

## FORTIETH DAY

## Wednesday, March 27, 2024

The Senate of the Thirty-Second Legislature of the State of Hawai'i, Regular Session of 2024, convened at 11:46 a.m. with the Vice President in the Chair.

The Roll was called showing all Senators present, with the exception of Senators Kouchi, Lee, Richards, and Wakai who were excused.

The Vice President announced that she had read and approved the Journal of the Thirty-Ninth Day.

At this time, Senator Hashimoto recognized and congratulated Central Pacific Bank on its 70th anniversary, and presented the following remarks:

"I am pleased to welcome representatives from Central Pacific Bank who are here to celebrate its 70th anniversary of operation in the State of Hawai'i.

"Central Pacific Bank began operations on February 15, 1954, on the principle of 'building a better Hawai'i.' It was founded by decorated World War II Nisei veterans who fought in the 442nd Regimental Combat Team and, upon returning home, were denied financial services. This sparked in them a vision to create an inclusive bank that would help all of Hawai'i's people with their financial aspirations. Since then, for 70 years, Central Pacific Bank has provided essential banking services and empowered countless Hawai'i residents to achieve their financial, homeownership, and wealth management goals.

"Through strategic partnerships with local organizations and businesses, the bank has played a vital role in fueling community development, educational initiatives, and cultural programs, enriching the lives of residents throughout the island chain. As Central Pacific Bank embarks on its 70th year, it continues to embody its original principle: helping Hawai'i's people with their financial aspirations, promoting small businesses, and 'building a better Hawai'i.'

"Today, on behalf of the Senate, I am pleased to present a certificate commending their 70 years of commitment towards fostering economic growth and supporting the local community.

"Here with us today—and may I ask that you please stand as I call your name?—is President and CEO of Central Pacific Bank Arnold Martines. He is accompanied by Joann Lim from the Business Client Service Center, Kalehua Zuttermeister from the Kāne'ohe branch, Oliver Rodrigues from the downtown main branch, and Dahvon Siongco from the home loans division. Thank you for being here, and here is to 70 more years of success.

"Thank you, Madam President."

The Chair announced that the honorees would be greeted on the Senate floor immediately after adjournment.

## MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR

The following messages from the Governor (Gov. Msg. Nos. 688 to 691) were read by the Clerk and were disposed of as follows:

Gov. Msg. No. 688, letter dated March 25, 2024, correcting the name of the nominee under Gov. Msg. No. 585 (name amended to FAITH KAHALE SAITO), was placed on file.

Gov. Msg. No. 689, letter dated March 25, 2024, correcting the name of the nominee under Gov. Msg. No. 647 (name amended to NICOLAI BARCA), was placed on file.

Gov. Msg. No. 690, letter dated March 25, 2024, correcting the name of the commission on Gov. Msg. No. 685 (name amended to the Commission to Promote Uniform Legislation), was placed on file.

Gov. Msg. No. 691, informing the Senate that on March 25, 2024, the Governor withdrew the nomination of STEVEN ROSENBLATT to the Board of Acupuncture, under Gov. Msg. No. 505, from consideration by the Senate, was placed on file.

In compliance with Gov. Msg. No. 691, the nomination listed under Gov. Msg. No. 505 was returned.

## HOUSE COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications from the House (Hse. Com. Nos. 460 to 466) were read by the Clerk and were disposed of as follows:

Hse. Com. No. 460, transmitting H.C.R. No. 52, H.D. 1, which was adopted by the House of Representatives on March 25, 2024, was placed on file.

By unanimous consent, H.C.R. No. 52, H.D. 1, entitled: "HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT, FIRE DEPARTMENTS AND POLICE DEPARTMENTS OF EACH COUNTY, HUMANE SOCIETIES IN EACH COUNTY, AND MEDIA ORGANIZATIONS THROUGHOUT THE STATE TO COLLABORATE TO CREATE AND DISSEMINATE PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS TO HIGHLIGHT THE DANGERS OF, AND ADVOCATE AGAINST THE USE OF, ILLEGAL FIREWORKS IN ORDER TO PROTECT THE HEALTH AND SAFETY OF THE COMMUNITY, PETS, AND WILDLIFE," was deferred.

Hse. Com. No. 461, transmitting H.C.R. No. 75, which was adopted by the House of Representatives on March 25, 2024, was placed on file.

