

**HAWAII STATE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

REGULAR SESSION OF 2026

***ROUGH DRAFT
JOURNAL***

**FOURTEENTH DAY
FEBRUARY 12, 2026**

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CLERK

BT

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FOURTEENTH DAY

Thursday, February 12, 2026

The House of Representatives of the Thirty-Third Legislature of the State of Hawai'i, Regular Session of 2026, convened at 12:08 p.m., with Vice Speaker Ichiyama presiding.

The Roll was called showing all members present.

On motion by Representative Morikawa, seconded by Representative Garcia and carried, reading of the Journal was dispensed with and the Journals of the Fourth and Fifth Days were approved.

SENATE COMMUNICATIONS

The following communication from the Senate (Sen. Com. No. 4) was received and announced by the Clerk:

Sen. Com. No. 4, transmitting S.B. No. 2723, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO STATE SHERIFFS DAY," which passed Third Reading in the Senate on February 11, 2026.

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

S.B. No. 2723

INTRODUCTIONS

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

Representative La Chica introduced students from Hawai'i Technology Academy: Andre, Aaliyah, Ronnie, Karsen, Case, Kalani, Maxwell, Rae-Marie, Aili, Masen, Karly, Jhenaea, Alana, August, Zaylee, Emma, Ikaika, Kai-IO, Eliana, Daniella, Selena, Logan Ligia, Zachary, Myla, Narai, Mikaela, Alana, Alexander, Piper, O'rian, and Lily; their teachers: Ashley Trotter and Danny Gartner; and her staff, Toša Lobendahn.

Representative Takayama introduced Heide Weber, member, Pearl City Neighborhood Board; and her daughter Piper.

Representative Gedeon introduced Phil and Elaine Fukushima, owners, Iron Bottom Spirits, from Kailua-Kona.

Representative Quinlan introduced former Representative Cedric Gates.

Representative Chun introduced members of the Nineteenth Cohort of the Agriculture Leadership Program: Lehua Abrigo, Mason Mario Alfaro, Clayton Allencastre, Jr., Jessica Araszewski, Bonarath "Bo" Bory, Justin Patrick Brown, Rachel Fukumoto, Judah Seth Lum, Jesse Pili'aloa Mikasobe-Keali'inohomoku, Christen Noelani Oliviera Reppun, Jillian Scheibe, Francesca Scola, Chelsea Geston Takahashi, and Shaun Wilcox.

Representative Kila introduced Mason Alfaro, Lydgate Farms.

Representative Reyes Oda introduced Noelle Zimdahl, parent chaperone with Hawai'i Technology Academy.

Representative Hartsfield introduced her staff, Ma Abara.

ORDER OF THE DAY

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Representative Woodson, for the Committee on Education, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 202-26) recommending that H.B. No. 2391, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Economic Development & Technology.

On motion by Representative Kahaloa, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 2391, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Economic Development & Technology.

Representative Woodson, for the Committee on Education, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 203-26) recommending that H.B. No. 2294, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Water & Land.

On motion by Representative Kahaloa, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 2294, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC SCHOOL LAND TRANSFER," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Water & Land.

Representative Woodson, for the Committee on Education, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 204-26) recommending that H.B. No. 2374, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Water & Land.

On motion by Representative Kahaloa, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 2374, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Water & Land.

Representative Woodson, for the Committee on Education, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 205-26) recommending that H.B. No. 1997, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Public Safety.

On motion by Representative Kahaloa, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 1997, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Public Safety.

Representative Woodson, for the Committee on Education, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 206-26) recommending that H.B. No. 2147, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 2147, HD 1 pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

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

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

"No vote. This bill will increase taxes. I'm against increasing taxes. I'm voting no."

Representative Matsumoto 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 an aye vote with reservations for her, and the Chair "so ordered."

Representative Gedeon rose and asked that the Clerk record an aye vote with reservations 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."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 2147, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT PROPOSING AMENDMENTS TO ARTICLES VIII AND X OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE STATE OF HAWAII TO AUTHORIZE THE LEGISLATURE TO ESTABLISH A SURCHARGE ON RESIDENTIAL INVESTMENT PROPERTY TO INCREASE FUNDING FOR PUBLIC EDUCATION," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, with Representatives

Gedeon, Matsumoto, Muraoka, and Reyes Oda voting aye with reservations, and with Representatives Alcos, Garcia, and Pierick voting no.

Representative Woodson, for the Committee on Education, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 207-26) recommending that H.B. No. 2185, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

On motion by Representative Kahaloo, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 2185, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO SPORTS OFFICIALS," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Representative Kila, for the Committee on Transportation, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 208-26) recommending that H.B. No. 1641, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Representative Kahaloo moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 1641, HD 1 pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, 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 H.B. No. 1641, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, with Representative Pierick voting no.

Representative Kila, for the Committee on Transportation, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 209-26) recommending that H.B. No. 2195, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Tourism.

Representative Kahaloo moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 2195, HD 1 pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Tourism, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

Representative Alcos 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 opposition to the measure, stating:

"Thank you, Madam Chair. Opposed with comment. With great respect to the Transportation chair, I oppose this bill because we just increased the TAT on, well, actually, we just instigated a TAT on cruise industry last year. And I feel like this is maybe too premature to consider this as we are trying to balance our tourism industry and taxing, which I guess our caucus is definitely against increasing taxes. So, no vote, please."

