

NINTH DAY

Wednesday, February 2, 1994

The Senate of the Seventeenth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 1994, convened at 11:37 o'clock a.m. with the President in the Chair.

The Divine Blessing was invoked by the Reverend John Park, St. Luke's Episcopal Church, after which the Roll was called showing all Senators present with the exception of Senator Koki who was excused.

The President announced that he had read and approved the Journal of the Eighth Day.

At 11:46 o'clock a.m., the Senate stood in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

The Senate reconvened at 12:26 o'clock p.m.

ORDER OF THE DAY

THIRD READING

H.B. No. 2280, H.D. 1:

On motion by Senator Ikeda, seconded by Senator Hagino and carried, H.B. No. 2280, H.D. 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT MAKING APPROPRIATIONS TO PROVIDE FOR THE EXPENSES OF THE LEGISLATURE, THE LEGISLATIVE AUDITOR, THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU, AND THE OMBUDSMAN," having been read throughout, passed Third Reading on the following showing of Ayes and Noes:

Ayes, 22. Noes, 2 (Aki, Reed). Excused, 1 (Koki).

At 12:27 o'clock p.m., the Senate stood in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

The Senate reconvened at 12:28 o'clock p.m.

RE-REFERRAL OF SENATE BILLS

The President then re-referred the following Senate bills that were introduced:

Senate Bill	Referred to:
No. 2172	Committee on Government Operations, Environmental Protection and Hawaiian Programs, then to the Committee on Ways and Means
No. 2248	Jointly to the Committee on Higher Education, Culture and Arts and Historic Preservation and the Committee on Tourism and Recreation, then to the Committee on Ways and Means
No. 2307	Committee on Housing, then to the Committee on Ways and Means
No. 2755	Jointly to the Committee on Higher Education, Culture and Arts and Historic Preservation and the Committee on Tourism and Recreation, then to the Committee on Ways and Means
No. 3029	Committee on Consumer Protection, then to the Committee on Ways and Means
No. 3086	Committee on Tourism and Recreation, then to the Committee on Ways and Means

Senator Tungpalan then rose to speak on a point of personal privilege and stated:

"Mr. President, Senators, I rise to speak on the \$5,000 allowance allotted to legislators.

"Mr. President, I wish to commend you and the leadership for restructuring the process in which the \$5,000 allowance will be handled as a reimbursement for legislative expenses. I appreciate the willingness to keep an open account of all expenditures made in the Senate. Like other interested citizens, I am truly concerned with the cost and the growth of government today. In this time of austerity, with major budget cuts in many state departments, we, legislators, should try to accomplish our goals with less money and less resources. When our schools and universities must do without, when our public services are severely hampered by budget cuts and constraints, I feel compelled to do my part to reduce the cost of government. As such, I will not be participating in the use of the \$5,000 allowance this year.

"In addition, Mr. President, over the years, I have not taken many out-of-state trips. My intention, again, is to forego any travel to save funds, which, I hope, will be directed to the educational programs for the children of this state. Thank you."

Senator McCartney also rose to speak on a point of personal privilege, as follows:

"Mr. President, when we started this session, there was a lot of concern and there was a lot of discussion. I think we're learning how to work with each other, and I think sometimes it's good that people can criticize each other and stand up here and debate. And when good things happen, I think we also need to be responsible and stand up and acknowledge that.

"First, I want to acknowledge and commend you. This is the first time that I've seen a detailed budget of all the Senate expenses. I think that is a step in the right direction. We are being open and we are scrutinizing ourselves at the same level that we're scrutinizing other departments. I think you need to be commended on that.

"Secondly, Mr. President, on the expense allowance. I think that is also a step in the right direction, where each Senator is now accountable for the use of his or her \$5,000 allowance. We don't pay taxes on it anymore and, again, I think that it's good public policy and we're moving into an era where we, as Senators, are becoming more accountable for how we use money.

"I want to thank the leadership and you. It's a good step in the right direction. Thank you."

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

"Mr. President, I would like, again, to ask this body to seriously consider having discussions or debates, such as you held this morning in caucus, out here where the rest of us can participate and where the public can hear your concerns and be a part of the debate. Thank you."

ADJOURNMENT

At 12:31 o'clock p.m., on motion by Senator Chang, seconded by Senator Reed and carried, the Senate adjourned until 11:30 o'clock a.m., Thursday, February 3, 1994.