

**HAWAII STATE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

REGULAR SESSION OF 2026

***ROUGH DRAFT
JOURNAL***

**FORTY-FOURTH DAY
APRIL 14, 2026**

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CLERK

BT

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FORTY-FOURTH DAY

Tuesday, April 14, 2026

The House of Representatives of the Thirty-Third Legislature of the State of Hawai'i, Regular Session of 2026, convened at 9:09 a.m., with Speaker Nakamura presiding.

The Roll was called showing all members present.

At this time, the Chair stated:

"Members, at this time, the Chair would like to introduce a special visitor to today's floor session. Seated behind me is Associate Justice Todd W. Eddins."

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

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGES

The following message from the Governor (Gov. Msg. No. 1103) was received and announced by the Clerk and was placed on file:

Gov. Msg. No. 1103, informing the House that on April 13, 2026, the following bill was signed into law:

S.B. No. 3225, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO STATUTORY REVISION: AMENDING OR REPEALING VARIOUS PROVISIONS OF THE HAWAII REVISED STATUTES OR THE SESSION LAWS OF HAWAII FOR THE PURPOSES OF CORRECTING ERRORS AND REFERENCES, CLARIFYING LANGUAGE, OR DELETING OBSOLETE OR UNNECESSARY PROVISIONS." (ACT 003)

The following message from the Governor (Gov. Msg. No. 808) was received and announced by the Clerk and the following action taken:

Gov. Msg. No. 808, dated April 13, 2026, appointing M. Cov Ratcliffe to serve as the Representative from the 28th House District as follows:

"EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
KE KE'ENA O KE KIA'ĀINA

April 13, 2026

TO: The Honorable Nadine K. Nakamura
Speaker of the House of Representatives

FROM: Josh Green, M.D.
Governor, State of Hawai'i

SUBJECT: House District 28 Appointment

The Honorable Nadine K. Nakamura
Speaker
State House of Representatives
Hawai'i State Capitol, Room 431
Honolulu, HI 96813

Aloha Speaker Nakamura:

I am pleased to inform you that pursuant to section 17-4(a), Hawai'i Revised Statutes, I have appointed Mr. Michael "Cov" Ratcliffe to serve as the representative from House District 28 (Sand Island, Iwilei, Chinatown). Mr. Ratcliffe shall begin his service immediately, with a term expiring on November 2026.

This fills the vacancy created by the resignation of Representative Daniel Holt on February 13th who was appointed to a position within the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Mahalo,
/s/ Josh Green
Josh Green, M.D.
Governor, State of Hawai'i

c: The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Lieutenant Governor, State of Hawai'i
The Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi, Senate President, State of Hawai'i
Mr. Derek Turbin, Chairperson, Hawai'i Democratic Party"

The Speaker appointed the Sergeant-at-Arms to escort M. Cov Ratcliffe to the rostrum for the Oath of Office.

The Speaker then requested that Associate Justice Eddins administer the Oath of Office.

OATH OF OFFICE

The Honorable Todd W. Eddins, Associate Justice of the State of Hawai'i, addressed Mr. Ratcliffe and administered the Oath of Office in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution of the State of Hawai'i.

The Speaker then presented to the Members of the House the newest Member of the House, Representative M. Cov Ratcliffe, and appointed Vice Speaker Ichiyama to present him with lei on behalf of the members of the House.

The Speaker then introduced his family who were seated on the Floor of the House and in the gallery: Representative Ratcliffe's mother, Araceli Rapozo; stepfather, Khaki Rapozo; and his friends: Colin Braun, Lorna Strand, Breeze Morita, and Justin Kimata.

SENATE COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications from the Senate (Sen. Com. Nos. 515 through 564) were received and announced by the Clerk:

Sen. Com. No. 515, transmitting H.B. No. 2089, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CERTIORARI REVIEW BY THE HAWAII SUPREME COURT," which passed Third Reading in the Senate on April 10, 2026.

Sen. Com. No. 516, transmitting H.B. No. 2090, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO DOMESTIC ABUSE ORDERS FOR PROTECTION," which passed Third Reading in the Senate on April 10, 2026.

Sen. Com. No. 517, transmitting H.B. No. 2099, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO VACANCIES," which passed Third Reading in the Senate on April 10, 2026.

Sen. Com. No. 518, transmitting H.B. No. 389, HD 1, SD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO UNCREWED AIRCRAFT OFFENSES," which passed Third Reading in the Senate on April 10, 2026.

Sen. Com. No. 519, transmitting H.B. No. 1166, HD 1, SD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO AUTOMATED SPEED ENFORCEMENT SYSTEMS PROGRAM," which passed Third Reading in the Senate on April 10, 2026.

Sen. Com. No. 520, transmitting H.B. No. 1510, HD 2, SD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO LICENSE PLATES," which passed Third Reading in the Senate on April 10, 2026.

Sen. Com. No. 521, transmitting H.B. No. 1541, HD 2, SD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH," which passed Third Reading in the Senate on April 10, 2026.

Sen. Com. No. 522, transmitting H.B. No. 1605, HD 1, SD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HUMAN AND COMMUNITY RESILIENCE," which passed Third Reading in the Senate on April 10, 2026.

Sen. Com. No. 523, transmitting H.B. No. 1661, HD 1, SD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CAFETERIA PLANS," which passed Third Reading in the Senate on April 10, 2026.

Sen. Com. No. 524, transmitting H.B. No. 1663, HD 2, SD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO REIMBURSEMENT OF PUBLIC OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES," which passed Third Reading in the Senate on April 10, 2026.

Sen. Com. No. 525, transmitting H.B. No. 1678, HD 1, SD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO ASSOCIATIONS," which passed Third Reading in the Senate on April 10, 2026.

ROUGH DRAFT

Sen. Com. No. 526, transmitting H.B. No. 1769, HD 2, SD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES," which passed Third Reading in the Senate on April 10, 2026.

Sen. Com. No. 527, transmitting H.B. No. 1785, HD 1, SD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO STUDENT TRANSPORTATION," which passed Third Reading in the Senate on April 10, 2026.

Sen. Com. No. 528, transmitting H.B. No. 1801, HD 1, SD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CHILD WELFARE SERVICES," which passed Third Reading in the Senate on April 10, 2026.

Sen. Com. No. 529, transmitting H.B. No. 1802, HD 1, SD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CONSERVATION MITIGATION BANKS," which passed Third Reading in the Senate on April 10, 2026.

Sen. Com. No. 530, transmitting H.B. No. 1815, HD 1, SD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE STATE FOUNDATION ON CULTURE AND THE ARTS," which passed Third Reading in the Senate on April 10, 2026.

Sen. Com. No. 531, transmitting H.B. No. 1824, HD 1, SD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CONDOMINIUMS," which passed Third Reading in the Senate on April 10, 2026.

Sen. Com. No. 532, transmitting H.B. No. 1838, HD 2, SD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO VISAS," which passed Third Reading in the Senate on April 10, 2026.

Sen. Com. No. 533, transmitting H.B. No. 1840, HD 2, SD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION," which passed Third Reading in the Senate on April 10, 2026.

Sen. Com. No. 534, transmitting H.B. No. 1853, HD 1, SD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO DEMENTIA," which passed Third Reading in the Senate on April 10, 2026.

Sen. Com. No. 535, transmitting H.B. No. 1860, HD 2, SD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE HAWAII SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA," which passed Third Reading in the Senate on April 10, 2026.

Sen. Com. No. 536, transmitting H.B. No. 1891, HD 1, SD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION," which passed Third Reading in the Senate on April 10, 2026.

Sen. Com. No. 537, transmitting H.B. No. 1952, HD 1, SD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO AGRICULTURE," which passed Third Reading in the Senate on April 10, 2026.

Sen. Com. No. 538, transmitting H.B. No. 1960, HD 2, SD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HUMAN TRAFFICKING," which passed Third Reading in the Senate on April 10, 2026.

Sen. Com. No. 539, transmitting H.B. No. 1969, HD 2, SD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO COLORECTAL CANCER," which passed Third Reading in the Senate on April 10, 2026.

Sen. Com. No. 540, transmitting H.B. No. 1970, HD 2, SD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII CANCER CENTER," which passed Third Reading in the Senate on April 10, 2026.

Sen. Com. No. 541, transmitting H.B. No. 1972, HD 2, SD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION," which passed Third Reading in the Senate on April 10, 2026.

Sen. Com. No. 542, transmitting H.B. No. 1976, HD 1, SD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO DEMENTIA," which passed Third Reading in the Senate on April 10, 2026.

Sen. Com. No. 543, transmitting H.B. No. 2050, HD 1, SD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO PARTIAL PUBLIC FINANCING OF ELECTIONS," which passed Third Reading in the Senate on April 10, 2026.

Sen. Com. No. 544, transmitting H.B. No. 2094, HD 1, SD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO JURY DUTY," which passed Third Reading in the Senate on April 10, 2026.

Sen. Com. No. 545, transmitting H.B. No. 2104, HD 2, SD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO ISLAND BURIAL COUNCILS," which passed Third Reading in the Senate on April 10, 2026.

Sen. Com. No. 546, transmitting H.B. No. 2158, HD 1, SD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII," which passed Third Reading in the Senate on April 10, 2026.

Sen. Com. No. 547, transmitting H.B. No. 2165, HD 2, SD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE HAWAII EMPLOYMENT SECURITY LAW," which passed Third Reading in the Senate on April 10, 2026.

Sen. Com. No. 548, transmitting H.B. No. 2171, HD 1, SD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII," which passed Third Reading in the Senate on April 10, 2026.

Sen. Com. No. 549, transmitting H.B. No. 2208, HD 1, SD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO FOOD SECURITY," which passed Third Reading in the Senate on April 10, 2026.

Sen. Com. No. 550, transmitting H.B. No. 2246, HD 1, SD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO AGRICULTURAL GRANT ADMINISTRATION," which passed Third Reading in the Senate on April 10, 2026.

Sen. Com. No. 551, transmitting H.B. No. 2271, HD 2, SD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT MAKING EMERGENCY APPROPRIATIONS FOR PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT COST ITEMS," which passed Third Reading in the Senate on April 10, 2026.

Sen. Com. No. 552, transmitting H.B. No. 2300, HD 1, SD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PROCUREMENT," which passed Third Reading in the Senate on April 10, 2026.

Sen. Com. No. 553, transmitting H.B. No. 2310, HD 1, SD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT MAKING AN EMERGENCY APPROPRIATION TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES," which passed Third Reading in the Senate on April 10, 2026.

Sen. Com. No. 554, transmitting H.B. No. 2315, HD 1, SD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO STATE EMPLOYEE BENEFITS," which passed Third Reading in the Senate on April 10, 2026.

Sen. Com. No. 555, transmitting H.B. No. 2319, HD 2, SD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE STATE HEALTH PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT AGENCY," which passed Third Reading in the Senate on April 10, 2026.

Sen. Com. No. 556, transmitting H.B. No. 2338, HD 1, SD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE HAWAII COMMUNITY COLLEGE PROMISE PROGRAM," which passed Third Reading in the Senate on April 10, 2026.

Sen. Com. No. 557, transmitting H.B. No. 2339, HD 1, SD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII REVENUE BONDS," which passed Third Reading in the Senate on April 10, 2026.

Sen. Com. No. 558, transmitting H.B. No. 2343, HD 1, SD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO VETERANS," which passed Third Reading in the Senate on April 10, 2026.

Sen. Com. No. 559, transmitting H.B. No. 2443, HD 1, SD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO DISASTER SERVICES," which passed Third Reading in the Senate on April 10, 2026.

Sen. Com. No. 560, transmitting H.B. No. 2498, HD 2, SD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CARE HOMES," which passed Third Reading in the Senate on April 10, 2026.

Sen. Com. No. 561, transmitting H.B. No. 2551, HD 1, SD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO AGRICULTURE," which passed Third Reading in the Senate on April 10, 2026.

Sen. Com. No. 562, transmitting H.B. No. 2599, HD 1, SD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO AQUATIC PROTECTION," which passed Third Reading in the Senate on April 10, 2026.

Sen. Com. No. 563, transmitting H.B. No. 2606, HD 2, SD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO OFF-SITE CONSTRUCTION," which passed Third Reading in the Senate on April 10, 2026.

Sen. Com. No. 564, dated April 10, 2026, informing the House that the Senate has disagreed to the amendments proposed by the House to the following Senate Bills:

S.B. No. 1432,SD 2, HD 2
 S.B. No. 2024,SD 2, HD 1
 S.B. No. 2043,SD 1, HD 1
 S.B. No. 2053,SD 2, HD 2
 S.B. No. 2054,SD 2, HD 2
 S.B. No. 2060,SD 2, HD 1
 S.B. No. 2069,SD 2, HD 1
 S.B. No. 2090,HD 1
 S.B. No. 2143,SD 1, HD 1
 S.B. No. 2145,HD 1
 S.B. No. 2153,SD 2, HD 1
 S.B. No. 2169,SD 1, HD 1
 S.B. No. 2245,HD 1
 S.B. No. 2259,SD 1, HD 1
 S.B. No. 2319,SD 1, HD 1
 S.B. No. 2321,SD 1, HD 1
 S.B. No. 2338,SD 1, HD 2
 S.B. No. 2360,SD 1, HD 2
 S.B. No. 2396,SD 1, HD 1
 S.B. No. 2400,SD 1, HD 1
 S.B. No. 2405,SD 1, HD 2
 S.B. No. 2407,SD 2, HD 1
 S.B. No. 2447,SD 1, HD 1
 S.B. No. 2494,HD 1
 S.B. No. 2519,HD 1
 S.B. No. 2544,SD 2, HD 1
 S.B. No. 2550,SD 1, HD 1
 S.B. No. 2552,SD 1, HD 1
 S.B. No. 2578,SD 1, HD 1
 S.B. No. 2580,SD 2, HD 1
 S.B. No. 2607,SD 1, HD 1
 S.B. No. 2614,HD 2
 S.B. No. 2671,SD 1, HD 2
 S.B. No. 2723,HD 1
 S.B. No. 2727,HD 1
 S.B. No. 2765,SD 1, HD 1
 S.B. No. 2800,SD 1, HD 1
 S.B. No. 2805,SD 2, HD 1
 S.B. No. 2816,SD 1, HD 1
 S.B. No. 2835,SD 1, HD 2
 S.B. No. 2877,SD 1, HD 1
 S.B. No. 2892,SD 1, HD 1
 S.B. No. 2928,SD 1, HD 1
 S.B. No. 2934,SD 1, HD 1
 S.B. No. 3055,SD 2, HD 1
 S.B. No. 3063,SD 1, HD 1
 S.B. No. 3102,SD 2, HD 2
 S.B. No. 3118,SD 1, HD 2
 S.B. No. 3131,SD 1, HD 1
 S.B. No. 3144,SD 1, HD 2
 S.B. No. 3199,SD 1, HD 1
 S.B. No. 3233,SD 1, HD 2
 S.B. No. 3248,SD 2, HD 2
 S.B. No. 3325,SD 1, HD 2

Representative Kahaloa moved to disagree to the amendments made by the Senate to the following House Bills, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried:

H.B. No. 389, HD 1, (SD 1)
 H.B. No. 1166, HD 1, (SD 1)
 H.B. No. 1510, HD 2, (SD 1)
 H.B. No. 1541, HD 2, (SD 1)
 H.B. No. 1605, HD 1, (SD 1)
 H.B. No. 1661, HD 1, (SD 1)
 H.B. No. 1663, HD 2, (SD 1)
 H.B. No. 1678, HD 1, (SD 1)
 H.B. No. 1769, HD 2, (SD 1)
 H.B. No. 1785, HD 1, (SD 1)
 H.B. No. 1801, HD 1, (SD 1)
 H.B. No. 1802, HD 1, (SD 1)
 H.B. No. 1815, HD 1, (SD 1)
 H.B. No. 1824, HD 1, (SD 1)
 H.B. No. 1838, HD 2, (SD 1)
 H.B. No. 1840, HD 2, (SD 1)
 H.B. No. 1853, HD 1, (SD 1)
 H.B. No. 1860, HD 2, (SD 1)
 H.B. No. 1891, HD 1, (SD 1)
 H.B. No. 1952, HD 1, (SD 1)
 H.B. No. 1960, HD 2, (SD 1)
 H.B. No. 1969, HD 2, (SD 1)
 H.B. No. 1970, HD 2, (SD 1)
 H.B. No. 1972, HD 2, (SD 1)
 H.B. No. 1976, HD 1, (SD 1)
 H.B. No. 2050, HD 1, (SD 1)
 H.B. No. 2094, HD 1, (SD 1)
 H.B. No. 2104, HD 2, (SD 1)
 H.B. No. 2158, HD 1, (SD 1)
 H.B. No. 2165, HD 2, (SD 1)
 H.B. No. 2171, HD 1, (SD 1)
 H.B. No. 2208, HD 1, (SD 1)
 H.B. No. 2246, HD 1, (SD 1)
 H.B. No. 2271, HD 2, (SD 1)
 H.B. No. 2300, HD 1, (SD 1)
 H.B. No. 2310, HD 1, (SD 1)
 H.B. No. 2315, HD 1, (SD 1)
 H.B. No. 2319, HD 2, (SD 1)
 H.B. No. 2338, HD 1, (SD 1)
 H.B. No. 2339, HD 1, (SD 1)
 H.B. No. 2343, HD 1, (SD 1)
 H.B. No. 2443, HD 1, (SD 1)
 H.B. No. 2498, HD 2, (SD 1)
 H.B. No. 2551, HD 1, (SD 1)
 H.B. No. 2599, HD 1, (SD 1)
 H.B. No. 2606, HD 2, (SD 1)

INTRODUCTIONS

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

Representative Tam introduced his staff: Flora Samis, Cindy Russell, Christopher Prendergast, and Jacob Snyder.

Representative Kila introduced his staff: Mehana Kapoi, Christine Watanabe, and Akamu Campbell.

Representative Shimizu introduced his constituent, Dr. Melanie Lau; and Kat Brady, Community Alliance on Prisons.

Representative Iwamoto introduced Henry Curtis, Life of the Land.

Representative Kapela introduced members from HSTA: Osa Tui, Jr., president; Jason Bradshaw, government relations specialist; and Mili Milianta-Laffin, teacher lobbyist; and Lindsay Pfeiffer, National Education Association.

Representative Alcos introduced his friend, Love Cavour.

At 9:18 a.m., the Chair declared a recess subject to the call of the Chair.

The House of Representatives reconvened at 9:23 a.m.

ORDER OF THE DAY
SUSPENSION OF RULES

On motion by Representative Morikawa, seconded by Representative Garcia and carried, the rules were suspended for the purpose of considering certain Senate Bills for Third Reading by consent calendar.

CONSENT CALENDAR
UNFINISHED BUSINESS

At this time, the Chair stated:

"Members, there will be no discussion as these are items agreed to by this body for placement on the consent calendar."

Representative Tamas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1823-26) recommending that S.B. No. 3136, as amended in HD 1, pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Kahaloa, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 3136, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO LEAD MATERIALS IN WATER INFRASTRUCTURE," passed Third Reading by a vote of 51 ayes.

Representative Tamas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1824-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2521, SD 1, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Kahaloa, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 2521, SD 1, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO EMERGENCY SERVICES," passed Third Reading by a vote of 51 ayes.

Representative Tamas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1825-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2851, SD 1, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Kahaloa, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 2851, SD 1, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO DEAF INDIVIDUALS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 51 ayes.

Representative Tamas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1833-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2108, SD 1, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Kahaloa, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 2108, SD 1, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO JURISDICTION," passed Third Reading by a vote of 51 ayes.

Representative Tamas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2030-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2667, SD 1, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Kahaloa, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 2667, SD 1, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION," passed Third Reading by a vote of 51 ayes.

Representative Tamas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2031-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2246, SD 1, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Kahaloa, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 2246, SD 1, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO FINANCIAL DISCLOSURES," passed Third Reading by a vote of 51 ayes.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2039-26) recommending that S.B. No. 3320, SD 1, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

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

No. 3320, SD 1, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE FOOD AND PRODUCT INNOVATION NETWORK," passed Third Reading by a vote of 51 ayes.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2041-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2110, SD 1, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Kahaloa, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 2110, SD 1, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO AGRICULTURE," passed Third Reading by a vote of 51 ayes.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2044-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2095, SD 1, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Kahaloa, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 2095, SD 1, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION," passed Third Reading by a vote of 51 ayes.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2047-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2756, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Kahaloa, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 2756, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CONSERVATION ENFORCEMENT," passed Third Reading by a vote of 51 ayes.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2051-26) recommending that S.B. No. 3238, SD 1, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Kahaloa, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 3238, SD 1, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO LANGUAGE ACCESS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 51 ayes.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2052-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2557, SD 1, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Kahaloa, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 2557, SD 1, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HOMELESSNESS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 51 ayes.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2053-26) recommending that S.B. No. 3140, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Kahaloa, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 3140, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE STATE FIRE COUNCIL," passed Third Reading by a vote of 51 ayes.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2055-26) recommending that S.B. No. 3097, SD 1, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Kahaloa, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 3097, SD 1, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE EXEMPTION FROM CIVIL SERVICE OF EXECUTIVE PERSONNEL OF THE EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM," passed Third Reading by a vote of 51 ayes.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2056-26) recommending that S.B. No. 3096, SD 1, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

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

No. 3096, SD 1, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM'S EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTIONS FOR NORMAL COST AND ACCRUED LIABILITY," passed Third Reading by a vote of 51 ayes.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2058-26) recommending that S.B. No. 99, SD 1, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Kahaloo, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 99, SD 1, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO GOVERNMENT," passed Third Reading by a vote of 51 ayes.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2059-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2930, SD 2, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloo moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 2930, SD 2, HD 1 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

Representative Cochran's written remarks in support of the measure are as follows:

"In support with comments. According to the preamble, it is necessary to increase the expenditure ceiling of the Risk Management Revolving Fund to allow timely use of insurance proceeds for the rebuilding of state facilities in Lahaina.

"Also, there's a need to develop a master coordinated project spreadsheet for rebuilding, yet it's been 2.4 years since and still has not been done? Why? I know Maui County Planning Department has been asking the state what their plan is and still haven't been given an answer. There are five specific projects in this bill which are good. I'd like to have the Front Street Apartments and HHFDC project added to the list if they too need funds. This is the very project I know has been partnering a neighboring property, Lahaina Surf, which is run by the Hale Mahaolu non-profit. It has a master plan, a target completion date, and has done a couple community meetings.

"I have been asking HPHA about the effort they have been making, and I'm surprised none of this has been mentioned, or wonder why they have not been kept in the loop.

"Sec. 7 says DAGS will consult with County of Maui and other relevant entities it deems necessary to outline the infrastructure redevelopment of Lahaina. I am hoping that I—having been the chair for the Infrastructure and Environmental Committee (IEM) with the Maui County Council for eight years as the West Maui councilmember and current state house representative plus a Lahaina fire survivor—would be deemed a relevant entity to be consulted.

"Above all else, I pray that the Lahaina community as a whole will be consulted and kept in the loop on discussions moving forward.

"Maybe an initial outreach about how these funds will directly affect the lives of the Lahaina community members?

"Sec. 8 states that all funds appropriated for a project must be available for expenditure until funding for the entire cost for project is available as determined by the comptroller. Typically, with such large projects anticipated, the design and planning phase happens first, then construction and funds are made available as the project progresses so as not to have to cough up so much money all at once. I'm hoping this section doesn't hinder any of these projects from moving forward expeditiously.

"It seems these funds for the rebuild in Lahaina are based on the sole decision-making power of DAGS' comptroller. Having known Mr. Regan as the managing director for Maui County Mayor Arakawa, I pray he is open and fair with the allocations of funds."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 2930, SD 2, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE STATE RISK MANAGEMENT REVOLVING FUND," passed Third Reading by a vote of 51 ayes.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report

(Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2063-26) recommending that S.B. No. 3109, SD 1, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Kahaloo, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 3109, SD 1, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE HAWAII EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY," passed Third Reading by a vote of 51 ayes.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2065-26) recommending that S.B. No. 3152, SD 2, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Kahaloo, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 3152, SD 2, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO COMMERCIAL PORT ADMINISTRATION," passed Third Reading by a vote of 51 ayes.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2067-26) recommending that S.B. No. 3234, SD 2, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Kahaloo, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 3234, SD 2, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO TRAFFIC SAFETY," passed Third Reading by a vote of 51 ayes.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2068-26) recommending that S.B. No. 3053, SD 2, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Kahaloo, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 3053, SD 2, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO NATURAL RESOURCES," passed Third Reading by a vote of 51 ayes.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2069-26) recommending that S.B. No. 3067, SD 1, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Kahaloo, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 3067, SD 1, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO RECORDS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 51 ayes.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2074-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2532, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Kahaloo, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 2532, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE CAMPAIGN SPENDING COMMISSION'S ELECTRONIC FILING SYSTEM," passed Third Reading by a vote of 51 ayes.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2081-26) recommending that S.B. No. 3324, SD 1, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Kahaloo, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 3324, SD 1, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO MEDICAID," passed Third Reading by a vote of 51 ayes.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2086-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2595, SD 1, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Kahaloo, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 2595, SD 1, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE AGRIBUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION," passed Third Reading by a vote of 50 ayes to 1 no, with Representative Amato voting no.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2088-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2961, SD 1, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Kahaloa, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 2961, SD 1, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE," passed Third Reading by a vote of 51 ayes.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2091-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2340, SD 2, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Kahaloa, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 2340, SD 2, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO COMMUNITY CARE FOSTER FAMILY HOMES," passed Third Reading by a vote of 51 ayes.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2093-26) recommending that S.B. No. 3203, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Kahaloa, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 3203, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO AIR MEDICAL SERVICES," passed Third Reading by a vote of 51 ayes.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2094-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2861, SD 2, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 2861, SD 2, HD 2 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

Representative Cochran's written remarks are as follows:

"I have grave concerns about this measure. This is to address the recently found \$470 million of unspent funds for needy families. My questions are: How was this found? Where are the funds from? And how does so much money get lost or forgotten about?"

