the Committee on Health, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1367) recommending that S.B. No. 1322, SD 2, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 1322, SD 2, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO MENTAL HEALTH," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, with Representatives Cochran and Ward being excused.

Representative Marten, for the Committee on Human Services & Homelessness, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1368) recommending that S.B. No. 960, SD 1, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Finance.

Representative Todd moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 960, SD 1, HD 1 pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Finance, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

Representative Pierick rose and asked that the Clerk record a no vote for him, and the Chair "so ordered."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 960, SD 1, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Finance, with Representative Pierick voting no, and with Representatives Cochran and Ward being excused.

Representative Marten, for the Committee on Human Services & Homelessness, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1369) recommending that S.B. No. 961, SD 1, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Finance.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 961, SD 1, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Finance, with Representatives Cochran and Ward being excused.

Representative Hashem, for the Committee on Water & Land, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1370) recommending that S.B. No. 1462, SD 1, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Finance.

Representative Todd moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 1462, SD 1, HD 1 pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Finance, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

Representative Perruso rose and asked that the Clerk record an aye vote with reservations for her, and the Chair "so ordered."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 1462, SD 1, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO A STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION INCOME TAX CREDIT," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Finance, with Representative Perruso voting aye with reservations, and with Representatives Cochran and Ward being excused.

Representative Hashem, for the Committee on Water & Land, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1371) recommending that S.B. No. 841, SD 1, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Finance.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 841, SD 1, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO MARINE LIFE CONSERVATION DISTRICTS," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Finance, with Representatives Cochran and Ward being excused.

Representative Hashem, for the Committee on Water & Land, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1372) recommending that S.B. No. 849, SD 1, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 849, SD 1, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO WILDLIFE CONSERVATION," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, with Representatives Cochran and Ward being excused.

Representative Hashem, for the Committee on Water & Land, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1373) recommending that S.B. No. 268, SD 1, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Representative Todd moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 268, SD 1, HD 1 pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

Representative Amato rose and asked that the Clerk record an aye vote with reservations for her, and the Chair "so ordered."

Representative Reyes Oda rose and asked that the Clerk record a no vote for her, and the Chair "so ordered."

Representative Souza rose, stating:

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. A disclosure. My brother is the vice chair of the Board of Trustees at the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, and this is part of OHA's bill package."

The Chair addressed Representative Souza, stating:

"Thank you for the disclosure. No conflict. And this applies for the rest of session on this item."

Representative Shimizu rose to speak in opposition to the measure, stating:

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise in opposition with comments, please. This bill would remove two positions on the island burial councils. These two positions belong to landowners who serve together, with an additional seven positions that belong to Native Hawaiian interests. During our Water & Land hearing, I heard compelling testimony from Native Hawaiian beneficiaries that have served or are serving on the council, raising their strong support and defense for the great importance of the participation on the council from these two landowner positions.

"They shared that the landowner members were diligent in their meeting attendance that helped provide quorum that would not have been reached without them. It was also noted and clarified that the landowner council member would recuse themselves if the project being voted on was their project. Madam Speaker, I believe it is very important that the minority interests have a voice and representation, and I can relate to that."

Representative Souza rose to a point of order, stating:

"Point of order, Madam Speaker. I think that it's inappropriate to talk about the minority interests when I'm also a minority member sitting on the Water & Land Committee. Thank you."

The Chair addressed Representative Shimizu, stating:

"Representative Shimizu, please continue and stick to your concerns, your personal concerns."

Representative Shimizu continued, stating:

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. Apologize to my colleague for any offense, none intended. With these two positions remaining on the council, the other seven still hold a controlling majority. So, I ask this body to please protect the voice of this representation of this two serving members. And thank you for the opportunity to share."

Representative Muraoka rose and asked that the Clerk record a no vote for him, and the Chair "so ordered."

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

"Speaker, I stand in support. As the Water & Land chair, I acknowledge that the large landowner interest may be a good balance. However, if you look at the testimony, there were no testimony received from large landowners. So, if it's not important enough for them to write testimony and to fight for their own interest to be on the board, then it's not worth us trying to fight to keep them on. Thank you."

Representative Shimizu rose to respond, stating:

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise still in opposition. And with respect to my Water & Land chair, my understanding is the three testifiers that really compelled me to vote no were representatives of the landowners that served on the island burial councils. Thank you."