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

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

"*Mahalo*, Madam Speaker. In support and brief comment. The proposed measure would repeal the current TAT on the cruise ships. *Mahalo*."

Representative Souza rose and asked that the Clerk record an aye vote with reservations for her, 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, stating:

"I stand corrected and apologize to the Transportation chair and my colleagues for misunderstanding this. I will change my vote to support."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 2195, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Tourism, with Representatives Reyes Oda and Souza voting aye with reservations, and with Representatives Alcos, Garcia, Gedeon, Muraoka, and Pierick voting no.

Representative Kila, for the Committee on Transportation, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 210-26) recommending that H.B. No. 2023, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Representative Kahaloo moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 2023, HD 1 pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

Representative Cochran 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 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 H.B. No. 2023, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, with Representatives Amato and Cochran voting aye with reservations, and with Representative Pierick voting no.

Representative Kila, for the Committee on Transportation, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 211-26) recommending that H.B. No. 2031, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

On motion by Representative Kahaloo, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 2031, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Representative Kila, for the Committee on Transportation, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 212-26) recommending that H.B. No. 2033, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

On motion by Representative Kahaloo, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 2033, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Representative Kila, for the Committee on Transportation, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 213-26) recommending that H.B. No. 1937, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Education.

Representative Kahaloo moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 1937, HD 1 pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Education, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

Representative Garcia 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 an aye vote with reservations for her, and the Chair "so ordered."

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

Representative Gedeon rose and asked that the Clerk record an aye vote with reservations 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 Muraoka 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 H.B. No. 1937, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO TAXES," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Education, with Representatives Gedeon, Matsumoto, and Reyes Oda voting aye with reservations, and with Representatives Alcos, Garcia, Muraoka, and Pierick voting no.

Representative Kila, for the Committee on Transportation, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 214-26) recommending that H.B. No. 2586, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 2586, HD 1 pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, 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 an aye vote with reservations for her, and the Chair "so ordered."

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

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

Representative Cochran rose and asked that the Clerk record a no vote 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 H.B. No. 2586, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, with Representatives Gedeon, Matsumoto, Muraoka, and Reyes Oda voting aye with reservations, and with Representatives Alcos, Cochran, Garcia, and Pierick voting no.

Representative Kila, for the Committee on Transportation, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 215-26) recommending that H.B. No. 2575, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Economic Development & Technology.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 2575, HD 1 pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Economic Development & Technology, 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 an aye vote with reservations for her, and the Chair "so ordered."

Representative Alcos 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 Gedeon rose and asked that the Clerk record an aye vote with reservations for him, 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 Souza 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 H.B. No. 2575, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Economic Development & Technology, with Representatives Gedeon, Matsumoto, Reyes Oda, and Souza voting aye with reservations, and with Representatives Alcos, Garcia, Muraoka, and Pierick voting no.

Representative Kila, for the Committee on Transportation, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 216-26) recommending that H.B. No. 2030, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 2030, HD 1 pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection, 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 Alcos rose and asked that the Clerk record an aye vote with reservations for him, and the Chair "so ordered."

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

"Thank you, Madam Chair. Opposition with brief comment. Again, with great respect to my Transportation chair, I am opposed to this because I don't think this clean vehicles needs any more promotion. Free market determines it. And you see a lot of Teslas already on the road. There's no reason to continually promote this. So, that's my opposition. Thank you."

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

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

"Thank you, Chair. I just want to put on record, I know during committee I was with reservations, But I recently re-read the bill and I am now in support."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 2030, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION AFFORDABILITY," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection, with Representatives Alcos, Gedeon,

Matsumoto, and Muraoka voting aye with reservations, and with Representatives Garcia, Pierick, and Shimizu voting no.

Representative Marten, for the Committee on Human Services & Homelessness, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 217-26) recommending that H.B. No. 2115, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Finance.

On motion by Representative Kahaloe, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 2115, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Finance.

Representative Marten, for the Committee on Human Services & Homelessness, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 218-26) recommending that H.B. No. 2233, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Higher Education.

Representative Kahaloe moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 2233, HD 1 pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Higher Education, 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 H.B. No. 2233, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM-EDUCATION PROGRAM," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Higher Education, with Representative Pierick voting no.

Representative Marten, for the Committee on Human Services & Homelessness, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 219-26) recommending that H.B. No. 1801, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Finance.

On motion by Representative Kahaloe, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 1801, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CHILD WELFARE SERVICES," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Finance.

Representative Marten, for the Committee on Human Services & Homelessness, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 220-26) recommending that H.B. No. 1546, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Representative Kahaloe moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 1546, HD 1 pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

Representative Garcia rose and asked that the Clerk record an aye vote with reservations for him, 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."

Representative Pierick 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 H.B. No. 1546, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH INSURANCE," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, with Representatives Alcos, Garcia, and Pierick voting aye with reservations.

Representative Marten, for the Committee on Human Services & Homelessness, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 221-26) recommending that H.B. No. 2132, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Representative Kahaloe moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 2132, HD 1 pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

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

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

"Thank you, Madam Chair. Opposition with a brief comment. I actually signed on this bill because I thought it was great to have more people registered in an easier way. My concerns arise from the amendments that were made in the past committee, and with all due respect to the chair there.