By unanimous consent, H.C.R. No. 75, entitled: "HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, INCLUDING THE NAVY, ARMY, AND AIR FORCE, TO INCREASE ON-BASE HOUSING AVAILABILITY FOR ACTIVE DUTY PERSONNEL AND THEIR DEPENDENTS ASSIGNED TO MILITARY INSTALLATIONS IN THE STATE," was deferred.

Hse. Com. No. 462, transmitting H.C.R. No. 171, which was adopted by the House of Representatives on March 25, 2024, was placed on file.

By unanimous consent, H.C.R. No. 171, entitled: "HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REQUESTING STATE AND COUNTY AGENCIES TO NOTIFY ANIMAL WELFARE ORGANIZATIONS OF DECEASED CATS AND DOGS THAT ARE PICKED UP ALONG STATE AND COUNTY ROADWAYS," was deferred.

Hse. Com. No. 463, transmitting H.C.R. No. 189, H.D. 1, which was adopted by the House of Representatives on March 25, 2024, was placed on file.

By unanimous consent, H.C.R. No. 189, H.D. 1, entitled: "HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION URGING THE STATE TO PROHIBIT THE INTRODUCTION OF BIOCONTROL AGENTS THAT MIGHT THREATEN ECONOMICALLY IMPORTANT FORAGE GRASS SPECIES," was deferred.

Hse. Com. No. 464, returning S.B. No. 2757, S.D. 1, as amended in H.D. 1, which passed Third Reading in the House of Representatives on March 25, 2024, was placed on file.

On motion by Senator Kanuha, seconded by Senator DeCoite and carried, the Senate disagreed to the amendments proposed by the House to S.B. No. 2757, S.D. 1, and requested a conference on the subject matter thereof.

Hse. Com. No. 465, returning S.B. No. 3123, S.D. 2, as amended in H.D. 1, which passed Third Reading in the House of Representatives on March 25, 2024, was placed on file.

On motion by Senator Kanuha, seconded by Senator DeCoite and carried, the Senate disagreed to the amendments proposed by the House to S.B. No. 3123, S.D. 2, and requested a conference on the subject matter thereof.

Hse. Com. No. 466, returning S.B. No. 3159, S.D. 1, as amended in H.D. 1, which passed Third Reading in the House of Representatives on March 25, 2024, was placed on file.

On motion by Senator Kanuha, seconded by Senator DeCoite and carried, the Senate disagreed to the amendments proposed by the House to S.B. No. 3159, S.D. 1, and requested a conference on the subject matter thereof.

The Chair then announced:

“Conferees will be named at a later date.”

#### STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Senator San Buenaventura, for the Committee on Health and Human Services, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 3371) recommending that the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of ANNE CHIPCHASE to the State Council on Developmental Disabilities, in accordance with Gov. Msg. No. 555.

In accordance with Senate Rule 37(6), action on Stand. Com. Rep. No. 3371 and Gov. Msg. No. 555 was deferred until Thursday, March 28, 2024.

Senator San Buenaventura, for the Committee on Health and Human Services, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 3372) recommending that the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of LISA RANTZ to the Board of Directors of the Hawai'i Health Systems Corporation, in accordance with Gov. Msg. No. 566.

In accordance with Senate Rule 37(6), action on Stand. Com. Rep. No. 3372 and Gov. Msg. No. 566 was deferred until Thursday, March 28, 2024.

Senator San Buenaventura, for the Committee on Health and Human Services, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 3373) recommending that the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of JOHN (JACK) LEWIN as Administrator of the State Health Planning & Development Agency, in accordance with Gov. Msg. No. 607.

In accordance with Senate Rule 37(6), action on Stand. Com. Rep. No. 3373 and Gov. Msg. No. 607 was deferred until Thursday, March 28, 2024.

Senator San Buenaventura, for the Committee on Health and Human Services, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 3374) recommending that the Senate advise and consent to the nominations to the Commission On Fatherhood of the following:

MARTY OLIPHANT, in accordance with Gov. Msg. No. 541; and

BRIAN ALSTON, in accordance with Gov. Msg. No. 542.

In accordance with Senate Rule 37(6), action on Stand. Com. Rep. No. 3374 and Gov. Msg. Nos. 541 and 542 was deferred until Thursday, March 28, 2024.

Senator San Buenaventura, for the Committee on Health and Human Services, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 3375) recommending that the Senate advise and consent to the nominations to the Disability & Communication Access Board of the following:

SCOTT FLEMING, in accordance with Gov. Msg. No. 543;

LISAANN TOM, in accordance with Gov. Msg. No. 544; and

MICHAEL NOJIMA, in accordance with Gov. Msg. No. 545.

