

THE
TENTH LEGISLATURE
STATE OF HAWAII
REGULAR SESSION OF 1979
JOURNAL OF THE SENATE

FIRST DAY

Wednesday, January 17, 1979

In accordance with the provisions of Section 11 of Article III of the Constitution of the State of Hawaii, the Senate of the Tenth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 1979, was called to order at 10:00 o'clock a.m., Wednesday, January 17, 1979, by the Honorable Patsy K. Young, Temporary Chairperson of the Senate.

The Divine Blessing was invoked by Reverend Clyde Mikuni.

Nominations now being in order for a Temporary Clerk, Senator Yamasaki nominated Seichi Hirai.

On motion by Senator Mizuguchi, seconded by Senator Hara and carried, nominations were closed and Seichi Hirai was appointed as Temporary Clerk of the Senate.

Senator Kuroda moved that a Committee of three Senators be appointed by the Temporary Chairperson as a Committee on Credentials to examine the certificates of election of the members of the Senate and submit a report of its findings to the Senate, seconded by Senator Ushijima and carried.

The Temporary Chairperson thereupon appointed Senators Kawasaki, Chairman, Chong and Saiki to serve on such Committee.

At 10:07 o'clock a.m., the Senate stood in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

The Senate reconvened at 10:08 o'clock a.m.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORT

Senator Kawasaki, for the Committee on Credentials, presented a report (Spec. Com. Rep. No. 1) which was read by the Temporary Clerk as follows:

"The Honorable Patsy K. Young
Temporary Chairperson of the Senate
The Tenth State Legislature
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chairperson Young:

Your Committee on Credentials begs leave to report that it has examined the Certificates of Election of the Senate of the Tenth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 1979, and finds that the following persons have been legally elected and are fully qualified to sit as members of the Senate.

The newly elected senators whose respective terms of office will expire November 4, 1980 are:

First Senatorial District

Dante K. Carpenter
Stanley I. Hara

Second Senatorial District

Mamoru Yamasaki

Third Senatorial District

Ralph K. Ajifu
Mary George

Fourth Senatorial District

Norman Mizuguchi
Patsy K. Young

Fifth Senatorial District

Richard S. H. Wong
T. C. Yim

Sixth Senatorial District

John S. Carroll
Anson Chong

Seventh Senatorial District

Dennis O'Connor
W. Buddy Soares; and

The newly elected senators whose respective terms of office will expire November 2, 1982 are:

First Senatorial District

John T. Ushijima

Second Senatorial District

Henry T. Takitani

Third Senatorial District

D. G. Anderson

Fourth Senatorial District

Benjamin J. Cayetano
Joseph T. Kuroda

Fifth Senatorial District

Charles M. Campbell
Duke T. Kawasaki

Sixth Senatorial District

Neil Abercrombie
Wadsworth Yee

Seventh Senatorial District

Steve Cobb
Patricia Saiki

Eighth Senatorial District

George H. Toyofuku

Respectfully submitted,

Duke T. Kawasaki
Anson Chong
Patricia Saiki"

Senator Kawasaki moved that Special Committee Report No. 1 be adopted, seconded by Senator Kuroda and carried.

The Committee was thereupon discharged with thanks.

Senator Cobb then moved that a Committee of four Senators be appointed to escort the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the State of Hawaii, William S. Richardson, to administer the oath of office to the members of the Senate, seconded by Senator Yamasaki and carried.

The Temporary Chairperson appointed Senators Chong, Cayetano, Carroll and Ajifu as members of such Committee.

The Committee escorted Chief Justice William S. Richardson to the dais and was thereupon discharged with thanks.

Chief Justice Richardson then administered the oath of office to the members of the Senate standing at their respective desks.

At this time, the Roll was called showing all Senators present.

At 10:15 o'clock a.m., the Senate stood in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

The Senate reconvened at 10:25 o'clock a.m.

Senator O'Connor moved that the Rules of the Ninth Legislature be the Temporary Rules of the Tenth Legislature, seconded by Senator Cobb and carried.

Nominations for the officers of the Senate being next in order, Senator Toyofuku placed in nomination the name of Senator Richard Wong as President of the Senate, seconded by Senator Campbell.