"Now, the Office of Wellness & Resilience in consult with DHS is to create a Kakou Pilot program to be completed by June 30, 2027, which is over a year from now, and then the program will be established in July 2028. This would make our most needy demographic of people across the state wait for over two years to see a single penny? The Lahaina fire victims and houseless really could have used these funds and desperately need them now in real time not having to wait another day. Please, pick up the pace because lives actually depend on it."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 2861, SD 2, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE OFFICE OF WELLNESS AND RESILIENCE," passed Third Reading by a vote of 51 ayes.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2095-26) recommending that S.B. No. 3245, SD 1, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Kahaloa, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 3245, SD 1, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM," passed Third Reading by a vote of 51 ayes.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2097-26) recommending that S.B. No. 3204, SD 1, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Kahaloa, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 3204, SD 1, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO FAMILY RESILIENCE PILOT PROGRAM," passed Third Reading by a vote of 51 ayes.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2099-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2138, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Kahaloa, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 2138, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE HAWAII NATIONAL GUARD STATE TUITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM," passed Third Reading by a vote of 51 ayes.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2101-26) recommending that S.B. No. 3082, SD 1, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Kahaloa, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 3082, SD 1, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO MILITARY FAMILIES," passed Third Reading by a vote of 51 ayes.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2103-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2261, SD 1, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Kahaloa, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 2261, SD 1, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH," passed Third Reading by a vote of 51 ayes.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2104-26) recommending that S.B. No. 3332, SD 1, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Kahaloa, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 3332, SD 1, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO STATE-FUNDED TRAVEL," passed Third Reading by a vote of 51 ayes.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2108-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2866, SD 1, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Kahaloa, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 2866, SD 1, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO KUPUNA HOUSING," passed Third Reading by a vote of 51 ayes.

Representative Matayoshi, for the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2110-26) recommending that S.B. No. 874, SD 2, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Kahaloa, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 874, SD 2, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO VETERINARY MEDICINE," passed Third Reading by a vote of 51 ayes.

Representative Matayoshi, for the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2112-26) recommending that S.B. No. 3137, SD 1, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Kahaloa, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 3137, SD 1, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH'S AUTHORITY TO REGULATE FOOD, DRUGS, AND COSMETICS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 51 ayes.

Representative Matayoshi, for the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2115-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2272, SD 1, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Kahaloa, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 2272, SD 1, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO

HOME HEALTH LICENSING," passed Third Reading by a vote of 51 ayes.

Representative Matayoshi, for the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2118-26) recommending that S.B. No. 3302, SD 1, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Kahaloe, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 3302, SD 1, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HOMEMADE FOOD PRODUCTS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 51 ayes.

Representative Matayoshi, for the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2119-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2089, SD 1, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Kahaloe, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 2089, SD 1, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO MENTAL HEALTH," passed Third Reading by a vote of 51 ayes.

Representative Matayoshi, for the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2120-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2102, SD 2, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Kahaloe, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 2102, SD 2, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO INDUSTRIAL HEMP," passed Third Reading by a vote of 51 ayes.

Representative Matayoshi, for the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2121-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2050, SD 1, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Kahaloe, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 2050, SD 1, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CHIROPRACTIC," passed Third Reading by a vote of 51 ayes.

Representative Tamas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2126-26) recommending that S.B. No. 3083, SD 2, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Kahaloe, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 3083, SD 2, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO PROTECTIVE ORDERS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 51 ayes.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2139-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2075, SD 1, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Kahaloe, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 2075, SD 1, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC PROCUREMENT," passed Third Reading by a vote of 51 ayes.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2146-26) recommending that S.B. No. 17, SD 2, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Kahaloe, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 17, SD 2, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO WILDFIRE MITIGATION," passed Third Reading by a vote of 51 ayes.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2159-26) recommending that S.B. No. 3076, SD 1, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

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

No. 3076, SD 1, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO TOBACCO ENFORCEMENT," passed Third Reading by a vote of 51 ayes.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2161-26) recommending that S.B. No. 3294, SD 2, HD 2 pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Kahaloe, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 3294, SD 2, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO WRONGFUL IMPRISONMENT," passed Third Reading by a vote of 51 ayes.

THIRD READING

S.B. No. 2031, SD 2, HD 1:

On motion by Representative Kahaloe, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, S.B. No. 2031, SD 2, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CONSUMER PROTECTION," passed Third Reading by a vote of 51 ayes.

S.B. No. 2876, HD 1:

On motion by Representative Kahaloe, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, S.B. No. 2876, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO NATURAL HAIR BRAIDING," passed Third Reading by a vote of 51 ayes.

S.B. No. 2964, SD 1, HD 1:

On motion by Representative Kahaloe, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, S.B. No. 2964, SD 1, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO PROPERTY INSURANCE," passed Third Reading by a vote of 51 ayes.

S.B. No. 2397, SD 1, HD 1:

On motion by Representative Kahaloe, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, S.B. No. 2397, SD 1, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO NEIGHBORHOOD BOARDS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 51 ayes.

S.B. No. 3073, SD 1, HD 1:

On motion by Representative Kahaloe, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, S.B. No. 3073, SD 1, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE RETENTION OF BIOLOGICAL EVIDENCE," passed Third Reading by a vote of 51 ayes.

S.B. No. 2881, SD 1, HD 1:

On motion by Representative Kahaloe, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, S.B. No. 2881, SD 1, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO STATE INCOME TAX," passed Third Reading by a vote of 51 ayes.

At 9:25 a.m., the Chair noted that the following bills passed Third Reading:

S.B. No. 3136, HD 1
 S.B. No. 2521, SD 1, HD 2
 S.B. No. 2851, SD 1, HD 2
 S.B. No. 2108, SD 1, HD 2
 S.B. No. 2667, SD 1, HD 2
 S.B. No. 2246, SD 1, HD 2
 S.B. No. 3320, SD 1, HD 1
 S.B. No. 2110, SD 1, HD 1
 S.B. No. 2095, SD 1, HD 1
 S.B. No. 2756, HD 1
 S.B. No. 3238, SD 1, HD 1
 S.B. No. 2557, SD 1, HD 1
 S.B. No. 3140, HD 1
 S.B. No. 3097, SD 1, HD 1
 S.B. No. 3096, SD 1, HD 1
 S.B. No. 99, SD 1, HD 1
 S.B. No. 2930, SD 2, HD 1

S.B. No. 3109, SD 1, HD 1
 S.B. No. 3152, SD 2, HD 1
 S.B. No. 3234, SD 2, HD 1
 S.B. No. 3053, SD 2, HD 1
 S.B. No. 3067, SD 1, HD 1
 S.B. No. 2532, HD 1
 S.B. No. 3324, SD 1, HD 1
 S.B. No. 2595, SD 1, HD 1
 S.B. No. 2961, SD 1, HD 1
 S.B. No. 2340, SD 2, HD 1
 S.B. No. 3203, HD 1
 S.B. No. 2861, SD 2, HD 2
 S.B. No. 3245, SD 1, HD 1
 S.B. No. 3204, SD 1, HD 1
 S.B. No. 2138, HD 1
 S.B. No. 3082, SD 1, HD 1
 S.B. No. 2261, SD 1, HD 2
 S.B. No. 3332, SD 1, HD 1
 S.B. No. 2866, SD 1, HD 1
 S.B. No. 874, SD 2, HD 2
 S.B. No. 3137, SD 1, HD 2
 S.B. No. 2272, SD 1, HD 2
 S.B. No. 3302, SD 1, HD 2
 S.B. No. 2089, SD 1, HD 2
 S.B. No. 2102, SD 2, HD 2
 S.B. No. 2050, SD 1, HD 2
 S.B. No. 3083, SD 2, HD 2
 S.B. No. 2075, SD 1, HD 2
 S.B. No. 17, SD 2, HD 1
 S.B. No. 3076, SD 1, HD 2
 S.B. No. 3294, SD 2, HD 2

S.B. No. 2031, SD 2, HD 1
 S.B. No. 2876, HD 1
 S.B. No. 2964, SD 1, HD 1
 S.B. No. 2397, SD 1, HD 1
 S.B. No. 3073, SD 1, HD 1
 S.B. No. 2881, SD 1, HD 1

At this time, the Chair stated:

"Members, please remember to submit to the Clerk the list of Senate bills on the consent calendar for which you will be inserting written comments in support or in opposition. This must be done by the adjournment of today's floor session."

At 9:25 a.m., the Chair declared a recess subject to the call of the Chair.

The House of Representatives reconvened at 9:46 a.m.

ORDINARY CALENDAR

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Representative Tamas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1826-26) recommending that S.B. No. 3154, SD 2, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 3154, SD 2, HD 2 pass Third Reading, 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 Iwamoto rose to speak in opposition to the measure, stating:

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise in opposition with brief comments. This bill authorizes the Department of Transportation to assume responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 for highway projects, as well as railroad, public transportation, or multimodal projects within the state, allowing for streamlined environmental reviews. What they mean by that is that this will allow the Hawaii Department of Transportation 'categorical exclusions from federally required

environmental assessments or environmental impact statements for transportation projects."

"While the current federal administration is comfortable dismantling environmental protections, we should not be following their lead and codifying it in our statutes. Thank you."

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

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 S.B. No. 3154, SD 2, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW," passed Third Reading by a vote of 50 ayes to 1 no, with Representatives Cochran, Garcia, and Poepoe voting aye with reservations, and with Representative Iwamoto voting no.

Representative Tamas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1827-26) recommending that S.B. No. 3262, SD 1, as amended in HD 1, pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 3262, SD 1, HD 1 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise in opposition. This bill requires the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board to submit three nominees for its executive director to the Board of Education, then it requires the Board of Education to appoint an executive director from the nominees on the list, then subject this executive director to Senate confirmation.

"So, the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board is a professional licensing board. How many other EDs of professional licensing boards do we require such barriers or confirmation from the Senate? The Senate does not even confirm our DOE Superintendent.

"Having served on the Board of Education as well as on the Hawaii Teachers Standards Board, I can assure you that the board members of the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board are much more knowledgeable about the profession of teaching and the licensure of teachers, more than the majority of the BOE members currently on the Board of Education. Certainly, more knowledgeable than a majority of senators.

"This bill would politicize the appointment of an executive director and diminish the quality of our public education system. Thank you."

Representative Reyes Oda rose to speak in opposition to the measure, stating:

"I rise in opposition. I have concerns about SB 3262, not because of who serves as executive director today, but because of the precedent this bill sets. Advice and consent exists as a constitutional check on executive power. It is traditionally reserved for department directors, judges, members of boards and commissions, and individuals who exercise independent state authority. Not their staff.

"The executive director of the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board does not meet that standard. This is a professional board-directed position, not a cabinet-level role. For example, we do not require Senate confirmation for the superintendent of education who oversees the largest department in our state. Yet this bill would require legislative confirmation for the executive director who reports to a board and implements policy, rather than setting it.

"My concern is not oversight. It's the politics. Bringing the Legislature into staff-level appointments risks undermining the independence of our boards and injecting political considerations into professional education standards. HTSB is comprised of 17 board members: six licensed teachers, one from charter school; three educational officers; the Board of Ed chair; the DOE superintendent; a rep for independent schools; the UH College of Ed dean; the chair for the Native Hawaiian Education Council; two members of the public; and one non-voting, aspiring teacher candidate. Twelve of

those board members are appointed by the governor. The others hold their membership by virtue of their position.

"If we believe more public accountability is needed, the discussion should be about board structure and governance, not about subjecting operational leadership to legislative approval. If public accountability is desired, the Hawaii State Teacher Standards Board should become an elected board.

"For these reasons, I'm voting no. I remain cautious about this measure and the precedent it would establish. Thank you."

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. In support, just a quick comment. This proposal simply provides an additional layer of oversight for a board that is very important to the operation of our state. This is the Hawaii Teachers Standards Board. They are responsible for filtering to make sure that the individuals in front of our classes are qualified to do the work. And so, for that reason and others, I stand in support."

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

Representative Shimizu rose in support of the measure with reservations and asked that the remarks of the Representative from 'Ewa Beach and Kaka'ako be entered into the Journal as his own, and the Chair "so ordered." (By reference only.)

Representative Garcia rose in support of the measure with reservations and asked that the remarks of the assistant minority floor leader be entered into the Journal as his own, and the Chair "so ordered." (By reference only.)

Representative Matsumoto rose in support of the measure with reservations and asked that the remarks of the assistant minority floor leader be entered into the Journal as her own, and the Chair "so ordered." (By reference only.)

Representative Gedeon rose in support of the measure with reservations and asked that the remarks of the assistant minority floor leader be entered into the Journal as his own, and the Chair "so ordered." (By reference only.)

Representative Alcos rose in support of the measure with reservations and asked that the remarks of the assistant minority floor leader be entered into the Journal as his own, and the Chair "so ordered." (By reference only.)

Representative Poepoe rose and asked that the Clerk record an aye vote with reservations for her, 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 S.B. No. 3262, SD 1, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION," passed Third Reading by a vote of 47 ayes to 4 noes, with Representatives Alcos, Cochran, Garcia, Gedeon, Matsumoto, Poepoe, Shimizu, and Souza voting aye with reservations, and with Representatives Iwamoto, Muraoka, Perruso, and Reyes Oda voting no.

Representative Tamas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1828-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2387, SD 1, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 2387, SD 1, HD 2 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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 S.B. No. 2387, SD 1, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO DIGITAL FINANCIAL ASSET TRANSACTION KIOSKS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 44 ayes to 7 noes, with Representatives Cochran, Garcia, Gedeon, Matsumoto, Muraoka, Pierick, and Shimizu voting no.

Representative Tamas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1829-26) recommending that S.B. No. 3001, SD 2, HD 2, as amended in HD 3, pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 3001, SD 2, HD 3 pass Third Reading, 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 Cochran rose and asked that the Clerk record an aye vote with reservations for her, 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."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 3001, SD 2, HD 3, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE," passed Third Reading by a vote of 51 ayes, with Representatives Cochran, Garcia, and Shimizu voting aye with reservations.

Representative Tamas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1830-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2818, SD 2, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 2818, SD 2, HD 2 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 2818, SD 2, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO BOATING," passed Third Reading by a vote of 46 ayes to 5 noes, with Representative Reyes Oda voting aye with reservations, and with Representatives Cochran, Garcia, Gedeon, Matsumoto, and Muraoka voting no.

Representative Tamas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1831-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2972, SD 1, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 2972, SD 1, HD 2 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

Representative Reyes Oda rose and asked that the Clerk record an aye vote with reservations 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 Shimizu rose to speak in support of the measure with reservations, stating:

"I rise in support with reservations. Thank you, Madam Speaker. In JHA Committee, besides the DLNR providing comments, there were an additional 22 testifiers with all supporting a night-spearing ban. Testifiers include Friends of Hanauma Bay, Na Kama Kai, Hawaii Ocean Legislative Task Force, Hawaii Reef & Ocean Coalition, the Nature Conservancy, Hawaii Food+ Policy, an additional 16 individuals that include an associate professor of marine biology at the University of Hawaii, a graduate student at the University at Hilo focusing in marine policy and science, a professor of marine biology at the University of Hawaii, and a chief scientist for the National Geographic Society's Pristine Seas program. Based on the primary purpose of protecting our coral reefs and the knowledgeable testifiers, I would implore the reintroduction of such provision into the bill. Thank you, Madam Speaker." 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 Gedeon rose in support of the measure with reservations and asked that the remarks of the representative from Moanalua be entered into the Journal as his own, and the Chair "so ordered." (By reference only.)

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 2972, SD 1, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO OAHU CORAL REEF RESTORATION," passed Third Reading by a vote of 46 ayes to 5 noes, with Representatives Gedeon, Reyes Oda, and Shimizu voting aye with reservations, and with Representatives Alcos, Cochran, Garcia, Muraoka, and Pierick voting no.

Representative Tamas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1832-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2372, SD 2, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 2372, SD 2, HD 2 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

"I rise in support with reservations. Thank you, Madam Speaker. Instead of adding more bureaucracy in our government, I suggest for efficiency and cost purposes, instead of establishing a whole new committee, we have just one state arborist from DLNR leading the coordination and working together with the current County Arborist Advisory Committees. I want to thank the WAL chair for including that suggestion in the committee reports. And finally, I don't feel like we need to dictate to these county committees the number of members in their committee. 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.B. No. 2372, SD 2, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO TREES," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes to 2 noes, with Representative Shimizu voting aye with reservations, and with Representatives Alcos and Garcia voting no.

Representative Tamas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1834-26) recommending that S.B. No. 888, SD 2, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 888, SD 2, HD 2 pass Third Reading, 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 Cochran rose and asked that the Clerk record a no vote for her, 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."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 888, SD 2, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CONSUMER PROTECTION," passed Third Reading by a vote of 50 ayes to 1 no, with Representatives Garcia and Shimizu voting aye with reservations, and with Representative Cochran voting no.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2020-26) recommending that S.B. No. 3028, SD 2, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Kahaloa, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 3028, SD 2, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO PROPERTY CONVEYANCE," passed Third Reading by a vote of 41 ayes to 10 noes, with Representatives Alcos, Cochran, Garcia, Gedeon, Kong, Lee, Matsumoto, Muraoka, Pierick, and Reyes Oda voting no.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2021-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2613, SD 1, HD 2, as amended in HD 3, pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 2613, SD 1, HD 3 pass Third Reading, 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."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 2613, SD 1, HD 3, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC SCHOOL LAND TRANSFER," passed Third Reading by a vote of 51 ayes, with Representative Cochran voting aye with reservations.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2022-26) recommending that S.B. No. 3263, SD 2, HD 2, as amended in HD 3, pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 3263, SD 2, HD 3 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. Reservations with comments. I support that this bill affirms student athletes' right to engage in name, image, and likeness activities for compensation, as was prescribed by the Supreme Court. However, while I support, and I also support that this bill makes sure that the UH's NIL policies comply with Title IX. While this bill does not appropriate any taxpayer funds, it does reference that NIL agreements, and I quote from the bill, NIL agreements that are funded with state resources. So, it references the fact that we will be, we may be allocating state resources to this program.

"Currently, only private funds are being used to compensate for NIL. This bill presumes that state funds will go toward NIL compensation. Earlier this month, I surveyed my constituents, and in the last week of getting responses back, over 80% of those who responded do not support using state taxpayer money to fund NIL compensation. Thank you."

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

"In opposition. Thank you, Madam Speaker. I'm going to be clear from the outset that I don't necessarily oppose NIL. I understand the intent behind it. Student athletes should have the opportunity to benefit from their talents. But what we're seeing today is something very different. NIL has ballooned out of control. What started as a well-intentioned effort has quickly evolved into a system that's reshaping college athletics in ways that are not healthy for students and not for the universities or colleges across our country.

"Students are in school. School should be their main focus. Professional sports, that's where the big money should be. But instead, we're watching college athletics drift further into a professional model. Athletes are transferring year after year, chasing better deals, chasing higher pay, and bigger exposure, often at the expense of their education. Commitment to a program, to a school, even to earning a degree is taking the back burner.

"Recently, the White House brought together stakeholders from across the country, leaders in college sports, policymakers, and experts to discuss the state of NIL. One of the key takeaways was the lack of guardrails. There is no consistent national framework, and schools are struggling to keep up.

"Another major concern raised was the growing imbalance. Programs with more resources are gaining even more advantage, while others are being left behind in what has become an arms race among college sports. That should give us all pause. Because instead of slowing things down and putting thoughtful guard rails in place, this bill moves us further in that direction, embedding NIL deeper into our university system. And now we're being asked to do it with public involvement and public resources.

"I don't believe taxpayers should be footing the bill to pay student athletes while they're in college receiving their education. I worry about the impact this will have on Hawaii's university. No vote."

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

Representative Matsumoto's written remarks are as follows:

"With reservations for SB 3263, SD 2, HD 3. My reservations about this bill, a significant concern is the potential ongoing cost to taxpayers. The appropriation of \$5,000,000 from state general revenues raises questions about the financial burden on taxpayers, especially given the requirement for the university to match this funding. Additionally, to my mid-session survey results, 88.9% of respondents opposed using state tax funds to support NIL compensation for University of Hawaii student-athletes. This indicates a substantial public sentiment against the use of taxpayer money for this purpose, which should be carefully considered in the legislative process."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 3263, SD 2, HD 3, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII," passed Third Reading by a vote of 48 ayes to 3 noes, with Representatives Iwamoto, Matsumoto, and Reyes Oda voting aye with reservations, and with Representatives Cochran, Garcia, and Pierick voting no.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2023-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2602, SD 1, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 2602, SD 1, HD 2 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise in opposition with comments. This bill requires that tuition, tuition-related course and fee charges, and other charges to students deposited into the University of Hawaii Tuition and Fee Special Fund, that on June 30th, 2029, that those unencumbered funds lapse into the General Fund. I read an editorial by the Honolulu Star Advertiser that disagreed with that conduct or that moving funds from the student tuition into the General Fund, and I agree with their position, which we should not be doing this practice even once. Thank you."

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

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. Rising in support, albeit tepid. Madam Speaker, speaking from my role as chair of your Committee on Higher Education, let me begin by saying this clearly. I love the University of Hawaii, I'm proud to be an alumnus, and I care very deeply about its success. Few institutions matter more to the future of our state. But in this role, my responsibility is not just to support the university, it's also to provide thoughtful oversight and ensure accountability. This bill comes out of that responsibility.

"Over the course of this session, the Higher Education Committee has spent a significant amount of time engaging with the university on its finances. What we've seen is that the Tuition and Fees Special Fund has grown to a level that is now roughly double what is contemplated under the Board of Regents' own reserve policy, amounting to a surplus of over \$200 million above what is called for. Madam Speaker, that is not a small discrepancy. And as chair, I believe it is my obligation to take that seriously.

"Madam Speaker, there are legitimate reasons for maintaining reserves. Uncertainty in federal funding, concerns about enrollment trends, and the broader fiscal environment. Those are real risks, and the university is right to plan for them. But at the same time, when reserves grow well beyond the university's own targets, it is appropriate for this body to ask questions. Is UH holding more than they need? Are they striking the right balance between saving for uncertainty and investing in students today? And are they being transparent with the students and families who are ultimately contributing to these funds?"

"I also want to thank the Finance chair for his thoughtful amendments to this measure. The bill before us reflects a much more measured approach. It is now structured as a one-time sweep in 2029, which gives the university a three-year runway to responsibly spend these funds down for the benefit of students.

"This measure is not about micromanaging the university. It is about reinforcing accountability and ensuring alignment with the policies the board itself has set. I want to emphasize this is not meant to be punitive. It is part of a broader ongoing dialog between the Legislature and the university about stewardship, transparency, and trust. As chair of Higher Education, I take seriously both sides of that equation, being a strong advocate for the university and also ensuring that we are asking the hard questions when necessary. Supporting UH and holding it accountable are not mutually exclusive. In fact, they go hand in hand. Thank you, Madam Speaker."

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

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 2602, SD 1, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE GENERAL FUND," passed Third Reading by a vote of 47 ayes to 4 noes, with Representatives Cochran, Poepoe, Reyes Oda, and Shimizu voting aye with reservations, and with Representatives Grandinetti, Hussey, Iwamoto, and Perruso voting no.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2024-26) recommending that S.B. No. 1032, SD 2, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Kahaloa, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 1032, SD 2, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CAMPAIGN FINANCE," passed Third Reading by a vote of 50 ayes to 1 no, with Representative Alcos voting no.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2025-26) recommending that S.B. No. 3090, SD 1, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 3090, SD 1, HD 2 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

"I rise in support with a brief comment. Thank you, Madam Speaker. I'm glad that our public employees are able to get this hazard pay. And I would hope and advocate that we would be able to do the same for our teachers sometime in the future. 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.B. No. 3090, SD 1, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT MAKING EMERGENCY APPROPRIATIONS FOR PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT COST ITEMS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 51 ayes.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2026-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2001, SD 1, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 2001, SD 1, HD 2 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 2001, SD 1, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE BANYAN DRIVE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT," passed Third Reading by a vote of 51 ayes, with Representative Shimizu voting aye with reservations.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2027-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2599, SD 2, HD 2, as amended in HD 3, pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 2599, SD 2, HD 3 pass Third Reading, 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 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 Shimizu rose to speak in opposition to the measure, stating:

"I rise in opposition. Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, I'm in support of our Aloha Stadium redevelopment. But based on opposition testimony from our current developer, I would share the following, which is important, I believe, communication from our lead partner in this endeavor. This bill appears to add an additional layer of requirements and considerations to the development of the new stadium and the surrounding lands. We are concerned that the unintended consequence of this measure will be to slow down the momentum that the project currently has, and request that this measure be deferred pending an analysis as to the potential impact of the measure on the overall development process, and the impact on the timely delivery of the stadium and surrounding lands. We are also concerned that these additional requirements may make the project unfinanceable.

"Additionally, there is an inconsistency and possible overlap in areas of responsibility to the extent that infrastructure and public facilities are integral parts of any development. Although SB2599, SD2, HD2 references pending agreements, it lacks explicit language that states the measure will not affect agreements [already] executed and/or that are contemplated prior to its enactment."

"Madam Speaker, the developer has worked earnestly and tirelessly to deliver this project to our state for the public's benefit. With such a complicated process accomplished to date, these serious concerns from our developer that could create delays and more costs to the state, I urge our body to defer this bill to give the developer the opportunity to more thoroughly review and prudently coordinate this legislation for our mutual benefit. Thank you, Madam Speaker."

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise in opposition with a brief comment. This bill includes references to Aloha Stadium and state taxpayer appropriations. My constituent survey that I referenced earlier also included a question regarding the new Aloha Stadium. A majority of the over 300 responses that I received in the last week, a majority indicated that they either do not want a new stadium or that the stadium should be built only with private funding, not state taxpayer funds. Thank you very much."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 2599, SD 2, HD 3, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO DEVELOPMENT," passed Third Reading by a vote of 47 ayes to 4 noes, with Representatives Alcos, Gedeon, and

Reyes Oda voting aye with reservations, and with Representatives Cochran, Garcia, Iwamoto, and Shimizu voting no.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2028-26) recommending that S.B. No. 3247, SD 1, HD 2, as amended in HD 3, pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 3247, SD 1, HD 3 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

Representative Garcia rose and asked that the Clerk record 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 Matsumoto rose and asked that the Clerk record an aye vote with reservations for her, 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 Cochran rose in opposition to the measure and asked that her written remarks be inserted in the Journal, and the Chair "so ordered."

Representative Cochran's written remarks are as follows:

"Having had discussions with true lineal descendants of the senior line related to those interred at Mauna 'Ala, my takeaway is they have expressed that this bill is not needed or wanted.

"This whole issue arose with the lack of proper vetting, the non-involvement of cultured people of tradition and protocols when choosing the last two *kahus* by DLNR in 2024.

