

FIFTY-FIRST DAY

Tuesday, April 15, 2025

The House of Representatives of the Thirty-Third Legislature of the State of Hawai'i, Regular Session of 2025, convened at 11:40 a.m., with Vice Speaker Ichiyama presiding.

The Roll was called showing all members present with the exception of Representative Cochran, who was excused.

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

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGES

The following message from the Governor (Gov. Msg. No. 11) was received and announced by the Clerk and was placed on file:

Gov. Msg. No. 11, dated April 14, 2025, informing the House that the Hawai'i State Teachers Association and the employer have reached an agreement concerning the re-opener for Employer-Union Trust Fund contribution amounts for Collective Bargaining Unit 5, and transmitting a proposed H.B. No. 1031, HD 1, SD 1, CD 1, to reflect EUTF amounts.

SENATE COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications from the Senate (Sen. Com. Nos. 780 and 781) were received and announced by the Clerk:

Sen. Com. No. 780, dated April 14, 2025, informing the House that the Senate has disagreed to the amendments proposed by the House to the following Senate Concurrent Resolutions:

S.C.R. No. 50, HD 1
S.C.R. No. 153, HD 1
S.C.R. No. 180, SD 1, HD 1

Sen. Com. No. 781, dated April 11, 2025, informing the House that the President has appointed as conferees on the part of the Senate, for the consideration of amendments proposed by the Senate to the following House Bill:

H.B. No. 300, Dela Cruz, Chair;
HD 1, SD 1 Moriwaki, Co-Chair;
Aquino, DeCoite, Elefante, Hashimoto, Inouye,
Kanuha, Kidani, Kim, Lee, C., Wakai, Fevella

INTRODUCTIONS

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

Representative Iwamoto introduced her staff: Kate Ozawa and Colby Sameshima.

Representative Kusch introduced his staff: JB Araula, Teshira Smallwood, and Haruna Koshikawa.

Representative Quinlan introduced Gino Soquena, Hawai'i Building & Construction Trades Council; and Cody Sula, Iron Workers Stabilization Fund.

ORDER OF THE DAY

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Representative Sayama, for the Committee on Labor, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2104) recommending that S.C.R. No. 163, SD 1 be adopted.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.C.R. No. 163, SD 1, entitled: "SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE COUNTIES TO ADOPT FLEXIBLE SETBACK REQUIREMENTS OR ESTABLISH VARIANCE PROCEDURES FOR STATE BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES TO ENHANCE LAND USE

EFFICIENCY AND PUBLIC SERVICE DELIVERY," was adopted, with Representative Cochran being excused.

Representative Sayama, for the Committee on Labor, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2105) recommending that S.C.R. No. 143, SD 1 be adopted.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.C.R. No. 143, SD 1, entitled: "SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION URGING ALL BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS TO CONDUCT ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REVIEWS OF THEIR EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS OR PERSONS HOLDING EQUIVALENT POSITIONS EXEMPT FROM CIVIL SERVICE LAW," was adopted, with Representative Cochran being excused.

Representative Sayama, for the Committee on Labor, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2106) recommending that S.C.R. No. 55 be adopted.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.C.R. No. 55, entitled: "SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT TO CONDUCT A COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF THE BOILER AND ELEVATOR INSPECTION BRANCH TO INCREASE PERSONNEL RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION," was adopted, with Representative Cochran being excused.

Representative Sayama, for the Committee on Labor, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2107) recommending that S.C.R. No. 67, SD 1 be adopted.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.C.R. No. 67, SD 1, entitled: "SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT AND THE STATE AGENCIES COMPRISING THE STATE'S PUBLIC MENTAL HEALTH CARE SYSTEM TO COOPERATE MORE CLOSELY TO DETERMINE THE NECESSARY ACTIONS TO EXPEDITE THE HIRING AND FILLING OF CRITICAL VACANCIES, INCLUDING SOLUTIONS TO ADDRESS THE OBSTACLES AND CHALLENGES UNIQUE TO THE MENTAL HEALTH CARE WORKFORCE," was adopted, with Representative Cochran being excused.

Representative Sayama, for the Committee on Labor, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2108) recommending that S.C.R. No. 135, SD 1 be adopted.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.C.R. No. 135, SD 1, entitled: "SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION URGING ALL STATE DEPARTMENTS TO PARTNER WITH THE OFFICE OF WELLNESS AND RESILIENCE FOR SECURE AND APPROPRIATE DATA SHARING AGREEMENTS," was adopted, with Representative Cochran being excused.

Representative Ilagan, for the Committee on Economic Development & Technology, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2109) recommending that S.C.R. No. 196, SD 1 be adopted.

