

THE  
THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE  
STATE OF HAWAII  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2019  
JOURNAL OF THE SENATE

FIRST DAY

**Wednesday, January 16, 2019**

In accordance with the provisions of Section 10 of Article III of the Constitution of the State of Hawai'i, the Senate of the Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawai'i, Regular Session of 2019, was called to order at 10:08 a.m., by the Honorable Kaiiali'i Kahele, Temporary Chair of the Senate.

At this time, the members of the Senate and guests rose for the invocation by Pastor Matt Higa from New Hope Kaua'i, followed by the singing of the National Anthem by Ms. Nalani Brun and "Hawai'i Pono'i" by former Kaua'i County Mayor Bernard Carvalho.

Nominations now being in order for a temporary clerk, Senator Thielen nominated Carol Taniguchi, seconded by Senator Ihara.

Senator Taniguchi moved that the nominations be closed, seconded by Senator Kim.

The motion was put by the Chair and carried, and the Chair declared Carol Taniguchi as Temporary Clerk of the Senate.

Senator Keohokalole then moved that a committee of three Senators be appointed by the Chair as a Committee on Credentials to examine the certificates of election of the newly elected members of the Senate and to submit a report of its findings to the Senate, seconded by Senator Riviere and carried.

The Chair thereupon appointed Senators Chang, Dela Cruz, and Keith-Agaran to serve on such committee, and directed the committee and Temporary Clerk to examine the certificates of election.

The Chair then proceeded to introduce the following distinguished guests to the members of the Senate:

The Honorable David Y. Ige, Governor of the State of Hawai'i, and Mrs. Dawn Amano-Ige;

The Honorable Josh Green, Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai'i, and Mrs. Jaime Green;

Representing United States Senator Brian Schatz – Mr. Chuck Freedman;

Representing United States Senator Mazie Hirono – Mr. Alan Yamamoto;

Representing United States Representative Tulsi Gabbard – Mr. Shingai Masiya;

Representing United States Representative Ed Case – Mr. Nestor Garcia;

The Honorable Mark E. Recktenwald, Chief Justice, Supreme Court, State of Hawai'i;

Mr. Brendon Kalei'aina Lee, Vice Chair of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs;

The Honorable George R. Ariyoshi, former Governor of the State of Hawai'i, and Mrs. Jean Ariyoshi;

The Honorable John D. Waihe'e III, former Governor of the State of Hawai'i, and Mrs. Lynne Waihe'e;

The Honorable Neil Abercrombie, former Governor of the State of Hawai'i, and Dr. Nancie Caraway;

The Honorable Harry Kim, Mayor of the County of Hawai'i;

The Honorable Mike Victorino, Mayor of the County of Maui;

The Honorable Derek Kawakami, Mayor of the County of Kaua'i, and Mrs. Monica Kawakami;

The Honorable Kirk Caldwell, Mayor of the City and County of Honolulu, and Mrs. Donna Tanoue;

Admiral John Acquilino, Commander, United States Pacific Fleet;

Admiral Philip Davidson, Commander, United States Indo-Pacific Command;

General Robert Brown, Commanding General, United States Army Pacific;

Colonel Tom Barrett, Commander, United States Army Garrison – Hawai'i;

Representing Lieutenant General L. A. Craparotta, Commander, United States Marine Corps Forces, Pacific – Colonel Raul Lianez

General Charles Brown, Jr., Commander, United States Pacific Air Forces;

Rear Admiral Kevin Lunday, Fourteenth District Commander, United States Coast Guard;

Mr. Koichi Ito, Consul General of Japan;

Mr. Young-hoon Kang, Consul General of the Republic of Korea;

Ms. Teena Browning, Deputy Consul General of Australia;

Mr. David Treacher, Deputy Consul General of New Zealand;

Representing the Consul General of the Republic of the Marshall Islands – Ms. Tamara Heine;

Mr. Joeselito Jimeno, Consul General of the Philippines;

Mr. Henry Shrew, Consul General of the Federated States of Micronesia;

Mr. Michael Tseng, Director General, Taipei Economic & Cultural Office;

The Honorable Jungo Inoue, Chair, Fukuoka Prefectural Assembly; and

Members of the Fukuoka Prefectural delegation, who were seated in the gallery.

**SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORT**

Senator Chang, for the Committee on Credentials, presented a report (Spec. Com. Rep. No. 1) as follows:

“SENATE SPEC. COM. REP. NO. 1  
Honolulu, Hawaii

RE: CREDENTIALS

Honorable Kaiali'i Kahele  
Temporary Chair of the Senate  
Thirtieth State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2019  
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Credentials begs leave to report that it has examined the Certificates of Election of the Senate of the Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2019, and finds that the following persons have been legally elected and are fully qualified to sit as members of the Senate.

The newly elected Senator whose respective term of office will expire on November 3, 2020, is:

Nineteenth Senatorial District

Kurt Fevella

The newly elected Senators whose respective terms of office will expire on November 8, 2022, are:

First Senatorial District

Kaiali'i Kahele

Third Senatorial District

Dru Mamo Kanuha

Fourth Senatorial District

Lorraine R. Inouye

Sixth Senatorial District

Rosalyn H. Baker

Seventh Senatorial District

J. Kalani English

Twelfth Senatorial District

Sharon Y. Moriwaki

Sixteenth Senatorial District

Breene Harimoto

Seventeenth Senatorial District

Clarence K. Nishihara

Eighteenth Senatorial District

Michelle N. Kidani

Twenty-First Senatorial District

Maile S.L. Shimabukuro

Twenty-Third Senatorial District

Gil Riviere

Twenty-Fourth Senatorial District

Jarrett Keohokalole

Respectfully submitted,

/s/Senator Stanley Chang

/s/Senator Donovan Dela Cruz

/s/Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran”

On motion by Senator Shimabukuro, seconded by Senator Ruderman and carried, Spec. Com. Rep. No. 1 was adopted.

The Committee on Credentials was thereupon discharged with thanks.

The Chair then called upon Chief Justice Mark E. Recktenwald of the Supreme Court, State of Hawai'i, to the rostrum to administer the oath of office to the newly elected members of the Senate.

Chief Justice Recktenwald administered the oath of office to the newly elected members of the Senate, who were standing at their respective desks.

The Roll was then called by the Temporary Clerk showing all Senators present.

Nominations for officers of the Senate being next in order, Senator Inouye placed in nomination the name of Senator Ronald D. Kouchi for President of the Senate, seconded by Senator Nishihara.

Senator Kanuha moved that the nominations be closed, seconded by Senator Kidani.

The motion to close the nominations was then put by the Chair and carried unanimously, and the Temporary Clerk was directed to cast a unanimous ballot for Senator Ronald D. Kouchi as President of the Senate.

The ballot having been so cast, Senator Ronald D. Kouchi was declared elected President of the Senate of the Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawai'i, Regular Session of 2019.

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

“Aloha! Thank you, Senator Kahele, for getting us off to such a smooth start. I would like to acknowledge and recognize all of our special guests, but, in respecting people's time, I would ask the Clerk to insert the names that were read off by Senator Kahele in the introduction as if I had just gone through everyone again, and then I'd like to acknowledge all of the special guests on the floor and in the gallery, and I notice that we have an array of councilmembers—would the councilmembers please rise?

“What I'd like to do is begin my remarks this morning by saying the same thing I said two years ago: I am the one to speak on behalf of the Majority today, and I know if my colleagues had the chance to speak, the first thing that they would say is 'thank you' to each and every one of their family members, to their friends and their tremendous supporters who sacrifice so much and who work so hard to allow us to sit in the seats we now occupy and have taken the oath of office for, so, to each and every one of you, thank you so much.

“I have the privilege, as the one who speaks, to share a story, so I would be remiss if I didn't introduce to you, sitting next to my mom, Carolyn, one of her best friends, Kazui Nakata, with whom my mom worked with as employees of First Hawaiian Bank. From 1982, when I first decided to run for the Kaua'i County Council, through all of my campaigns, this woman has done everything from sign-waving; canvassing; frying fish tempura, chicken; to opening up her big garage because we couldn't afford to buy t-shirts, and we silk-screened the t-shirts to get our campaign underway back in 1982. And how do you find the words to say thank you to her and so many others like her, who have worked so hard, that have given me the