"Such rituals and knowledge or *'ike* has traditionally been passed down through the generations and is not intended for a working group made up of the proposed entities, much less having the people and entities that make up the working group chosen by the governor and state are deemed as an overreach. The traditional manner in which a *hui* which this working group is not, are people who are united in their *'ike* or knowledge and come to agreement, not by voting but by *kuleana* and doing what is right or *pono*.

"It is said that this bill is objectionable with its inaccuracies that signify limited cultural knowledge by the author.

"Mauna 'Ala must always be stated before calling it a royal mausoleum throughout the bill and in its title. Claiming that the deep significance is cultural, historical and spiritual is stated in the wrong order. It must state first and foremost spiritual and then historical and cultural.

"For consistency of the working group there should be one:

- Lunalilo is at Kawaiaha'o church, not Mauna 'Ala -- why is the Lunalilo Trust involved?
- Since all associations of Hawaiian civic clubs have one representative each, so should each of the (3) societies - Order of Kamehameha, Ahahui Ka'ahumanu and Hale o Na Ali'i and with Mamakakaua having a Rep.
- Including burial councils are inappropriate as this is a state entity that deals with inadvertent finds.
- Who will be vetting whether a lineal descendant named truly is one? If done right, it can be a complicated very involved process with private information not meant for the public to have and it could slow down the process of selection.

"Such a new state-heavy process will undermine the honored and sanctified position of *kahu* of Mauna 'Ala.

"Reiterating that this has only come about since DLNR in 2024 that caused this rift and disruption to a seamless traditional and proven process that has been in place since 1967.

"*Pule* must occur for a *pono* decision to be made. I pray for the intervention and guidance of the *kūpuna* of those affected by this potential decision being made to undo the traditions they have been laid to rest on."

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 S.B. No. 3247, SD 1, HD 3, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 50 ayes to 1 no, with Representatives Garcia, Gedeon, Matsumoto, Muraoka, Reyes Oda, and Shimizu voting aye with reservations, and with Representative Cochran voting no.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2029-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2401, SD 1, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 2401, SD 1, HD 2 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise in opposition with brief comments. This bill requires the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development to plan and serve in a coordinating role to develop shoreline adaptation pathways plans for regional shoreline mitigation districts designated by OPSD. This bill takes the lead away from DLNR, and the allowable mitigation strategies that are identified in this bill include permanent beach armoring, elevating, and floodproofing. The term 'adaptation' is used more often in this bill than the term 'mitigation.' However, there are no assurances that the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development would actually choose retreating from the shoreline to protect beach access over hardening the shoreline to protect private property and investors. Thank you."

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

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

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

Representative Cochran rose, stating:

"Speaker, I was with reservations, but I guess I'm going to put in opposition so I can enter words into the Journal, written remarks. Thank you."

Representative Cochran's written remarks are as follows:

"In opposition due to my concerns with the statement in the bill that the department, I guess OPSD, shall regulate land use in conservation districts. If no decision is made within 180 days or fails to notice for a hearing, then the owner/applicant of permit can put land into use as requested by owner/applicant. Our conservation districts are zoned as such for a reason, and many are environmentally and culturally sensitive.

"The department may allow hardening structures along shoreline when dangerous conditions extend beyond the emergency permit. Shoreline hardening has had extremely negative impacts of erosion along our West Maui shores; we don't need any more hardening."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 2401, SD 1, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO REGIONAL SHORELINE MITIGATION DISTRICTS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 47 ayes to 4 noes, with Representatives Alcos, Kapela, Perruso, Poepoe, Shimizu, and Souza voting aye with reservations, and with Representatives Amato, Cochran, Iwamoto, and Pierick voting no.

Representative Tamas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2032-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2363, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 2363, HD 2 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

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

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 2363, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE COUNTIES," passed Third Reading by a vote of 46 ayes to 5 noes, with Representatives Perruso and Poepoe voting aye with reservations, and with Representatives Cochran, Garcia, Matsumoto, Muraoka, and Pierick voting no.

Representative Tamas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2033-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2140, SD 1, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 2140, SD 1, HD 2 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

"I rise in opposition. Thank you, Madam Speaker. This bill tries to address dishonest contractors who get the job by low bid and achieve their low bid budget by cheating their workers of fair wages. This also takes away business from legitimate contractors. From conversation with labor and their testimony, this can be repeated multiple times from the same dishonest contractor. This bill addresses this problem by allowing the county to deny, revoke, or suspend the building permit as a means to expel this bad contractor.

"However, by addressing the problem like this, unless you catch this problem up front, which is unlikely because only after getting the job, the contractor subsequently cheats by underpaying personnel, you are actually penalizing the owner who now has to find another replacement contractor, which is not an easy thing by any means. For those who are familiar with or have done a home renovation work, contractors are in short supply. And to find a replacement who is available to be inserted immediately, and also to try to estimate the cost of what's left of the job to complete, and agree to do it for the same price, again, unlikely. This will no doubt cause delays, increased cost, and frustration to say the least.

"In addition to that, the owner also will need to reapply for a new permit, hoping the permit process, which they've waited for maybe months for the approval to start the project to begin with, that this new reapplied for permit will be done in five days as stated in this bill. There was no testimony from the Department of Planning and Permitting, but I would guess that with their backlog of work, it would be quite difficult for them to insert this unexpected occurrence and complete this approval process in five days. That's just my opinion.

"So, we have a legitimate problem, but I believe not quite the right solution. What could or should be done is for the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, who is tasked with this enforcement, to penalize any contract who has been caught doing this dishonest practice, increase fines and penalties, and establish a reasonable time frame that this contractor is disqualified from doing business. By passing this bill, we will have the

unintended consequence of penalizing the innocent owner instead. That is my perspective on it. 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.B. No. 2140, SD 1, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO COUNTY LABOR STANDARDS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 48 ayes to 3 noes, with Representatives Cochran, Garcia, and Shimizu voting no.

Representative Tarnas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2034-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2398, SD 2, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 2398, SD 2, HD 2 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 2398, SD 2, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO RESIDENTIAL HOUSING UTILITIES," passed Third Reading by a vote of 45 ayes to 6 noes, with Representative Reyes Oda voting aye with reservations, and with Representatives Alcos, Cochran, Garcia, Gedeon, Muraoka, and Shimizu voting no.

Representative Tarnas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2035-26) recommending that S.B. No. 3322, SD 2, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 3322, SD 2, HD 2 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

"I rise in opposition. Thank you, Madam Speaker. At its core, this bill attempts to regulate how federal immigration enforcement operates within our state. While I understand the intent behind the measure, this approach raises important concerns. This bill creates a clear conflict with federal authority. Immigration enforcement is a federal responsibility, and policies that attempt to limit or redefine that authority risk preemption challenges and unnecessary litigation.

"The bill adds significant operational burdens on our law enforcement agencies. It requires new policies, reporting structures, training, and compliance mechanisms, all of which divert time and resources away from core public safety responsibilities. These are not small changes. They are ongoing administrative costs that agencies will have to absorb. And this is in addition to current manpower shortages and current challenges.

"The measure risks limiting cooperation between local and federal agencies in ways that could have real consequences for public safety. Whether it is information sharing or coordinated enforcement efforts, restricting collaboration can create gaps that bad actors may exploit. And we need to remember and realize that there are real hidden bad actors that need to be uncovered.

"There are still key ambiguities in this bill, particularly around standards like reasonable suspicion and how enforcement boundaries will be applied in practice. We risk inconsistent enforcement and confusion for the very officers we rely on to keep our communities safe.

"Thank you for your indulgence. I'll read a short statement from police chief from Hawaii Island County, who says it pretty clearly. HPD respectfully recommends that the Legislature delegate development of statewide policies on facial coverings, identification standards, and civil immigration-related procedures to the Law Enforcement Standards Board. This approach maintains transparency and public trust while preserving officer safety, operational effectiveness, and consistent implementation across State of Hawaii's law enforcement agencies.

"The Law Enforcement Standards Board is designed to consult with practitioners, assess operational implications, update best practices, and

issue uniform statewide policies. Embedding highly detailed operational rules into statute reduces flexibility, may lead to unintended consequences, and complicates rapid adaptation to changing legal or tactical circumstances, end quote.

"Members, this bill introduces more uncertainty than clarity. It complicates enforcement, increases costs, and exposes the state to legal risk. All without clear, measurable benefits. And for this reason, I respectfully urge a no vote. Thank you, Madam Speaker."

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

"In support, thank you. Your Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs Committee was very careful in crafting this measure so that it does not direct or limit what the federal agents can do regarding immigration. Immigration law is federal law, and this bill does not limit what federal agents can do. What it does is provide clarity for our local law enforcement, state and county, as to what they can do. And it actually makes sure that they focus on the areas of enforcement that they have responsibility for, which is state laws and county laws, and not get distracted by trying to work on immigration law.

"This measure establishes provisions limiting state and federal collaboration for purposes of immigration enforcement operations. It requires state and county law enforcement agencies to establish and publicly post written policies regarding civil immigration enforcement. That's transparency and that's what we really need here, so we can continue to build trust between the community and our law enforcement agents here in the state.

"This measure prohibits law enforcement officers from initiating or prolonging a stop, detention, or arrest of a person for the purpose of determining the person's civil immigration status, except under certain circumstances. Again, immigration law is federal law. Our state and county law enforcement officers should not be spending their time enforcing federal law.

"This measure establishes as a policy of the Department of Law Enforcement that civil immigration activity involving state and county participation or facilities shall only proceed under certain conditions. And it requires the Department of Law Enforcement to assist state and county agencies in maintaining compliance with the civil immigration enforcement policy. This promotes transparency, trust, and does not limit federal immigration enforcement activities. I urge members to support this. Thank you."

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

"In opposition. Thank you, Madam Speaker. To say that this bill provides clarity of what law enforcement officers can do here in Hawaii and that we're not telling federal law enforcement officials what to do, we can't do that anyway, because federal immigration law is federal law. And the enforcement of immigration law is a federal authority and jurisdiction.

"But we should not limit collaboration, because public safety is public safety. Those who are engaged in criminal activity in one area oftentimes are engaged in criminal activity in other areas. And so, we should not be limiting collaboration with our federal partners, we should be encouraging more collaboration with our federal partners, and this bill moves us in the opposite direction.

"And really, this is a response to recent immigration enforcement activities and actions in our country. And just because a certain administration is there, administrations change. In four years, it will be different. In eight years, it'll be different. And again, we should not limit local law enforcement officers from having collaboration with federal immigration authority. No vote."

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

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

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

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 S.B. No. 3322, SD 2, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO LAW ENFORCEMENT," passed Third Reading by a vote of 42 ayes to 9 noes, with Representative Kila voting aye with reservations, and with Representatives Alcos, Cochran, Garcia, Gedeon, Kong, Matsumoto, Muraoka, Pierick, and Shimizu voting no.

Representative Tamas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2036-26) recommending that S.B. No. 3133, SD 2, HD 2, as amended in HD 3, pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 3133, SD 2, HD 3 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise in support with reservations. Thank you. I support this bill because it ensures a greater access to certain medical services for people who actually may need it. It provides them choice. However, my reservation is that this bill gives the Department of Health new authority to quote, issue standing orders regarding immunizations. However, it does not define or limit the breadth of what those standing orders can say.

"Currently, the Department of Health must promulgate Hawaii Administrative Rules concerning immunizations, which requires community input. But issuing standing orders starts sounding more like the unilateral authority more similar to an executive order of the governor. I hope that limiting and clarifying language will be inserted into the bill during conference committee. Thank you."

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

"In opposition. Thank you, Madam Speaker. This bill is a response to recent actions on the federal level by our new secretary of Health and Human Services and our other federal health agencies, CDC, HHS, *et cetera*. I believe that the current actions being taken are positive actions for our country. I believe that the reason why many of the vaccines were pulled from the list of recommendations is not because of quack science, but simply because of the lack of testing for certain vaccinations over a long period of time. And so just because changes occur on the federal level, no matter what administration or party has control, that should be based on science. And so, for those reasons, no vote to this bill. And also, I would like to agree with the points of the previous speaker that this bill establishes new powers to the Department of Health, which I don't support. No vote."

Representative Kila 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:

"I rise in opposition. Thank you, Madam Speaker. I would like to also acknowledge the reservations and comments made by the representative from Kaka'ako.

"The concern about this bill, Madam Speaker, I think people remember the COVID shutdowns and government ruling and interventions that greatly affected one's personal freedoms in questionable ways. Many of the same people who showed up for HB 1117 last session to oppose government mandates or authority that was similarly debatable, are those same people, among many others, that are very concerned that this bill gives the Department of Health unilateral power that can repeat COVID's precedent.

"Patient rights of bodily autonomy, my body, my choice, and informed consent can be violated without adequate oversight, transparency, or public consideration.

"Additionally, the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs noted in their testimony that it is unclear whether the amendments of this bill would trigger the defrayal requirements under 45 Code of Federal Regulations, CFR, under the Affordable Care Act if a state mandates benefits that are in addition to the essential health benefits defined in the state's benchmark plan, the state is required to defray the costs of those additional benefits. This means the state would be responsible for paying the additional premium costs for those benefits for all individuals enrolled in qualified health plans sold on the exchange. The department notes the increased risk of the United States Department of Health and Human Services' proposed rule for 2027, which expands the criteria for state mandated benefits requiring state defrayal to include any requirement enacted after 2011 that is not otherwise federally mandated.

"So based on this, Madam Speaker, I am asking that we defer this bill. Thank you, Madam Speaker."

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

"Madam Speaker, in support. Just wanted to note that the underlying and the real purpose of this bill is to ensure that vaccinations that adults choose to undertake for themselves and/or their children are covered by our health insurance plans. And as previous speakers have noted, there is uncertainty in the federal government as to which bodies will recommend which vaccinations. This makes it clear that the prevailing medical standards shall be determined by our Department of Health at the local level. Thank you very much."

Representative Matsumoto rose in opposition to the measure and asked that her written remarks be inserted in the Journal, and the Chair "so ordered."

Representative Matsumoto's written remarks are as follows:

"While I acknowledge that ensuring the continuity of no-cost clinical services for families that elect to receive them is essential, I have concerns about the broad grant of authority to the Department of Health. My concerns stem from authorizing the department to issue standing orders regarding vaccinations and medications. This is potentially problematic in wake of the COVID pandemic where the department's guidance greatly affected our residents' way of life. These recommendations set the stage for family lockdowns, masking requirements, and sent people in a still-evident state of fear. The intended purpose of granting DOH this power is tailored to a specific set of circumstances, but the statutory authority itself is broad enough to give pause. While I do hope that this measure will keep to its premise, I am not confident that it may not come at a later cost."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 3133, SD 2, HD 3, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO PREVENTIVE MEDICINE," passed Third Reading by a vote of 42 ayes to 9 noes, with Representatives Iwamoto and Kila voting aye with reservations, and with Representatives Alcos, Cochran, Garcia, Gedeon, Kong, Matsumoto, Muraoka, Pierick, and Shimizu voting no.

Representative Tamas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2037-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2418, SD 1, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 2418, SD 1, HD 2 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

"In opposition. Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise in strong opposition to Senate Bill 2418. Let's be clear about what this bill actually does, Madam Speaker. Because the title and intent language tries to soften the content of the bill. This is not just about harm reduction. This is just not about public health. The bill goes far beyond that.

"This bill fully legalizes drug paraphernalia in Hawaii. And that matters, because under current law, possession of drug paraphernalia is already decriminalized. It's not a crime. There is no jail time. At most, it's a minor violation with a small fine. That's current law. So, the argument that we must

decriminalize the issue is simply not grounded in reality. That has already been done in previous legislatures.

"What this bill does is something very different. It removes the guard rails entirely. The AG has raised serious concerns about this bill, and I believe we should be listening to those concerns.

"Under this bill, we would be repealing felony protections that exist today to protect Hawaii's *keiki*. Right now, it's a class B felony for an adult to provide drug paraphernalia to a minor. This bill eliminates that. An adult could give a child the tools to use meth, crack, cocaine, heroin, or other hard drugs, and it would no longer be a felony. It would also be repealing the prohibition on advertising drug paraphernalia. That means open promotion, marketing, and yes, targeting. Not just to adults, but inevitably, reaching Hawaii's youth. The Hawaii County prosecutor made it very clear that this bill opens the door to normalizing drug use. And worse, exposing minors to it in ways we currently prohibit.

"And for what? Because the public health justification doesn't hold up either. We already have a syringe exchange program, which I disagree with. We already allow access to sterile needles, which disagree with. We already provide immunity for participants in those programs. Those protections already exist. So, this bill is not filling a gap, it's removing boundaries that were intentionally put in place.

"And let's talk about the broader impact. When you legalize the tools for drug use, you are not operating in a vacuum. You are lowering the barrier to entry. You are normalizing drug behavior that we should be discouraging. And you're strengthening the demand of the illegal drug market, which ultimately benefits traffickers and dealers. More access, more normalization, more drug use in Hawaii's communities. And yet this body continues down a path that I struggle to understand. Time and time again, we're presented with bills that lower the standard, that remove accountability, and that move us further away from public safety.

"Honolulu Police Department opposes this bill. The Hawaii Attorney General opposes this bill. The very people tasked with keeping our communities safe are telling us again, this is bad policy and we're still considering it. It's not compassion. It's not balance and it's certainly not common sense. This bill modeled after mainland progressive policies that have failed time and time again, and we should not be importing those failures into our state. We do not want more drug activity in our communities, we want less drug activity. We don't want to normalize drug use or drug culture, we want to restore accountability to protect Hawaii's families.

"Madam Speaker, this bill sends the wrong message to users, to families, and to Hawaii's next generation. And I cannot and will not support it. I urge my colleagues to use common sense and not normalize drug use. No vote."

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

"I rise in opposition. Thank you, Madam Speaker. Hawaii has already taken meaningful steps in this area. In 2017, our legislature, we reduced simple paraphernalia possession from a felony to a violation. This was a balanced approach, one that acknowledged the issue without fully removing accountability. This bill goes much further, and I believe we should not proceed down that path.

"Finally, I believe we should consider the broader message we are sending. Full repeal may signal that we, the Legislature, our state, is normalizing drug use infrastructure without ensuring the safeguards, treatment capacity, and recovery support necessary to address the root problem. Members, this is not about rejecting compassion. It is about ensuring that policy is balanced, effective, and responsible. Madam Speaker, I would also request that the words of the minority floor leader be inserted as my own. And I would close with saying, for these reasons, I respectfully urge a no vote. Thank you, Madam Speaker," and the Chair "so ordered." (By reference only.)

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

"In support, thank you. Your Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs Committee is moving this bill out because it is compassionate. It is focused on harm reduction. It's focused on helping those who are addicted to drugs to get treatment.

"Substance abuse is a health problem. Criminalizing it doesn't solve the problem. This measure reduces penalties that can discourage people from seeking health care, harm reduction services, or overdose prevention support while keeping limits on equipment used for drug manufacturing. It aims to shift the response more towards safety and treatment and less toward punishment for people who use drugs because they have a health problem.

"This bill could help people seek help sooner by reducing penalties tied to items used for drug use, which can make people less afraid to access health care, overdose prevention, and harm reduction services. This bill keeps restrictions on any items used to make illegal drugs while supporting a more health-focused response for people who use drugs. It can help prevent overdoses and help prevent the spread of infectious diseases while encouraging treatment and connection to services.

"We need to recognize that substance abuse is a reality in our community. We should not turn our back on these members of our community who are our constituents. We need to help them find treatment. Yes, we do need to support treatment services and expand those, absolutely. But we need to remove the barriers for those who have substance abuse problems so that they can actually get that treatment. This bill achieves that and I urge members to support it. Thank you."

Representative Shimizu rose to respond, stating:

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. Opposition, second time. I'd like to acknowledge and give my respects to the Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs chair. I agree that we need to help people who are not able to help themselves. My argument would be that if we are really serious about showing compassion and addressing and helping these people, then we should be funding programs and non-profits, increasing services that really addresses the problem in a focused and increased measure.

"And my concern is that we can pass these bills, Madam Speaker, with great intentions, but unless we really get to the root of the problem by funding specific solutions that are working and are already short-staffed and underfunded, programs that are showing results, helping people. Those are the things that we need to do as a body. So, that's my position and I want to thank you, Madam Speaker."

Representative Garcia rose to respond, stating:

"In opposition, second time. Thank you, Madam Speaker. The chair of the Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs Committee says that this bill is compassionate. This is not a compassionate bill. This is insanity. It's lunacy to think that legalizing crack pipes and meth pipes and syringes filled with paraphernalia is compassionate. I just don't get that. Being raised in a community where this substance abuse was prevalent, I can guarantee you that families who are impacted by this crap does not agree with this. Substance abuse is a reality, he says. Of course it's a reality. And he also says that this bill will help people get further treatment. Madam Speaker, they can get treatment without a crack pipe. No vote."

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

"In opposition. This bill would, they say that we going to seek counselling or get more help or maybe get medicine for more help. But then again, we dealing with chronics on our street and they get one mission in mind, trying

to supply their needs with the bad medicine, with drugs. And they going to steal for get that money. How are we going to keep our community safe? How are we going to keep our people safe in our community?

"Because right now, today, they can get help right now as it is, but they're not seeking for the help. They not looking right now for that extra support that they can have. All they looking for is how to get high the next day. And that's their mission in coming and get high. How are we going to protect our community when we making this, when we letting them out. And if they go out and steal and shoot somebody or kill somebody or hurt somebody or mob your grandma for their purse or their money, you're making it more easy for them. Because, really, it's going to be soft on crime and we not protecting our community. So, in opposition."

Representative Souza rose in support of the measure with reservations and asked that the remarks of the Judiciary 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 S.B. No. 2418, SD 1, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES," passed Third Reading by a vote of 39 ayes to 12 noes, with Representative Souza voting aye with reservations, and with Representatives Alcos, Cochran, Garcia, Gedeon, Hussey, Kila, Kong, Matsumoto, Muraoka, Olds, Pierick, and Shimizu voting no.

Representative Tarnas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2038-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2466, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 2466, HD 2 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

"In opposition. Thank you, Madam Speaker. This bill specifies that the chief elections officer may be only terminated for cause. This bill is not needed, Madam Speaker, because the current law that exists, which creates this position of chief elections officer, gives the authority to hire and fire to the Elections Commission. It's a commission that's appointed by members of this body, leadership from the minority and majority of both chambers, House and Senate. And it should remain that way because it establishes an equally bipartisan Elections Commission that's not subject to advice and consent like previous bills have pushed for. But this bill says that the chief elections officer may only be removed or fired for cause, but it doesn't tell us what cause is. So, the Elections Commission already has the ability to fire him or her for cause. So why is this bill needed? It's not needed. No vote."

Representative Souza 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."

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."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 2466, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE CHIEF ELECTIONS OFFICER," passed Third Reading by a vote of 43 ayes to 8 noes, with Representatives Kila, Reyes Oda, and Souza voting aye with reservations, and with Representatives Alcos, Cochran, Garcia, Gedeon, Matsumoto, Muraoka, Pierick, and Shimizu voting no.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2040-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2798, SD 1, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 2798, SD 1, HD 1 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise in support with reservations and a brief comment. This bill makes permanent the Agricultural Enforcement Pilot Program, established pursuant to Act 235 from just last year, renames the program as the Agriculture Enforcement Program, and expands the program statewide. What I support about this bill is that I support farmers and I don't want them to be victims to crime. And I also support innovation. I support that we have ideas to solve problems and we pilot them. We provide an opportunity to test our theory of change, test whether an intervention is working to achieve the outcomes that we're collaboratively looking for.

"However, the fact that we're making this pilot a permanent program in just one year. I went through the testimony as it made it through various committees, to look for the data to substantiate that, hey, this intervention worked. Everything that we wanted to achieve by having this program and the investments that were made, the community coming together. Was there any data presented in any hearing that said, yes, we achieved our goals, now let's make it permanent and let's expand it statewide? I didn't see that. We didn't give it enough time. And so that's my reservations. Let's give some of these pilot programs the time to prove their proof of concept. Thank you."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 2798, SD 1, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO LAW ENFORCEMENT," passed Third Reading by a vote of 51 ayes, with Representative Iwamoto voting aye with reservations.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2042-26) recommending that S.B. No. 3007, SD 2, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 3007, SD 2, HD 1 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

"I rise in opposition. Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, I appreciate the culture and arts. This is an area that I probably need to grow personally. But unfortunately, with budget concerns, we are forced to make difficult decisions. And I believe at this time, our funds could and should be better placed to address pressing concerns. So, I respectfully ask to defer this measure. 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.B. No. 3007, SD 2, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CULTURE AND ARTS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 43 ayes to 8 noes, with Representatives Alcos, Cochran, Garcia, Matsumoto, Muraoka, Pierick, Reyes Oda, and Shimizu voting no.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2043-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2615, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Kahaloa, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 2615, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO SCHOOL CAFETERIA MEAL COSTS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 51 ayes.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2045-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2101, SD 1, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Kahaloa, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 2101, SD 1, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO

ORGANIC WASTE," passed Third Reading by a vote of 44 ayes to 7 noes, with Representatives Alcos, Cochran, Garcia, Kila, Matsumoto, Muraoka, and Shimizu voting no.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2046-26) recommending that S.B. No. 3138, SD 1, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 3138, SD 1, HD 1 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 3138, SD 1, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO INDEPENDENT AUDITS OF DEPOSIT BEVERAGE DISTRIBUTORS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 51 ayes, with Representative Amato voting aye with reservations.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2048-26) recommending that S.B. No. 3229, SD 1, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 3229, SD 1, HD 1 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

"Thank you, Madam. Speaker. I rise in opposition with a comment. This bill authorizes the use of the University of Hawaii Tuition and Fees Special Fund to conduct donor evaluations. So, as a major donor of the UH Foundation over decades, I am disappointed to learn that we would use or we would authorize the use of student tuition and fees to pay for donor evaluations, instead of using the money that we donate to evaluate. We should be using the money that donors use to evaluate how we feel about the way our donations are being used. We shouldn't be using student tuition and fees. Thank you."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 3229, SD 1, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII," passed Third Reading by a vote of 48 ayes to 3 noes, with Representatives Grandinetti, Iwamoto, and Perruso voting no.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2049-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2969, SD 1, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 2969, SD 1, HD 1 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

"Thank you, Speaker. I rise in strong support with comments. So, we cannot forget what occurred on August 23rd as Maui and Lahaina was hit. Most arguably, one of the most traumatic natural disasters in our state's history. And while we continue to honor those who lost their lives and many of these people I raised with, worked with, still breaks my heart today.