Senator Carpenter moved that the nominations be closed, seconded by Senator Takitani. The motion to close the nominations was put by the Chair and carried unanimously, and the Temporary Clerk was directed to cast a unanimous ballot for Senator Wong as President of the Senate.

The ballot having been so cast, Senator Wong was declared unanimously elected as President of the Senate of the Tenth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 1979.

The Temporary Chairperson thereupon appointed Senators Toyofuku, Cobb and Soares as a Committee to escort the President to the dais.

At 10:27 o'clock a.m., the Senate stood in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

The Senate reconvened at 10:40 o'clock a.m.

The Committee escorted the President to the Chair and thereupon was discharged with thanks.

Before presenting his address, the President introduced to the members of the Senate his mother, Mrs. Jane Wong and then requested that all mothers of the Senators rise to be recognized.

The President then introduced his uncle, Mr. C. U. Wong, who has been like a father to him, and then asked that all fathers of the Senators rise to be recognized, also.

The President asked that the spouses of the Senators rise to be recognized.

The President then addressed the members of the Senate and guests as follows:

"Governor and Mrs. Ariyoshi, Chief Justice Richardson, fellow Senators, ladies and gentlemen:

"A new politics.

"In this spirit, today, the opening day of the Tenth State Legislature, we in the Senate begin our formal work on the problems and issues facing Hawaii.

"What does this new politics mean? It means that the Senate will be a more open body, a body in which all the members will have full opportunity to participate in the decision-making process. I fully expect lively discussion and debate on many issues that will arise during the coming session.

"I welcome this. I believe that by encouraging broader and more varied input by all Senators, better legislation will ultimately emerge. After all, it is on the merits of the legislation which is finally passed that the Legislature is judged. This is our 'bottom line.'

"A number of members of the Senate are known to be independent legislators, uncommitted to any special interest and dedicated to legislative reforms. These are the strong proponents of the new politics. I look forward to them bringing fresh, objective viewpoints to our deliberations. I deeply appreciate their expressions of faith and confidence in me.

"To the Governor and the State administration, to the counties, to businesses, to labor, to all groups and interests involved with the legislative process, I want to state that the new politics now operational in the Senate means that we will be more open, more receptive to all points of view. We know we don't have all the facts and answers, we know we need additional information, ideas and advice to help us in our deliberations. We will be accessible to all groups and not just a favored few. Many of us plan to actively go out into the community to seek input from the public. We want the Senate to be a people's forum where all citizens may be heard.

"We in the Senate majority have been through an arduous organizational

process. There have been some difficult moments but these are now behind us. The Senate majority is now organized and united. Everyone will have an important role to play and everyone will be expected to contribute fully and constructively to the work of the Senate. I gratefully acknowledge the expression of support given me by my fellow majority members. I pledge that as your new President, I will do my best to serve you well.

"Let me pause for a moment to pay my respects to my predecessor as Senate President. The Senator from the First District led the Senate with great ability and wisdom during the preceding four years. Upon the transfer of the presidency to me, he has been most gracious and cooperative. I thank him. I fully intend to draw on his knowledge and experience during the days ahead.

"To my friends and colleagues in the minority, I say that you too will have an important role to play in the legislative decision-making process. Your proposals and ideas will be treated with a greater degree of fairness than had heretofore been the case.

"At present, the Senate majority program has not yet been fully developed. Work on the program has been going on and it will be revealed shortly.

"We count among our members a number of enthusiastic, hard-working Senators. They have many ideas for possible legislation which have been or are being drafted. These will be incorporated into our majority program. I am confident that the Senate will be a very creative and productive body this session.

"At this time, some of the issues that I see confronting us during the Tenth State Legislature are:

- the need to address the problems of crime which threatens our personal safety and possessions.
- the need to expand and diversify our economy and thus create more job opportunities for our people.
- the need to improve our educational system in order that our children may be better prepared to function effectively in modern society.
- the need to carefully scrutinize the proposed 1979-1981 State budget, and, in a fiscally responsible manner, to make additional savings wherever possible

and other adjustments wherever necessary.

