

FORTY-FOURTH DAY

Wednesday, April 1, 1992

The Senate of the Sixteenth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 1992, convened at 11:14 o'clock a.m. with the Vice President in the Chair.

The Divine Blessing was invoked by Elder Joel K. Kaihou, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, after which the Roll was called showing all Senators present with the exception of Senators Chang, Cobb, Mizuguchi, Nakasato and Wong who were excused.

The Chair announced that he had read and approved the Journal of the Forty-Third Day.

The following introduction was then made by Senator McMurdo to the members of the Senate:

"Mr. President, it's my honor and pleasure today to be able to present one of the most outstanding men in our state. I would like to just stop and explain to the gentlemen over there that we have several hearings that are going on and we are meeting a little early. It's not because you're sitting up there that all of the Senators are not here at the moment!

"Anyway, to continue, I'd like to introduce you to our honored guest Dr. Livingston M.F. Wong. Dr. Wong is accompanied by Sister Beatrice Tom, chief executive officer of St. Francis Medical Center, and son Livingston Wong Jr. who is an attorney. (All stood to be recognized.)

"Also, Mr. President, we have in the gallery other members of this distinguished party. These people have taken valuable time off today to be able to witness and participate in this auspicious ceremony. As I call your name, please stand to be recognized: Mrs. Linda Wong, wife of Dr. Wong; Mr. Herbert Yee, transplant coordinator, St. Francis Medical Center (SFMC); Ms. Haunani Nakaahiki, heart transplant coordinator, SFMC; Ms. Carolyn Albee, bone marrow transplant coordinator, SFMC; Ms. Sara Ishimoto, donor coordinator, Organ Donor Center of Hawaii; Mr. and Mrs. Walter Freitas, director, Organ Donor Center of Hawaii; and Mr. Eugene Tiwanak, vice president, SFMC.

"Mr. President, we are honored to have in our presence today Dr. Livingston Wong, a distinguished physician, who has been a pioneer in medical care in Hawaii, particularly in the very specialized area of organ transplants. He has been a leader in the field of successfully transplanting kidneys, heart, bone marrow, lung, liver, and pancreas.

"I would like to add that Dr. Wong, when he believes in something, is willing to come up and talk about it and that's what he did last year in the Health and Human Services Committee, about trying to get heart transplants for Medicaid patients. That I thought was very, very fine because we don't have many people who will do that.

"We are particularly proud of Dr. Wong, because he is one of many of our local boys who has made good. He belongs to at least twelve professional organizations and has been from time to time, clinical instructor in surgery, associate clinical professor, associate professor, and clinical professor of surgery at the University of Hawaii. His honors and distinctions include Alpha Omega Alpha, Hawaii Medical Associations' 'A.H. Robins Outstanding Physician of the Year Award,' 1976; 'Ten Who Made a Difference in Hawaii' by the Editors of the Star Bulletin, 1990.

"And the reason we are honoring him is because:

'Whereas, organ transplantation is one of the miracles of the twentieth century attesting to the tremendous advances in medical research and technology; and

'Whereas, successful programs in organ transplantation have been established for the people of Hawaii at St. Francis Medical Center, the only State Health Planning and Development Agency approved organ transplant facility in the state; and

'Whereas, in Hawaii, organ transplantation was pioneered through the efforts and dedication of a team of local physicians led by Dr. Livingston M.F. Wong and which culminated in the first successful organ transplant of a kidney at St. Francis Medical Center in 1969; and

'Whereas, to date, more than six hundred kidney transplants have been performed and forty each year are now being planned; and

'Whereas, in 1978, Dr. Wong also performed the first bone marrow transplant procedure in Hawaii which provided new hope for those individuals suffering from leukemia and aplastic anemia; and

'Whereas, since that time, more than fifty bone marrow transplants have been performed in Hawaii; and

'Whereas, a successful heart transplant was accomplished in 1987 by Dr. Wong and the Hawaii heart team and thirteen more heart transplants have since been performed; and

'Whereas, Dr. Wong has led the way in establishing the Hawaii Bone Marrow Registry and the Hawaii Organ Procurement Organization in order to insure the availability of donors for Hawaii residents needing transplants and has made significant contributions toward making Hawaii's transplant programs nationally recognized and assuring that they meet professional medical requirements and standards; and

'Whereas, Dr. Wong is continuing his organ transplant leadership with lung, liver, and pancreas procedures now being anticipated in Hawaii; and

'Whereas, Dr. Wong, who graduated from Maryknoll High School and the University of Hawaii, obtained his medical degree from the University of Oregon Medical School, and conducted his residency at the Boston City Hospital and the Massachusetts General Hospital, has been a pioneer in medical care in Hawaii and has brought national and international honors to the State of Hawaii; now, therefore,

'Be It Resolved by the Senate of the Sixteenth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 1992, that the many achievements of Dr. Livingston M.F. Wong are duly recognized and that Dr. Livingston M.F. Wong is hereby congratulated and honored, and offered gratitude and thanks for his leadership and commitment to caring for the health of the people of Hawaii.'

