

NINTH DAY

Wednesday, February 1, 2017

The Senate of the Twenty-Ninth Legislature of the State of Hawai'i, Regular Session of 2017, convened at 11:37 a.m. with the President in the Chair.

The Roll was called showing all Senators present.

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

Senator Inouye recognized and honored Zonta International, and presented the following remarks:

“Good morning, Mr. President and esteemed colleagues and honored guests. We are here today to honor and recognize Mele Spencer of Hilo. Mele has recently been elected to a two-year term as governor of Zonta International, presiding over District 9, which covers the states of Hawai'i, California, Nevada, Utah, and Arizona. She will be the second District 9 governor from Hawai'i in Zonta's history, who was also a Hilo resident, Julie Tulang. She's accompanied by her friend Maile Lu'uwai, who is a member of the Hilo Zonta chapter as well. Thank you, Maile, for being here.

“Zonta International is a leading global organization of professionals empowering women worldwide through service and advocacy. Founded in 1919 in Buffalo, New York, Zonta International has grown to more than 30,000 members in more than 1,200 clubs in 67 countries and geographic areas. Zontians throughout the world also award academic scholarships designed to fulfill Zonta International's mission and objectives.

“The first Zonta club in Hawai'i was chartered in 1924, followed shortly by the Zonta Club of Hilo. District 9 represents approximately 500 members of 25 clubs within the district. District 9 Zontians have been active at the club, district, and international levels, serving as international directors, committee chairs and members, and four as Zonta International presidents.

“Mele has personally worked with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the state Department of Hawaiian Home Lands, and currently owns and operates J & M Farm with her husband. She is committed to building a strong community through involvement in multiple organizations, including the Hawai'i County Committee on the Status of Women, the American Heart Association, the Hawai'i Island Adult Care group, the Hui Mana Group, and the Keaukaha-Pana'ewa Farmers Association. Mele has been a member of the Zonta Club of Hilo since 1998. Her priorities are to foster collaborative efforts between Zonta and other organizations with similar beliefs, to better utilize technology to connect with current and potentially new members, and to recruit more young professionals into the organization. Congratulations on your new position as governor of Zonta International's District 9, and we wish you success with all of your endeavors.

“With Mele today are also several Zontians who I would like also to acknowledge: Tonya Ozone is the president of the Zonta Club of Hilo; Barbara Hastings is a former Zonta president and former Area 1 director; Linda Weiland is the current Area 1 director; Lynn Masumoto, Leilehua club member; Dee Sawyers, president of the Leilehua club; and Nani Mahoe, Mele's sister. Thank you for being here and joining Mele.”

The Chair extended additional kudos to Mele Spencer, and led the members and guests in congratulatory applause.

At 11:43 a.m., the Senate stood in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

The Senate reconvened at 11:52 a.m.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

The following concurrent resolution (S.C.R. No. 44) was read by the Clerk and was referred to committee:

S.C.R. No. 44 “SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AMENDMENT OF A TERM, NON-EXCLUSIVE EASEMENT COVERING A PORTION OF STATE SUBMERGED LANDS AT KAILUA, KOOLAUPOKO, OAHU, FOR THE MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR OF THE EXISTING SEAWALL AND BOAT RAMP, AND FOR USE, REPAIR, AND MAINTENANCE OF THE EXISTING IMPROVEMENTS CONSTRUCTED THEREON.”

Offered by: Senator Kouchi, by request.

Referred to: Committee on Water and Land, then to the Committee on Ways and Means.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Senator Gabbard, for the Committee on Agriculture and Environment, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 3) recommending that S.B. No. 160, as amended in S.D. 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

On motion by Senator Espero, seconded by Senator English and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 160, S.D. 1, entitled: “A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO AGRICULTURE,” passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Senator Baker, for the Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 4) recommending that S.B. No. 145, as amended in S.D. 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Judiciary and Labor.

On motion by Senator Espero, seconded by Senator English and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 145, S.D. 1, entitled: “A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO EXAMINATIONS OF FITNESS TO PROCEED,” passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Judiciary and Labor.

ORDER OF THE DAY

RE-REFERRAL OF SENATE BILLS

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

S.B. No.:	Re-referred to:
S.B. No. 942	Committee on Ways and Means
S.B. No. 943	Committee on Ways and Means
S.B. No. 997	Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health, then to the Committee on Judiciary and Labor
S.B. No. 1101	Committee on Education, then to the Committee on Ways and Means
S.B. No. 1176	Jointly to the Committee on Transportation and Energy and the Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs, then to the Committee on Ways and Means

- S.B. No. 1181 Jointly to the Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health and the Committee on Agriculture and Environment, then to the Committee on Ways and Means
- S.B. No. 1201 Jointly to the Committee on Economic Development, Tourism, and Technology and the Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs, then jointly to the Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health and the Committee on Ways and Means
- S.B. No. 1259 Jointly to the Committee on Agriculture and Environment and the Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs, then jointly to the Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health and the Committee on Ways and Means
- S.B. No. 1283 Jointly to the Committee on Water and Land and the Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs, then jointly to the Committee on Judiciary and Labor and the Committee on Ways and Means

At this time, Senator Keith-Agaran rose to speak on a point of personal privilege as follows:

“I just want to make some brief remarks about the passing of retired Supreme Court Justice Mario Ramil. I don’t really like to talk about role models, but I think, for those of us who came of age and entered the legal profession, I think he was clearly one of our role models. He actually was only the second Filipino American in the United States to rise to the office of associate justice. The first, of course, was Benjamin Menor, also from the Hawai‘i Supreme Court.

“Justice Ramil immigrated to the United States and the Bay Area when he was only 10 years old. He received his college and law degrees from the Bay Area and in 1975 moved to Hawai‘i, where he served as a deputy attorney general. He was appointed as our insurance commissioner. He served as director of the Department of Labor, and in those last two positions, he was involved in fashioning our Prepaid Health Care Act. In 1993, he was appointed to the Hawai‘i Supreme Court, where he served for almost a decade.

“I can only say that, on a personal note, all of us who knew him and looked up to him recall that he was a soft-spoken person. I don’t recall him saying anything bad about others; he was always a joy to work with. And I would like to extend my condolences to his wife, Judy, and their sons, Jonathan and Bradley. And, Mr. President, I would like to request that the Senate adjourn today on a rising vote and observe a moment of silence in honor and memory of retired Hawai‘i Supreme Court Justice Mario Ramil.”

ADJOURNMENT

At 11:56 a.m., on motion by Senator Espero, seconded by Senator English and carried, the Senate adjourned until 11:30 a.m., Thursday, February 2, 2017, on a rising vote, observing a moment of silence for former Hawai‘i Supreme Court Associate Justice Mario Ramil.