Representative Garcia rose and asked that the Clerk record a no vote for him, and the Chair "so ordered."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 268, SD 1, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO ISLAND BURIAL COUNCILS," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, with Representative Amato voting aye with reservations, with Representatives Garcia, Muraoka, Reyes Oda, and Shimizu voting no, and with Representatives Cochran and Ward being excused.

Representative Hashem, for the Committee on Water & Land, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1374) recommending that S.B. No. 411, SD 2, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Finance.

Representative Todd moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 411, SD 2, HD 1 pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Finance, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise in support. Our Kīhei Small Boat Harbor is falling apart and extremely dangerous. It is so bad, I had to send my chief of staff to meet with concerned community members and we are sending a very detailed report to the DLNR director. We have leaking pipes, and the ramp is so badly degraded that a few weeks ago we had a serious accident that sent someone to the hospital with incredibly serious injuries. The person, I want to add, was a personal injury attorney. We need to repair our small boat harbors before someone dies or the state gets sued. Thank you."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 411, SD 2, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS AT STATE SMALL BOAT HARBORS AND STATE PARKS," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Finance, with Representatives Cochran and Ward being excused.

Representative Hashem, for the Committee on Water & Land, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1375) recommending that S.B. No. 15, SD 1, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 15, SD 1, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HISTORIC PRESERVATION," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, with Representatives Cochran and Ward being excused.

Representative Kila, for the Committee on Transportation, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1376) recommending that S.B. No. 97, SD 2, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Representative Todd moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 97, SD 2, HD 1 pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

Representative Pierick rose and asked that the Clerk record a no vote for him, and the Chair "so ordered."

Representative Reyes Oda rose and asked that the Clerk record an aye vote with reservations for her, and the Chair "so ordered."

Representative Amato rose and asked that the Clerk record an aye vote with reservations for her, and the Chair "so ordered."

Representative Garcia rose and asked that the Clerk record a no vote for him, and the Chair "so ordered."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 97, SD 2, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR VEHICLES," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, with Representatives Amato and Reyes Oda voting aye with reservations, with Representatives Garcia and Pierick voting no, and with Representatives Cochran and Ward being excused.

Representative Kila, for the Committee on Transportation, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1377) recommending that S.B. No. 934, SD 2, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Finance.

Representative Todd moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 934, SD 2, HD 1 pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Finance, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

Representative Pierick rose to speak in opposition to the measure, stating:

"In opposition. This bill would expand the limitations for spending on the rail. We've already spent \$12 billion. We've already sent, from the state to the county, \$572 million recently, and this is going to expand that, so I'm voting no."

Representative Garcia rose and asked that the Clerk record a no vote for him, and the Chair "so ordered."

Representative Muraoka rose and asked that the Clerk record an aye vote with reservations for him, and the Chair "so ordered."

Representative Shimizu rose and asked that the Clerk record an aye vote with reservations for him, and the Chair "so ordered."

Representative Amato rose and asked that the Clerk record a no vote for her, and the Chair "so ordered."

Representative Matsumoto rose and asked that the Clerk record an aye vote with reservations for her, and the Chair "so ordered."

Representative Alcos rose and asked that the Clerk record an aye vote with reservations for him, and the Chair "so ordered."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 934, SD 2, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE STATE BUDGET," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Finance, with Representatives Alcos, Matsumoto, Muraoka, and Shimizu voting aye with reservations, with Representatives Amato, Garcia, and Pierick voting no, and with Representatives Cochran and Ward being excused.

Representative Kila, for the Committee on Transportation, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1378) recommending that S.B. No. 1526, SD 2, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Finance.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 1526, SD 2, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE DRUG AND ALCOHOL TOXICOLOGY TESTING LABORATORY," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Finance, with Representatives Cochran and Ward being excused.

Representative Ilagan, for the Committee on Economic Development & Technology, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1379) recommending that S.B. No. 1043, SD 2, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Finance.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 1043, SD 2, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Finance, with Representatives Cochran and Ward being excused.

Representative Ilagan, for the Committee on Economic Development & Technology, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1380) recommending that S.B. No. 1038, SD 1, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 1038, SD 1, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO PRIVACY," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, with Representatives Cochran and Ward being excused.

ADJOURNMENT

At 12:42 p.m., on motion by Representative Morikawa, seconded by Representative Garcia and carried, the House of Representatives adjourned until noon tomorrow, Thursday, March 20, 2025. (Representatives Cochran and Ward were excused.)