"I feel like the changes that were made to this bill is of concern because we want to make sure that people that are voting are citizens, they're legitimate. Of course, we want to open it up and encourage as many people to vote as possible. But I think it's very, very important, and as you even listen to people that testify on the Elections Commission, they are concerned about making sure that the right to vote is honored and respected for citizens only. And I just feel like some of this language might weaken that safeguard. Thank you."

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

"In opposition and can I adopt the comments of my colleague as my own."

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

"Thank you. In strong support with brief comments. At a time when we are seeing the federal administration attacking state voting election systems, this bill demonstrates a commitment to ensuring that our people can vote, that registration is simple. We know across states that there are different ways. And here in Hawai'i, we value and appreciate the opportunities to allow all of our residents to make it easy and simple for them to register to vote.

"Madam Speaker, as we look at voting registration systems across the nation, and we see that things like signature verifications are being challenged, when we see populations of people who now no longer know how to do cursive. All of these impediments that are being placed in front of voters to register to vote are not real problems. So, the bills that we are passing to improve voter registration, to open it up, recognizes that we have safe systems. And any suggestions that we don't smack of conspiracy. And that this measure is one that will ensure that we can have a strong voting system in this state. Thank you, Madam Speaker."

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

"In opposition. We already have automatic voter registration here in Hawai'i, but the only difference that this bill makes is it changes it from an opt in to an opt out. I believe that it should remain an opt-in process. When somebody gets a driver's license or an ID, a voter application is attached to that and they can choose not to do so if they want, but it should be their choice. This bill would automatically register them unless they say, I don't want to vote.

"And I fear that this would just increase a lot more mail-in ballots out there for those who may not want to be voting or want to engage in the

process. We should encourage voting, and we have tried to do that through previous legislation in 2019 by going to all-mail voting, and well, Hawai'i still has one of the lowest turnouts nationwide. So, it's not a matter of not voting, it's a matter of choice. And people should have the choice to opt in when they do their driver's license or get their ID. So, for those reasons, a no vote."

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

"Thank you very much. In support. I wanted to address the comment earlier that it's not restricted to citizens. The amendments made were just to be consistent with federal law that allows attestation of citizenship. And so that's all that was done is this bill was brought into compliance with federal law."

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. In support. I just want to note that you still have a choice whether or not you want to vote. Just because you have access and you will be registered to vote, you will once again have a choice whether or not you use that access. This brings the opportunity for people to be able to use their voice, whether they want to do that to vote or if they choose not to vote, they can still make that choice for themselves. But this bill doesn't take away that choice for them."

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

"In support, Madam Speaker, with a brief comment. I do believe that people should have a choice to opt out instead of opt in."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 2132, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO VOTING," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, with Representative Reyes Oda voting aye with reservations, and with Representatives Alcos, Garcia, Gedeon, Matsumoto, Muraoka, Pierick, and Shimizu voting no.

Representative Evslin, for the Committee on Housing, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 222-26) recommending that H.B. No. 2102, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Water & Land.

On motion by Representative Kahaloe, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 2102, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HISTORIC PRESERVATION," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Water & Land.

Representative Belatti, for the Committee on Public Safety, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 223-26) recommending that H.B. No. 2356, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Labor.

On motion by Representative Kahaloe, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 2356, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO OFFENDER REENTRY," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Labor.

Representative Belatti, for the Committee on Public Safety, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 224-26) recommending that H.B. No. 2457, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Higher Education.

On motion by Representative Kahaloe, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 2457, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Higher Education.

Representative Belatti, for the Committee on Public Safety, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 225-26) recommending that H.B. No. 2292, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Labor.

On motion by Representative Kahaloe, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 2292, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE HAWAII EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Labor.

Representative Belatti, for the Committee on Public Safety, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 226-26) recommending that H.B. No. 2554, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Representative Kahaloe moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 2554, HD 1 pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

"Thank you. I stand in strong support with brief comment, please. So, first off, I just want to *mahalo* the representative from House District 26 and her entire Public Safety Committee for pushing this bill forward. I just wanted this body to realize and be aware that Hawai'i is among one of the states with the highest per capita rates of missing persons, including both residents and visitors, and thereby hence the need for this bill to move forward.

"Currently, our search and rescue efforts are very fragmented. And the need for improvements with inter-agency communication and mission-critical coordination with urban, maritime, wilderness search and rescue, along with missing persons investigations, are critical. Hawai'i's approximately \$20 million in annual visitor economy is generated and \$2.4 billion in state tax revenue every year depends on maintaining our great reputation as a very safe place to visit. One of the testifiers at a committee mentioned that we are the number one state chosen for Make-A-Wish Foundation for them to come and travel to.

"And unfortunately, we are a very dangerous outlier in the sense that we do not have an inland search and rescue operation. We give \$43 million to ocean safety and nothing to state inland search and rescue coordination. So, with that being said, I just wanted to highlight the dire need for us to push this bill forward because it really will address literally life and death situations here. *Mahalo*."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 2554, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO SEARCH AND RESCUE," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Representatives Belatti and Marten, for the Committee on Public Safety and the Committee on Human Services & Homelessness, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 227-26) recommending that H.B. No. 676, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Representative Kahaloe moved that the report of the Committees be adopted, and that H.B. No. 676, HD 1 pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

Representative Garcia rose and asked that the Clerk record an aye vote with reservations for him, 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 Committees was adopted and H.B. No. 676, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO YOUTH AND ADULT CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, with Representatives Alcos and Garcia voting aye with reservations.