opportunities that I have enjoyed today. I had a chance to meet my wife, Joy, while I was in office. We had our two sons, Dan and Egan, who are joining us here on the stage this morning, while I was in office. When I first started as a councilmember, I simply wanted to create economy for young people like myself to move back to Kaua'i, and then I became married, and then I started having children, and my view of what my life's mission was as a member of the council and now the Hawai'i State Senate dramatically changed, and now my greatest passion is to create a Hawai'i where each and every one of our children would make the choice to come home. We can't force them to come home because we educate them; we create the better path for them than we had, and when they become successful, then they make choices because they are good enough to decide what to do. I had always lamented at my 50 percent success rate: Our younger son, Egan, upon finishing college on the mainland, chose to come back and work on Kaua'i, and it was a blessing to have him back home and see him every day. Now, I am so proud to stand before you today as a 100-percent success story: Yesterday, our son Dan moved back from the mainland after working there for six-and-a-half years, and started working here in Honolulu. Just because I have reached my goals doesn't mean that I'm not going to fight to make sure that each and every one of us can feel as happy and as proud as my wife, Joy, and I are. Yesterday, dropping him off at work, I had to buy him breakfast, so Dan being home may result in me taking a little economic hit, but it's certainly worth it. So I stand here more committed than ever to create that Hawai'i that our children will choose to come back to.

"Before I get into the issues that face this legislature, I did want to introduce one special guest who's sitting up here with me on the stage. Senator English and I, a couple of weeks ago, had the opportunity to attend a leadership conference in New York City for leaders across the country, and one afternoon, they put us on a bus and we went to the 9/11 memorial and we got to hear from the deputy director of the memorial, who lost a brother that day in the towers. We also heard from a docent who was a New York City firefighter, one of the elite rescue firefighters who helped so many people get down through a stairway to safety that day, and when the building came down on him, he sustained injuries that disabled him and forced him into retirement, and he now volunteers as a docent, and he lost the other five members of his company who responded that morning. I share that with you because I'd like to ask Dan Moynahan, the ex-firefighter docent who was injured as a 9/11 responder from New York City, who's with us today, to please stand, and let's recognize Dan. Thank you for being with us here, Dan.

"The first issues that I'd like to highlight that we will be tackling in the Legislature, acknowledging the work of our first responders, is, we have not forgotten that, while the lava has taken a timeout, the devastation on the Big Island is left there for the residents to deal with. There is so much more work to be done. To Mayor Kim, the councilmembers who are here, I can tell you the members of your Senate delegation have been in continuous contact with the rest of their colleagues here in the Senate, and we are committed to work with you in continuing to help the Big Island recover. We are not going to be strong if each one of our counties aren't strong, and so we want to see you prosperous and healthy again. Mayor Carvalho, who sang "Hawai'i Pono'i," was the Kaua'i mayor dealing with the world-record floods on Kaua'i in April, we have not forgotten that Kaua'i needs help. The devastation of the rains that caused the flooding also greatly impacted east Honolulu, and they continue to need help. We will be looking at what are the appropriate resources and how we can work with you to make sure that each and every one of your areas recover.

"At the top of the list, I'm sure we're going to have some vigorous conversation on legalizing cannabis, and we look

forward to those bills going through the appropriate committees and going through the process. We are going to also have a serious discussion about the incremental increase of our minimum wage. We have reached \$10.10, which was the last incremental raise the last time we passed the minimum wage bill, and so that will be on the list.

"But, most importantly, we kind of joke around when we get to the portion of the program of certifying member credentials because, what's the big deal? You know, the election is over, but this year, there were two races whose results were contested. The Hawai'i Supreme Court recently upheld Senator Fevella's victory but has not decided one council race here on O'ahu. To rectify the problem of having Senator Fevella be in limbo for such a long period of time and to address the remaining unresolved council race, I believe we need to do two things: One, last year, we passed vote-by-mail for Kaua'i to be the experiment or pilot project; I believe we need to do vote-by-mail statewide. Two, we need to look at our election laws because they are out of date, and they were written at a time when voting was done in a different way, and we need to make sure that, whether it's an automatic recount or some other mechanism, that we don't leave legislative bodies or executive branches in limbo because we cannot resolve the election results in a timely fashion, and I believe we need to give clearer direction to the courts about what that process should be, and so I hope that we'll be able to achieve that goal.