"Because of the Maui fires, there is no question that this catastrophic event has left a tremendous impact on our island's population. Many of the residents experience ongoing health issues and concerns, like respiratory problems, mental health challenges. So, the Maui Wildfire Exposure Study and the Maui Health Registry have been extremely successful after the Lahaina wildfires in providing more than 2,000 residents with medical and mental health screening, bio-monitoring, and referrals to needed care.

"Additionally, this measure will secure community-based and early detection services for residents who may not otherwise be able to access them post-fires. So, this measure ensures to expand services for up to 3,000 individuals with a focus on children and our high-risk populations. Additionally, funding is needed to sustain the good work of the study and

registry for this fiscal year. So, with that being said, I urge my colleagues here to join me in voting yes on this measure. Thank you so much for this opportunity, Speaker."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 2969, SD 1, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE MAUI WILDFIRE EXPOSURE STUDY AND MAUI HEALTH REGISTRY," passed Third Reading by a vote of 51 ayes.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2050-26) recommending that S.B. No. 3286, SD 1, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Kahaloa, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 3286, SD 1, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII," passed Third Reading by a vote of 50 ayes to 1 no, with Representative Pierick voting no.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2054-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2014, SD 1, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 2014, SD 1, HD 1 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

"Thank you, Speaker. I rise in opposition. In its current draft, the bill states in part, the director shall abolish any position that has been vacant for more than five years. And the director referenced is with the Department of Human Resources and Development. The bill provides no consideration from other departments in which positions may be vacant. Takes into no consideration that departments may have had budget restrictions or hiring freezes imposed on them. And it also does not consider reasonable delays as to why the position remains vacant despite active recruitment.

"All positions are part of a department's organizational plan, and when positions are abolished without input from the department, it significantly impacts the department's operations and services. A vacant position is not an empty space, it is authorized capacity. These rules were created to meet specific community needs from public safety to infrastructure oversight. Abolishing these positions doesn't make the workload disappear, it simply crushes the remaining staff under the weight of doing more for less, leading to more burnout and decreased accuracy.

"Furthermore, is this really a cost-saving measure that is truly worth its worth in the long run? These vacancies provide the flexibility needed to adapt to the needs of a community. And if we eliminate a position today, the cost and bureaucratic hurdle of reestablishing it tomorrow when a crisis hits or a new project launches, the cost is significantly higher.

"Departments know what is best and know what is needed. And unless they have a say in what positions should be abolished, we must protect our institutional framework to ensure that when a community calls, we have the structural readiness to answer. Thus, I am voting no on this bill as currently drafted. Thank you, Speaker."

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

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

Representative Keohokapu-Loy rose in opposition to the measure and asked that the remarks of the representative from Waipahu be entered into the Journal as her own, and the Chair "so ordered." (By reference only.)

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

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

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

Representative Poepoe rose and asked that the Clerk record an aye vote with reservations for her, 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 S.B. No. 2014, SD 1, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT," passed Third Reading by a vote of 43 ayes to 8 noes, with Representatives Poepoe, Reyes Oda, and Souza voting aye with reservations, and with Representatives Amato, Grandinetti, Hartsfield, Hussey, Iwamoto, Keohokapu-Lee Loy, Olds, and Perruso voting no.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2057-26) recommending that S.B. No. 3069, SD 1, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 3069, SD 1, HD 1 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 3069, SD 1, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CIVIL SERVICE EXEMPT POSITIONS WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES," passed Third Reading by a vote of 46 ayes to 5 noes, with Representative Reyes Oda voting aye with reservations, and with Representatives Alcos, Amato, Garcia, Iwamoto, and Perruso voting no.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2060-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2268, SD 2, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Kahaloa, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 2268, SD 2, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO EQUITY," passed Third Reading by a vote of 50 ayes to 1 no, with Representative Alcos voting no.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2061-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2543, SD 2, HD 2 pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 2543, SD 2, HD 2 pass Third Reading, 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 Iwamoto 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 to speak in support of the measure with reservations, stating:

"I rise in support with reservations. Thank you, Madam Speaker. I'm not sure if this measure will be adding another layer of bureaucracy. And I was initially against this and I'm still apprehensive to a degree. But in committee hearing, listening to DAGS and the construction industry staunchly behind this to try this as a pilot program, even with considerations that the significant lift in funding and staffing with a \$12.5 million and 90 full-time positions ask. I guess I'm willing to give this pilot program a try and pray

for their success. Because obviously we need to consider different ways of doing things to get better results. So, I stand in support with reservations. Thank you, Madam Speaker."

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

"In support. Madam Speaker, I think this is a really good opportunity for our state to save money. And I'll give you two words, the rail. If we had people with experience in positions like these, we could minimize so much cost overruns. We could identify the bills up front. And we could stop doing what the state notoriously does, screw up.

"If we could look at this bill ahead of time, identify this particular construction company is way too low. Why? Do they plan on doing change orders? That's exactly what they do plan. They get the contract and they stick it to us. They stick it to the taxpayers of the state by doing change orders. If we had somebody in these seats looking at the bids, looking at the proposals, and they could say, hey, this isn't right. This would save a lot of money. Yes, normally I would say no to the \$12 million asked, but in light of a \$12 billion rail system, this would have saved a ton of money. For those reasons, I'm in support."

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

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 2543, SD 2, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO STATE CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes to 2 noes, with Representatives Alcos, Garcia, Iwamoto, and Shimizu voting aye with reservations, and with Representatives Cochran and Pierick voting no.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2062-26) recommending that S.B. No. 3022, SD 1, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 3022, SD 1, HD 1 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

"I rise in opposition. Thank you, Madam Speaker. Similar to SB 3007, this is nice to have. But the private sector is already doing much of this and government doesn't necessarily need to get involved in controlling this. I believe government, we have more important pressing issues to focus on. So, I would respectfully ask to defer this measure. Thank you Madam Speaker."

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. In support. This is a bill that was brought to me when I was chair of the Culture & Arts Committee and it's actually a pretty good bill. It provides the opportunity for the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts to create these awards and throw fundraisers to help fund the organization so that we may not have to. So, it actually saves us government money in the long run. And it involves the private sector so it's like a private-public partnership. For those reasons, I urge this body to vote in support of this measure."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 3022, SD 1, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CULTURE AND ARTS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 50 ayes to 1 no, with Representative Shimizu voting no.

At 11:08 a.m., the Chair noted that the following bills passed Third Reading:

S.B. No. 3154, SD 2, HD 2
S.B. No. 3262, SD 1, HD 1

S.B. No. 2387, SD 1, HD 2
 S.B. No. 3001, SD 2, HD 3
 S.B. No. 2818, SD 2, HD 2
 S.B. No. 2972, SD 1, HD 2
 S.B. No. 2372, SD 2, HD 2
 S.B. No. 888, SD 2, HD 2
 S.B. No. 3028, SD 2, HD 2
 S.B. No. 2613, SD 1, HD 3
 S.B. No. 3263, SD 2, HD 3
 S.B. No. 2602, SD 1, HD 2
 S.B. No. 1032, SD 2, HD 2
 S.B. No. 3090, SD 1, HD 2
 S.B. No. 2001, SD 1, HD 2
 S.B. No. 2599, SD 2, HD 3
 S.B. No. 3247, SD 1, HD 3
 S.B. No. 2401, SD 1, HD 2
 S.B. No. 2363, HD 2
 S.B. No. 2140, SD 1, HD 2
 S.B. No. 2398, SD 2, HD 2
 S.B. No. 3322, SD 2, HD 2
 S.B. No. 3133, SD 2, HD 3
 S.B. No. 2418, SD 1, HD 2
 S.B. No. 2466, HD 2
 S.B. No. 2798, SD 1, HD 1
 S.B. No. 3007, SD 2, HD 1
 S.B. No. 2615, HD 1
 S.B. No. 2101, SD 1, HD 1
 S.B. No. 3138, SD 1, HD 1
 S.B. No. 3229, SD 1, HD 1
 S.B. No. 2969, SD 1, HD 1
 S.B. No. 3286, SD 1, HD 1
 S.B. No. 2014, SD 1, HD 1
 S.B. No. 3069, SD 1, HD 1
 S.B. No. 2268, SD 2, HD 1
 S.B. No. 2543, SD 2, HD 2
 S.B. No. 3022, SD 1, HD 1

At 11:08 a.m., the Chair declared a recess subject to the call of the Chair.

The House of Representatives reconvened at 11:15 a.m.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2064-26) recommending that S.B. No. 3215, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 3215, HD 1 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise in support with reservations and a brief comment. This bill is titled Relating to Harbor Safety. It repeals the sunset provision of Act 236 from Session Laws 2024, thereby making permanent the requirement that Department of Transportation ensure that the securing of mooring lines from vessels to commercial docks, wharves, piers, quays, and landings be performed by labor subject to collective bargaining.

"So, while I support harbor safety and I support those workers who are protected by collective bargaining, this bill, as it moved through six committee hearings, had only two pieces of testimony, both in opposition. No government agency, no union provided testimony stating that because we required mooring lines to be secured by labor subject to collective bargaining, that we had less injuries, better on-time performance, less property damage.

"We are removing a sunset to a pilot program that has not demonstrated that it has achieved the outcomes of the original 2024 Act. In fact, when I went back to look at the testimony back in 2024, the Hawaii Department of Transportation stated in its testimony, HDOT may ask vessel owners and agents to affirm that this requirement is met but lacks the resources necessary to investigate or enforce for lack of compliance.

"My district has Kewalo Basin and other state piers. And there are many small business owners who run these commercial fishing boats. They're owned by family businesses or maybe employee-owned businesses. Those workers who jump off the vessel to moor the line, a lot of them are not unionized labor. And so, this would be very complicated, I think, to enforce. And it's a little bit like it doesn't kind of make sense to have a law that we just refuse to enforce. Thank you."

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

"I rise in opposition. Thank you, Madam Speaker. I agree with the reservations that the vice chair of Public Safety just expressed. This bill repeals the current July 1, 2028, sunset date for Act 236, making permanent the requirement for DOT to ensure that the securing of mooring lines from vessels to commercial docks, wharves, piers, and landings be performed by labor subject to collective bargaining.

"Madam Speaker, I come from a union company and industry, so I know the value of union labor. But I will share and paraphrase from testimony from Activities & Attractions Association of Hawaii, as the previous speaker noted, was I think the singular testifier, which speaks of the great challenges of doing business in Hawaii. This bill adds regulatory burden, cost, and inefficiency to doing business in Hawaii. In some locations, union labor may not always be available, causing delays which affects efficiency and profitability. Again, it goes back to cost of living being the number one issue in our state. Many businesses have trained and qualified personnel to safely assist with this scope, and a blanket mandate unnecessarily blocks them from doing this work safely and freely.

"I agree, safety is paramount. And if so, safety should be driven by competence and accountability, not by a one-size-fits-all labor restriction. With cost of living being the number one issue in our state, this kind of arrangement that mandates and restricts free choice and enterprise, perpetuates entrenched cost factors and work against providing flexible options and solutions for these businesses at a time when Hawaii continues to struggle with affordability and high operating costs, we should avoid policies that increase expenses and create bottlenecks in essential harbor operations. With the July 2028 sunset date, there is still time to analyze this issue more carefully. I respectfully ask that we defer this measure. Thank you, Madam Speaker."

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

"In support, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, this bill before the Legislature allows us to codify what is currently a sunset law, Madam Speaker. Our state harbor is operated by our state facilities, and it is imperative that we continue to monitor these ports with efficacy and safety.

"Making sure that this bill is enacted allows us the continued safety and monitoring to allow our cargos and goods to come into the state securely by making sure that there are no bad actors coming into these ports. O'ahu is the busiest port in the state, Madam Speaker, but all our ports across the state are compliant with this law.

"Largely what we are trying to accomplish is making sure that safety continues to be number one priority and the folks working in our areas of state jurisdiction continue to be state certified employees. So, for those reasons, I urge my colleagues to support this measure."

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

"In support. I just wanted to note that the Transportation chair from 2024 initially had this apply very broadly and that was a mistake. So, I'm glad that last year's Transportation chair actually fixed this. And this bill does not currently apply to any government-owned or government-sponsored vessels, tour boats, training vessels, or fishing vessels. Thank you."

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

"In support, Madam Speaker, just a brief comment. Back in 2024, Act 236 came about due to House Bill 1936. And at the time, the ILWU submitted testimony in support. And there was a lot of testimony, there was over 71 pieces of testimony at the time for this particular measure. And the ILWU submitted testimony in support.

"And one of the things that they said that resonated with me was that this particular measure proposed a responsible solution by mandating the involvement of Hawaii-based safety certified stevedoring companies. These companies employ highly skilled, experienced local longshore workers who possess the intimate knowledge of Hawaiian waters and mooring practices crucial for minimizing accidents and ensuring optimal safety. As with any stevedoring job, mooring operations carry significant risks, and accidents have devastating consequences, even death. But this particular testimony and many of the pieces of testimony in support are the reasons why I'm in support of this particular measure that we have here before us today and making this permanent. Thank you."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 3215, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HARBOR SAFETY," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes to 1 no, with Representatives Gedeon, Iwamoto, and Poepeo voting aye with reservations, with Representative Shimizu voting no, and with Representative Quinlan being excused.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2066-26) recommending that S.B. No. 3156, SD 1, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 3156, SD 1, HD 1 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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 S.B. No. 3156, SD 1, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO FEDERAL MILITARY INSTALLATIONS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 50 ayes, with Representative Souza voting aye with reservations, and with Representative Quinlan being excused.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2070-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2673, SD 1, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 2673, SD 1, HD 1 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise in support with reservation. Madam Speaker, I have observed a few measures addressing the construction process, focusing on the permitting process. I'd like to acknowledge the good and important work of the Economic Development & Technology chair as he chairs the SPEED Task Force. And I would hope that any related bills would be reviewed and coordinated with this task force so that we would work in a coordinated and efficient manner. Thank you, Madam Speaker."

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

"Thank you, Speaker. I rise with reservations and with comment. So, I had spoke to OPSD a little bit and also I put word out to the counties. Unfortunately, didn't get any feedback there yet. But just for me, it looks very cumbersome and very labor-intensive for, in particular, Lahaina and its rebuilding. So, that's my main reasons for with reservations on this measure. Thank you."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 2673, SD 1, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE COUNTIES," passed Third Reading

by a vote of 50 ayes, with Representatives Cochran and Shimizu voting aye with reservations, and with Representative Quinlan being excused.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2071-26) recommending that S.B. No. 411, SD 2, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 411, SD 2, HD 1 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 411, SD 2, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS AT STATE SMALL BOAT HARBORS AND STATE PARKS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 50 ayes, with Representative Iwamoto voting aye with reservations, and with Representative Quinlan being excused.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2072-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2041, SD 1, HD 2 pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 2041, SD 1, HD 2 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

Representative Kila 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 opposition to the measure, stating:

"Thank you so much for this opportunity. So yes, I rise in opposition. And I say, save a working group and save the appropriation. Because here's what I have researched and why this is not needed. So yes, eliminating Hawaii's Land Court system would likely make transactions simpler and faster. It would also reduce title certainty and remove a state-backed layer of protection of a certificate of title that is described as conclusive. Greater risk of hidden title problems if everything is moved to a notice-based recording system since the regular bureau system do not guarantee ownership. So, to eliminate will make day-to-day filing easier, no longer having to deal with Land Court extra steps and filing rules. But if you value certainty, the Land Court system state-guaranteed title is the main reason to keep it. And I choose to keep it. Thank you very much for this time."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 2041, SD 1, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO REAL PROPERTY," passed Third Reading by a vote of 47 ayes to 3 noes, with Representative Kila voting aye with reservations, with Representatives Alcos, Cochran, and Pierick voting no, and with Representative Quinlan being excused.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2073-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2919, SD 1, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 2919, SD 1, HD 1 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 2919, SD 1, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER," passed Third Reading by a vote of 47 ayes to 3 noes, with Representative Shimizu voting aye with reservations, with Representatives Alcos, Garcia, and Pierick voting no, and with Representative Quinlan being excused.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2075-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2152, SD 2, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Kahaloa, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 2152, SD 2, 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 Third Reading by a vote of 50 ayes, with Representative Quinlan being excused.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2076-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2721, SD 1, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 2721, SD 1, HD 1 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

"I rise in opposition. Thank you, Madam Speaker. At first glance, this bill is presented as a technical update to modernize our penal code. But when you look closer, this is not a simple cleanup bill. This is a sweeping overhaul of our criminal justice system with dozens of substantive changes bundled together into one measure. I'm just concerned about any unintended consequences that affect our public safety, Madam Speaker. And that's my main concern in opposing this bill. Thank you."

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

"In support, thank you. This measure is the result of very hard work by the 2025 Advisory Committee on Penal Code Review, which was appointed by the chief justice, former Chief Justice Recktenwald. And it consisted of 61 members from a diverse cross-section of the community affected by criminal laws in Hawaii. Not only legislators are represented on this committee, but also 16 jurists representing all courts and all four judicial circuits, prosecutors from all counties, the Department of Attorney General, lawyers from the Public Defender's Office and the private defense bar, medical professionals from the Department of Health and the Governor's Office, law enforcement officers, advocates for victims' rights, advocates for prisoners' rights, the director of the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, and interested members of the public, advocacy groups, and government staff.

"These recommendations are the consensus of this process. These are folks who are professionals, they've considered what the consequences are. And as your chair of Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs Committee, I wanted to honor that process and move this bill out because I believe that what they have suggest in here will improve our criminal justice system. In the words of the Judiciary, they say that the revisions proposed will facilitate faster mental examination of defendants, minimize the time between court decisions, leverage the medical treatment already afforded to this defendant population, and ultimately reduce the length of stay by defendants at the Hawaii State Hospital.

"The proposals seek to modernize and expedite the transfer of information and patients between the Department of Health and the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation. And the significant revisions will expedite the transfer of defendants out of the state hospital, especially when there is no dispute that a defendant is fit to proceed and should be returned to the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation for further criminal proceedings.

"This measure is very carefully crafted by this committee. And the Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs Committee supports the efforts of the 2025 Advisory Committee on Penal Code Review. And I urge all members to support this measure. Thank you, Speaker."

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 S.B. No. 2721, SD 1, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE," passed Third Reading by a vote of 41 ayes to 9 noes, with Representatives Kila and Reyes Oda voting aye with reservations, with Representatives Alcos, Cochran, Garcia, Gedeon, Matayoshi, Matsumoto, Muraoka, Pierick, and Shimizu voting no, and with Representative Quinlan being excused.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2077-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2446, SD 2, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 2446, SD 2, HD 1 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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 S.B. No. 2446, SD 2, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE JUDICIARY," passed Third Reading by a vote of 48 ayes to 2 noes, with Representatives Cochran and Pierick voting no, and with Representative Quinlan being excused.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2078-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2601, SD 2, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 2601, SD 2, HD 1 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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:

"I rise in opposition. Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, the original intent of this bill was to ensure that awarded contracts have sufficient funding, and if exceeded the 10% threshold, it needs to be approved by the chief procurement officer. In a JHA hearing from the State Procurement Office testimony, Hawaii Administrative Rules already imposes limitations on contract increases. It states that an amendment to a contract that would change the original scope of the contract or increase the original contract price by 10% or more may only be made with the approval of the chief procurement officer. Therefore, this bill is not necessary because of stated rules already in place that accomplish this.

"Also note that SD 1 added blank funding appropriations for plus one full-time position, which was not part of the original asks and is directing funds to something already being handled by this office. The last thing this original bill intended was to repeal criminal penalties in the Hawaii Procurement Code, thereby requiring penalties to be imposed through administrative processes. Note that the current bill includes criminal penalties stating, a person shall be subject to prosecution for a misdemeanor in cases of egregious violations of the procurement code.

"So, the introducer's intent of the bill, first to safeguard any contract amendment that exceeds 10% of the base amount, is already accomplished with administrative rules. Second, changing criminal penalties to administrative ones is not being accomplished. And third, we are now adding cost and personnel that was not requested. So, it seems to me, Madam Speaker, that this measure as it now stands is not beneficial or essential and we don't need to appropriate funds here. Therefore, I ask my colleagues to defer this measure. 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.B. No. 2601, SD 2, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO PROCUREMENT," passed Third Reading by a vote of 45 ayes to 5 noes, with Representatives Alcos, Cochran, Garcia, Pierick, and Shimizu voting no, and with Representative Quinlan being excused.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2079-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2239, SD 1, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 2239, SD 1, HD 1 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

"In opposition. Madam Speaker, I opposed the previous bill on House bill version of this. This bill requires a person who applies for an ID or a driver's license to be automatically registered to vote unless the person affirmatively declines. What will this bill do? This bill is not establishing automatic voter registration. Hawaii already has that and we've had it for some years. But I believe the current process suffices. And that is when you go and get your driver's license or an ID, you have to conscientiously check a box saying I want to get registered to vote. It should remain that way. It gives the individual the liberty to make that decision.

"This bill flips that around and now says you have to conscientiously say I don't want to. Now, how many people who fill out applications are just speeding through things because they're in a rush to get their driver's license or ID? They're there at the DMV not caring about voting, they're there to get their driver's license. And many people will just skip over that because it's not required and they'll automatically be registered to vote. Which means thousands and thousands of new mail ballots being sent across Hawaii for people who didn't really request them. That's not good policy. Bad bill, no vote."

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

"I rise in opposition. Thank you, Madam Speaker. I'm supportive of registering more people to vote, but the critical component of voting rights is being a legal citizen, which this bill would accomplish via self-attestation, just checking the box on a form. With voting being the bedrock of our democracy, for me, this is not exacting enough and easily allows unlawful or even mistaken voting rights. In addition, we really need to do a thorough cleaning of our voter rolls, even before such a measure gets put in place. So, with these serious concerns, Madam Speaker, I move that we defer this bill. Thank you."

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

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise in opposition. The community I serve have expressed that the choice to register to vote should remain with the individual and not automatically decided for them, which is why I'm voting no on this bill. Voter registration should be a deliberate act. When a citizen takes the step to register, they are making a commitment to participate in the democratic process. By making registration passive and automatic, we risk devaluing the significance of the ballot.

"Furthermore, automatic registration possesses significant administrative and privacy risk. Forcing every interaction with a state agency, like renewing a driver's license, to double as a voter registration event increases the likelihood of clerical errors, duplicate files, and the accidental registration of individuals who may not be eligible or who simply wish to remain off government lists for personal privacy.

"We should be focused on continuing to make registration accessible and easy for those who choose it, rather than making it a default setting of the state. Let us preserve the integrity of the voting process and the intentionality of our voters, let registration remain an invitation to participate, not a government mandate. Thank you."

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

"In opposition, and may I have the amazing words from the representative from Waipahu adopted as my own," and the Chair "so ordered." (By reference only.)

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

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

"In opposition. And in addition to the comments that were already put forth, there have been circumstances and people have shared that whether they're military or sometimes they're students, when they're going to get their driver's license, they have checked the box and they have gotten a ballot even though they are not eligible to vote here in Hawaii. If we have automatic voter registration, this is going to be a problem that continues to happen, especially when we need to continue to work to clear our voter rolls and make sure we have accurate voter rolls when we have an all mail-in system. For that, I'm in opposition."

Representative Garcia rose to respond, stating:

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. Second time in opposition, and I like to adopt the word of the representatives of Waipahu and Moanalua and Mililani Mauka as my own," and the Chair "so ordered." (By reference only.)

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

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

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

"In support, thank you. This measure offers the opportunity for people who are in getting their ID or their driver's license to register to vote. And the assumption is that they would like to register to vote. They can opt out, so they can make that choice. We asked the chief elections officer in our hearing in the Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs Committee how to ensure that all the voter registration is done properly. He says we still have to follow all the processes that we do right now when one registers to vote. We have to comply with the federal laws regarding voter registration, and he says we do that.

"The whole issue that was mentioned in previous comments on the floor here about the voter rolls, the chief elections officer says, we follow federal law when it comes to our voter rolls, and he explained the process for how one could be removed from those rolls, and I won't go through that process here on the floor. But this is all dictated by federal law, and we comply with federal law to ensure that our elections are safe and secure and the people who wish to vote can vote. And this is just making it easier for people to register to vote. So, I urge all members to support this measure. Thank you."

Representative Souza rose in support of the measure and asked that the remarks of the Judiciary 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 S.B. No. 2239, SD 1, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO VOTER REGISTRATION," passed Third Reading by a vote of 40 ayes to 10 noes, with Representatives Cochran and Kila voting aye with reservations, with Representatives Alcos, Garcia, Gedeon, Hartsfield, Kong, Matsumoto, Muraoka, Olds, Pierick, and Shimizu voting no, and with Representative Quinlan being excused.

Representative Matayoshi, for the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2080-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2804, SD 1, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 2804, SD 1, HD 1 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. In support. Madam Speaker, in support of Senate Bill 2804, Senate Draft 1, House Draft 1, brief remarks. Madam Speaker, as I traveled and listened to community members who are very concerned about rising costs, one of the things that is being raised consistently is the cost of health care. And this measure, Senate Bill 2804, attacks those very concerns by ensuring that there are not monopolistic practices here in our state.

"Madam Speaker, even though we have one of the best medical insurance systems in this state, there are problems currently in our health ecosystem. But any types of mergers that result in the lessening of access to health care and increased insurance rates are precisely what will affect the pocketbooks of everyday local residents and voters. So, for those reasons, in strong support of this measure. Thank you."

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

"I rise in opposition. Thank you, Madam Speaker. This bill prohibits acquiring and holding stocks and other interests if the acquisition and holding lessens access to health care or increases insurance rates. And I agree this is a great idea and intention. But I would respectfully disagree with my respected Public Safety chair.

"That, as stated in the Hawaii Association of Health Plans testimony, this bill as written is vague and overly broad. There are no specifics for how this requirement is monitored, controlled, or enforced, or who is tasked with this. I'm open to hear discussion and learn more about this, but I believe at this point, this may be an idea that needs further processing. So, I'm asking my colleagues to defer this measure. Thank you, Madam Speaker."