Representative Tarnas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 228-26) recommending that H.B. No. 1528, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Finance.

On motion by Representative Kahaloe, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 1528, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE VI, SECTION 3, OF THE HAWAII STATE CONSTITUTION TO INCREASE THE MANDATORY RETIREMENT AGE FOR STATE JUSTICES AND JUDGES," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Finance.

Representative Tarnas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 229-26) recommending that H.B. No. 2061, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Finance.

Representative Kahaloe moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 2061, HD 1 pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Finance, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

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

Representative Souza 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 an aye vote with reservations 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 Kila 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 H.B. No. 2061, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO FIREARMS," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Finance, with Representatives Alcos, Kila, Matsumoto, Reyes Oda, Shimizu, and Souza voting aye with reservations, and with Representatives Garcia, Gedeon, Muraoka, and Pierick voting no.

Representative Tarnas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 230-26) recommending that H.B. No. 2094, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Finance.

On motion by Representative Kahaloe, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 2094, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO JURY DUTY," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Finance.

Representative Tarnas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 231-26) recommending that H.B. No. 2095, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Finance.

On motion by Representative Kahaloe, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 2095, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE JUDICIARY," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Finance.

Representative Tarnas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 232-26) recommending that H.B. No. 2181, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Finance.

On motion by Representative Kahaloe, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 2181, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE JUDICIARY," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Finance.

Representative Tarnas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 233-26) recommending that H.B. No. 2369, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Finance.

Representative Kahaloe moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 2369, HD 1 pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Finance, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

Representative Garcia 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 H.B. No. 2369, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO PURCHASE OF SERVICE CONTRACTS BY THE JUDICIARY," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Finance, with Representative Garcia voting aye with reservations.

Representative Tarnas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 234-26) recommending that H.B. No. 2578, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Finance.

On motion by Representative Kahaloe, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 2578, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO DUE PROCESS FOR ESTABLISHING PERSONAL LIABILITY FOR TAX," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Finance.

Representative Tarnas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 235-26) recommending that H.B. No. 2493, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Public Safety.

Representative Kahaloe moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 2493, HD 1 pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Public Safety, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

"Thank you, Speaker. I was able to vote on this on a previous committee. And I rise with reservations because a very recent incident had occurred on Maui with a man who was wrongfully convicted. I think he spent 20 years out of his 30-year sentence and came out and just passed in December of this year. He died before even getting his compensation. And so, it's like a failure of the system in itself. So, definitely we need to visit this bill. And I think one of the terms that I had problems with during committee discussion was grounds consistent with innocence versus actually innocent. So, for me, that's problematic, and my reasons for my WR at this time. Thank you."

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

Representative Pierick 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 H.B. No. 2493, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO WRONGFUL IMPRISONMENT," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Public Safety, with Representatives Cochran, Garcia, and Pierick voting aye with reservations.

Representative Matayoshi, for the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 236-26)

recommending that H.B. No. 1642, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 1642, HD 1 pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

Representative Iwamoto rose to disclose a potential conflict of interest, stating:

"Madam Speaker, I rise pursuant to House Rule 62.5. I'd like to request to be recused from voting on this bill, related to consumer protections, because of a direct personal financial interest. So, I actually hold shares in a mutual fund that buys and sells Bitcoin. And I didn't realize that this bill would impact the value of those shares potentially because Bitcoin would be affected by this. So, for that reason, I am requesting to be recused on this vote and all votes on this bill moving forward."

The Chair addressed Representative Iwamoto, stating:

"Representative Iwamoto, pursuant to House Rule 62.5, a conflict of interest does not arise where the measure applies to a broader class. In this situation, you are a member of a broad class of mutual fund shareholders, so a conflict of interest does exist. And therefore, pursuant to Rule 54.4, which states that no member shall refrain from voting unless excused pursuant to Rule 62.6, you will not be recused from this vote."

Representative Iwamoto then stated:

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. Pursuant to Rule 62.6, I would like to voice my appeal. As a member of this body, I'd like to appeal the ruling of the Speaker."

The Chair addressed Representative Iwamoto, stating:

"So just to clarify, you're requesting an appeal of the Chair's ruling that you do not have a conflict of interest."

Representative Iwamoto: "Right. I feel I do have a conflict of interest, and I'd like to register my appeal."

At this time, Representative Iwamoto appealed the ruling of the Chair.

The Chair then stated:

"Members, there has been an appeal of the ruling of the Chair to rule that there is no conflict of interest. Is there any discussion?"

Representative Iwamoto rose, stating:

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. So, when I served on the Board of Education for five years, I did own shares in a student transportation company, and I recused myself from voting on any item or even discussing. And I understand that here we're allowed to discuss, and I am grateful that there is an opportunity for me to seek a recusal.

"I find this to be very similar, because I have substantial holdings in this mutual fund that solely buys and sells Bitcoin and would be impacted by this bill. I feel given the public scrutiny around these issues of self-dealing, perhaps, as a representative, and also, just to make it clear, when I came into this body, before voting on any issues, I did have an asset that I donated to a nonprofit because I didn't want to have a conflict because that asset would have made me a landlord who takes--"

The Chair addressed Representative Iwamoto, stating:

"Representative Iwamoto, if you could restrain your comments to this particular measure and this issue."