"Clearly, homelessness continues to be at the top of the agenda, and we made an unprecedented commitment to funding affordable housing last session. That was the first step. Clearly, we need to continue the effort to fund affordable housing, and having permanent affordable housing is the key to having the transition from homelessness into having housing that they can afford to live in. We still recognize there are many reasons for homelessness and why people aren't in homes, and so it needs to be a multi-tiered approach; there is no one-size-fits-all.

"We need to continue to support our kūpuna. If you aren't aware of it, we have the oldest demographic population of any state in the country. The other good news is, at 80.3, Hawai'i has the longest life expectancy; California, at 80, is the second. And while it's great that we have the technology and the lifestyle that allows this long life, we need to deal with all of the other things that happen as you get older: Caregiving; how do we ensure that you have now planned adequately for retirement when your initial savings as a young person didn't envision your ability to live so long? And your options shouldn't be to just keep working and not have an opportunity at some point to enjoy life. It should be to work with everyone to have them on a financial plan to ensure that there is an opportunity to enjoy some of the fruits of their labor and spend time with their family. I'm not going to put any pressure on my single sons, but, you know, I would not mind being a grandparent sometime soon. (Are they smiling?)

"We talk about working with the administration. For these homelessness programs, for our affordable housing programs, taking care of our kūpuna, funding the pre-K programs to start them on the right path to education, the support for K through 12, as well as our community colleges and universities, we need money. Now, we sent a bill to the governor several years ago to collect the taxes that aren't being collected from Airbnb in the hopes of getting to alternative accommodations. I will let the governor know I stand ready to work with him on finding a bill that will allow us to collect these funds so that we can deliver the money to create the lifestyle or opportunities that our seniors deserve and to create the opportunities for our children to get the education that they need and that they deserve so they can compete with anybody in the world.

"But at the top of my list is my worry about the economy and where we're going next year. Most of the financial analysts on

the major financial network news shows say that a recession is coming. And so I appreciate Senator Dela Cruz and the philosophy that he has taken about A) being fiscally conservative, to make sure we have the money before we spend the money, and B) if these are the great programs we want here, then he needs to see a column of what it is we're going to do to create the economy and create the revenue so that we can fund the desired programs. When I saw the governor's budget message, I was excited. Normally, in the first year of the biennium, we put in \$1.2 billion for capital improvement programs. He is suggesting \$2 billion, and \$2 billion says about fixing our prisons; \$2 billion says *investing in affordable housing*; \$2 billion says *investing in the infrastructure that is sorely lacking here, improving classrooms, and supporting the rest of our community*. But, most importantly, if the recession is coming, and times get tougher, and the construction bids get more competitive, then the government gets better pricing on our projects, and we can stretch the \$2 billion to do a lot more than what we originally hoped. And, more importantly, at a time when nobody else is putting money in the economy, the State of Hawai'i will be putting the money in the economy, making sure that people are going back to work, that people are spending those dollars in our economy, so that we can have a healthy and vibrant Hawai'i.

"The second thing, and this comes from the governor's inaugural remarks: Technology is the future for us, and Senator Keohokalole—I've been practicing that and debating whether I wanted to be brave and go there, but there's no way for me not to mention technology and to mention what I am expecting of Jarrett. He is brand-new to the Senate, and he and Stanley Chang and Dru Kanuha are three thirty-somethings, which we almost never have in the Senate, but he has a wealth of knowledge in the technology field. But, even more importantly, if you talk to him, he has an incredible passion about what he wants to do. And so I had asked the caucus to take technology out of business and economic development, tourism, not get it lost behind tourism and other activities, but put it out on its own, get someone with the passion to lead it, and let us run with technology because I do believe, like the governor, that technology is the next frontier for us to derive great economic success, and so I look forward to great things from technology.