Representative Souza rose in support of the measure and asked that the remarks of the representative from Makiki 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 S.B. No. 2804, SD 1, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO COMMERCE," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes to 1 no, with Representative Shimizu voting no, and with Representative Quinlan being excused.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2082-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2802, SD 1, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Kahaloe, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 2802, SD 1, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes to 1 no, with Representative Pierick voting no, and with Representative Quinlan being excused.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2083-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2577, SD 2, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloe moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 2577, SD 2, HD 1 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 2577, SD 2, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO SPORTS TOURISM," passed Third Reading by a vote of 50 ayes, with Representative Iwamoto voting aye with reservations, and with Representative Quinlan being excused.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2084-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2320, SD 1, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Kahaloe, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 2320, SD 1, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO

AGRICULTURE," passed Third Reading by a vote of 50 ayes, with Representative Quinlan being excused.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2085-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2706, SD 1, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Kahaloe, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 2706, SD 1, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes to 1 no, with Representative Pierick voting no, and with Representative Quinlan being excused.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2087-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2781, SD 1, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloe moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 2781, SD 1, HD 2 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 2781, SD 1, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO LEI," passed Third Reading by a vote of 48 ayes to 2 noes, with Representatives Garcia and Shimizu voting aye with reservations, with Representatives Alcos and Gedeon voting no, and with Representative Quinlan being excused.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2089-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2433, SD 1, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Kahaloe, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 2433, SD 1, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CONDOMINIUMS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 50 ayes, with Representative Quinlan being excused.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2090-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2657, SD 1, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Kahaloe, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 2657, SD 1, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE AND RELATED DEMENTIAS RESEARCH," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes to 1 no, with Representative Pierick voting no, and with Representative Quinlan being excused.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2092-26) recommending that S.B. No. 3045, SD 1, HD 2 pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloe moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 3045, SD 1, HD 2 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise in opposition. Although I support the intent of this bill, I share my concerns. In referencing testimony to the Finance Committee, HMSA states, the state auditor's report, as required by House Bill 820 and House Concurrent Resolution, HCR 171, SD 1, Regular Session 2025, found that, per HRS Section 431, already provides coverage for outpatient diabetes self-management training, education, equipment, and supplies when determined to be medically necessary and are prescribed by a healthcare professional. We conclude that House Bill No. 820, which reiterates coverage for continuous glucose monitors when medically necessary and prescribed, would not alter existing insurance coverage

requirements under Hawai'i law. Based off the auditor's conclusion, we respectfully ask that this measure be deferred.

"Additionally, referencing the Department of Human Services' testimony, for the committee's information, DHS currently provides medically necessary coverage for continuous glucose monitors, as well as related repairs, parts, and supplies. Benefits under the Medicaid program are provided without copayments, deductibles, or coinsurance. DHS comments that Section 346-6 Hawaii Revised Statutes already provides DHS with the authority to receive and expend gifts, grants, or donations.

"And additionally, from Hawaii Primary Care Association, they expressed grave concerns that this bill might result in serious, unintended consequences to Hawaii's Prepaid Health Care Act, Chapter 393, Hawaii Revised Statutes, which is also mentioned in the testimony from the insurance commissioner of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, Insurance Division.

"The additional testimony from Hawaii Association of Health Plans, Hawaii Primary Care Association, and also the insurance commissioner share more, I guess, expanded serious cost obligation outcomes that are considerable.

"I'd also like to note there was no testimony from our attorney general to vet this. And based on what I see are substantial factors, I would urge my colleagues to defer this measure. Thank you, Madam Speaker."

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

"In support. Thank you, Madam Speaker. With all due respect to the previous speaker, I'm in full support of this bill. I believe that this will save insurers and the state money in the long run. Those who have diabetes, especially type 2 diabetes or type 1 and a few other types, benefit greatly from this new technology, which is a little circular device in their arm. And they can grab their phone, check their glucose numbers at any time. After they eat a meal, after they're walking, or whatever. And this encourages individual responsibility. And this encourages people to get active, to start moving, as they see that their actions can actually increase or decrease those numbers. It's a good thing, and I believe in the long run it will save insurers money, and it's also a good public health thing for Hawaii. So, in strong support."

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. With reservations. My reservations are based on the testimony of the insurance commissioner. 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.B. No. 3045, SD 1, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH INSURANCE," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes to 1 no, with Representative Belatti voting aye with reservations, with Representative Shimizu voting no, and with Representative Quinlan being excused.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2096-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2803, SD 1, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 2803, SD 1, HD 1 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

"I rise in support with reservations and a brief comment. Thank you. What I support is the effort to support pathways for our unhoused citizens to get housed. However, I have reservations with using state funds that we generate through GET collections and income tax on working families to fund county programs such as HONU. When county council members refuse to raise revenue by taxing empty homes, taxing private investors who do not even vote for these county council members. Those are my reservations. Thank you."

Representative Shimizu 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 opposition to the measure, stating:

"Thank you, Speaker. And I rise in opposition. And I guess my main question here is why, with this bill, the statewide Office on Homelessness and Housing Solutions, when created, why was it created since there's already, it appears, a homeless program office. And now it's asking to be reorganized in 2027. And the sole purpose for this new entity is to collect data, share data, *et cetera*.

"This is also asking for status of Kauhale, which this body last year has already called for an audit and the finalized report was supposed to have been given to us prior to us commencing our session. And it is yet to be forthcoming. And so, the entities such as SOHHS has not been forthcoming with answers and documentation, what-have-you, to the auditors for them to complete this audit, and has just simply not been forthcoming.

"In section three, this is asking for GO bonds, which has a blank amount, which scares me. For FY26 to 27 for the Kauhale Initiative, development projects and related CIPs. And for me, I cannot in clear conscience entertain a single penny. I know we're stopping making pennies, so may not be any to give. But I will not support a single penny going to SOHHS or any of the Kauhale Initiatives until a final clean audit is given to this body. So, thank you for this time."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 2803, SD 1, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HOMELESSNESS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 46 ayes to 4 noes, with Representatives Iwamoto and Shimizu voting aye with reservations, with Representatives Alcos, Cochran, Garcia, and Muraoka voting no, and with Representative Quinlan being excused.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2098-26) recommending that S.B. No. 3025, SD 2, HD 2, as amended in HD 3, pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 3025, SD 2, HD 3 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

"I rise in support with reservations. Thank you, Madam Speaker. This is a very noble and benevolent provision, Madam Speaker. My concern is how do we determine without discriminating for other justifiable needs and remains fiscally responsible for future considerations. I think what is more important is how do we as a state become more proactive and preventative to avoid and minimize such outcomes. We need to educate our people regarding good health, healthy lifestyles, diet, exercise, regular checkups, *et cetera*, as well as financial literacy education to confirm that they do have adequate health insurance coverages. That's my reservation and my concern. 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.B. No. 3025, SD 2, HD 3, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO MEDICAL DEBT," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes to 1 no, with Representative Shimizu voting aye with reservations, with Representative Pierick voting no, and with Representative Quinlan being excused.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2100-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2645, SD 3, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 2645, SD 3, HD 1 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 2645, SD 3, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO FIRE PREVENTION," passed Third Reading by a vote of 50 ayes, with Representative Iwamoto voting aye with reservations, and with Representative Quinlan being excused.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2102-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2109, SD 2, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 2109, SD 2, HD 1 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise in support with reservations. This bill is a positive provision. However, I just want to share reservations that I've heard, especially from Hawaii Island, and shared by Hawaii County mayor to the Finance Committee. The bill's language requires an ASL interpreter in a picture-in-picture window during every official announcement broadcast. This mandate could critically delay or even prevent the delivery of urgent, potentially life-saving information if a certified ASL interpreter is unavailable. Third-party agencies are our main resource for interpreters, but there is no guarantee that one will always be available quickly, nor can we always rely on video communication services to be online and operable during emergencies.

"We respectfully request that Section 6 be amended to allow for official announcement broadcasts to still be carried out without an ASL interpreter if all reasonable attempts to provide [such] interpreter in a picture-in-picture window have been made, but it is not possible to be provided in a reasonable amount of time in relation to the urgency of the state of emergency. We are in strong support of greater accessibility, but we believe this bill, in its current draft, could prevent us from providing urgent video information to the public during emergencies, risking public safety.' I share that reservation. Thank you, Madam Speaker."

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 S.B. No. 2109, SD 2, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMUNICATIONS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 50 ayes, with Representatives Garcia and Shimizu voting aye with reservations, and with Representative Quinlan being excused.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2105-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2811, SD 2, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 2811, SD 2, HD 1 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

"So yes, I stand in opposition and my main reason is, again, forget a task force and if we go back to Senate Bill 2030, this one I think if we would scrap this bill I'm opposing and jump over to 2030 instead would end up in the best solution, I feel, at this time. It creates a master coordinated project spreadsheet. And that's why I prefer that bill but oppose this one. Thank you."

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

"I rise in opposition. Thank you, Madam Speaker. My question, Madam Speaker, is because we already have a current task force, SPEED or Simplifying Permitting for Enhanced Economic Development, which was established just last year by Act 133, chaired by our Economic Development chair, shouldn't we invest more effort and cooperation into this existing project before starting something that may overlap scope and spends more

money and creates more bureaucracy. Madam Speaker, with our budget constraints, I don't believe we need more funding obligations. And I recommend we defer this bill. 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.B. No. 2811, SD 2, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO STATE BUILDING PROJECTS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 48 ayes to 2 noes, with Representatives Cochran and Shimizu voting no, and with Representative Quinlan being excused.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2106-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2567, SD 2, HD 2 pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Kahaloa, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 2567, SD 2, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO PETITIONS TO TEMPORARILY RESTRAIN AND ENJOIN HARASSMENT OF AN EMPLOYEE," passed Third Reading by a vote of 50 ayes, with Representative Quinlan being excused.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2107-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2125, SD 1, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 2125, SD 1, HD 2 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

"I rise in support. This bill extends licensing requirements for emergency hire teachers from three to five years. I was an emergency hire teacher for three years at Campbell High. Emergency hire teachers are probably at every single school around the state. They're also substitutes who teach the classes all year because there are not enough bodies to fill classrooms.

"Each year the DOE is hiring more and more unlicensed teachers. Last year, nearly 48% of newly hired teachers were unlicensed. We should ask where these teachers are going. The DOE designated certain complexes as hard to fill, which means they face high vacancy rates and/or have a high number of unlicensed teachers. Where are these schools? In the complexes of Hana, Lana'i, Moloka'i Honoka'a, Ka'u, Kealahou, Kohala, Konawaena, Lahainaluna, Kea'au, Pāhoa, Wai'anae, at the Hawaii School for Deaf and Blind, and two where I worked, Nānākuli and Olomana School.

"We all want every child in our state to have a qualified teacher. This bill does just that. The superintendent stated that currently one out of every three emergency hire teachers obtains a license within the current deadline. These emergency hire teachers are actively working to become licensed. So, if we pass this bill, there could be more licensed teachers in the future. The future of this state depends on our kids who rely on and deserve qualified teachers.

"Next up, the department needs to work on retaining them, because 50% of teachers in their first five years quit. The DOE talks about recruiting more local teachers, but there also needs to be a focus on keeping the teachers and making sure that those teachers thrive in the workplace."

Representative Garcia rose in support of the measure with reservations and asked that the remarks of the assistant minority floor leader be entered into the Journal as his own, and the Chair "so ordered." (By reference only.)

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. Rising in opposition. Every student in Hawaii's public schools deserves to be taught by a fully qualified licensed teacher. That must remain our North Star. In my view, this bill moves us away from that goal.

"I want to acknowledge that emergency hires serve an important purpose. They provide flexibility for teachers who move to Hawaii from out of state and need time to earn their license, as well as for other unique situations where schools must act quickly. That flexibility is appropriate and necessary. But extending this emergency hire pathway for otherwise

unlicensed teachers from three years to five years is, in my view, a move in the wrong direction.

"Emergency hires were meant to be a bridge, a temporary solution while individuals work toward licensure. Yet this bill risks normalizing what has effectively become a shadow workforce to address our teacher vacancy problem. Today, more than 1,000 emergency hires are serving in our classrooms, many with no more than a bachelor's degree in a field outside of education. A disproportionate number of them are in Title I schools and in rural communities where achievement gaps are already most pronounced. That should give us all pause.

"Instead of accelerating the path toward highly qualified, licensed teachers in every classroom, we risk becoming comfortable with the stop-gap solution. The existing three-year window was designed to move individuals quickly into teacher preparation programs, most of which can be completed within two years. Extending this to five years does not solve the shortage. It simply delays licensure and reduces the urgency to build a fully qualified teacher workforce.

"Madam Speaker, in many ways, this is akin to pushing back a deadline for homework. These emergency hires knew they had three years to complete their licensure program. Extending that timeline risks rewarding delay rather than reinforcing urgency.

"To be clear, this is not solely a failure of the Department of Education. The department does not produce teachers, they hire them. This is a systemic challenge that requires us to strengthen the entire pipeline. That means revisiting the full compensation package to make teaching a more attractive and sustainable profession. We cannot continue to rely on the altruism of those who understand the importance of shaping the next generation and expect that alone to solve a workforce shortage. When more than half of teachers leave the profession within five years, something is clearly wrong.

"Madam Speaker, emergency hires should remain available for truly unique circumstances. But moving from three years to five years risks normalizing what should remain temporary. For these reasons, I respectfully vote no. Thank you."

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. In support. I appreciate the prior speaker's concern. Your Committee on Education had to ask the question, what is the alternative to these emergency hires? And we know that the alternative is that these classrooms that are taught by these emergency hires, they then had to be taught by substitute teachers. Some of which, respectfully, have no idea what they're doing. That is, to me, Madam Speaker, much worse.

"Or these students then have to go to cafeterias in which they sit there, they may do homework, they may not, but they are not being serviced by any particular teacher. That is not the best and highest use of their time, or all of our times.

"The Teacher Standards Board submitted testimony in opposition. They are responsible, however, for making sure that the teacher pathways that we have in this state are of extreme rigor. They should have voice with regards to our EPPs. They should be working with our institutions of higher learning to ensure that all of our educators are prepared to service our kids. That unfortunately is not the case. That is the role of the institution of higher learning.

"The standards board has control over our SATEPs. So, we need not even have any alternate pathways. It can work with the department to make sure that once educators are actually in the classroom, if they're novice, they're properly supported with robust coaching, mentoring, and tutoring. Which is the case for our pre-kindergarten classrooms.

"And numbers don't lie, because with our pre-K classrooms, we know, even starting off, that many of those families come from socioeconomically challenged backgrounds. But yet, 9 out of 10 of those children are proficient. That is a statistic that is comparable to the highest performing public school systems globally.

"And so, while this is not ideal, Madam Speaker, it is the best solution that we have now. A prior speaker mentioned that a lot of these educators, who actually do have licenses in other countries, they just need more time

to complete this process. And so, by allowing them to complete the process, by giving them a little bit more time, that is to the benefit of the students, that is to the benefit to our communities, and that is a benefit to the State of Hawaii. And for that reason and others, I stand in support."

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise in opposition. And I ask that the words of the representative from Mānoa be entered into the record as my own," and the Chair "so ordered." (By reference only.)

Representative Iwamoto continued, stating:

"And I have additional comments. As I mentioned earlier, I did serve on the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board. I do appreciate the testimony that they shared with our committee. And they made it clear that there is sufficient time for recruits, even recruits from outside of Hawaii, even international recruits. When they are recruited, they can immediately access educational information so that they can take the Praxis, they can become certified even before coming to Hawaii. And then they have three additional years to become certified in the subject matter and the pedagogy, learn how to teach our kids. That's really important. I don't think we should be sliding backwards and lowering the quality of education our kids are receiving.

"Keep in mind, when these kids make it through one year with an unqualified, uncertified teacher, they may be going to a classroom that has a qualified teacher, but they're already behind. And if we keep stacking year after year after year of these emergency hires who feel like they can just coast a little longer, that ultimately does deny our students a quality education for a longer period of time. Thank you."

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

"Thank you, Speaker. I rise in strong support. And I would like to please request that the words of our chair of the House Committee on Education be entered into the Journal as if they were my own. Thank you," and the Chair "so ordered." (By reference only.)

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

"In opposition. Madam Speaker, can I have the words of the reps from Mānoa and Kaka'ako inserted as my own, and a brief comment. Madam Speaker, bills like this, every time we add on, it's systemic problems here in Hawaii. We can compare this to our budget as well. We cannot hit the deadline, so we keep adding. We keep adding. We need to create a system and a standard that the state operates by, that's the only way we're going to succeed. Thank you," and the Chair "so ordered." (By reference only.)

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. In support. May I also adopt the words of the Education chair as if they were my own," and the Chair "so ordered." (By reference only.)

Representative La Chica continued, stating:

"And then additional comments. This bill was supported by the Department of Education, by the Executive Office on Early Learning, by the Teacher's Union. I think the reality is that we have more teachers leaving the state and leaving their jobs than those that are applying to current job shortage areas, hard-to-fill areas, places in more rural locations. And we just can't recruit and retain teachers fast enough.

"Our J-1 teachers, for example, have the ability to be on an emergency contract for three years with the extension of two years, so up to five years total, if they remain in good standing. This bill is currently written so that past the three years, they have to be able to prove that they are progressing towards licensure.

"The reality is that our standards to be able to attain licensure is so rigorous. I researched all the Praxis, which is the core exams that are required that's necessary for all states. And for the 46 states that I got data on, only 17 of which have required the three core exams, it takes up to \$500 to be able to take a single core Praxis test. And for a lot of our teachers who may be exceptionally qualified, have PhDs, have taught in many, many

years, but who may not have served or been trained under a U.S. System, questions under certain core tests such as philosophy, U.S. History, U.S. Culture, a lot these things, they may be passing with flying colors in two out of the three tests and may need to be retaking that same test over and over again. And so, because of this, it's simply, the three years has gone by and it's expired.

"And as mentioned by our chair, we much would rather have continuity with a teacher who has already shown so much care, so much dedication, so much hard work in a single classroom than just ending that contract and being replaced by a substitute teacher who is new to the classroom, new to the students, and haven't had the ability to be part of that school.

"Again, the Department of Education is the employer. They hold them to a standard, they hold them to evaluation. And it's up to the principal. And whenever we've had encountered similar legislation like this before, so many principals have reached out to us and attested to the quality of teachers that they receive through this program and through the current process. So, just wanted to reiterate that this is just one of the tools. It's not the best tool, but it's one of ways where we can address our current teacher shortage crisis. *Mahalo.*"

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

"Madam Speaker, I stand in strong support. Thank you, Madam Speaker. We understand the reality. I mean, right now, I think our DOE requires 1,200 to 1,500 teachers annually. And that's a lot of teachers, Madam Speaker. And right now, our university can produce maybe 300 teachers on an annual basis. You can see the math, it's not mathing. The thing is, some say this is not the right tool, but it's the right tool right now. It might not be the right tool in the future because maybe in the future, in the next 10 years, our university is able to produce 600 teachers that meets half of the demand.

"But we're looking at it as numbers, Madam Speaker. When it comes to the little kids, early education, all the way to the higher high school kids, the little ones need more teachers per student, like 15 students to a teacher, and for high school, maybe 20 to 30 students per teacher. And if we can't fill that role of another teacher going into that classroom, that means there might be 20 kindergarten kids or 30 kindergarten kids to a teacher. Or maybe 50 students to a teacher in the high schools. That's a lot of responsibility for one teacher because we can't fill the shortage next year.

"We're looking at an immediate fix right now, Madam Speaker, and that's what this measure does. And some may be against international teachers coming into the state. But I want to remind them that we're not taking away any local teachers, because at some point, this is a visa that they have to go back to their country. That means they're teaching from three years, right now at this moment, this bill pushes it to five. But eventually, once that's done, they have to go back their country. That means while they're here, they're teaching, and any local teacher can come in and fill that slot, Madam Speaker.

"It's an emergency that we have a teacher shortage. And I just want to remind this body that if we don't do anything right now, it's going to be worse in the future. We need a long-term plan, and that's a separate bill. That should have been done 10 years ago. But we're in this situation and we got to get to next year and the year after, and that's why I support this measure. Thank you."

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise in support. I would like the words of the Education chair entered into the record as my own. And I would also like the words of the representative from Puna inserted into the records as my own with an emphasis on the math is not mathing. Thank you," and the Chair "so ordered." (By reference only.)

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

"Madam Speaker, I rise in opposition and I'd like to have the words of the representative from Mānoa entered into the record as my own. And I'd also like to encourage us to as a legislature embrace our responsibility and to remind folks that the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board is not responsible for developing policy that addresses this problem. We are," and the Chair "so ordered." (By reference only.)

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

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

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

"In support. I was not always in support of this bill, but the language added between last year and this year is that these teachers will need to be enrolled in a continuing education course. So, they will become better teachers. They're required to do this. In my opinion, the Praxis is not the highest bar to set. But having been a teacher, having taught with long-term subs in classrooms next to me teaching the same subject, I can say that having a long-term sub definitely, definitely puts students behind. Having a qualified teacher in the classroom is obviously the ideal, but we're not dealing with just two choices here. We're dealing with one choice, and that's a long-term sub, and that really hurting our students.

"I also want to say that in the committee we talked to the UH College of Education. And in the next five years, they're going to be doubling the number of teachers that they put out. So, I'm hoping that this is a temporary fix, and it is not meant to be a permanent fix. And I'm hoping we can bring ourselves out of this. Thank you."

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

"In support. I was actually going to be a teacher and instead I had to go get a job, because the pathway to becoming a teacher would have meant deferring income. If we had something like this in place at the time, I would have saved you about 20 seconds."

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

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. Same request, in support. I also want to add that yes, this is a band-aid fix. And we certainly have to do more on this floor and in this body to address our teacher shortage. But we also have to make sure that our students have the best possible teachers in every single moment, and I think this is a part of that. I like to think of the work that we do on this floor as yes and, not one or the other, but yes and we can do so much more, and we can do so much better for our students, and we have to."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 2125, SD 1, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO TEACHER LICENSING," passed Third Reading by a vote of 45 ayes to 5 noes, with Representatives Garcia, Matsumoto, and Poepoe voting aye with reservations, with Representatives Alcos, Garrett, Iwamoto, Muraoka, and Perruso voting no, and with Representative Quinlan being excused.

Representative Matayoshi, for the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2109-26) recommending that S.B. No. 83, SD 2, HD 2, as amended in HD 3, pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 83, SD 2, HD 3 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise in opposition. Although I very much agree that there could be improvement in communication to guests, it is in the hotel industry's best interest to represent their businesses and conduct themselves to ensure repeat return visitors and positive communication to others.

"However, the realistic concerns and challenges expressed by the visitor industry are significant. With cost of living being our number one issue statewide for all of our people, and the effect of this bill to tourism, our leading economic industry, we need to be sensitive and considerate of their

position of stated challenges and effects to their operation and cost of business and any unintended adverse effects.

"I acknowledge that some good amendments were made. But based on the various specific problems and burdens expressed by our visitor industry and still questions that need to be and should be more carefully resolved, I recommend that we defer this bill until a workable agreement is settled. Thank you, Madam Speaker."

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

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

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

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 83, SD 2, HD 3, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HOTELS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 44 ayes to 6 noes, with Representatives Alcos, Cochran, Garcia, Gedeon, Matsumoto, and Shimizu voting no, and with Representative Quinlan being excused.

Representative Matayoshi, for the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2111-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2386, SD 1, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloe moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 2386, SD 1, HD 2 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

"In opposition. Thank you, Madam Speaker. I don't know about you, but when I was hiring my session staff, I didn't expose a set compensation when doing the search process. With a fixed allowance, flexibility was needed to negotiate and balance and manage our dynamic situation. So initial connection and vetting with mutual needs that were shared in the conversation helped shape the picture.

"Any applicant can freely ask for compensation information from the employer personally. So having been a business owner, this bill feels like an unnecessary infringement of one's privacy and freedom to conduct business. Compensation information can be sensitive in nature, and exposing your benchmarks to your competition, your competitors, is not always helpful. Even with current employees to foster good relationships, minimize comparisons, and maintain a positive working environment, it is not necessary to advertise compensation.

"Wages are only part of an employer's offering package for consideration. Parking provision, flexible work hours, conducive work environment with valuable training, and pleasant co-workers and supervisors, upward mobility, bonuses, among other things important to both sides, are significant factors. In hiring, businesses often need flexibility in pay ranges so they can negotiate compensation packages, make adjustments based on skill level and previous experience, which is all part of the challenging hiring evaluation process.

"Business employs our people, contributes various taxes, and generates economic synergy. We want to promote our economy and small businesses especially. We need to allow them freedom to operate without burdensome requirements. Every business, and as we know every state department, depend on well-staffed, competent people. It is in every business's best interest to treat their people well and help them thrive. With those concerns stated, this bill does not necessarily help our businesses nor promote our cost-of-living concerns in a positive way. Again, I ask Madam Speaker, that we defer this bill. Thank you."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 2386, SD 1, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO EMPLOYMENT EARNINGS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 45 ayes to 5 noes, with Representatives Garcia, Gedeon, Kong, Pierick, and Shimizu voting no, and with Representative Quinlan being excused.

Representative Matayoshi, for the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2113-26) recommending that S.B. No. 3132, SD 1, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Kahaloe, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 3132, SD 1, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO SYNDROMIC SURVEILLANCE," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes to 1 no, with Representative Pierick voting no, and with Representative Quinlan being excused.

Representative Matayoshi, for the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2114-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2175, SD 2, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloe moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 2175, SD 2, HD 2 pass Third Reading, 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 Iwamoto rose and asked that the Clerk record an aye vote with reservations for her, and the Chair "so ordered."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 2175, SD 2, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO DISPOSABLE ELECTRONIC SMOKING DEVICES," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes to 1 no, with Representatives Garcia and Iwamoto voting aye with reservations, with Representative Kong voting no, and with Representative Quinlan being excused.

Representative Matayoshi, for the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2116-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2271, SD 1, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloe moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 2271, SD 1, HD 2 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise in support. I was going to vote with reservations because I was under the impression this bill has to do with permit, it permits hospitals to demonstrate compliance with all licensing inspections required by the state through accreditation or certification by any accreditation or certification organization approved by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. So, my previous concern was that safe staffing ratios were not considered in this bill. And in fact, they currently are not being considered by the Medicare and Medicaid Services. However, I was assured from the Health chair that testimony did demonstrate that it will be in the upcoming year, that safe staffing ratios regarding nurses will be part of the certification and accreditation process. I appreciate that. Thank you."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 2271, SD 1, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HOSPITAL LICENSING," passed Third Reading by a vote of 50 ayes, with Representative Quinlan being excused.