Senator B. Kobayashi rose to add:

"Mr. President, Dr. Wong is also known to some of us as the medical director for the Emergency Medical Services Training Program when it had first begun in Hawaii. Prior to Dr. Wong's intervention, Hawaii had an ambulance service that some characterized as 'the race car driver program' -- rush to the scene; do whatever first aid you can; rush back. Dr. Wong helped with the training of our emergency medical personnel so that substantially more effective medical intervention could be applied on the scene thus preventing needless injury and death to our emergency medical victims.

"Thank you."

Senator McMurdo presented the Senate certificate of recognition to Dr. Livingston Wong; Senators Tungpalan, A. Kobayashi and Iwase presented leis to Dr. Wong, Sister Tom and Mr. Livingston Wong Jr.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Senator Blair, for the Committee on Judiciary, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2444) recommending that H.B. No. 3943, as amended in S.D. 1, pass Second Reading and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

On motion by Senator Solomon, seconded by Senator Reed and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 3943, S.D. 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CHILD SUPPORT," passed Second Reading and was placed on the calendar for Third Reading on Friday, April 3, 1992.

Senator Crozier, for the Committee on Housing and Hawaiian Programs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2445) recommending that H.B. No. 2319, H.D. 2, as amended in S.D. 1, pass Second Reading and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

On motion by Senator Solomon, seconded by Senator Reed and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 2319, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE CONSERVATION OF ENERGY," passed Second Reading and was placed on the calendar for Third Reading on Friday, April 3, 1992.

Senator Crozier, for the Committee on Housing and Hawaiian Programs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2446) recommending that H.B. No. 2496, H.D. 1, as amended in S.D. 1, pass Second Reading and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

On motion by Senator Solomon, seconded by Senator Reed and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 2496, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO DISCRIMINATION IN REAL PROPERTY," passed Second Reading and was placed on the calendar for Third Reading on Friday, April 3, 1992.

Senator Crozier, for the Committee on Housing and Hawaiian Programs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2447) recommending that H.B. No. 3041, H.D. 1, as amended in S.D. 1, pass Second Reading and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

On motion by Senator Solomon, seconded by Senator Reed and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 3041, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION ACT, 1920, AS AMENDED," passed Second Reading and was placed on the calendar for Third Reading on Friday, April 3, 1992.

Senator Crozier, for the Committee on Housing and Hawaiian Programs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2448) recommending that H.B. No. 3096, H.D. 2, as amended in S.D. 1, pass Second Reading and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

On motion by Senator Solomon, seconded by Senator Reed and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 3096, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HOUSING," passed Second Reading and was placed on the calendar for Third Reading on Friday, April 3, 1992.

Senators McCartney and Fernandes Salling, for the Committee on Education and the Committee on Transportation and Intergovernmental Relations, presented a joint report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2449) recommending that H.B. No. 2309, H.D. 2, pass Second Reading and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

On motion by Senator Solomon, seconded by Senator Reed and carried, the joint report of the Committees was adopted and H.B. No. 2309, H.D. 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO SCHOOL VEHICLES," passed Second Reading and was placed on the calendar for Third Reading on Friday, April 3, 1992.

Senator McCartney, for the Committee on Education, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2450) recommending that H.B. No. 2784, H.D. 1, as amended in S.D. 1, pass Second Reading and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

On motion by Senator Solomon, seconded by Senator Reed and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 2784, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC CONTRACTS," passed Second Reading and was placed on the calendar for Third Reading on Friday, April 3, 1992.

Senator Tungpalan, for the Committee on Culture, Arts and Historic Preservation, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2451) recommending that H.B. No. 3794, H.D. 1, as amended in S.D. 1, pass Second Reading and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

On motion by Senator Solomon, seconded by Senator Reed and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 3794, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HISTORIC PRESERVATION," passed Second Reading and was placed on the calendar for Third Reading on Friday, April 3, 1992.

ORDER OF THE DAY

MATTERS DEFERRED FROM TUESDAY, MARCH 31, 1992

S.B. No. 2689, S.D. 1, H.D. 1 (Hse. Com. No. 393):

By unanimous consent, action on S.B. No. 2689, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE LICENSURE LAW FOR CHIROPRACTIC," was deferred until Tuesday, April 7, 1992.