"But, last and most importantly, and I talked about this two years ago, when the sugar plantation closed on Maui, and what was going to happen on the central plain, what was going to happen to all of that land, and I had envisioned farming activity, and I envisioned biodigesters, which would be able to create fertilizer, create feed for livestock, or create energy because what you put in as additives to the fuel stock determines what comes out at the backend of the biodigester. I am pleased to have former Lieutenant Governor Shan Tsutsui and Tiare Lawrence of Mahi Pono sitting with me here and their commitment to make sure that the agriculture activity thrives on the central plain of Maui; how about a big hand for them? The reason why I bring this up is that I am most passionate about a program the former lieutenant governor started, which is Farm to School. They started with three schools in Kohala; they did a few schools in Mililani. We have added positions to the Department of Ag and the Department of Education to ensure the continuation of this program, and we had students help create menus; we sourced products from local farmers and ranchers. I listened, at the most recent Farm Bureau meeting, to the deputy director of Agriculture tell the farmers of Hawai'i that, if you convince the Legislature to give us the funding we ask for, we will meet the goals of doubling food production in Hawai'i. Well, I got up after her and said, no, that's not how we're going to get there. The path there is easy: The Department of Education serves 100,000 meals a day, it is the largest restaurant in the State of Hawai'i. We have prisons that we run and feed inmates, and we have state-run hospitals with

cafeterias, where we feed patients and workers if they choose to buy our food. We have the land in the central plain of Maui now, all of the land on the Big Island. We have nonprofits that have land on Kaua'i and, as the global footprint is shrinking for the seed companies, they are returning land to ADC and private landowners across this state, and growing less seed corn, that makes opportunities available for us to plant food that we consume. And we control all three of those silos, and I submit to the governor and his administration that I stand ready to work with you to see how we would be able to interface with each other and make all of this work. I am frustrated and tired of hearing about why we **cannot** do it, and I would like to go to work with people who are going to tell me **how** we're going to do it, and if I get upset because it's not going fast enough, it's not about who I supported for what office. It's about my desire to support the people of Hawai'i; it's my desire to see our children who are going to school, that they have the proper meals so that they can maximize their potential and perform at their best. And I am aware that for many of those students, their school lunch is either the best or possibly even the only meal they will be having that day, so it shouldn't be something that they want to throw in the trash. It should be something that they enjoy eating, something that will nurture their minds and bodies and to have them perform at their optimum levels. With this model, we could then utilize the prisons and utilize the hospitals to expand our food production to reach our stated goals.

"So, next week, on the 22nd, on Kaua'i, at Kauai Veterans Memorial Hospital—I want to make your mouth water—and on the 23rd at Samuel Mahelona Hospital, they will be serving sautéed shrimp with butter garlic reduction and fresh parsley, ginger-marinated sweet potato tempura shrimp, stir-fried shrimp with oyster sauce, Cajun-style shrimp and andouille sausage gumbo, shrimp cakes with sweet chili aioli. The sides are a luau with poi gravy, taro, something I cannot pronounce (I think it's Turkish), 'ulu chips, 'ulu chowder, and they are featuring locally sourced products from Kaua'i Shrimp, Kuamo'o Farms, Aloha 'Āina, and Hawai'i 'Ulu Co-op. To all of my colleagues, if you were wondering what I was doing in the interim, it was trying to get this off the ground and lift it up. I encourage each and every one of you not to settle for anything less, and let us all run together and make sure that this happens because it's not just about feeding our children, providing a meal for our inmates, or taking care of our patients and workers in the hospital, but it's ensuring that we are reinvesting, cultivating, and keeping our fields green, not creating, like the problems in Lāhainā, where you have fallow land and brushfires that threaten local communities. We need an active agriculture, and we need to revitalize the economy, and, last and most importantly, it will create incredible renewable energy opportunities because there is nothing that should be wasted. When we do the value-added program, all of the waste that we don't use should go into that biodigester so that we can create the byproducts and we can create the energy that will show the way about how we can lead for the rest of the world.

"We have adopted the 100-percent-renewable-energy goal for Hawai'i, and I would be remiss if I didn't close by bragging about Kaua'i. Last week, they just had the blessing for the opening of the AES solar battery farm; Kaua'i has now hit 50 percent renewable energy to the grid five years ahead of KIUC's strategic plan. With their newest solar program and hydro projects that are coming online, it is hoped, by the end of 2019 or early 2020, that Kaua'i will have hit 70 percent renewable energy to the grid, so it is not a theory; it's not something that they just talk about. On Kaua'i, we are leading the way and showing you how to get it done, so I look forward to working with you and helping each and every one of you achieve the kind of goals that we've been able to achieve on Kaua'i. So, I would like to close by simply quoting Gandhi: 'The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service

of others.' I hope we all achieve that for the next session for the Hawai'i State Senate. Mahalo."