Representative Matayoshi, for the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2117-26) recommending that S.B. No. 847, SD 2, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloe moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 847, SD 2, HD 2 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 847, SD 2, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO PSYCHOLOGISTS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 48 ayes to 2 noes, with Representative Iwamoto voting aye with reservations, with Representatives Amato and Kong voting no, and with Representative Quinlan being excused.

Representative Matayoshi, for the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2122-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2694, SD 2, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloe moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 2694, SD 2, HD 2 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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. I rise in opposition. This bill allows for automatic rate increases for water carriers outside of the full transparent rate case process that typically protects consumers. Again, we are already in cost-of-living problems that we face statewide. If we are going to allow rate increases, they should be transparent, justified, and fully reviewed. One of the concerns I saw in the PUC's testimony is that by approving automatic increases, we reduce the incentive to reduce operating costs and the commission's authority to properly evaluate them. So, for these reasons, I respectfully urge a no vote. Thank you, Madam Speaker."

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

"Thank you Madam Speaker. I rise in opposition. Currently, the PUC has the discretion to approve a multi-year auto adjustment. In fact, they have considered this, and because of the facts at hand in that particular contemplation, they denied it. However, what's really important is that I do not agree with removing that discretion from the PUC. And a majority of testifiers representing customers support the PUC maintaining this discretion instead of this body mandating that the PUC approve multi-year auto adjustments. Thank you."

Representative Cochran rose in opposition to the measure and asked that the remarks of District 32 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 S.B. No. 2694, SD 2, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO WATER CARRIERS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 37 ayes to 13 noes, with Representative Reyes Oda voting aye with reservations, with Representatives Cochran, Garcia, Gedeon, Ilagan, Iwamoto, Kapela, Lowen, Marten, Matsumoto, Pierick, Poepoe, Shimizu, and Tam voting no, and with Representative Quinlan being excused.

Representative Matayoshi, for the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2123-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2487, SD 1, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloe moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 2487, SD 1, HD 1 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 2487, SD 1, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL

FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION," passed Third Reading by a vote of 50 ayes, with Representative Shimizu voting aye with reservations, and with Representative Quinlan being excused.

Representative Matayoshi, for the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2124-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2061, SD 2, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloe moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 2061, SD 2, HD 2 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

"Thank you. I rise in opposition with comments Thank you very much. So, this is about owner-occupied residential building to be built by Hawaii Public Housing Authority, HPHA, who is funded by federal HUD monies and state funds to run public housing. This bill deletes, actually it rather allows rentals and subleasing units without penalty, which currently now is penalized. You can't rent to a tenant. This bill is saying you can't rent to a tenant or lessee in the building. This means anyone else in the entire outside world can now be a renter.

"Currently, there is a 99-year lease in place. This bill would give HPHA the purview to decide what the duration of occupancy is. And for me, then that could may not be for 99 years. And my question is, could this be opening up a short-term rental type use of such building? HPHA can create its own additional terms, conditions, and requirement for defining eligible buyers, qualified residents, *et cetera*. And all the bullet points in this bill have a 'except as otherwise provided by rule' clause. Which for me, they can just as well create a rule to waive rules.

"This bill also allows a person to own other real property, an investor. This public housing should not be an investment property. The buyback clause will use pricing similar to other state agencies' pricing formula. Who is this and what is this? And if HPHA doesn't purchase the unit, then it can be sold to anyone.

"Lastly, this bill asked to be exempted from Chapter 103D. The design, development, construction contracts will all be exempted. Prevailing wages will be determined by the director of DLIR. I believe the unions fought really hard to get their pricing and prevailing wage rates. The procurement code, so Chapter 103D is our procurement code. And this code is the rulebook for public agencies like HPHA in Hawaii who use when spending public money. It is meant to make procurement more fair, transparent, and accountable. It's unbelievable for me that this bill asks for exemption from this *pono* practice. So, that's all my reasons for not supporting this. And for section six, this act should never take effect. *Mahalo* for this time, Speaker."

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise in opposition. I rise in opposition because I do not support using taxpayer dollars to subsidize building affordable housing for investors to become landlords. Currently all units are supposed to be owner occupied as the statute is currently written. This bill will allow there to be a breakaway from that policy.

"The entire point of these 99-year leases was to make units more affordable since we are taking out the cost of land ownership from the pricing. But according to the numbers we're seeing in the testimony regarding this bill, it looks a lot like how we've been pricing and budgeting for affordable housing projects in the past. And I was hoping that this 99-year lease concept would be new and innovative and more affordable to local families. Thank you."

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

"In support. Thank you, Madam Speaker. I just want to clarify that the bill is applicable to the Hawaii Community Development Authority, not the Hawaii Public Housing Authority. Thank you."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 2061, SD 2, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO RESIDENTIAL CONDOMINIUMS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 43 ayes to 7 noes, with Representatives Amato, Cochran, Garcia, Gedeon, Iwamoto, Kong, and Muraoka voting no, and with Representative Quinlan being excused.

Representative Tarnas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2125-26) recommending that S.B. No. 709, SD 2, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 709, SD 2, HD 2 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise in support with reservations. Homelessness is a health issue, not a criminal issue. Isn't that what our governor ran on? Now we have state law enforcement taking the lead when it should be with DOH. And the governor should be ensuring that DOH has the resources, leadership, and infrastructure to deliver on his vision of helping this most vulnerable population. And those are my reservations."

Representative Alcos 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 S.B. No. 709, SD 2, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO MENTAL HEALTH," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes to 1 noes, with Representatives Alcos and Iwamoto voting aye with reservations, with Representative Amato voting no, and with Representative Quinlan being excused.

Representative Tarnas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2127-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2151, SD 2, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 2151, SD 2, HD 2 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

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

"In support. Madam Speaker, as I said on second reading, this bill has been quite controversial. And I believe a big portion of that controversy is based upon a fundamental misunderstanding of the bill. The assumption that this bill is establishing HRS 127A, the emergency powers section of the HRS, is not the case. The bill is amending the section to really insert guardrails around what the governor can do when using his power to declare emergencies.

"It also gives authority to the legislative branch of government to override proclamations and not just here on the state level but on the county level as well. That's a good thing. And people who are concerned about government overreach and the governor's abuse of powers, and I am one of them, who believe the governor and previous governors have abused their powers when declaring emergencies, if you believe those powers should be reined in, then we should be supporting this bill because it establishes a baseline for checks and balances which currently does not exist. So, for those reasons, in strong support."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 2151, SD 2, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT," passed Third Reading by a vote of 50 ayes, with Representative Souza voting aye with reservations, and with Representative Quinlan being excused.

Representative Tarnas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2128-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2852, SD 1, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 2852, SD 1, HD 2 pass Third Reading, 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 Shimizu rose to speak in support of the measure with reservations, stating:

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise in support with reservations. Madam Speaker, it is important to protect the rights of all of our people, including those with disabilities. This bill requires the Hawaii Civil Rights Commission to adopt rules on digital accessibility for places of public accommodations that are consistent with certain federal regulations. I would just ask the commission to please be mindful to help our small businesses to comply, to coordinate and minimize any implementation costs or operating difficulties, which, again, affects cost of living. 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.B. No. 2852, SD 1, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CIVIL RIGHTS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 50 ayes, with Representatives Garcia and Shimizu voting aye with reservations, and with Representative Quinlan being excused.

At 12:44 p.m., the Chair noted that the following bills passed Third Reading:

S.B. No. 3215, HD 1
 S.B. No. 3156, SD 1, HD 1
 S.B. No. 2673, SD 1, HD 1
 S.B. No. 411, SD 2, HD 1
 S.B. No. 2041, SD 1, HD 2
 S.B. No. 2919, SD 1, HD 1
 S.B. No. 2152, SD 2, HD 1
 S.B. No. 2721, SD 1, HD 1
 S.B. No. 2446, SD 2, HD 1
 S.B. No. 2601, SD 2, HD 1
 S.B. No. 2239, SD 1, HD 1
 S.B. No. 2804, SD 1, HD 1
 S.B. No. 2802, SD 1, HD 1
 S.B. No. 2577, SD 2, HD 1
 S.B. No. 2320, SD 1, HD 1
 S.B. No. 2706, SD 1, HD 1
 S.B. No. 2781, SD 1, HD 2
 S.B. No. 2433, SD 1, HD 2
 S.B. No. 2657, SD 1, HD 1
 S.B. No. 3045, SD 1, HD 2
 S.B. No. 2803, SD 1, HD 1
 S.B. No. 3025, SD 2, HD 3
 S.B. No. 2645, SD 3, HD 1
 S.B. No. 2109, SD 2, HD 1
 S.B. No. 2811, SD 2, HD 1
 S.B. No. 2567, SD 2, HD 2
 S.B. No. 2125, SD 1, HD 2
 S.B. No. 83, SD 2, HD 3
 S.B. No. 2386, SD 1, HD 2
 S.B. No. 3132, SD 1, HD 2
 S.B. No. 2175, SD 2, HD 2
 S.B. No. 2271, SD 1, HD 2
 S.B. No. 847, SD 2, HD 2
 S.B. No. 2694, SD 2, HD 2
 S.B. No. 2487, SD 1, HD 1
 S.B. No. 2061, SD 2, HD 2
 S.B. No. 709, SD 2, HD 2
 S.B. No. 2151, SD 2, HD 2
 S.B. No. 2852, SD 1, HD 2

At 12:44 p.m., the Chair declared a recess subject to the call of the Chair.

The House of Representatives reconvened at 1:34 p.m., with Vice Speaker Ichiyama presiding.

Representative Tamas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2129-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2471, SD 2, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 2471, SD 2, HD 2 pass Third Reading, 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 Shimizu rose to speak in opposition to the measure, stating:

"In opposition. Thank you, Madam Speaker. This has been a very difficult decision on this bill. Colleagues, I have previously stated my firm belief that money should be removed from influencing government decisions, and it starts with campaign contributions. As much as I believe how wrong the *Citizens United* Supreme court decision is and that this decision is extremely detrimental to our voting process, allowing unlimited monies to manipulate voter perception. And although I voted yes with reservations in committee to move this brave idea forward, one cannot escape the fact that this is the current law of the land.

"And in considering my fiscal responsibility to our taxpayers and the attorney general's testimony strongly opposing this bill, stating this fact, that defending this challenge would be costly and maybe even futile. As much as I would love to take the chance with brave optimism, the strong, legal, prudent decision that I am taking at this time is to defer and monitor future breakthroughs that would similarly challenge *Citizens United* to set precedent. That's my opposition. Thank you, Madam Speaker."

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

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. In support. Madam Speaker, I stand in strong support of Senate Bill 2471, House Draft 2, because it reaffirms our state's power and duty to define and regulate the conduct and activity of corporations that has long been within our rights as a state. Our state's right to create, define, and regulate the conduct of corporations within our state is well established and has long been recognized for centuries by the United States Supreme Court.

"As an initial matter, I would like to express my gratitude to the chairs of the Senate Commerce and Judiciary Committees, as well as the chairs of the House Consumer Protection and Judiciary Committees to allow this bill to move forward. Because of their willingness to advance this bill, to listen carefully to testimony of both of detractors and advocates, to amend the bill to address concerns raised, the process to date has allowed all of us as duly elected lawmakers to consider how we as a state can rein in the undue influence of monies flowing from unlimited corporate treasuries that undermine our political process and has fueled voter's distrust and disenchantment with government.

"This undue influence of corporate monies was spotlighted by the testimony heard before this House's Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs. In testimony we learned in just the 2024 election, quote, of the \$10 million in donations to candidates, that's candidate committees, half of these donations came from just 800 donors. But what's even more obscene, we learned, that just three, just three non-candidate committees spent a total of \$13 million in the election, far outpacing the \$10 million that was given to candidates. This outpaces the rest of individual donations from real people to influence our elections. Madam Speaker, this is the dark money. This is the dark money that Senate Bill 2471 is striking at.

"Madam Speaker, I want to raise the testimony of the detractors also to this measure. And I want to acknowledge the real concerns by the Department of the Attorney General. But what was surprising to me was that when we asked in the Judiciary Committee, did you go to corporate lawyers to understand the analysis? The answer was no. We have legal experts who are lining up behind this measure. Who are looking at this framework and

are advising us. Because they have the background and the expertise to say this is not constitutionally unsound. It is not novel. What we are asking to do is what the states have always been allowed to do for centuries. It is fact, our duty to define and regulate and authorize corporations to act within our state.

"I also asked in the hearing before the Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs Committee of the attorney general, do you understand what the state has done in the past? The other measures that this state legislature, that legislators here on this floor have considered all the way back from 2012? And to my surprise, they had not. They had not known that there had been resolutions after resolutions passed by lawmakers who sit on this floor today. By leaders who now serve as lieutenant governors, as mayors, as council members, all urging other ways in which we can attack *Citizens United*.

"In 2016, I want to point out, when this body, when this House passed a concurrent resolution urging Congress to make amendments to the Constitution or propose amendments. That resolution was introduced by 44 members of this House. It was HCR 29 and it had strong bipartisan support with then four sitting Republicans. Nine lawmakers at that time—"

Representative Perruso rose to yield her time, and the Chair "so ordered."

Representative Belatti continued, stating:

"Thank you, Madam Speaker, and I'll try to wrap this up. At that time in 2016, of those lawmakers who introduced that bill, of those 44 introducers, nine remain on this floor today. Six introducers are lawmakers on the other chamber. So, we have struggled with this issue. And when we were presented with this theory, which is not an unsound theory, which gives us a chance to finally rein in dark monies. This is something we should not shy away from.

"We need to be brave and take up this mantle and let this legislation move forward. So as this goes along, I'm sure and certain that we're going to hear, perhaps through conference memos, more detractors talking about what other things could put up roadblocks. And I think we should be ready for that. And we should hold fast and hold strong in our conference committees.

"And yes, let's reach out and get that legal analysis. But let us listen to that legal analysis and let us really, really look and tackle, because this is an opportunity for all of us as Hawaii lawmakers to stand up and protect our elections. To restore faith and trust in government. And to allow individuals to feel and know that it's their voices that matter, not the voices of artificial persons. Thank you, Madam Speaker."

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise in strong support. I rise in strong support of Senate Bill 2471, Senate Draft 2, House Draft 2. This measure, if passed, will be historic and Hawaii will lead in the effort to end dark money in politics. This bill reaffirms that corporations and other artificial persons have only those powers granted by the state. And those powers do not include using undisclosed or aggregated financial resources to influence our elections.

"Our system of government is built on a balance of authority between two sovereigns, the federal government and the states. The federal government exercises powers specifically granted to it. The states retain broad authority over their economies, their institutions, and the legal frameworks that structure daily life. Corporate law, who may form, what powers they hold, and what limits apply, has always been a core exercise of state authority. That authority is part of the state's police powers to protect the public health, safety, welfare, and morals of their communities. It includes regulating corporations, the conditions under which they are formed, and the scope of the privileges they may exercise.

"The 10th Amendment reinforces this structure by reserving to the states those powers not delegated to the federal government. There is no enumerated federal power to create corporations or define their internal powers as a matter of general governance. From the beginning, corporations have been understood as creatures of state law.

"In *Trustees of Dartmouth College v. Woodward*, the United States Supreme Court recognized the state's central role in chartering corporations

and defining their legal existence. While the court held that corporate charters are protected as contracts, it reaffirmed that corporations derive their existence and legal capacities from the state. That premise still governs. The state determines how entities are formed, what privileges they receive, and what activities fall within their lawful purposes. These are core exercises of state sovereignty grounded in police powers.

"Federal law sets constitutional boundaries. In *Citizens United*, the court held that certain corporate expenditures are protected under the First Amendment. But it does not require states to grant corporate entities the power to engage in election spending in the first place. That distinction is where federalism operates, and this bill acts within that space.

"It does not regulate individual speech. It does not prohibit any person from participating in political life. It defines the scope of authority the state of Hawaii grants to artificial persons. It makes clear that election activity and ballot issue activity are not part of the lawful purposes for which these entities are created. That is a direct exercise of state authority and a valid use of the state's police powers.

"For too long, the practical effect of *Citizens United* has been the expansion of political spending through corporate structures, often without transparency or accountability, what the public knows as dark money. This bill addresses that problem at its source. It does not chase money after it moves. It sets a clear rule from the outset. State-chartered entities do not possess electioneering powers as part of their lawful purposes. That is how we restore the distinction between natural persons and artificial entities and how we take a meaningful step towards stopping the flow of dark money in our elections.

"Members, let us make history this legislative session and be the first state to take a stand and fight back against dark money in our politics. There's an article that the Representative from Makiki and myself submitted to Civil Beat, which was published this past Sunday. I encourage this body to read it if you have not done so, and I will also be inserting those words into the Journal. So therefore, Madam Speaker, may I insert further comments into the Journal. Thank you, Madam Speaker. I would also like the words of the representative from Makiki inserted into the record as my own," and the Chair "so ordered." (By reference only.)

Representative Souza's written remarks are as follows:

"The representative from Makiki and I submitted the following essay to Honolulu Civil Beat, which was published on April 12, 2026:

Hawai'i Might Just Slay Citizens United — And You Can Help

We have the authority — and the responsibility — to get rid of dark money.

Most people who are frustrated with the influence of corporate money in our politics have been told the same thing for 16 years solid: there's nothing we can do about it. The Supreme Court decided in *Citizens United* that corporations have a constitutional right to spend in elections, and that's that.

If you want to fix it, you need a constitutional amendment, or a different Supreme Court, or both. Good luck.

We don't buy it. And neither should you.

One of us is a Democrat. One of us is a Republican. There's plenty of us we don't agree on. But we do agree that dark money is poisoning our democracy. And we do agree that the state of Hawai'i has the authority — and the responsibility — to get rid of it.

A bill moving in the Hawai'i Legislature right now — Senate Bill 2471 — takes a completely different approach. It's not a workaround. It's not a protest resolution. It's a genuine legal solution, built on tools that have been sitting in our state law for decades, waiting to be used.

At the heart of SB 2471 is something we all know: corporations are not natural. They don't spring into existence on their own. They exist because states created them and then gave them all their powers — the power to own property, sign contracts, sue and be sued, and so forth — all the things that allow them to function as economic actors.

Every one of those powers is a grant from the state. For most of American history, these were carefully selected and limited lists of individual powers, and that list never, ever included the power to spend in politics.

That changed in the early 20th century, not because of any constitutional requirement, but because states started writing corporate codes with sweeping, catch-all grants of power. Hawai'i grants corporations "the same powers as an individual to do all things necessary or convenient to carry out its business and affairs."

When deciding *Citizens United*, the Supreme Court simply assumed that Virginia's broad power grant — identical to ours — gave *Citizens United* (the Virginia nonprofit corporation) the power to spend in politics. Its starting point was a plaintiff that had the power to spend in politics. And because it had been given that power, its right to exercise that power could not be infringed.

But the court did not say that the state had to grant that power in the first place.

That's where SB 2471 operates. It doesn't regulate corporate speech. It doesn't try to limit a right. It rewrites Hawai'i's corporate code to slightly shorten the list of powers that corporations operating in our state actually have — and political spending power isn't on the list.

Nothing about how corporations do business in Hawai'i changes. Corporations can still lobby. They can still testify before committees, publish white papers, run advertising about their products. They can do everything a business legitimately needs to do. They just can't pour money into our politics.

Hawai'i is leading the way on this reform. But we're not alone. States from California to Minnesota to Vermont to Rhode Island have introduced legislation along the same lines — 14 total. Montana citizen activists are gathering signatures to put the question directly to voters this fall. This is fast becoming a movement, and no one is as close to getting it done as we are.

What gives us confidence this will hold up in court? Every state has a clear provision in its laws that says the state can modify the powers it gives to corporations at any time — or get rid of them altogether.

Ours says this: "The Legislature has the power to amend or repeal all or part of this chapter at any time and all domestic and foreign corporations subject to this chapter are governed by the amendment or repeal."

The United States Supreme Court has held for more than 100 years that these provisions mean what they say, and that the state can change any of those powers anytime, for any reason whatsoever. Every corporation has been on notice that this can happen, so they have no basis to object if it does.

Wielding this provision to clean up our politics isn't radical. What's radical is what we've been doing for the past 16 years: allowing the artificial entities we create to spend unlimited sums in our politics and drown out the voices of the human beings who created them.

We are asking our colleagues in the House to pass SB 2471 out of the chamber and then for the Consumer Protection and Judiciary chairs on the House and Senate sides to work together to move it out of conference.

This is the moment for all of Hawai'i — Republicans, Democrats and independents — to work together to do something genuinely historic yet oddly simple: stop giving the corporations that operate on our islands the power to spend in our politics."

Representative Iwamoto rose in support of the measure and asked that the remarks of the representatives from Kapolei and Makiki 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 S.B. No. 2471, SD 2, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE POWERS OF ARTIFICIAL PERSONS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 48 ayes to 2 noes, with Representatives Cochran and Garcia voting aye with reservations, with Representatives Pierick and Shimizu voting no, and with Representative Quinlan being excused.

Representative Tarnas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2130-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2568, SD 1, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 2568, SD 1, HD 2 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise in support with reservations. This bill elevates the offense of harassment to a misdemeanor when committed against a public servant because of or during their performance of official duties. So, what I support is protecting public servants or civil servants, that's really important.

"However, the definition of harassment includes 'repeatedly makes communications, after being advised by the person to whom the communication is directed that further communication is unwelcome.' This refers to non-threatening messages. A member of the public may just be annoying. That should not make them a criminal."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 2568, SD 1, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO OFFENSES AGAINST PUBLIC SERVANTS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 48 ayes to 2 noes, with Representative Iwamoto voting aye with reservations, with Representatives Alcos and Garcia voting no, and with Representative Quinlan being excused.

Representative Tarnas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2131-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2253, SD 2, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 2253, SD 2, HD 2 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 2253, SD 2, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HIGHWAY SAFETY," passed Third Reading by a vote of 50 ayes, with Representative Iwamoto voting aye with reservations, and with Representative Quinlan being excused.

Representative Tarnas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2132-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2697, SD 1, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 2697, SD 1, HD 2 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise in opposition. This bill directly and significantly affects the counties. And testimony from the City & County of Honolulu, Department of Customer Services offer serious concerns about their effects to their operation and unfunded mandates that are handed to them. Reading briefly from their testimony, 'implementation will require updates to registration databases and internal procedures to ensure accurate verification of registration status, proper calculation of updated registration fees and penalties, and timely processing of redemptions. Clear communication protocols between enforcement agencies and DMV offices will be essential to ensure that vehicle records accurately reflect impoundment and towing actions. In addition, statutory clarity regarding notice requirements, redemption timelines, documentation standards,' I'm not going to read all of this.

"Just based on the testimony that this department very tactfully tried to comment on, it's showing that this is going to affect them greatly. And I think it would be a really good idea that we would fully coordinate with the

counties for good implementation without causing unintended consequences. So, I respectfully urge that we defer even this very well-meaning bill. 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.B. No. 2697, SD 1, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION," passed Third Reading by a vote of 45 ayes to 5 noes, with Representatives Alcos, Garcia, Iwamoto, Pierick, and Shimizu voting no, and with Representative Quinlan being excused.

Representative Tarnas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2133-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2429, SD 1, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Kahaloa, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 2429, SD 1, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO TRAFFIC SAFETY," passed Third Reading by a vote of 47 ayes to 3 noes, with Representatives Alcos, Garcia, and Pierick voting no, and with Representative Quinlan being excused.

Representative Tarnas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2134-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2929, SD 1, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 2929, SD 1, HD 2 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

"I rise in opposition. Thank you, Madam Speaker. My concern with this bill, and I've expressed this before among other similar bills that move public notice information to online communication, is that we seriously isolate and endanger our *kūpuna* demographic. Many *kūpuna* do not have a computer or a smartphone, and even if they do, they don't know how to fully operate it to access needed information.

"And just as we passed SCR 2128, S.B. 2852, in the opposite way, trying to make sure technology does not leave out the disabled community. I stand in opposition to this bill as an appeal for help to really address this growing problem. Our *kūpuna* are an invaluable part of our lives and are significant in their numbers as well. As this community ages further and technology accelerates in the opposite direction, I believe we should be challenged to help our *kūpuna* to not leave them behind.

"To make the point, if my elderly parents or grandparents didn't use text or email or social media, I will have to make the point to call them or stop by to reach them and fully communicate. So, thank you for listening to my concern for the *kūpuna* community. Thank you, Madam Speaker."

Representative Cochran 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 an aye vote with reservations for him, and the Chair "so ordered."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 2929, SD 1, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC NOTICE," passed Third Reading by a vote of 46 ayes to 4 noes, with Representative Gedeon voting aye with reservations, with Representatives Alcos, Cochran, Garcia, and Shimizu voting no, and with Representative Quinlan being excused.

Representative Tarnas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2135-26) recommending that S.B. No. 3032, SD 1, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 3032, SD 1, HD 2 pass Third Reading, 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 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 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 Shimizu rose and asked that the Clerk record an aye vote with reservations for him, and the Chair "so ordered."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 3032, SD 1, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO BEACHES," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes to 1 no, with Representatives Cochran, Garcia, Gedeon, Muraoka, and Shimizu voting aye with reservations, with Representative Alcos voting no, and with Representative Quinlan being excused.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2136-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2057, SD 2, HD 2 pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloe moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 2057, SD 2, HD 2 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

Representative Cochran rose and asked that the Clerk record a no vote 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 S.B. No. 2057, SD 2, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO LAW ENFORCEMENT," passed Third Reading by a vote of 42 ayes to 8 noes, with Representative Kila voting aye with reservations, with Representatives Alcos, Cochran, Garcia, Gedeon, Kong, Matsumoto, Muraoka, and Shimizu voting no, and with Representative Quinlan being excused.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2137-26) recommending that S.B. No. 148, SD 2, HD 2, as amended in HD 3, pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloe moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 148, SD 2, HD 3 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

Representative Shimizu 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 S.B. No. 148, SD 2, HD 3, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO COMBAT SPORTS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 45 ayes to 5 noes, with Representative Shimizu voting aye with reservations, with Representatives Alcos, Cochran, Garcia, Muraoka, and Pierick voting no, and with Representative Quinlan being excused.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2138-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2353, SD 2, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Kahaloe, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 2353, SD 2, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO OUTDOOR SIGNAGE," passed Third Reading by a vote of 42 ayes to 8 noes, with Representatives Amato, Garcia, Garrett, Grandinetti, Iwamoto, Perruso, Pierick, and Reyes Oda voting no, and with Representative Quinlan being excused.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2140-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2907, SD 1, HD 2, as amended in HD 3, pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloe moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 2907, SD 1, HD 3 pass Third Reading, 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 Iwamoto rose and asked that the Clerk record an aye vote with reservations for her, and the Chair "so ordered."