Representative Iwamoto continued, stating:

"Sure, okay, yes. So that is my standard for me personally that I'd like to sustain in terms of when I recuse myself or when I'm allowed to be recused from voting on a bill.

"Madam Speaker, I'd like to request a roll call vote."

At this time, Representative Iwamoto requested a roll call vote.

At 12:38 p.m., the Chair declared a recess subject to the call of the Chair.

The House of Representatives reconvened at 12:43 p.m.

The request for roll call was put to vote by the Chair and upon a show of hands, the roll call was approved.

The Chair then stated:

"Members, we are going to take a roll call vote. Vote aye if you are in favor of the Chair's ruling. Vote no if you are opposed to the Chair's ruling."

Representative Pierick rose, stating:

"Can I ask a question? So, are we voting on her status as conflict of interest or the status of being recused?"

The Chair then stated:

"Representative Iwamoto has requested to be recused from the vote on the basis that she believes she has a conflict of interest. The Chair has ruled under the House Rules there is no conflict of interest when the law or bill before us applies to a broader class. So, because Representative Iwamoto is a member of a broader class, she does not have a conflict of interest, and therefore, under our rules, would be required to cast a vote.

"So that's the Chair's ruling, that there is no conflict of interest pursuant to our rules because she's a member of a broader class, and that's what we're voting on.

"Okay, so again, members, vote aye if you are in favor of the Chair's ruling, vote no if you're opposed to the Chair ruling."

Roll call having been approved, the appeal was defeated and the Chair's ruling was upheld on the following show of ayes and noes:

Ayes, 47: Alcos, Amato, Belatti, Chun, Evslin, Garrett, Gedeon, Grandinetti, Hartsfield, Hashem, Holt, Hussey, Ichiyama, Ilagan, Kahaloa, Kapela, Keohokapu-Lee Loy, Kila, Kitagawa, Kong, Kusch, La Chica, Lee, Lowen, Marten, Matayoshi, Matsumoto, Miyake, Morikawa, Muraoka, Nakamura, Olds, Perruso, Pierick, Poepoe, Quinlan, Reyes Oda, Sayama, Souza, Takayama, Takenouchi, Tam, Tarnas, Templo, Todd, Woodson, and Yamashita.

Noes, 4: Cochran, Garcia, Iwamoto, and Shimizu.

The Chair then stated:

"Members, the appeal has been defeated."

(Main Motion)

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 H.B. No. 1642, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CONSUMER PROTECTION," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, with Representatives Garcia and Pierick voting no.

Representative Matayoshi, for the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 237-26) recommending that H.B. No. 1991, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Finance.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 1991, HD 1 pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Finance, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

Representative Kong 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 H.B. No. 1991, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE LIQUOR TAX," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Finance, with Representative Kong voting no.

Representative Hashem, for the Committee on Water & Land, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 238-26) recommending that H.B. No. 1652, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Finance.

On motion by Representative Kahaloa, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 1652, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO STORMWATER MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Finance.

Representative Hashem, for the Committee on Water & Land, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 239-26) recommending that H.B. No. 2104, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 2104, HD 1 pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

Representative Garcia 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 H.B. No. 2104, 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 Garcia voting aye with reservations.

Representative Hashem, for the Committee on Water & Land, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 240-26) recommending that H.B. No. 2593, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 2593, HD 1 pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

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

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

Representative Gedeon 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 H.B. No. 2593, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO MAUNA KEA," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, with Representatives Garcia, Gedeon, Matsumoto, and Reyes Oda voting aye with reservations, and with Representatives Cochran and Souza voting no.

Representative Hashem, for the Committee on Water & Land, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 241-26) recommending that H.B. No. 1553, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Finance.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 1553, 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."

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

"Opposed with a brief comment, please. Madam Chair, with all due respect to my Judiciary chair, the reason I'm voting no on this is I feel that it's targeting golf courses that is an overreach. And in the testimony that was posed by Jordan Lerma, he is associated with the, I forget the organization, but it was a steward of the nēnē goose. And he testified that the presence of golf courses actually are positive, that there are more births, nēnē births on golf courses. He was a proponent of golf courses being good stewards of the land. So, that is my reason for opposition. Thank you, Madam Speaker."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 1553, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HABITAT CONSERVATION PLANS," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Finance, with Representatives Pierick and Shimizu voting no.

Representative Hashem, for the Committee on Water & Land, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 242-26) recommending that H.B. No. 1823, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 1823, 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 a no vote 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 H.B. No. 1823, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT ACT," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, with Representative Amato voting no.

Representative Hashem, for the Committee on Water & Land, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 243-26) recommending that H.B. No. 1918, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Finance.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 1918, HD 1 pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Finance, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. Opposed with a brief comment. Again, as I have been mentioning, the cost of living is the number one issue. And I just feel that this is going in the wrong direction. So that's the reason for my opposition. Thank you, Madam Speaker."

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

Representative Gedeon 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 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 H.B. No. 1918, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Finance, with Representative Reyes Oda voting aye with reservations, and with Representatives Alcos, Garcia, Gedeon, Matsumoto, Muraoka, Pierick, and Shimizu voting no.