At this time, the President called on Senate Minority Leader Kurt Fevella.

Senator Fevella rose to present the following remarks:

"Mahalo, Mr. President. It's an honor to be here; thank you guys very much. I just want to say aloha, my fellow senators and honored guests, and ladies and gentlemen. I thank the Heavenly Father, for every day, I keep waking up in these beautiful islands that we call home, especially our hometown of 'Ewa Beach, and giving me this opportunity to deliver this Minority speech, being here, representing them. I just want to thank and honor my wife, Donnalee; my daughter, Abigail; and my dad, David; and all my family and friends from 'Ewa Beach. Thank you. Since I've been here on November 7th, I've just had a lot of love and aloha from every one of you here, my colleagues, staff, and people who work within the Capitol every day. It was just so overwhelmed, coming from a community like 'Ewa Beach and, of course, working in the public school system; to come here, it was very overwhelming, walking around this big building and not getting lost. Having a lot of friendly faces and a lot of aloha, especially from our Senate President, our governor, Lieutenant Governor Josh Green, you showed me a lot of love when I came here, and advice, and I took that advice, about being myself, who I am and my community, and what got me here today. So, getting on to: We're not like the mainland, I always said that to people that I meet here. We're not like Washington, D.C., because we're one family, one 'ohana. We live on a rock in the middle of the Pacific. At the end of the day, we still call each other family. Whether we agree to disagree, we all live as one and one 'ohana, so, for me, I just want to thank each and every one of you guys here, especially the legislators that I'm going to be working with; it's an honor to be here.

"That is why I'm very concerned on how we're going to achieve increasing the minimum wage. I believe, instead of raising the minimum wage across the board, we should start with a pilot program, starting with our government workers first. Also, we need to take care of our kūpuna; we need to pursue cutting taxes for those 65 and older. We must work together in finding ways to help our Hawaiian families with chronic health issues. We must encourage our young people to stay in school and graduate. The economy and the visitor industry are very important, and let's move quickly on the airline corporation bill and work hard with our House of Representatives in getting this to the governor's desk and asking him to sign it.

"I will oppose any raise of any transient accommodation tax, and I will work hard with all of my colleagues to collect taxes from currently illegal rentals that are in our community, pushing local families and taking away their quality of life. These homes that come up in our community, especially in our community of 'Ewa Beach on 'Ewa Beach Road, I particularly say that because, when I grew up there, I knew every single person there by name—rode my bike there; I don't swim, but I go to the beach there and have fun there. Now, because of this kind of lack of taxing and lack of accountability, these homes are popping all over the communities, not just in mine. But this is why I am here today to try to work with my colleagues to try to figure out a way in collecting these fees that are not being paid so that we can take care of family and friends in the community.

"We must commit to preserving and protecting our environment. We must not depend on fossil fuels. I support photovoltaic projects and creative energy and expanding our support by buying local first—we need to buy local first, guys. Speaking of, as a proud graduate of public schools, we need to ensure that our children have the best classrooms and facilities

to make their education meaningful. We must also give them opportunities to earn their college degrees here at home. We have outstanding public universities, and we should make education affordable for more people. I will seek to have UH West O'ahu expand their curriculum to provide Native Hawaiian students with the means to bear the rising costs of college. I support the completion of the Honolulu rail transit project in its current configuration—this is the alternative of the transportation for my family and friends in 'Ewa Beach and the State of Hawai'i.

"Enhancing the quality of life: I have worked many years in serving homeless in 'Ewa Beach. As a legislator, Governor Ige and his administration has made great progress in helping the homeless. From my personal observation, many of our homeless do not want to go on a list and to be sent to downtown Honolulu; they want to stay in their comfort zone in the area where they have their family and their close network, and sending them from 'Ewa Beach or Wai'anae to town, it doesn't make sense, and that's the reason why they prefer to be homeless. We need to also expand our homeless base shelters and communities and especially affordable homes, making it really affordable for our people to have housing.

