

TWENTY-FOURTH DAY

Wednesday, February 21, 2001

The Senate of the Twenty-First Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2001, convened at 11:42 o'clock a.m. with the President in the Chair.

The Divine Blessing was invoked by the Reverend Steve Zurcher, Senior Pastor, Nanaikapono Protestant Church, after which the Roll was called showing all Senators present with the exception of Senators Buen, Hanabusa, Ihara and Menor who were excused.

The President announced that he had read and approved the Journal of the Twenty-Third Day.

Senator Chun Oakland, in recognizing the First Ladies of the State of Hawaii as recipients of the 2001 Winners at Work Palaka Award, introduced First Lady Nancy Quinn (1957 to 1962), First Lady Jean Ariyoshi (1974 to 1986), First Lady Lynne Waihee (1986 to 1994), and First Lady Vicky Cayetano (1997 to present). Accompanying the First Ladies was Sandra Kofel, Vice President/Director of Program Services for Winners at Work.

At 11:50 o'clock a.m., the Senate stood in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

The Senate reconvened at 11:55 o'clock a.m.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions (S.C.R. Nos. 12 and 13) were read by the Clerk and were referred to committees:

Senate Concurrent Resolution

No. 12 "SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REQUESTING A STUDY ON GRANTING LIMITED PRESCRIPTIVE AUTHORITY TO PSYCHOLOGISTS CERTIFIED IN PSYCHOPHARMACOLOGY."

Offered by: Senator Matsuura, by request.

Referred to: Committee on Health and Human Services, then to the Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Housing

No. 13 "SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REQUESTING SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT."

Offered by: Senator Matsuura.

Referred to: Committee on Economic Development and Technology, then to the Committee on Ways and Means

SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following resolutions (S.R. Nos. 9 and 10) were read by the Clerk and were referred to committees:

Senate Resolution

No. 9 "SENATE RESOLUTION REQUESTING A STUDY ON GRANTING LIMITED PRESCRIPTIVE AUTHORITY TO PSYCHOLOGISTS CERTIFIED IN PSYCHOPHARMACOLOGY."

Offered by: Senator Matsuura, by request.

Referred to: Committee on Health and Human Services, then to the Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Housing

No. 10 "SENATE RESOLUTION REQUESTING SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT."

Offered by: Senator Matsuura.

Referred to: Committee on Economic Development and Technology, then to the Committee on Ways and Means

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

Senator Matsuura, for the Committee on Health and Human Services, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 583) recommending that S.B. No. 400, as amended in S.D. 1, pass Second Reading and be recommitted to the Committee on Health and Human Services.

On motion by Senator English, seconded by Senator Hemmings and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 400, S.D. 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE ELDERLY," passed Second Reading and was recommitted to the Committee on Health and Human Services.

ORDER OF THE DAY

THIRD READING

MATTER DEFERRED FROM TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2001

S.B. No. 496, S.D. 1:

Senator Chun moved that S.B. No. 496, S.D. 1, be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, seconded by Senator Sakamoto.

Senator Chun then explained:

"Mr. President, the draft of S.B. No. 496 has fiscal implications and should be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means. The fiscal implications were added in the S.D. 1."

The motion was then put by the Chair and carried, S.B. No. 496, S.D. 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO STATE FOUNDATION ON CULTURE AND THE ARTS," was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

ADVISE AND CONSENT

MATTER DEFERRED FROM TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2001

Stand. Com. Rep. No. 365 (Gov. Msg. No. 117):

Senator Taniguchi moved that Stand. Com. Rep. No. 365 be received and placed on file, seconded by Senator Chun and carried.

Senator Taniguchi then moved that the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of MARIE Y. OKAMURA as the Director of Taxation, term to expire December 2, 2002, seconded by Senator Chun.

Senator Taniguchi rose in support of the nominee and said:

RE-REFERRAL OF SENATE BILLS

"Mr. President, I rise to speak in favor of G.M. No. 117.

"Mr. President, Marie Y. Okamura has worked for the last 19 years with the Department of Taxation. She began as a field auditor and served as chief of the revenue accounting branch, and in 1987 she began serving as head of the tax services and processing division which ultimately led her to the appointment as Deputy Director in 1999. In addition, during her years of service with the Department of Taxation, Ms. Okamura was once named 'Employee of the Year' and twice named 'Manager of the Year.'

"All testimony at the hearing was in support of the nominee. The testimony indicated that Ms. Okamura is dedicated to ensuring that the services provided to the public are professional, efficient, and friendly. Her ability to initiate, plan, direct, and complete large and complex projects was particularly noted. She is someone who has worked her way to the top.

"Mr. President, after full consideration of the background, character, experience and qualifications of the nominee, your Committee has found the nominee qualified for the position to which she is nominated and would recommend the Senate advise and consent to the nomination.

"Thank you."

Senator Hemmings also rose in support of the nominee and said:

"Mr. President, as the ranking member of your Republican contingent on the Ways and Means Committee, and, I might add, the only one on the Committee, I enjoy standing up in highly endorsing Ms. Okamura's nomination to this position. She has gained her prominence in the tax department the old fashion way. Sometimes it eludes many of our society. She's worked hard for many, many long years and I suspect her leadership in that role is going to bring her expertise to the job at hand.

"I am also noticing, and I'm somewhat concerned oftentimes though, that she does seem to spend an exorbitant amount of time with Lowell Kalapa, but we're monitoring that real closely, Mr. President.

"I do hope that I'm speaking on behalf of the Republican Caucus that we support this nomination and wish her well.

"Thank you, Mr. President."

Senator Hogue rose to support the nominee as follows:

"Mr. President, as the tallest member of the State Senate, I rise in support of a tiny lady with a huge, huge heart.

"I have noticed that even in my very brief tenure here in the State Senate, Mr. President, that Marie Okamura has been very open and accessible and willing to work hard to find the answers that are sometimes underlying in the tax issues.

"I highly endorse this very tiny lady with a big heart. Thank you."

The motion was put by the Chair and carried on the following showing of Ayes and Noes:

Ayes, 21. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Buen, Hanabusa, Ihara, Menor).

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

Senate Bill	Referred to:
No. 400	Jointly to the Committee on Health and Human Services and the Committee on Judiciary
No. 1100	Committee on Judiciary

ADJOURNMENT

At 12:03 o'clock p.m., on motion by Senator English, seconded by Senator Hemmings and carried, the Senate adjourned until 11:30 o'clock a.m., Thursday, March 1, 2001.

Respectfully submitted,

Clerk of the Senate

Approved:

President of the Senate