- the need to plan and direct the future of our State so that Hawaii's unique social, cultural and physical qualities are preserved.
- the need to work with our Congressional delegation to protect the existence of our sugar industry.
- the need to redefine and realign executive-legislative relations, particularly with respect to the administration of State programs and the allocation of funds, in order that legislative intent--the basic policy direction of the State--is followed to the fullest extent possible.
- the need to continue our ongoing review of the State tax system and to initiate such reforms as may be feasible to achieve greater equity among all sectors of our community.
- the need to improve and enhance our tourist destination plant which is now the keystone of our economy, and to secure the necessary revenues to accomplish this end.
- the need to assure uninterrupted interisland surface transportation services, particularly so as to protect the economic well-being of the neighbor islands.
- the need to develop and enact the necessary enabling legislation mandated by the recently revised State Constitution.

"These issues and many others comprise a formidable agenda for us. The task ahead is not an easy one. These are complex, difficult issues with no simple solutions. We will be called upon to exert our best efforts in addressing them.

"The challenge is now before us.

"I am looking forward to facing it.

"I ask you all, majority and minority members alike, to work together in the spirit of the new politics for a better Hawaii and a better future for all our people.

"Let us begin.

"Mahalo."

Senator Yee then responded as follows:

"Mr. President, I want to take this opportunity to congratulate you on your election as Senate President and I sincerely wish you well in your new capacity.

"I would like to extend my appreciation to you and the Senate majority leaders for your continuous expressions of concern that Republican measures be given fair and equal treatment and evaluated on their merits instead of partisan consideration. I am optimistic, Mr. President, that you will display the kind of leadership needed to accomplish this end.

"Your senior colleagues in the Senate here represent an important although conservative element in government and business matters, and are highly respected in their community. Our neighbor island gentlemen represent the last of a past generation of leaders who played a major role in building Hawaii during the post World War II period, guiding it through Statehood, and were responsible for the establishment of a new Hawaii. As a member of this generation myself, I know first hand of their labors and contributions.

"I personally ask that you acknowledge their diverse and valuable wisdom and their past and present contribution to this Honorable Body, and treat them with the honor and respect that they richly deserve. I am also hopeful, Mr. President, that the new and independent Senators will come to appreciate the experience and knowledge of our senior members and use them as a resource for advice and valued guidance concerning legislative matters.

"Mr. President, I would also like to encourage this Body to put our differences aside and approach our work with objectivity and an open mind. To our new fellow Senators, I beg you to look upon the entire business community from the small businesses to the large corporate firms as an essential segment of our Hawaiian economy. They must all be treated fairly.

"With regards to tourism, our largest industry, I ask that we recognize its critical role in our economy and its importance to an industry generating over one billion dollars of revenues in business and creating thousands of jobs. Needless to say, the success and accomplishments of the Senate will depend on the results of the next sixty days.

"Although the outcome of our Senate

action is very difficult to predict because of the tenuous make up of this Body, the Senate Republicans, Mr. President, pledge their support to you and will work cooperatively to become a viable and contributing partner in the Senate. We will certainly do our part to develop an atmosphere of good faith and restore the integrity and confidence of the public in the elected official.

"Thank you, Mr. President."

The President announced that nominations were in order for the office of Vice-President of the Senate.

Senator Cayetano then placed in nomination the name of Senate Duke T. Kawasaki as Vice-President of the Senate, seconded by Senator Toyofuku.

Senator Carpenter moved that the nominations be closed, seconded by Senator Yamasaki. The motion to close the nominations was put by the Chair and carried unanimously, and the Temporary Clerk was directed to cast a unanimous ballot for Senator Kawasaki as Vice-President of the Senate.

The ballot having been so cast, Senator Kawasaki was declared unanimously elected as Vice-President of the Senate of the Tenth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 1979.

The President then appointed Senators Abercrombie, Yim and George to escort the Vice-President to the dais.

At 11:00 o'clock a.m., the Senate stood in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

The Senate reconvened at 11:17 o'clock a.m.

The Committee escorted the Vice-President to the dais and thereupon was discharged with thanks.