Representative Kapela, for the Committee on Culture & Arts, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 244-26) recommending that H.B. No. 1860, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Finance.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 1860, 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 H.B. No. 1860, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE HAWAII SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Finance, with Representative Pierick voting no.

Representative Kapela, for the Committee on Culture & Arts, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 245-26) recommending that H.B. No. 2604, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Finance.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 2604, 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."

Representative Amato rose and asked that the Clerk record a no vote 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 H.B. No. 2604, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO PERFORMING ARTS," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Finance, with Representatives Amato and Pierick voting no.

Representative Kapela, for the Committee on Culture & Arts, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 246-26) recommending that H.B. No. 2605, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Finance.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 2605, 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 H.B. No. 2605, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE ARTS," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Finance, with Representative Pierick voting no.

Representative Kapela, for the Committee on Culture & Arts, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 247-26) recommending that H.B. No. 2001, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

On motion by Representative Kahaloa, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B.

No. 2001, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO LOVE MY LIBRARY DAY," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Representative Kapela, for the Committee on Culture & Arts, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 248-26) recommending that H.B. No. 2437, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Finance.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 2437, 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 H.B. No. 2437, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO ARTS EDUCATION," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Finance, with Representative Pierick voting no.

Representatives Tam and Hashem, for the Committee on Tourism and the Committee on Water & Land, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 249-26) recommending that H.B. No. 1947, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committees be adopted, and that H.B. No. 1947, HD 1 pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, 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 Muraoka 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 Gedeon rose and asked that the Clerk record an aye vote with reservations for him, 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."

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

Representative Souza 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 Committees was adopted and H.B. No. 1947, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO TOURISM," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, with Representatives Alcos, Gedeon, Matsumoto, Reyes Oda, Shimizu, and Souza voting aye with reservations, and with Representatives Garcia, Muraoka, and Pierick voting no.

Representative Garrett, for the Committee on Higher Education, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 250-26) recommending that H.B. No. 2384, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce and the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 2384, HD 1 pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce and the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. Support, brief comment, please. Thank you, Madam Speaker. This bill is about responding to reality, not creating it. The national landscape of college athletics has fundamentally changed through federal court rulings and conference restructuring. Name, image, likeness, also known as NIL, is no longer the operating model for Division I programs across the country theoretical. It is now part of the landscape.

"Yesterday, your Higher Education Committee held a hearing on the campus of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa and heard directly from student athletes about what this bill means for them about the cost of living, retention, and their desire to stay here and represent Hawai'i. If we choose not to act, we are not preserving the status quo, we're intentionally choosing to fall behind.

"Madam Speaker, this bill is not about chasing championships with public dollars. It's about giving our student athletes a fair opportunity to compete, to stay here, and to represent this state with pride. UH athletics is one of the most visible front doors to our university and to Hawai'i itself. Doing nothing has consequences. This bill provides structure and oversight so we can move forward responsibly and thoughtfully. I urge my colleagues to support this measure. Thank you."

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

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

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

"Same request, ma'am. In strong support," and the Chair "so ordered." (By reference only.)

Representative Souza rose in support of the measure and asked that the remarks of the Higher Education chair be entered into the Journal as her 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. 2384, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO STUDENT-ATHLETE COMPENSATION," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce and the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, with Representative Garcia voting aye with reservations.

Representatives Ilagan and Sayama, for the Committee on Economic Development & Technology and the Committee on Labor, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 251-26) recommending that H.B. No. 2473, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

On motion by Representative Kahaloe, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committees was adopted and H.B. No. 2473, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE RECOGNITION OF A HAWAIIAN SENSE OF PLACE," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Representative Ilagan, for the Committee on Economic Development & Technology, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 252-26) recommending that H.B. No. 2140, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Labor.

On motion by Representative Kahaloe, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 2140, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO ESSENTIAL PERMITTING POSITIONS," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Labor.

Representative Ilagan, for the Committee on Economic Development & Technology, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 253-26)

recommending that H.B. No. 1458, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Representative Kahaloe moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 1458, HD 1 pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

Representative Garcia rose and asked that the Clerk record an aye vote with reservations 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 H.B. No. 1458, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION OF ADVERTISING REVENUE BY MAJOR SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, with Representative Garcia voting aye with reservations, and with Representative Pierick voting no.

Representative Ilagan, for the Committee on Economic Development & Technology, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 254-26) recommending that H.B. No. 2603, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Water & Land.

On motion by Representative Kahaloe, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 2603, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO PERMITS," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Water & Land.

Representative Ilagan, for the Committee on Economic Development & Technology, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 255-26) recommending that H.B. No. 2411, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Labor.

Representative Kahaloe moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 2411, HD 1 pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Labor, 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 H.B. No. 2411, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Labor, with Representative Pierick voting no.

Representative Ilagan, for the Committee on Economic Development & Technology, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 256-26) recommending that H.B. No. 1611, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

On motion by Representative Kahaloe, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 1611, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Representative Ilagan, for the Committee on Economic Development & Technology, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 257-26) recommending that H.B. No. 2138, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Transportation.

On motion by Representative Kahaloe, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 2138, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Transportation.

Representative Ilagan, for the Committee on Economic Development & Technology, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 258-26)

recommending that H.B. No. 2141, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Higher Education.

On motion by Representative Kahaloa, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 2141, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO STATE ENTERPRISE ZONES," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Higher Education.