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

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

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 2907, SD 1, HD 3, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO MARINE AFFAIRS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes to 1 no, with Representatives Cochran, Garcia, Iwamoto, Perruso, Poepoe, and Shimizu voting aye with reservations, with Representative Pierick voting no, and with Representative Quinlan being excused.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2141-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2074, SD 1, HD 2, as amended in HD 3, pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloe moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 2074, SD 1, HD 3 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 2074, SD 1, HD 3, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO STATE FACILITIES," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes to 1 no, with Representative Iwamoto voting aye with reservations, with Representative Reyes Oda voting no, and with Representative Quinlan being excused.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2142-26) recommending that S.B. No. 3219, HD 2, as amended in HD 3, pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloe moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 3219, HD 3 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise in support with reservations and a brief comment. I support giving the public a chance to vote on a constitutional amendment, even when I do not support the changes that may result. Should democracy prevail in favor of this change? This is a complex issue that the public is being asked to consider and a very challenging question to understand. But again, I reaffirm my preference for the people participating in these votes. Thank you."

Representative Garcia 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 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 S.B. No. 3219, HD 3, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT PROPOSING AMENDMENTS TO ARTICLE VII, SECTIONS 12 AND 13, OF THE HAWAII STATE CONSTITUTION," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes to 1 no, with Representatives Garcia, Gedeon, Iwamoto, and Shimizu voting aye with reservations, with Representative Cochran voting no, and with Representative Quinlan being excused.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2143-26) recommending that S.B. No. 3218, SD 2, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 3218, SD 2, HD 2 pass Third Reading, 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."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 3218, SD 2, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO BONDS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes to 1 no, with Representative Cochran voting aye with reservations, with Representative Iwamoto voting no, and with Representative Quinlan being excused.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2144-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2367, SD 2, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 2367, SD 2, HD 2 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

Representative Iwamoto 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."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 2367, SD 2, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO STATE BOATING FACILITIES," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes to 1 no, with Representatives Iwamoto and Reyes Oda voting aye with reservations, with Representative Pierick voting no, and with Representative Quinlan being excused.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2145-26) recommending that S.B. No. 3048, SD 1, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 3048, SD 1, HD 1 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

"I rise in opposition Thank you, Madam Speaker. Similar to SCR 2105, SB 3048, we already have a current task force, the SPEED, Simplifying Permitting for Enhanced Economic Development. And again, we should be investing more effort and cooperation into what is already established before starting something that overlaps scope, spends more money, creates more bureaucracy. So, Madam Speaker, with our budget constraints, we do not need more funding obligations. And I recommend we defer this bill. 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.B. No. 3048, SD 1, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE STATE BUILDING CODE COUNCIL," passed Third Reading by a vote of 48 ayes to 2 noes, with Representatives Garcia and Shimizu voting no, and with Representative Quinlan being excused.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2147-26) recommending that S.B. No. 3253, SD 2, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 3253, SD 2, HD 1 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 3253, SD 2, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CONSERVATION," passed Third Reading by a vote of 44 ayes to 6 noes, with Representative Cochran voting aye with reservations, with Representatives Alcos, Garcia, Gedeon, Matsumoto, Muraoka, and Shimizu voting no, and with Representative Quinlan being excused.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2148-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2376, SD 2, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 2376, SD 2, HD 2 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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:

"I rise in opposition. Thank you, Madam Speaker. The Senate's SB 3125 bill repeals this tax credit on January 1, 2029, as part of their income tax bill proposal. So, my thought is it would be a good idea to coordinate efforts to work together to resolve our budget issues. And therefore, I respectfully ask we defer this bill. Thank you, Madam Speaker."

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 S.B. No. 2376, SD 2, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE RENEWABLE FUELS PRODUCTION TAX CREDIT," passed Third Reading by a vote of 46 ayes to 4 noes, with Representatives Cochran and Reyes Oda voting aye with reservations, with Representatives Garcia, Iwamoto, Pierick, and Shimizu voting no, and with Representative Quinlan being excused.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2149-26) recommending that S.B. No. 3103, SD 2, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 3103, SD 2, HD 1 pass Third Reading, 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 Cochran 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 support of the measure with reservations, stating:

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise in support with reservations. This bill is another benevolent and generous provision to help those in need. My reservation with this bill is that it states that the administrator of the Public Utilities Commission shall, among other things, provide an energy audit at the request of a recipient, and secondly, if requested by the recipient.

"So, my belief is that if we are providing monetary relief for these recipients among the other things that we are providing as a service and a provision, this energy audit should be part of this relief and not at the request of the recipient or if requested by the recipient. We should help educate and elevate our people with targeted assistance and education and not just subsidies. 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.B. No. 3103, SD 2, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO ENERGY ASSISTANCE," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes to 1 no, with Representatives Cochran, Garcia, and Shimizu voting aye with reservations, with Representative Pierick voting no, and with Representative Quinlan being excused.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2150-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2999, SD 1, HD 2 pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 2999, SD 1, HD 2 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

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 S.B. No. 2999, SD 1, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO A CLEAN FUEL STANDARD," passed Third Reading by a vote of 44 ayes to 6 noes, with Representatives Cochran and Iwamoto voting aye with reservations, with Representatives Alcos, Garcia, Gedeon, Kong, Pierick, and Shimizu voting no, and with Representative Quinlan being excused.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2151-26) recommending that S.B. No. 3255, SD 1, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Kahaloa, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 3255, SD 1, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CURRENCY," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes to 1 no, with Representative Muraoka voting no, and with Representative Quinlan being excused.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2152-26) recommending that S.B. No. 1166, SD 2, HD 2 pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 1166, SD 2, HD 2 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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:

"In opposition. Thank you, Madam Speaker. As I review this bill, I'm looking at DCCA's testimony, which expressed some concerns. And also, the National Association of Mutual Insurance Companies, stating, we are concerned with the proposed legislation which would directly connect insurance company decisions about whether to pursue various legal subrogation actions to the insurance rate making and the regulatory rate approval process. The bill would establish a concerning legal and public policy precedent of directly connecting an insurers' legal subrogation decision to a politically charged issue (climate change liability) and the insurers' filed insurance rates, which are currently reviewed by the state insurance regulator to make sure that the rates are actuarially sound and not excessive, inadequate or unfairly discriminatory. Insurance rate making needs to be strictly connected to analysis of risk of loss exposure associated with standard rating variables that are evaluated by considering claims loss histories and predictive risk models.

"I'm sure this issue is more complicated than I'm trying to explain here. But what I try to reconcile, and I have difficulty reconciling is, in our last session we did. Excuse me, let me go back. This bill is trying to target fossil fuels entities for responsibility. And what I'm trying to reconcile is that in our last 2025 session, the governor and State of Hawaii, with approval from this legislature, settled the Lahaina wildfire litigation by protecting Hawaiian Electric and local entities. Which for me, it seems a little inconsistent or selective on how we base what is advantageous to us. And I just find that problematic. So, I stand in opposition. Thank you, Madam Speaker."

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

"In opposition. Thank you, Madam Speaker. This bill allows Hawaii Property Insurance Association, the Hawaii Hurricane Relief Fund, and private insurers to bring claims against responsible parties for amounts paid by the insurers for losses resulting from climate disasters and extreme weather attributable to climate change. In my opinion, Madam Speaker, this is a political bill.

"In the old days, it was called acts of God, when climate disasters hit and damages occurred. Now we're blaming climate change. And not only are we blaming climate change, we are now identifying who's responsible for the climate changing without any clear evidence. And there's people on both sides of this argument, this issue is debated thoroughly with scientists on both sides of the issue here.

"And so, we're going to unilaterally say it's this particular industry that's responsible for the homes that were damaged by nature, by climate. That's just not feasible. And I also believe that if this bill passes, it will drive energy costs up for Hawaii residents. So, no vote."

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

"In strong support with comments, please. So, I do agree that this bill is trying to get a hold of some of the costs caused by climate events, extreme climate events, and that we are trying to go after those that are responsible for the costs. What I disagree with is the idea that there is any debate within the scientific community. And sticking our heads in the sand and pretending that there is, just puts the burden on our taxpayers and our residents for something that is being profited by private entities. And this bill just tries to push some of that cost, which is only going to be more and more frequent in our state, on those that are profiting off of those costs. So therefore, I urge this body to vote in support."

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. In support. And I'll also adopt the words of the representative from Waimanalo. And I just want to reiterate that something like 99% of scientists agree that climate change is not only real, but caused by anthropogenic emissions. So, caused by human activity, specifically of burning fossil fuels. And there's ample evidence that these companies that profited massively off of doing that had evidence dating back to the mid-19th, mid-20th century of exactly what was happening.

"And now we're all paying the price. So, when we have events like Lahaina fires or just the floods that we had this past month that cost us and our budget and our services and our ability to take care of the people in this state. Taxpayers are paying for it while these fossil fuel companies still have all their profits. And so, I think this is a reasonable measure to move forward to try to rebalance that imbalance."

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

"Thank you, in support. Our insurance crisis is a product of our climate crisis, and both are contributing to our affordability crisis. And while the representative from Ho'opili still wants to debate climate change, like the chair of Environmental Protection shared, the internal documents of the fossil fuel companies who caused it show that they knew this was happening decades ago, and they knew their products were responsible. Those same internal documents show that these companies orchestrated a massive misinformation campaign to protect their profits. And now we are paying the price. Not just when a disaster hits, but every time we get an insurance bill.

"We just endured another billion-dollar disaster with the Kona low storms and they're happening with such increasing intensity and frequency that we don't have time to recover from one before the next hits. Insurers are further assessing our market as a result of the last storms and of the upcoming hurricane and El Niño season, and we need alternative funding and we can start by making the fossil fuel industry pay their fair share.

"This isn't actually that novel of an approach. We've gone after tobacco companies and opioid companies for damages caused by similar acts of deception and harm. So, this bill would allow us to do the same for fossil fuel companies and hold them accountable not just for their role in the climate crisis, which is accepted by scientists across the globe, but also their role in the affordability crisis that's impacting local families every day. Thank you."

Representative Perruso rose in support of the measure and asked that the remarks of the chair of the Committee on Health, the chair of Energy and Environmental Protection, and the vice chair of CPC be entered into the Journal as her own, and the Chair "so ordered." (By reference only.)

Representative Tam rose in support of the measure and asked that the remarks of the chair of the Committee on Health, the chair of Energy and Environmental Protection, and the vice chair of CPC be entered into the Journal as his own, and the Chair "so ordered." (By reference only.)

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

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

"In opposition. Madam Speaker, I'm not going to debate whether it's right or wrong because I not one scientist. What I do want to mention is, a couple of speakers ago, we got to stop the fearmongering. Definitely there was a fire in Lahaina and definitely there was flooding. A lot of those weren't directly caused by companies, fossil fuels. They're caused by poor maintenance, gentrification, blocking of natural waterways from *mauka* to *makai*, which flowed before any of us were here. So, when certain things like that are said in regards to try and push something forward, that's where I disagree."

Representative Souza rose in support of the measure and asked that the remarks of the representatives from Kapahulu, Waimanalo, and Hawaii Island be entered into the Journal as her own, and the Chair "so ordered." (By reference only.)

Representative Belatti rose in support of the measure and asked that the remarks of the Human Services chair, the Energy chair, and the vice chair of CPC be entered into the Journal as her own, and the Chair "so ordered." (By reference only.)

Representative La Chica rose in support of the measure and asked that the remarks of the Human Services, EEP chair, and CPC vice chair be entered into the Journal as her own, and the Chair "so ordered." (By reference only.)

Representative Garcia rose to respond, stating:

"Second time, still in opposition, in strong opposition. I think to just blindly believe that 99% of all scientists and the entire globe around the world, 99% with certainty is in support of this kind of legislation to attribute that certain companies that exist here in Hawaii or around America or the world is solely responsible for the Lahaina wildfires or for the Waiialua flooding is ridiculous. That's putting your head in the sand and screaming.

"Now, if we're going to do this, why just fossil fuel companies? Why not target hairspray companies? Why not target blow-drying companies? Because all these things, according to Vice President Al Gore, affects the ozone layer. It affects climate change. This bill is targeting one industry, and it is not fair to do so. This will impact jobs in my community. It will impact families in my community. And it will drive energy costs up. No vote."

Representative Grandinetti rose to respond, stating:

"Still in support. I just wanted to point out that the premise of the measure is not just that fossil fuel companies contributed to climate change, but

specifically that we should pursue damages because they intentionally engaged in mass deception to cover up those acts. So, essentially, unfair and deceptive practices. Thank you."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 1166, SD 2, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE," passed Third Reading by a vote of 41 ayes to 9 noes, with Representative Reyes Oda voting aye with reservations, with Representatives Alcos, Cochran, Garcia, Gedeon, Kong, Matsumoto, Muraoka, Pierick, and Shimizu voting no, and with Representative Quinlan being excused.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2153-26) recommending that S.B. No. 3157, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 3157, HD 2 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

Representative Iwamoto rose and asked that the Clerk record an aye vote with reservations for her, 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 S.B. No. 3157, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION," passed Third Reading by a vote of 43 ayes to 7 noes, with Representatives Iwamoto, Reyes Oda, and Souza voting aye with reservations, with Representatives Alcos, Amato, Cochran, Garcia, Gedeon, Matsumoto, and Muraoka voting no, and with Representative Quinlan being excused.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2154-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2698, SD 2, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 2698, SD 2, HD 1 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 2698, SD 2, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION," passed Third Reading by a vote of 44 ayes to 6 noes, with Representatives Amato, Cochran, Gedeon, Shimizu, and Souza voting aye with reservations, with Representatives Alcos, Garcia, Iwamoto, Matsumoto, Muraoka, and Reyes Oda voting no, and with Representative Quinlan being excused.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2155-26) recommending that S.B. No. 3029, SD 1, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Kahaloa, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 3029, SD 1, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT," passed Third Reading by a vote of 50 ayes, with Representative Quinlan being excused.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2156-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2146, SD 1, HD 2 pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 2146, SD 1, HD 2 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

Representative Garcia rose in opposition to the measure and asked that his written remarks be inserted in the Journal, and the Chair "so ordered."

Representative Garcia's written remarks are as follows:

"I rise in strong opposition to Senate Bill 2146, HD 2.

"At a time when public safety and accountability should be unquestioned priorities of this legislature, we are being asked to weaken traffic enforcement and rebrand it as progress. That is not progress. Senate Bill 2146 creates a task force to study income-based traffic fines. Supporters claim this is about fairness. In reality, it is about reducing consequences and lowering expectations for lawful behavior. Traffic laws exist to deter dangerous conduct and protect lives. That system only works when violations come with real and meaningful consequences.

"When fines are reduced until they barely matter, particularly for those described as having 'lower economic means,' violations become easier to justify and easier to repeat. That is not compassion. It is misplaced leniency. Let us be honest about what this does. Making it cheaper to break the law does not make our roads safer. It makes violations more likely. It tells drivers that accountability is flexible and that consequences depend on who you are rather than what you did. As legislators, our responsibility is to protect our people and uphold the rule of law. That means supporting policies that promote safety, consistency, and personal responsibility. This bill does the opposite. It replaces deterrence with an unproven experiment that has not been shown to work in Hawai'i. What is equally troubling is the lack of real world input.

"There has been no meaningful testimony from state or county law enforcement about enforcement challenges, feasibility, or public safety impacts. Those who enforce our laws every day were largely left out of the discussion. That should concern every member of this body. Madam Speaker, when deterrence is weakened and accountability erodes, it is the public that bears the risk. Families. Drivers. Pedestrians. Everyone who relies on safe roads and fair enforcement.

"Another feel good ridiculous progressive proposal that will only make things worse. No vote."

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

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

"Thank you, Speaker. I rise in opposition. Madam Speaker, I understand and completely agree with the intention of this bill. But even as a task force, laws resulting from this bill, as written, will not stand up in the courts. The proposed fines are excessive. The legal norm that punishment should fit the crime, known as proportionality, is rooted in the Eighth Amendment's prohibition of cruel and unusual punishments. The fundamental tenet of our legal system, supported by multiple Supreme Court decisions, requires that sentences must correspond to the gravity of the offense.

"If the Finnish speeding system is applied in Hawaii, a person earning \$50,000 per year, which is \$25 an hour, who is ticketed traveling 40 miles per hour in a 30 mile per hour zone, would be fined \$1,000. If next January, a member of this body is going 45 in a 35 mile per hour zone, the fee would be almost \$2,000. Going 10 miles per hour over the limit should not result in such an outrageous fine. Madam Speaker, who amongst us thinks that is fair? I certainly don't.

"Additionally, and possibly more importantly, legally obtained personal income to determine fines are absolutely none of the local police's business. This bill is a gross violation of the US Fourth Amendment right to privacy. I took an oath to uphold our Constitution. I vote no for this doubly unconstitutional bill. Thank you."

Representative Garcia rose to respond, stating:

"Second time, still in opposition. I'd like to adopt the words of the representative of Kihei as my own. Very, very great argument, I think, in regards to the Eighth Amendment. But also, we should not be looking to Finland for our problems here in Hawaii. There's lots of things to learn from people around the world, I don't know about Finland," and the Chair "so ordered." (By reference only.)

Representative Iwamoto 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. I rise in opposition and am happy to agree with the representative from Kihei. Thank you."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 2146, SD 1, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO TRAFFIC INFRACTIONS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 39 ayes to 11 noes, with Representatives Iwamoto and Reyes Oda voting aye with reservations, with Representatives Alcos, Amato, Garcia, Gedeon, Kong, Matsumoto, Muraoka, Olds, Pierick, Ratcliffe, and Shimizu voting no, and with Representative Quinlan being excused.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2157-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2470, SD 2, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Kahaloa, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 2470, SD 2, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION," passed Third Reading by a vote of 50 ayes, with Representative Quinlan being excused.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2158-26) recommending that S.B. No. 3040, SD 1, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Kahaloa, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 3040, SD 1, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION," passed Third Reading by a vote of 47 ayes to 3 noes, with Representatives Alcos, Garcia, and Pierick voting no, and with Representative Quinlan being excused.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2160-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2575, SD 2, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Kahaloa, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 2575, SD 2, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO FIREARMS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 50 ayes, with Representative Quinlan being excused.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2162-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2438, SD 1, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 2438, SD 1, HD 1 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise in support with reservations and a brief comment. This bill establishes a civil cause of action for interference with constitutionally and statutory rights through threats, intimidation, or coercion. My concern is with the private right of action to bring a person expressing what may be their First Amendment right to engage in an act of peaceful civil disobedience and then they get dragged into a civil suit by a moneyed institution, and this little protester has to hire a civil attorney to defend themselves. And if they lose, they get stuck with the attorney fees

for the moneyed institution. Of course, this will have a chilling effect on people engaging in civil disobedience.

"And I understand from testimony that was received on this bill that this may have to do specifically with a medical facility such as Planned Parenthood on South Beretania Street. I'm a huge supporter of Planned Parenthood, a donor for decades. There are other ways to protect the patients who seek services there from what they experience as harassment. People can volunteer to escort patients to those services. There are other ways. This method of subjecting somebody who may be expressing their First Amendment rights to a civil lawsuit, which they must defend, becomes, I don't think that's the best solution. 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 S.B. No. 2438, SD 1, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CIVIL INTERFERENCE WITH CONSTITUTIONAL AND STATUTORY RIGHTS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 43 ayes to 7 noes, with Representatives Cochran and Iwamoto voting aye with reservations, with Representatives Alcos, Garcia, Gedeon, Kong, Matsumoto, Muraoka, and Shimizu voting no, and with Representative Quinlan being excused.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2163-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2530, SD 2, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 2530, SD 2, HD 1 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

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

Representative Garcia rose and asked that the Clerk record 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 Souza rose to speak in support of the measure, stating:

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise in support. I rise to support, Madam Speaker, but I do want to just put some concerns on the record. This particular measure, Senate Bill 2530, this is a part of the Campaign Spending Commission's package, and the House companion was House Bill 2052. And I just want to read the comments of and the testimony of the Campaign Spending Commission from the House Committee on Finance hearing from Tuesday, April 7th, because I think that these concerns are very valid and we need to keep this in mind as this measure moves forward.

"So, the Campaign and Spending Commission supported this bill with comments, and this is what they said. They believe that this bill 'will prevent the corruption, or at least the appearance of corruption, of elected officials as well as represents a crucial step towards transparency and accountability in government spending. In this respect, this bill will help improve public confidence in government and the electoral process.

"H.D.I replaced the entirety of this bill with H.B. 1519 H.D.I. The measure as amended as follows: 1) extends the ban on contributions to compensated officers of the state contractors and their immediate family members during the duration of the contract exceeding the small purchase threshold under the Hawaii Public Procurement Code, 2) extends the ban on contributions to state grantees and their compensated officers and their immediate family members during the duration of the grant exceeding \$250,000, 3) limits the ban on officers and immediate family members to the branch of government awarding or administering the contract, 4) does not apply to county contractors and grantees officers and their immediate family members, and 5) limits the scope to "compensated" officers of state contractors and grantees.

"The Commission is concerned that removing officers and immediate family members of county contractors and grantees from the ban, limiting the ban to the same branch of government, and limited the ban to "compensated" officers undermines the intent of this bill and will not capture all possibilities of corruption. The Commission recommends 1) extending the ban to include immediate family members of officers of state and county contractors and state and county grantees, 2) removing the same branch of government restriction, and 3) removing "compensated" from the bill."

"I think these are really important considerations, considering that this is coming straight from the Campaign Spending Commission and the bill language was replaced with House Bill 1519, House Draft 1, which was not originally a bill that the Campaign Spending Commission proffered in their package, even though I am a supporter and I did sign on as a primary introducer to that particular piece of legislation. But these are just important considerations. So, thank you, Madam Speaker."

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

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

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

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

Representative Belatti rose in support of the measure with reservations and asked that the remarks of the representative from Makakilo/Kapolei 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 S.B. No. 2530, SD 2, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes to 1 no, with Representatives Alcos, Belatti, Cochran, Garcia, Gedeon, Grandinetti, Iwamoto, Perruso, and Reyes Oda voting aye with reservations, with Representative Pierick voting no, and with Representative Quinlan being excused.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2164-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2688, SD 1, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

Representative Kahaloa moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that S.B. No. 2688, SD 1, HD 1 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

Representative Kitagawa 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 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 S.B. No. 2688, SD 1, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO COMPASSIONATE RELEASE," passed Third Reading by a vote of 45 ayes to 5 noes, with Representatives Kila, Kitagawa, and Reyes Oda voting aye with reservations, with Representatives Alcos, Gedeon, Matayoshi, Muraoka, and Pierick voting no, and with Representative Quinlan being excused.

At 2:32 p.m., the Chair noted that the following bills passed Third Reading:

S.B. No. 2471, SD 2, HD 2
 S.B. No. 2568, SD 1, HD 2
 S.B. No. 2253, SD 2, HD 2
 S.B. No. 2697, SD 1, HD 2
 S.B. No. 2429, SD 1, HD 2
 S.B. No. 2929, SD 1, HD 2
 S.B. No. 3032, SD 1, HD 2

S.B. No. 2057, SD 2, HD 2
 S.B. No. 148, SD 2, HD 3
 S.B. No. 2353, SD 2, HD 2
 S.B. No. 2907, SD 1, HD 3
 S.B. No. 2074, SD 1, HD 3
 S.B. No. 3219, HD 3
 S.B. No. 3218, SD 2, HD 2
 S.B. No. 2367, SD 2, HD 2
 S.B. No. 3048, SD 1, HD 1
 S.B. No. 3253, SD 2, HD 1
 S.B. No. 2376, SD 2, HD 2
 S.B. No. 3103, SD 2, HD 1
 S.B. No. 2999, SD 1, HD 2
 S.B. No. 3255, SD 1, HD 2
 S.B. No. 1166, SD 2, HD 2
 S.B. No. 3157, HD 2
 S.B. No. 2698, SD 2, HD 1
 S.B. No. 3029, SD 1, HD 2
 S.B. No. 2146, SD 1, HD 2
 S.B. No. 2470, SD 2, HD 1
 S.B. No. 3040, SD 1, HD 1
 S.B. No. 2575, SD 2, HD 1
 S.B. No. 2438, SD 1, HD 1
 S.B. No. 2530, SD 2, HD 1
 S.B. No. 2688, SD 1, HD 1

THIRD READING

S.B. No. 2347, SD 1, HD 1:

Representative Kahaloa moved that S.B. No. 2347, SD 1, HD 1 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

"Reservations with a brief comment. I learn something every day and just talking to my colleagues in caucus expressed a great idea that as we try to inform tenants of these updated information, that we would give and empower the tenants the website to look up the information for themselves so that they can bypass landlords that may not be aware of it and make sure that they get the information firsthand. Thank you, Madam Speaker."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and S.B. No. 2347, SD 1, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE RESIDENTIAL LANDLORD-TENANT CODE," passed Third Reading by a vote of 50 ayes, with Representative Shimizu voting aye with reservations, and with Representative Quinlan being excused.

S.B. No. 2623, SD 2, HD 1:

Representative Kahaloa moved that S.B. No. 2623, SD 2, HD 1 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. In opposition. I don't want to discriminate against anyone, but I feel like 16 years old is kind of questionable as far as the duties that are required. So, that's my comment. Thank you, Madam Speaker."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and S.B. No. 2623, SD 2, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO LICENSING," passed Third Reading by a vote of 50 ayes, with Representative Quinlan being excused.

S.B. No. 2960, SD 1, HD 1:

On motion by Representative Kahaloa, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, S.B. No. 2960, SD 1, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO PROPERTY INSURANCE," passed Third Reading by a vote of 50 ayes, with Representative Quinlan being excused.

S.B. No. 3142, SD 2, HD 1:

Representative Kahaloa moved that S.B. No. 3142, SD 2, HD 1 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise in opposition. This bill establishes the offense of dangerous intoxication and habitually dangerous intoxication. As stated in the ACLU of Hawaii's testimony, criminalization of status is unconstitutional. This bill makes simply being dangerously intoxicated and being habitually dangerously intoxicated a status offense. In *Robinson v. California*, the United States Supreme Court held that criminalizing the status of being addicted to drugs violates the Eighth Amendment's prohibition on cruel and unusual punishment. And the Supreme Court recently affirmed that due process related to the commission of a crime has historically required both proof of some act or *actus reus* be undertaken with some measure of volition, which is *mens rea*. The criminalization of status raises due process concerns because there is no showing of either a criminal act or the intent to commit a criminal act.