Senator Kawasaki, in accepting the Vice-Presidency, stated as follows:

"Chief Justice Richardson, Mr. President, members of the Senate, Distinguished Guests, ladies and gentlemen:

"It is with a feeling of humility and appreciation that I accept the signal honor of serving as Vice-President of this august Body, the Senate of the State of Hawaii.

"Thank you, my Senate colleagues, for your vote of confidence. I fully expect to be working hard with all of you.

"To my very dear friend and now the Senate President, Senator Richard Wong, to you my Senate colleagues, to the people of Hawaii, I pledge every resource of mind and energy that I may possess in order that I join the Senate of the State of Hawaii in our desire to bring about in this Body a spirit of cooperation and a willingness to help bring about a better, a more meaningful life to all of the people of this State.

"I pledge my earnest effort, towards the enhancement and preservation of the interest and well-being of the public at large, the hundreds of thousands of silent voices generally unrepresented in these halls by paid lobbyists, the many who look to each of us, each of the twenty-five Senators here, for the exercise of good judgment, diligent effort and unflinching courage, to bring about economic and social justice that we seek for the greatest number of people possible.

"I have endeavored during the twelve years I have been privileged to serve in this Body to adhere to a very simple but nevertheless soundest doctrine applicable in a democracy... the principle of 'the greatest good for the greatest number.'

"Adherence to this principle is very often an unfashionable, unpopular posture among special interest lobby groups that frequent these halls.

"Notwithstanding the displeasure of these groups, coping with Hawaii's festering problems will nonetheless require resolute action and courage in the protection of the greater, public interest. It requires enactment of thoughtful legislation and vigorous implementation of programs designed to cope with the growing crime rate, unemployment, trade monopoly abuses, the high cost of living in Hawaii, to cope with the ill-effects of unprecedented inflation, high interest rates and dollar weaknesses abroad, to deal with the lack of decent, affordable housing for too many in this State, to attack inefficiency, waste and the high cost of government services to our citizens.

"It appears unthinkable to me, for anyone to assume, that we do not have in Hawaii's Legislature, the resolve or the courage to avoid the tortuous, ominous route taken by Detroit, San Francisco, Boston and of recent weeks, the city of Cleveland.

"I find strikingly relevant, some words spoken four years ago on a like occasion and entered in the Senate Journal of 1975 when I closed an acceptance speech in the following manner, and I quote:

'In this era of economic, ethical and spiritual bewilderment, at home and abroad, and nagging, urgent problems in this State of Hawaii, I would appear less than diligent, indeed, rather cavalier and derelict, if I were not to join the Senate President in articulating to all of you, the urgent necessity for this Senate to act wisely and responsibly...the need for the exercise of intellectual honesty and political courage, unprecedented in the annals of Hawaiian legislative history.

'Only with the exercise of these qualities, can we hope to deal effectively with the problems and challenges of Hawaii which are greater today than ever before.

'Only then, can we say honestly to the people who have elected us, we have served you well and courageously in Hawaii's time of need.'

"Let us proceed, and count me in.

"I look forward to a productive session. Mahalo!"

Senator Hara moved that the President appoint a Committee to wait upon the Governor and the House of Representatives and inform them that the Senate was organized and ready to transact business, seconded by Senator Abercrombie and carried.

The President thereupon appointed Senators Kuroda, Chairman, Mizuguchi, Campbell, Yee and Anderson to serve on such Committee.

At 11: 24 o'clock a.m., the Senate stood in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

The Senate reconvened at 11: 44 o'clock a.m., and Senator Kuroda reported orally for the Committee that the Governor and the House of Representatives have been informed that the Senate has organized and is ready to transact business. The Committee was then discharged with thanks.

The President then expressed thanks and appreciation to the Surfers, Al Harrington, Marlene Sai, Cecilio and Kaponono, and Bobby Enriques for their performances this morning.

ADJOURNMENT

At 11: 50 o'clock a.m., on motion by Senator Mizuguchi, seconded by Senator Anderson and carried, the Senate adjourned until 11: 30 o'clock a.m., Thursday, January 18, 1979.