Representative Todd moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.C.R. No. 196, SD 1 be adopted, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise in opposition. It's not easy to oppose something, especially when I know that this is just a resolution. But I just want to draw attention to our efforts here to focus on the people of Hawai'i

and the many challenges that we have. So, that's my purpose of opposing this. Thank you, Madam Speaker."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and S.C.R. No. 196, SD 1, entitled: "SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION SUPPORTING AND ENCOURAGING A BROADER RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE STATE AND THE KINGDOM OF NORWAY," was adopted, with Representatives Garcia and Shimizu voting no, and with Representative Cochran being excused.

Representative Ilagan, for the Committee on Economic Development & Technology, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2110) recommending that S.C.R. No. 195 be adopted.

Representative Todd moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.C.R. No. 195 be adopted, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

Representative Shimizu 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.C.R. No. 195, entitled: "SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION SUPPORTING AND ENCOURAGING A BROADER RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE STATE AND THE KINGDOM OF SWEDEN," was adopted, with Representatives Garcia and Shimizu voting no, and with Representative Cochran being excused.

Representative Ilagan, for the Committee on Economic Development & Technology, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2111) recommending that S.C.R. No. 30 be adopted.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.C.R. No. 30, entitled: "SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE COMMANDER OF JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM TO ALLOW THE DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU TO USE THE RESTRICTED VACANT LAND ON THE PEARL CITY PENINSULA FOR YOUTH BALL PROGRAMS," was adopted, with Representative Cochran being excused.

Representative Ilagan, for the Committee on Economic Development & Technology, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2112) recommending that S.C.R. No. 40 be adopted.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.C.R. No. 40, entitled: "SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE HAWAII TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION TO INCREASE ITS FOCUS ON ADVANCED MANUFACTURING AND CYBERSECURITY TO ALLOW LOCAL MANUFACTURERS TO EXPAND PRODUCTION, LOWER COSTS, AND CREATE NEW PRODUCTS," was adopted, with Representative Cochran being excused.

Representative Ilagan, for the Committee on Economic Development & Technology, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2113) recommending that S.C.R. No. 178, SD 1 be adopted.

Representative Todd moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.C.R. No. 178, SD 1 be adopted, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

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

Representative Shimizu rose to speak in support of the measure with reservations, stating:

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. With reservations and a brief comment. I totally appreciate the East-West Center and the efforts. I would hope that

they would focus on the East-West mission of our Asia-Pacific area. Thank you, Madam Speaker."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and S.C.R. No. 178, SD 1, entitled: "SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION URGING THE EAST-WEST CENTER TO EXPAND INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENT AROUND THE WORLD AND SERVE AS A BRIDGE TO HELP THE STATE SHARE ITS UNIQUE EXPERTISE WITH TROPICAL AGRICULTURE, FOOD SECURITY, PUBLIC HEALTH, EDUCATION, CLEAN ENERGY, AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, WHERE IT MIGHT BE MOST HELPFUL TO OTHER COMMUNITIES AROUND THE WORLD," was adopted, with Representative Shimizu voting aye with reservations, with Representatives Garcia and Pierick voting no, and with Representative Cochran being excused.

Representative Ilagan, for the Committee on Economic Development & Technology, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2114) recommending that S.C.R. No. 65 be adopted.

Representative Todd moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.C.R. No. 65 be adopted, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

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

"Thank you, in strong support. And may I please request permission to insert written comments into the Journal. Thank you."

Representative Holt's written remarks are as follows:

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise today in strong support of the redevelopment of Aloha Stadium and the creation of the surrounding entertainment district—a visionary project that will not only revitalize a historic venue, but also transform an underutilized area into a dynamic hub of sports, culture, and commerce for the people of Hawai'i.

"For decades, Aloha Stadium has been more than just a structure—it has been a gathering place. A site where generations have come together to cheer for the University of Hawai'i Warriors, to attend world-class concerts, and to celebrate community. But like all aging infrastructure, the stadium has reached a critical point. The time for patchwork repairs has passed. We must look to the future with boldness, not band-aids.

"The redevelopment project presents a once-in-a-generation opportunity. Not only will we build a modern, multi-purpose stadium capable of hosting sporting events, concerts, and festivals, but the surrounding entertainment district will breathe new life into this region. With thoughtful planning and community input, we envision a vibrant neighborhood—complete with housing, retail, restaurants, open green spaces, and year-round activities that will create jobs and stimulate our local economy.

"This is about more than just construction. It's about creating opportunity—for workers, for small businesses, for families, and for future generations. It's about building a space that reflects the unique culture and spirit of Hawai'i—a place where local and visitor alike can experience the best of what we have to offer.

"Moreover, this project exemplifies smart public-private partnership. It represents responsible investment and long-term vision. It will generate revenue, not just expenses. And it can serve as a model for how we approach large-scale infrastructure projects moving forward—with transparency, community engagement, and a commitment to sustainability.