"Wouldn't you agree with me that Hawai'i is the most beautiful place on Earth? Wouldn't you agree with me that one of the reasons it's so beautiful is because of its people and the aloha spirit that binds each and every one of us together? Therefore, in closing, I just want to thank each and every one of you, especially the community of 'Ewa Beach for making their voices heard. I just want to pray for each and every one of us here so that we can work closely together and letting us know that the main reason we're here is for our people and our community. So, in closing, I just want to ask our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, to bless this chamber and this capitol and the people who come and visit here from this Aloha State. I want to ask Him to cover us, to keep us and teach us to be humble and loving to one another, as we should be because we live in the best State of Hawai'i, the Aloha State. I ask Him again, in closing, to love one another like we want each other to be loved, trust each other like how we want each other to be trusted, and we go on and do His great works because, at the end of the day, everybody here, needs to have a better quality of life in the community, especially living for the rest of our life in the most beautiful State of Hawai'i. Thank you, and God bless."

The President responded:

"Thank you, Minority Leader Fevella, and I appreciate your desire and willingness to find ways to work together. I can tell you, from what I heard in your remarks, you have my full support in trying to get that airport authority bill to the governor's desk for signature."

The President then acknowledged former State Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, who was seated in the gallery.

At 11:03 a.m., the Senate stood in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

At this time, Senator Kim remarked on the life of Malani Bilyeu, co-founder of Kalapana, and introduced a special video presentation in tribute of the music icon.

The members of the Senate and guests were entertained by the music of Nā Hoa and an impromptu hula from Kumu Hinaleimoana Wong-Kalu.

Senator Kidani celebrated the extraordinary talent of Miss Aloha Hula 2018 Shalia Kamakaokalani and 2019 Grammy-nominated Hawaiian music trio Nā Hoa, who then entertained the members of the Senate and guests with music and hula performances.

Senate President Kouchi informed the members and guests that the Senate had adopted a number of sustainable development goals, and encouraged them to share the information with others. He then thanked Kumu Hinaleimoana Wong-Kalu for her wonderful impromptu performance.

Senator Fevella introduced local music group Kapena – Kelly Boy DeLima and his children Kapena, Kalena, and Lilo – who performed several popular songs for the members and guests.

The Senate reconvened at 12:13 p.m.

The President thanked the entertainers, then announced that nominations were in order for the office of Vice President of the Senate.

Senator Dela Cruz placed in nomination the name of Senator Michelle N. Kidani for Vice President of the Senate, seconded by Senator Baker.

Senator Chang moved that the nominations be closed, seconded by Senator Gabbard.

The motion was then put by the Chair and carried unanimously, and the Temporary Clerk was directed to cast a unanimous ballot for Senator Michelle N. Kidani as Vice President of the Senate.

The ballot having been so cast, Senator Michelle N. Kidani was declared elected as Vice President of the Senate of the Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawai'i, Regular Session of 2019.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION

The following resolution (S.R. No. 1) was read by the Temporary Clerk and was disposed of as follows:

S.R. No. 1 “SENATE RESOLUTION ELECTING OFFICERS OF THE THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE.”

Offered by: Senators English, Fevella.

On motion by Senator English, seconded by Senator Harimoto and carried, S.R. No. 1 was adopted.

The President thereupon administered the oath of office to the newly elected officers of the Senate: Clerk Carol T. Taniguchi, Assistant Clerk Jennifer T. Chow, Sergeant-at-Arms Bienvenido C. Villafior, and Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms C. M. Park Kaleiwahea.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION

The following resolution (S.R. No. 2) was read by the Clerk and was disposed of as follows:

S.R. No. 2 “SENATE RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE RULES OF THE SENATE OF THE THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE.”

Offered by: Senators English, Fevella.

By unanimous consent, action on S.R. No. 2 was deferred until Thursday, January 17, 2019.

#### SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

The following concurrent resolution (S.C.R. No. 1) was read by the Clerk and was disposed of as follows:

S.C.R. No. 1 “SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE CHIEF JUSTICE OF THE HAWAII SUPREME COURT TO ADDRESS THE LEGISLATURE ASSEMBLED IN JOINT SESSION FOR THE STATE OF THE JUDICIARY ADDRESS.”

Offered by: Senators English, Fevella.

On motion by Senator Rhoads, seconded by Senator Wakai and carried, S.C.R. No. 1 was adopted.