Representatives Lowen and Marten, for the Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection and the Committee on Human Services & Homelessness, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 259-26) recommending that H.B. No. 2284, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committees be adopted, and that H.B. No. 2284, HD 1 pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

"In opposition. Madam Speaker, there is no question that Hawai'i has the highest energy cost per consumer in the nation. Our families feel this every month when they open their bills. And for many, it has become a constant source of financial stress. While this bill is well-intentioned, and I admit that, it does not address the root causes of why energy costs are so high in the first place. Instead, it attempts to treat the symptoms while the state continues to pursue policies that further drive up the cost of energy.

"For years, we have pushed toward a 100% renewable energy goal without sufficient consideration for affordability, reliability, or real-world impacts on working families. As a result, the state has created an environment where energy costs continue to rise. And now we're asking the taxpayers to subsidize the consequences of our bad policy.

"I do not doubt that families do need assistance and support. Many do. But before expanding new programs, we must acknowledge that our own policies helped create this problem. And we must be willing to fix what is driving up costs, instead of layering subsidies on top of bad decisions. I'm also concerned that this bill does not clearly define income eligibility limits, leaving important questions unanswered about who qualifies and how taxpayer dollars will be spent.

"Until we are serious about addressing the root causes of Hawai'i's high energy costs and ensuring accountability and clarity in how public funds are used, I cannot support this measure. For these reasons, a no vote to subsidizing a problem that we created."

Representative Muraoka rose in opposition to the measure and asked that the remarks of the previous speaker be entered into the Journal as his own, and the Chair "so ordered." (By reference only.)

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. In support. Energy costs for renewable energy is cheaper than the cost for fossil fuel. This is easily verifiable. A lot of the costs, and though we do have issues with the cost of electricity in the state, we talk about it all the time in the Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection, this bill would help to address needs of very low-income individuals, individuals who are medically dependent on electricity who could be potentially life-threatening if they lost power. And also, potentially makes up for federal funding cuts to the federal LIHEAP program. Yeah, that's all. Thanks, in support."

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 Committees was adopted and H.B. No. 2284, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO ENERGY ASSISTANCE," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, with Representatives Garcia, Muraoka, and Pierick voting no.

Representative Lowen, for the Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 260-26) recommending that H.B. No. 1568, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 1568, HD 1 pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, 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 opposition to the measure, stating:

"I rise in opposition with a brief comment, please. Thank you, Madam Speaker. I believe, and we all have an opinion and forgive me if we differ in our opinions, it's nothing personal. But I believe liquefied natural gas is a viable option and HECO is working to utilize this resource in their retrofitting of their power plant out at Waiuu. So, the market and our sole-source electric company is going in that direction. And I think it's important for us to support them and help them reduce the cost of electricity that we know is the highest in the nation. So, that's my comment. Thank you, Madam Speaker."

Representative Kila rose in support of the measure with reservations and asked that his written remarks be inserted in the Journal, and the Chair "so ordered."

Representative Kila's written remarks are as follows:

"My reservations to this matter and measure largely pertains to the introduced version of this measure. As it is amended in the HD1, I think there is still some concerns but we need further discussion."

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."

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

Representative Garcia rose in opposition to the measure and asked that the remarks of the representative of Moanalua be entered into the Journal as his own, and the Chair "so ordered." (By reference only.)

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. In support. So, first of all, in case anyone didn't read the bill, we did amend it so it's no longer a ban on LNG. It was amended to ensure that any consideration of importing natural gas into the state is conducted in a manner that protects ratepayers, advances the state's clean energy goals, and safeguards Hawai'i's long-term economic and environmental interests.

"There have been a lot of claims made about how using LNG as a fuel source will reduce costs and emissions, but no concrete evidence has been provided to assure us that these claims are valid. This bill will protect ratepayers by making sure that should LNG imports or costs for infrastructure be approved, that all the claims that have been made will be true and that ratepayers will not be stuck with the cost of stranded assets, price increases due to the volatility of the market for fossil fuels, or missed opportunities for deeper savings that could be realized with the development

of local, non-imported, cleaner energy resources. And that the state will not backslide on our clean energy and climate goals.

"It also puts safeguards in place to protect neighbor island residents from bearing any increased costs due to the use of LNG on O'ahu. So, if you're concerned about electricity rates in the state, and if you support LNG, you should support this bill. Because it ensures that all the things that you've been led to believe about the benefits of bringing LNG to the state actually come to bear."

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

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. In support with further comments. I appreciate the remarks from the representatives from Moanalua and the adopted remarks from Kapolei, but I do want to respond to them directly by quoting from some of the testimony that was presented at the hearing recently on this measure. And the quote is from Dr. Benton Kealii Pang, who, as many know, is a noted ethnobotanist. He writes that, 'methane, marketed as "natural gas" or LNG, is a superpollutant with a global warming potential over 80 times that of carbon dioxide in the near term. Its full lifecycle climate impact can be worse than coal. Dramatically reducing methane emissions this decade is not just one option among many; it is a critical, time-sensitive action to slow feedback loops and buy our species the time we desperately need to adapt. To embrace it as a "bridge" is to light a fuse on a bridge we are still crossing.'