"For these reasons, I oppose this bill."

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

"In support. In the Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs Committee, we dealt with this very specific issue brought up by the previous speaker and addressed it saying in that this bill establishes and defines dangerous intoxication so that a person commits dangerous intoxication only when due to substantial incapacitation, they cannot safely care for themselves or they are engaging in conduct creating an immediate and substantial risk of physical harm. So, it's not a public intoxication law. It's really specifically looking at when intoxicated, they are an immediate risk themselves or others. And so that's what we're trying to deal with in this measure.

"And really what the point here is to promote public safety and human dignity by authorizing early health-oriented intervention when a person's intoxication creates an immediate risk of harm to themselves or others. It focuses on dangerous behavior and substantial incapacitation, not intoxication alone. So, I urge members to support this. Thank you."

Representative Shimizu rose in support of the measure and asked that the remarks of the Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs chair be entered into the Journal as his own, and the Chair "so ordered." (By reference only.)

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

Representative Souza rose in support of the measure and asked that the remarks of the Judiciary 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 S.B. No. 3142, SD 2, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO DANGEROUS INTOXICATION," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes to 1 no, with Representative Cochran voting aye with reservations, with Representative Iwamoto voting no, and with Representative Quinlan being excused.

S.B. No. 2135, SD 2, HD 1:

On motion by Representative Kahaloa, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, S.B. No. 2135, SD 2, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO PRIVACY," passed Third Reading by a vote of 50 ayes, with Representative Quinlan being excused.

S.B. No. 2203, SD 2, HD 1:

Representative Kahaloa moved that S.B. No. 2203, SD 2, HD 1 pass Third Reading, 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."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and S.B. No. 2203, SD 2, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO LAW

ENFORCEMENT," passed Third Reading by a vote of 42 ayes to 8 noes, with Representative Cochran voting aye with reservations, with Representatives Alcos, Garcia, Gedeon, Kong, Matsumoto, Muraoka, Pierick, and Shimizu voting no, and with Representative Quinlan being excused.

S.B. No. 2517, SD 1, HD 1:

Representative Kahaloe moved that S.B. No. 2517, SD 1, HD 1 pass Third Reading, 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 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 S.B. No. 2517, SD 1, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC SAFETY," passed Third Reading by a vote of 48 ayes to 2 noes, with Representatives Cochran and Gedeon voting aye with reservations, with Representatives Garcia and Pierick voting no, and with Representative Quinlan being excused.

S.B. No. 2737, SD 1, HD 1:

On motion by Representative Kahaloe, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, S.B. No. 2737, SD 1, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO BRIBERY," passed Third Reading by a vote of 50 ayes, with Representative Quinlan being excused.

S.B. No. 2247, SD 1, HD 1:

On motion by Representative Kahaloe, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, S.B. No. 2247, SD 1, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO POLITICAL FUNDRAISING BY EXECUTIVE BRANCH EMPLOYEES," passed Third Reading by a vote of 50 ayes, with Representative Quinlan being excused.

S.B. No. 2731, SD 1, HD 1:

Representative Kahaloe moved that S.B. No. 2731, SD 1, HD 1 pass Third Reading, 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 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 S.B. No. 2731, SD 1, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO SENTENCING," passed Third Reading by a vote of 46 ayes to 4 noes, with Representatives Cochran, Shimizu, and Souza voting aye with reservations, with Representatives Garcia, Kila, Olds, and Pierick voting no, and with Representative Quinlan being excused.

S.B. No. 2730, SD 2, HD 1:

Representative Kahaloe moved that S.B. No. 2730, SD 2, HD 1 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

"In opposition, permission to insert written comments. And just want to say, this is more bad policy moving us in the wrong direction. They call it criminal justice reform, but in my opinion, this is enabling criminal activity in Hawaii. No vote."

Representative Garcia's written remarks are as follows:

"I rise in firm opposition to Senate Bill 2730, HD 1.

"This legislature is being asked to approve a proposal that fundamentally rewrites how trained law enforcement officers respond to criminal conduct.

At a time when communities are demanding safer streets and consistent enforcement, this bill does the exact opposite. It weakens response and calls it reform. Senate Bill 2730 mandates citations for certain misdemeanors and violations even when an arrest is clearly justified. Let that sink in. We are replacing judgment with a script. This is marketed as reducing unnecessary detention but that is completely off. What it actually does is strip discretion from trained officers who are paid to assess risk, behavior, and escalating situations in real time. That is not reform. It is reckless.

"Public safety depends on judgment. Officers make split second decisions based on training, experience, and what is unfolding in front of them. This bill second guesses those decisions from a distance and replaces professional judgment with rigid mandates. That does not increase safety. It weakens accountability and eliminates the immediate consequences that prevent repeat and escalating offenses. The role of this legislature is not to create feel good policies that look nice on paper. Our responsibility is to ensure reforms do not create new dangers. Good stewardship of our land and our people means empowering law enforcement, not handcuffing them with one-size-fits-all rules that ignore real world conditions. And this is not some theoretical concern. Law enforcement has objected. Prosecutors have objected. The attorney general has objected. The people tasked with protecting our communities are telling us loud and clear that this bill goes too far. We should be listening.

"Madam Speaker, this measure prioritizes insane radical ideology over safety, and coddling criminal behavior over common sense. It limits officers when flexibility is essential and puts communities at unnecessary risk.

"This is insanity. I object to allowing Hawaii to become a playground for progressive stupidity. No vote."

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

"In support. This measure is not unique just to this state. I think it's an idea that I learned from other states. There are 12 states that have a presumption of citation instead of an arrest for nonviolent misdemeanors. And they include states like Alabama, Georgia, Virginia, and Tennessee. It's been very successful in those states.

"Even with the presumption that the law enforcement officer would give a citation instead of an arrest, the officers still retain the discretion to arrest in all cases where an alleged offender presents a danger to himself or others and/or does not adequately provide identification. The obligation to show up for your court appearance remains exactly the same, whether issued a citation or arrested, and failure to appear will still potentially result in a bench warrant.

"This measure specifically exempts the offense of operating a vehicle under the influence of an intoxicant from being a presumption of citation. And it exempts the offense of abuse of family or household members from the presumption to cite. So, I think this is a fair and balanced measure and I urge members to support it. Thank you, Speaker."

Representative Souza rose in support of the measure with reservations and asked that the remarks of the Judiciary 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 S.B. No. 2730, SD 2, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM," passed Third Reading by a vote of 30 ayes to 20 noes, with Representative Souza voting aye with reservations, with Representatives Alcos, Chun, Cochran, Garcia, Gedeon, Hartsfield, Kila, Kitagawa, Kong, Lee, Matayoshi, Matsumoto, Muraoka, Olds, Pierick, Ratcliffe, Shimizu, Takenouchi, Tam, and Templo voting no, and with Representative Quinlan being excused.

S.B. No. 2983, SD 1, HD 1:

Representative Kahaloe moved that S.B. No. 2983, SD 1, HD 1 pass Third Reading, 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 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 S.B. No. 2983, SD 1, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO NATURAL RESOURCES," passed Third Reading by a vote of 45 ayes to 5 noes, with Representatives Cochran and Gedeon voting aye with reservations, with Representatives Alcos, Garcia, Kong, Matsumoto, and Pierick voting no, and with Representative Quinlan being excused.

S.B. No. 2598, HD 1:

Representative Kahaloe moved that S.B. No. 2598, HD 1 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

Representative Iwamoto 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."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and S.B. No. 2598, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO NON-GENERAL FUNDS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 45 ayes to 5 noes, with Representatives Iwamoto and Reyes Oda voting aye with reservations, with Representatives Alcos, Cochran, Garcia, Gedeon, and Muraoka voting no, and with Representative Quinlan being excused.

S.B. No. 3125, SD 1, HD 1:

Representative Kahaloe moved that S.B. No. 3125, SD 1, HD 1 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

"In opposition. Thank you, Madam Speaker. This bill touches on something that affects us all, our taxes and how the government manages its budget. First, let's talk about the importance of balancing the budget. We all know managing finances is about making tough choices. Choices we all make at home, I'm sure of it. Just like in our households, the government needs to prioritize spending and ensure we are not living or operating beyond our means.

"It's essential to maintain fiscal responsibility without compromising commitments we've made to our citizens. One of those commitments is the promise of tax cuts. These cuts were made to ease the financial burden of families and individuals across Hawaii. Reneging on these promises by adjusting tax brackets and deductions isn't the way forward. We need to honor our commitments and find ways to balance the budget without going back on our word.

"Before we ask the people to pay more, we should look at tightening our belts. This means scrutinizing government spending and finding areas where we can cut costs without sacrificing essential services. It's about being efficient and effective with the resources we have, ensuring that every dollar is spent wisely. We also need to focus on long-term solutions rather than quick fixes. For those reasons, I'm in opposition."

At this time, Representative Garcia offered Floor Amendment No. 2, amending S.B. No. 3125, SD 1, HD 1 as follows:

SECTION 1. Senate Bill No. 3125, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, is amended by restoring the language to the form of Senate Bill No. 3125, S.D. 1.

Representative Garcia moved that Floor Amendment No. 2 be adopted, seconded by Representative Matsumoto.

Representative Matsumoto rose to speak in support of the proposed floor amendment, stating:

"I stand in support of the amendment. In my opening day speech for this session, I talked about the historic tax cuts that were made in 2024. I stated that we need to ensure that tax relief promised just two years ago is not taken away or even delayed. People need help now, and we as the Legislature need to take a critical look at our budgets and government spending before asking our people to give up more of their hard-earned paychecks. And that when we make a promise, we should keep it.

"This amendment will revert the bill to the original S.B. 3125, SD 1 that crossed over to us from the Senate. While I would prefer to retain the tax cuts in their entirety, this amendment would get us closer to that goal by continuing the income tax relief for 90% of our state's residents. This means that everyone making \$350,000 or less as a joint filer and \$175,000 or less as a single filer still gets to reap the full benefits of the historic and, quite frankly, long overdue tax cuts.

"Further, I agree that expanding or extending the tax credits, like the earned income tax credit, food tax credit, and household and dependent care tax credit, are beneficial for many families. However, the claim that the savings offset by the tax credit make up for the unexpected increase in income tax does not consider that many of Hawaii residents live paycheck to paycheck. Our residents cannot wait until they file their annual tax returns to experience the promised savings. They need to see the savings with more monthly take-home income throughout the year. This amendment would allow for that financial empowerment. With the standard deduction and tax bracket proposal in this amendment, the average paycheck will be \$162 higher in 2031 than it was in 2024. That is about \$4,000 more a year on average that people can keep of their hard-earned wages.

"Additionally, in order to even benefit from a tax credit, a filer has to, one, qualify; two, be aware that it exists and that they qualify; three, they have to file for it; four, they have to outlay the money first, so they get a reimbursement instead of being able to keep it right away; and five, they've to wait till their tax refund to receive it. On the other hand, to benefit from a lower tax bracket like this amendment lays out, the taxpayer doesn't have to do anything. They will automatically have less withheld from their paychecks and see those savings in every single paycheck.

"While not perfect, this amendment is a compromise, reflecting our current budget constraints while focusing on stronger fiscal policy. It's about immediate relief and beginning to look at our government spending. I urge everyone to support this amendment so we can keep that promise of financial relief to the people of Hawaii while ensuring fiscal stability in our state for years to come. With these reasons, I stand in support of the amendment."

Representative Todd rose to speak in opposition to the proposed floor amendment, stating:

"Thank you, in opposition. First, I'd like to adopt the words from the speaker from Waianae, except for being in favor of the floor amendment. Beyond that, there's a ton of merit in both the arguments made by the minority and in this Senate Bill. And I look forward to doing my best to take the best parts of the Senate measure and the best part of the House measure and figuring it out and reporting back in a couple weeks with something we can hopefully all support.

"I would just note that the facts on the ground haven't changed much since crossover. We did incur about a billion dollars in flood damages. We also had a proposed federal budget that eliminates virtually all Native Hawaiian programming, which will have a direct impact on our budget and our priorities in conference. So, still continuing to assess, but I'm confident we'll find a good way forward. Thank you."

Representative Garcia rose to speak in support of the proposed floor amendment, stating:

"In support of the floor amendment. Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise in strong support of this floor amendment. And again, this is to Senate Bill 3125, an amendment that restores the Senate version of this bill, because it was gutted with the House version in Finance. And more importantly, restores a level of balance and responsibility that's missing from the current version before us on the floor.

"Madam Speaker, we're dealing, yes, with a projected \$1.8 billion shortfall, so they say. And yes, that is serious. It does require action from this body. It is the responsible thing to do to take action. But the real question is not whether we act, but instead how we act. And who do we ask to carry that burden first? Because the version of S.B. 3125 that came out of the House Finance Committee sends a very clear message to the people of Hawaii. When government comes up short, the first place we look is in your wallet. And that is exactly the approach I stood up against and opposed just weeks ago.

"I said then that it was a slap in the face to working families who were promised relief in 2024, and I truly meant it. Because we told the people of Hawaii that help was on the way, that we understood the cost-of-living crisis, that we were going to give them some breathing room. And now at the first sign of pressure, we turn around and say, never mind, we're taking all that back. That's not right and the people of Hawaii know it's not right.

"Now, the amendment before us, Madam Speaker, that we offer, does something very simple but very important. It brings us back to the previous draft, which, while not perfect, is far more grounded, is far more disciplined, and far more respectful to the people of Hawaii. Because the Senate version does not immediately reach into the pockets of our residents to solve the problem. It starts where it should start, with government itself.

"It protects the 2024 tax cuts for 90% of Hawaii's taxpayers, 90%. That means the vast majority of our working families, our *kūpuna*, and young professionals trying to survive in Hawaii will still receive the relief that we promised them. For the top 10%, it does not impose a tax increase like the House version and the governor's proposal did, it simply pauses the continuation for those cuts after 2026. They still receive their reduction this year and then, that's it.

"And then there's another key difference that matters to every working person living paycheck to paycheck. The Senate version or previous draft of the bill adjusts the tax brackets, which allows more relief. Immediate relief in real time through people's paychecks. That means more take-home money every single month, not a delayed refund that comes after a year of higher costs, higher bills, and financial strain. For families trying to keep up right now, that timing, immediacy, matters.

"Madam Speaker, we believe that this is a more measured approach. That this is a more fiscally responsible approach. That is a far cry from what is in the House version, which goes further and increases the burden outright. But what really sets this version apart is that it actually does the hard work of looking inward at government spending. Something we talk about often here in the building but rarely follow through when it counts.

"The proposal before us in this amendment sunsets seven targeted tax credits in 2029, generating roughly \$916 million, about half of the \$1.8 billion shortfall. In conjunction with the Senate's budget version, it reduces lapsed funds, it sweeps excess special funds from balances, and it eliminates vacant positions that's been sitting for five-plus years. This floor amendment says, before we ask a single family here in Hawaii to give more, we, we take a hard look at excess within our own system. Excess funds, excess positions, excess spending, and we start trimming it down in a real and meaningful way.

"Now, if it were up to me and most of my colleagues on this side of the aisle, Madam Speaker, we would go even further. We would dig deeper. We would find every opportunity to cut waste and preserve every dollar of tax relief that we promised the people of Hawaii. We'd Ozempic our state budget, we'd go on a serious fast. But that is not the reality in front of us today. We don't have that luxury. The reality is, we have a shortfall, and yes, we have to respond."

Representative Alcos rose to yield his time, and the Chair "so ordered."

Representative Garcia continued, stating:

"So, the question becomes, do we respond by taking the easy way out and shifting the burden onto our residents, or do we take a more balanced approach that asks government to share in that responsibility? So, Madam Speaker, instead of fasting seriously, with this floor amendment, we recommend a diet.

"Right now, the House version takes the easy route. It says government keeps growing, government keeps spending, and the people will make up the difference. With this version, the Senate version in this floor amendment, flips that mindset. It says government goes first. Government tightens its belt. Government looks inward before looking outward. It speaks to whether the people of Hawaii believe that we are actually trying to do right by them, or whether we are simply doing what is most convenient for us and feeding our addiction of overspending.

"At the end of the day, Madam Speaker, no matter what version passes this body and goes to conference, there will be an impact. There will be a

burden. But this amendment, we believe, offers a path that softens the blow. That protects 90% of Hawaii's taxpayers and that finally begins to address the size and scope of government spending in a serious way.

"So, I'll end with this. Before you cast your vote, Madam Speaker and colleagues, ask yourself whether we have truly done enough as a legislature to clean up our own house before asking the people to sacrifice even more. If the answer is no, then this amendment is the right path forward. Vote yes, even if that means going against leadership. Let's choose the path that puts the people first, not last. In support."

The motion that Floor Amendment No. 2, amending S.B. No. 3125, SD 1, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO INCOME TAX," be adopted, was put to vote by the Chair and upon a voice vote, failed to carry, with Representatives Perruso and Quinlan being excused.

(Main Motion)

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

"In opposition, Madam Speaker. We need to be reminded of the significance of Act 46. In 2024, the Legislature enacted the largest income tax cut in the state's history. This included incremental adjustments to the standard deduction in income brackets over seven years. The structure of the tax cuts provided targeted relief across all income brackets, with the most dramatic savings benefiting lower- and middle-income earners.

"A family of four earning \$50,000 a year today would see their income tax liability go from \$2,025 before tax cuts to just \$300 by 2031 if we allowed full implementation. That's an 86% tax reduction. If the current tax relief provided under Act 46 were to continue across all income levels, it would return \$1.5 billion to Hawaii families this year and \$5.4 billion over the next five years.

"Act 46 was a powerful statement from the Legislature. We hear the concerns of the people, we see their needs, and we act accordingly. This tax cut provided financial relief and peace of mind. Which likely meant the difference between staying in Hawaii and moving to the mainland for many families. A heartbreaking reality we know so many residents must face. We cannot go back on this promise. It is in moments like these, the hard decisions, that the Legislature demonstrates its true priorities. Thank you."

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise in opposition. Hawaii has been dependent on federal funds far too long. The situation is a wake-up call that the state needs to have more economic independence. Yes, federal support is crucial, but we also need to stand on our own two feet. We should be working toward a strong, independent economy that can weather any storm. It's about building resilience and stability for us all.

"Based on current projections, the state faces a \$1.8 billion budget shortfall. However, the state has been spending more than it's been collecting in revenue. It is not right to consider withdrawing from the promised tax relief when there are other options to be explored. The Grassroots Institute of Hawaii has identified various money-saving and revenue-generating tools available.

"First, the state could save nearly \$500 million by repurposing the special funds identified by the auditor as being able to be transferred to general fund without impacting essential programs. Second, the state could eliminate the hundreds of vacant state positions, which add up roughly to about \$350 million. This would include \$190 million for low priority positions and \$30 million for positions vacant for four or more years alone.

"Other tools include increasing the budget restriction from 10% to 14%, which could save almost \$90 million. Finally, the budget could be reduced to its pre-COVID spending levels, saving \$120 million. These are just some of the ideas that deserve exploration before increasing taxes should even be considered. *Mahalo* for this time."

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

ROUGH DRAFT

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and S.B. No. 3125, SD 1, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO INCOME TAX," passed Third Reading by a vote of 40 ayes to 10 noes, with Representative Reyes Oda voting aye with reservations, with Representatives Alcos, Cochran, Garcia, Gedeon, Kong, Matsumoto, Muraoka, Pierick, Shimizu, and Souza voting no, and with Representative Quinlan being excused.

S.B. No. 2921, SD 1, HD 1:

Representative Kahaloa moved that S.B. No. 2921, SD 1, HD 1 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

Representative Iwamoto 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 S.B. No. 2921, SD 1, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO STATE FUNDS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 50 ayes, with Representative Iwamoto voting aye with reservations, and with Representative Quinlan being excused.

S.B. No. 2808, SD 1, HD 1:

Representative Kahaloa moved that S.B. No. 2808, SD 1, HD 1 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

Representative Iwamoto 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 S.B. No. 2808, SD 1, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE BUDGET," passed Third Reading by a vote of 50 ayes, with Representative Iwamoto voting aye with reservations, and with Representative Quinlan being excused.

S.B. No. 2600, SD 1, HD 1:

Representative Kahaloa moved that S.B. No. 2600, SD 1, HD 1 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

Representative Iwamoto 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 S.B. No. 2600, SD 1, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE GENERAL FUND," passed Third Reading by a vote of 50 ayes, with Representative Iwamoto voting aye with reservations, and with Representative Quinlan being excused.

At 3:04 p.m., the Chair noted that the following bills passed Third Reading:

S.B. No. 2347, SD 1, HD 1
 S.B. No. 2623, SD 2, HD 1
 S.B. No. 2960, SD 1, HD 1
 S.B. No. 3142, SD 2, HD 1
 S.B. No. 2135, SD 2, HD 1
 S.B. No. 2203, SD 2, HD 1
 S.B. No. 2517, SD 1, HD 1
 S.B. No. 2737, SD 1, HD 1
 S.B. No. 2247, SD 1, HD 1
 S.B. No. 2731, SD 1, HD 1
 S.B. No. 2730, SD 2, HD 1
 S.B. No. 2983, SD 1, HD 1
 S.B. No. 2598, HD 1
 S.B. No. 3125, SD 1, HD 1
 S.B. No. 2921, SD 1, HD 1
 S.B. No. 2808, SD 1, HD 1
 S.B. No. 2600, SD 1, HD 1

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Representative Belatti: "Thank you, Madam Speaker. Very briefly, I just wanted to acknowledge and thank the American Massage Therapy Association, Hawaii Chapter, that while we were working here hard on the floor, over close to 80 of our staff members were able to enjoy Legislative

Massage Awareness Day. I'd like to point out Gwen DeLuze-Coria and Sterling Coria as well as Kathryn Julia and Barbara Hart and students from Quantum School of Massage and Holistic Healing who participated in that. There were a whole another set of massage therapists. But this is just something that we've done annually, and I hope that next year, maybe it can be organized on a day when we all can enjoy it as well. Thank you, Madam Speaker."

Representative Gedeon: "If you're looking for a pick-me-up after this long floor session, at 5:30 p.m. in the Auditorium, we'll be having our talent show. I encourage you all to join us. Rep. La Chica's children will be doing a performance as well. 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. in the Auditorium."

Representative Cochran: "I was looking at representative here on the corner about Purple Up Day, I believe is tomorrow. Tomorrow, Purple Up Day. So, everyone, I'm already started with my hair."

Representative Kong: "On April 15, we're going to recognize the military members for Purple Up Day. That's what she's speaking of. So, Purple Up everybody. Thank you."

ADJOURNMENT

At 3:06 p.m., on motion by Representative Morikawa, seconded by Representative Garcia and carried, the House of Representatives adjourned until noon Thursday, April 16, 2026. (Representative Quinlan was excused.)

HOUSE COMMUNICATIONS

House Communication dated April 14, 2026, from Brian L. Takeshita, Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives, to the Honorable President and members of the Senate, informing the Senate that the House has disagreed to the amendments made by the Senate to the following measures:

H.B. No. 389, HD 1, SD 1
 H.B. No. 1166, HD 1, SD 1
 H.B. No. 1510, HD 2, SD 1
 H.B. No. 1541, HD 2, SD 1
 H.B. No. 1605, HD 1, SD 1
 H.B. No. 1661, HD 1, SD 1
 H.B. No. 1663, HD 2, SD 1
 H.B. No. 1678, HD 1, SD 1
 H.B. No. 1769, HD 2, SD 1
 H.B. No. 1785, HD 1, SD 1
 H.B. No. 1801, HD 1, SD 1
 H.B. No. 1802, HD 1, SD 1
 H.B. No. 1815, HD 1, SD 1
 H.B. No. 1824, HD 1, SD 1
 H.B. No. 1838, HD 2, SD 1
 H.B. No. 1840, HD 2, SD 1
 H.B. No. 1853, HD 1, SD 1
 H.B. No. 1860, HD 2, SD 1
 H.B. No. 1891, HD 1, SD 1
 H.B. No. 1952, HD 1, SD 1
 H.B. No. 1960, HD 2, SD 1
 H.B. No. 1969, HD 2, SD 1
 H.B. No. 1970, HD 2, SD 1
 H.B. No. 1972, HD 2, SD 1
 H.B. No. 1976, HD 1, SD 1
 H.B. No. 2050, HD 1, SD 1
 H.B. No. 2094, HD 1, SD 1
 H.B. No. 2104, HD 2, SD 1
 H.B. No. 2158, HD 1, SD 1
 H.B. No. 2165, HD 2, SD 1
 H.B. No. 2171, HD 1, SD 1
 H.B. No. 2208, HD 1, SD 1
 H.B. No. 2246, HD 1, SD 1
 H.B. No. 2271, HD 2, SD 1
 H.B. No. 2300, HD 1, SD 1
 H.B. No. 2310, HD 1, SD 1
 H.B. No. 2315, HD 1, SD 1
 H.B. No. 2319, HD 2, SD 1
 H.B. No. 2338, HD 1, SD 1

H.B. No. 2339, HD 1, SD 1
H.B. No. 2343, HD 1, SD 1
H.B. No. 2443, HD 1, SD 1
H.B. No. 2498, HD 2, SD 1
H.B. No. 2551, HD 1, SD 1
H.B. No. 2599, HD 1, SD 1
H.B. No. 2606, HD 2, SD 1

"April 14, 2026

Governor Josh Green, MD
State of Hawaii
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Governor Green:

In accordance with the provisions of Article XVII, Section 3 of the Hawaii State Constitution, written notice is hereby given of the final form of the following Senate Bills, a copy of which is attached hereto:

S.B. No. 2152, S.D. 2, H.D. 1 entitled:

"PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE VI, SECTION 3, OF THE HAWAII STATE CONSTITUTION TO INCREASE THE MANDATORY RETIREMENT AGE FOR STATE JUSTICES AND JUDGES."

S.B. No. 3219, H.D. 3 entitled:

"PROPOSING AMENDMENTS TO ARTICLE VII, SECTIONS 12 AND 13, OF THE HAWAII STATE CONSTITUTION."

Said measures passed Third Reading in the Hawaii House of Representatives on this date.

Respectfully,
/s/ Brian L. Takeshita
BRIAN L. TAKESHITA
Chief Clerk

Enclosures

cc: Carol Taniguchi, Clerk of the Senate
Scott Nago, Chief Election Officer"

ROUGH DRAFT