S.B. No. 2684, H.D. 1 (Hse. Com. No. 400):

By unanimous consent, action on S.B. No. 2684, H.D. 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO LICENSING OF DISPENSING OPTICIANS," was deferred until Tuesday, April 7, 1992.

RE-REFERRAL OF HOUSE BILLS

The Chair re-referred the following House bills that were received:

House Bill	Referred to:
No. 2349, H.D. 2	Committee on Ways and Means
No. 3427	Committee on Ways and Means

Senator Blair rose on a point of personal privilege and stated:

"Mr. President, I apologize for being late to the session. Your Judiciary Committee had a hearing on the chicken fighting bill. I know the bill is a matter of general interest to the members of this body; so, if I may be permitted, I would like to disclose the outcome of the deliberations.

"The principal arguments by the bill's proponents were based on preservation of the Hawaiian culture. Therefore, your committee decided that chicken fights which are sanctioned by the Office of Hawaiian Affairs will not be covered under the penal provisions on cruelty to animals.

"Thank you and happy April 1st."

Senator McMurdo also rose to speak on a point of personal privilege and said:

"Mr. President, today, making a round of all of your offices are the people who are members of the Committee on Welfare Concerns. The reason they are around here is because last week an incredible thing happened in the House Finance Committee. One of the Senate bills on 'Jobs,' which is also an important bill for poverty-stricken people, had an amendment added to it which would freeze our general assistance and our AFDC (Aid to Families with Dependent Children).

"Your Senate Committee on Health and Human Services, when confronted with the proposition from the Department of Human Services, that in order to help on the budget that we drop our money that we pay from 62-1/2% of the federal poverty level back to 60% of the federal poverty level, the chair and other members of the committee made it very well and loudly known that we weren't going to do any such thing; that the Senate Health and Human Services Committee, particularly, has fought for the past six years and finally was able to get it raised 2-1/2%. Now, we shouldn't be so darn proud of 62-1/2% when you get right down to it. We're talking about a state in which food, shelter, clothing, gasoline, everything is higher than practically any other place in the country, and yet we're content and we crow because we now are giving general assistance at 62-1/2% of the federal poverty level.

"The bill in the House the other day included a measure which would not roll this assistance back to 60% but which would freeze it at 1991 levels. What this is going to mean was amply demonstrated today. All of you who have not been to your offices will receive this morsel of food (held up tray of food). This is done to demonstrate just how much food you can expect to have for life if you too were buying food on this poverty level.

"Included here is an apple with a big chunk out of it; half a cheese sandwich, and remember cheese comes through the Surplus Food Act so they don't have to pay for that; one-half of an egg; four ounces of milk which would only come up at the most to this first notch on this cup (demonstrated with cup).

"Ask yourselves, how you would like to have your children having to eat a diet which at a 100% of poverty level they would get two slices of toast with a teaspoon of butter, 2.6 ounces of cereal, 2 ounces of milk and a cup of orange juice. But at our current level they would get one-and-a-third slices of toast with two-thirds of a teaspoon of butter, 1.7 ounces of cereal, 1.3 ounces of milk. You all know that in an 8-ounce cup there are 8 ounces so we're talking about going this far down in the cup (demonstrated with cup). By the way, there is no milk for supper; you get two-thirds of a cup of orange juice.

"If you had a 100% you would get a whole cheese sandwich, two-thirds of a hard-boiled egg and 4 ounces of fruit. As it is, you get two-thirds of the cheese sandwich, less than one slice of cheese. You get 4 ounces of milk and less than half of a hard-boiled egg. At supper you would get a cup of chili with 4 ounces of ground beef, 4 ounces of tomatoes, 2.8 ounces of beans. I presume you would have the same recipe but you only get two-thirds cup. Now visualize just what that looks like to growing children. Even if supplemented by rice. It's not very much and there are no seconds.

"I could go on and on and on on this. I urge all of you to look at this. At this point the Senate position has been against tinkering with this, so that we are not going to take this budget cut or all of these budget cuts and take it out on the poorest and most helpless segment of our society.

"I hope you will stick with me on this and I hope you enjoy your lunch. Thank you very much."

At 11:28 o'clock a.m., the Senate stood in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

The Senate reconvened at 11:32 o'clock a.m.

ADJOURNMENT

At 11:43 o'clock a.m., on motion by Senator Solomon, seconded by Senator Reed and carried, the Senate adjourned until 11:30 o'clock a.m., Thursday, April 2, 1992.