"There were many excellent comments made at the hearing. There's another one that I'd like to read into the Journal, because I do think it is important that we take note of it. And it's comments from the Imua Alliance. They note that, 'in 2024, the State announced an agreement between Governor Josh Green's administration and JERA Co., Inc. of Japan involving approximately \$2 billion in proposed grid upgrades and energy investments, including LNG-related infrastructure components.' Imua Alliance notes that, 'this agreement was not subjected to legislative approval, public hearings, or a formal public comment process.'

"And I also wanted to note the comments from GridLab, which I understand is like a research corporation in California. They note that taking the same amount of money that we would be expending on LNG infrastructure, or I should say, methane infrastructure, would be much better spent on simply building solar and wind, which we know will have an immediate climate impact and will also make life cheaper for all of our residents here in Hawai'i. Thank you very much."

Representative Shimizu rose, stating:

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. I stand corrected. I would like to change my vote from a no to a reservation, and I want to thank the chair for clarifying that information. And that's what I love about the opportunity to have debate and discuss and to learn. Because I'm always wanting to learn what is the truth, and I don't always get it right. I do my best to be diligent and review the information, but I know I don't catch it all. So, I appreciate the clarification, the correction, as it may. And based on the information that I am hearing, I am willing to change my vote from opposition to a yes with reservations. Thank you, Madam Speaker."

Representative Garcia rose to respond, stating:

"In opposition and just want to reiterate that the words I adopted was in opposition to the bill. Thank you."

Representative Cochran 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 H.B. No. 1568, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO ENERGY," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, with Representatives Alcos, Cochran, Gedeon, Kila, Matsumoto, Muraoka, Reyes Oda, and Shimizu voting aye with reservations, and with Representatives Garcia and Pierick voting no.

Representative Lowen, for the Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 261-26) recommending that H.B. No. 1924, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

On motion by Representative Kahaloe, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 1924, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO RECYCLING," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Representative Lowen, for the Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 262-26) recommending that H.B. No. 1928, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

On motion by Representative Kahaloe, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 1928, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO DEPOSIT BEVERAGE CONTAINER RECYCLING," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Representative Ilagan, for the Committee on Economic Development & Technology, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 263-26) recommending that H.B. No. 2570, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs and the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Representative Kahaloe moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 2570, HD 1 pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs and the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

"Thank you, in opposition. Okay, so gambling's a bad idea. It preys on the vulnerable and it disproportionately harms low-income families. Communities see increases in crime and domestic instability. Our state should protect people, not profit from their losses. I have a client who recently went to Vegas to gamble, and guess what? They won nothing. So, they spent money and didn't get anything back. It says in Proverbs 21:5, steady diligence leads to profit, but haste leads to poverty. I hope our state doesn't go towards the poverty level. I hope we help to improve the economy, and legalizing gambling won't do that."

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

Representative Templo 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 a no vote for her, and the Chair "so ordered."

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

"No vote with comment, please. I am so pleased to hear all of the no votes. I believe that this is a bad idea. We had testimony from the attorney general strongly opposing this bill, strong opposition from the prosecuting attorney, strong opposition from the HPD, comments from the Department of Health noting that scientifically proven that gambling addiction is an issue. We had opposition from DCCA, the Office of Consumer Protection, opposition from Nation of Hawai'i.

"So, I am emotional at this point, just hearing my colleagues rise in opposition to this bill. I believe it's a bad idea for us to sell out our people to make money off of their losses. And I know that income is always a concern, but we should never put our people in that position. We are here to protect them from vices like this and make wise decisions. So, I appreciate the support in opposition and thank you for the opportunity to share."

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

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

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

Representative Belatti rose and asked that the Clerk record a no vote 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 H.B. No. 2570, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO SPORTS WAGERING," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs and the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, with Representatives Chun, Souza, and Tam voting aye with reservations, and with Representatives Alcos, Belatti, Cochran, Garcia, Garrett, Gedeon, Grandinetti, Hussey, Kapela, Kila, Lowen, Marten, Matsumoto, Muraoka, Perruso, Pierick, Reyes Oda, Shimizu, Takayama, and Templo voting no.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Representative Kapela: "I would like to announce that tomorrow is our very first Hawaiian Day here at the Capitol, celebrating Native Hawaiians and also brought forward by the incredible members of the Native Hawaiian Caucus. We will have tabling, sponsored in part by OHA, on the Fourth Floor from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Bishop Museum will also be here. We will also have Native Hawaiian Charter students here visiting the Capitol.

"And then thank you so much to CNHA and the representative from Nanakuli for also putting together a concert of Mele at the Capitol happening just after floor, I believe at 1:00 p.m. So, please join us. Please welcome the students to your offices, they would love the opportunity to meet with you and get to know some of the things you're working on.

"Additionally, I also want to note that we have picked a date for Art at the Capitol. So, Art at Capitol this year will be on April 17th. So, keep your offices open. It's a wonderful opportunity not only to showcase the art in your offices, but to really celebrate art and creativity here in the Capitol. So, my office will be reaching out about those, anyone who wants to participate in Art at The Capitol as well. Thank you, Madam Speaker."

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

The following measures were referred to committee by the Speaker:

S.B.

Nos.

Referred to:

2043, SD1 Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce

2723 Committee on Culture & Arts, then to the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

ADJOURNMENT

At 1:10 p.m., on motion by Representative Morikawa, seconded by Representative Garcia and carried, the House of Representatives adjourned until noon tomorrow, Friday, February 13, 2026.