At this time, the following Senate leadership assignments were announced by Senate President Kouchi:

Majority Leader:  
Senator J. Kalani English

Majority Caucus Leader:  
Senator Dru Mamo Kanuha

Majority Policy Leader:  
Senator Les Ihara, Jr.

Majority Floor Leader:  
Senator Kaiali'i Kahele

Majority Whip:  
Senator Lorraine R. Inouye

Assistant Majority Whip:  
Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran

Assistant Majority Whip:  
Senator Brian T. Taniguchi

Assistant Majority Whip:  
Senator Clarence K. Nishihara

Minority Leader and Minority Floor Leader:  
Senator Kurt Fevella

The President also announced the following standing committees of the Senate and their respective chairs and members:

#### AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair  
Senator Russell E. Ruderman, Vice Chair  
Senator Karl Rhoads  
Senator Laura H. Thielen  
Senator Kurt Fevella

#### COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND HEALTH

Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
Senator Stanley Chang, Vice Chair  
Senator Jarrett Keohokalole  
Senator Clarence K. Nishihara  
Senator Russell E. Ruderman  
Senator Laura H. Thielen  
Senator Kurt Fevella

#### EDUCATION

Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair  
Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Vice Chair  
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz  
Senator Dru Mamo Kanuha  
Senator Kurt Fevella

#### ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM

Senator Glenn Wakai, Chair  
Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair  
Senator Lorraine R. Inouye  
Senator Jarrett Keohokalole  
Senator Kurt Fevella

#### GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

Senator Laura H. Thielen, Chair  
Senator Lorraine R. Inouye, Vice Chair  
Senator Rosalyn H. Baker  
Senator Dru Mamo Kanuha  
Senator Kurt Fevella

HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Senator Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Chair  
 Senator Kaiali'i Kahele, Vice Chair  
 Senator Les Ihara, Jr.  
 Senator Jarrett Keohokalole  
 Senator Kurt Fevella

HIGHER EDUCATION

Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair  
 Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair  
 Senator Kaiali'i Kahele  
 Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran  
 Senator Kurt Fevella

HOUSING

Senator Stanley Chang, Chair  
 Senator Dru Mamo Kanuha, Vice Chair  
 Senator Breene Harimoto  
 Senator Sharon Y. Moriwaki  
 Senator Kurt Fevella

HUMAN SERVICES

Senator Russell E. Ruderman, Chair  
 Senator Karl Rhoads, Vice Chair  
 Senator Les Ihara, Jr.  
 Senator Gil Riviere  
 Senator Kurt Fevella

JUDICIARY

Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair  
 Senator Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair  
 Senator Mike Gabbard  
 Senator Donna Mercado Kim  
 Senator Kurt Fevella

LABOR, CULTURE AND THE ARTS

Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair  
 Senator Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair  
 Senator Stanley Chang  
 Senator Mike Gabbard  
 Senator Kurt Fevella

PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL, AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Chair  
 Senator Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair  
 Senator Rosalyn H. Baker  
 Senator Laura H. Thielen  
 Senator Kurt Fevella

TECHNOLOGY

Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Chair  
 Senator J. Kalani English, Vice Chair  
 Senator Sharon Y. Moriwaki  
 Senator Glenn Wakai  
 Senator Kurt Fevella

TRANSPORTATION

Senator Lorraine R. Inouye, Chair  
 Senator Breene Harimoto, Vice Chair  
 Senator J. Kalani English  
 Senator Maile S.L. Shimabukuro  
 Senator Kurt Fevella

WATER AND LAND

Senator Kaiali'i Kahele, Chair  
 Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair  
 Senator Clarence K. Nishihara

Senator Gil Riviere  
 Senator Kurt Fevella

WAYS AND MEANS

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair  
 Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair  
 Senator J. Kalani English  
 Senator Breene Harimoto  
 Senator Lorraine R. Inouye  
 Senator Kaiali'i Kahele  
 Senator Dru Mamo Kanuha  
 Senator Michelle N. Kidani  
 Senator Sharon Y. Moriwaki  
 Senator Gil Riviere  
 Senator Maile S.L. Shimabukuro  
 Senator Brian T. Taniguchi  
 Senator Kurt Fevella

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 12:18 p.m., on motion by Senator Kahele, seconded by Senator Fevella and carried, the Senate adjourned until 11:30 a.m., Thursday, January 17, 2019.