"Let us honor the legacy of Aloha Stadium by building something worthy of its name. Let us invest in a future where our *keiki* can play, our artists can perform, our communities can thrive, and our stories can be shared.

"I urge my colleagues to support the continued redevelopment of Aloha Stadium and the creation of the surrounding entertainment district. Together, we can turn this vision into a reality."

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.C.R. No. 65, entitled: "SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION URGING THE STADIUM AUTHORITY TO FINALIZE A CONTRACT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE NEW ALOHA STADIUM AND TO CONTINUE ITS EFFORTS IN EARNEST TO CREATE THE NEW ALOHA STADIUM ENTERTAINMENT DISTRICT," was adopted, with Representatives Iwamoto and Pierick voting no, and with Representative Cochran being excused.

Representative Ilagan, for the Committee on Economic Development & Technology, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2115) recommending that S.C.R. No. 24, SD 1 be adopted.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.C.R. No. 24, SD 1, entitled: "SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION STRONGLY URGING THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE TO MAINTAIN ALL REFERENCES TO THE 100TH INFANTRY BATTALION AND 442ND REGIMENTAL COMBAT TEAM ON ITS WEBSITES FOR THE PUBLIC," was adopted, with Representative Cochran being excused.

Representative Kapela, for the Committee on Culture & Arts, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2116) recommending that S.C.R. No. 112, SD 1, as amended in HD 1, be adopted.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.C.R. No. 112, SD 1, HD 1, entitled: "SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU TO LIGHT UP CITY HALL WITH PURPLE LIGHTS ON AUGUST 7, 2025, IN HONOR OF NATIONAL PURPLE HEART DAY," was adopted, with Representative Cochran being excused.

Representative Kapela, for the Committee on Culture & Arts, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2117) recommending that S.C.R. No. 131 be adopted.

Representative Todd moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.C.R. No. 131 be adopted, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

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.C.R. No. 131, entitled: "SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION URGING THE STATE TO ACQUIRE THE HAWAII THEATRE TO PROMOTE LOCAL CULTURE AND ARTS, PRESERVE ITS HISTORIC AND CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE, AND FACILITATE ITS CONTINUED PUBLIC USE," was adopted, with Representatives Garcia and Pierick voting no, and with Representative Cochran being excused.

Representative Kapela, for the Committee on Culture & Arts, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2118) recommending that S.C.R. No. 169, SD 1 be adopted.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.C.R. No. 169, SD 1, entitled: "SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE STATE ARCHIVES TO EXPAND PUBLIC OUTREACH, SHARE HAWAII'S HISTORY THAT MAY PROVE RELEVANT TODAY, CREATE OPPORTUNITIES FOR PUBLIC DISCUSSION AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT, AND EVALUATE FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES TO SUPPORT ITS MISSION," was adopted, with Representative Cochran being excused.

Representative Kapela, for the Committee on Culture & Arts, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2119) recommending that S.C.R. No. 12, SD 1, as amended in HD 1, be adopted.

Representative Todd moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.C.R. No. 12, SD 1, HD 1 be adopted, 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.C.R. No. 12, SD 1, HD 1, entitled: "SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING INTERNATIONAL DARK SKY WEEK," was adopted, with Representative Pierick voting no, and with Representative Cochran being excused.

Representative Kapela, for the Committee on Culture & Arts, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2120) recommending that S.C.R. No. 197, SD 1, as amended in HD 1, be adopted.

Representative Todd moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.C.R. No. 197, SD 1, HD 1 be adopted, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

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

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

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

Representative Shimizu 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.C.R. No. 197, SD 1, HD 1, entitled: "SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING JUNE 21, 2025, AS INDIGENOUS PEOPLE'S DAY, JULY 1, 2025, AS CANADA DAY, AND SEPTEMBER 30, 2025, AS TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION DAY, IN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE ENDURING FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN THE PEOPLE OF CANADA AND HAWAII, THE INDEPENDENT SOVEREIGNTY AND SELF-DETERMINATION OF THE PEOPLE OF CANADA, AND A COMMITMENT TO NEVER AGAIN ALLOW THE SOVEREIGN RIGHT OF A PEOPLE TO SELF DETERMINATION TO BE TAKEN AGAINST THEIR WILL," was adopted, with Representatives Garcia, Matsumoto, Muraoka, Pierick, and Shimizu voting no, and with Representative Cochran being excused.

ADJOURNMENT

At 11:48 a.m., on motion by Representative Morikawa, seconded by Representative Garcia and carried, the House of Representatives adjourned until 11:30 a.m. tomorrow, Wednesday, April 16, 2025. (Representative Cochran was excused.)