In accordance with Senate Rule 37(6), action on Stand. Com. Rep. No. 3375 and Gov. Msg. Nos. 543, 544, and 545 was deferred until Thursday, March 28, 2024.

Senator San Buenaventura, for the Committee on Health and Human Services, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 3376) recommending that the Senate advise and consent to the nominations to the State Council on Mental Health of the following:

SAMUEL “RAY” RICE, in accordance with Gov. Msg. No. 556;

LEA DIAS, in accordance with Gov. Msg. No. 557;

JON FUJII, in accordance with Gov. Msg. No. 558; and

LILLIE CHRISTINE MONTAGUE-HICKS, in accordance with Gov. Msg. No. 638.

In accordance with Senate Rule 37(6), action on Stand. Com. Rep. No. 3376 and Gov. Msg. Nos. 556, 557, 558, and 638 was deferred until Thursday, March 28, 2024.

Senator San Buenaventura, for the Committee on Health and Human Services, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 3377) recommending that the Senate advise and consent to the nominations to the State Rehabilitation Council of the following:

SANDRA JAKOB, in accordance with Gov. Msg. No. 560;

SEAN KNOX, in accordance with Gov. Msg. No. 561;

RAMON RUIZ, in accordance with Gov. Msg. No. 562; and

VICTORIA KENNEDY, in accordance with Gov. Msg. No. 563.

In accordance with Senate Rule 37(6), action on Stand. Com. Rep. No. 3377 and Gov. Msg. Nos. 560, 561, 562, and 563 was deferred until Thursday, March 28, 2024.

Senator San Buenaventura, for the Committee on Health and Human Services, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 3378) recommending that the Senate advise and consent to the nominations to the Board of Certification of Operating Personnel in Wastewater Treatment Plants of the following:

MARIA YAMASHITA, in accordance with Gov. Msg. No. 564; and

JON NAKASHIMA, in accordance with Gov. Msg. No. 565.

In accordance with Senate Rule 37(6), action on Stand. Com. Rep. No. 3378 and Gov. Msg. Nos. 564 and 565 was deferred until Thursday, March 28, 2024.

Senator Inouye, for the Committee on Water and Land, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 3379) recommending

that the Senate advise and consent to the nominations to the Game Management Advisory Committee of the following:

GONZALO GARCIA, in accordance with Gov. Msg. No. 582; and

MICHAEL JOHNSON, in accordance with Gov. Msg. No. 583.

In accordance with Senate Rule 37(6), action on Stand. Com. Rep. No. 3379 and Gov. Msg. Nos. 582 and 583 was deferred until Thursday, March 28, 2024.

Senator Inouye, for the Committee on Water and Land, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 3380) recommending that the Senate advise and consent to the nominations to the Land Use Commission of the following:

NANCY CARR SMITH, in accordance with Gov. Msg. No. 586; and

BRUCE U'U, in accordance with Gov. Msg. No. 610.

In accordance with Senate Rule 37(6), action on Stand. Com. Rep. No. 3380 and Gov. Msg. Nos. 586 and 610 was deferred until Thursday, March 28, 2024.

Senator Inouye, for the Committee on Water and Land, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 3381) recommending that the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of BENJAMIN KUDO to the Mauna Kea Stewardship and Oversight Authority, in accordance with Gov. Msg. No. 627.

In accordance with Senate Rule 37(6), action on Stand. Com. Rep. No. 3381 and Gov. Msg. No. 627 was deferred until Thursday, March 28, 2024.

Senator Inouye, for the Committee on Water and Land, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 3382) recommending that the Senate advise and consent to the nominations to the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission of the following:

SAUMALU MATAAFA, in accordance with Gov. Msg. No. 584;

FAITH KAHELE SAITO (nominee's name amended to FAITH KAHALE SAITO by Gov. Msg. No. 688), in accordance with Gov. Msg. No. 585; and

JUSTIN KEONI SOUZA, in accordance with Gov. Msg. No. 600.

In accordance with Senate Rule 37(6), action on Stand. Com. Rep. No. 3382 and Gov. Msg. Nos. 584, 585, and 600 was deferred until Thursday, March 28, 2024.

Senator Inouye, for the Committee on Water and Land, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 3383) recommending that the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of MARY ALICE EVANS as Director of the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development, in accordance with Gov. Msg. No. 603.

In accordance with Senate Rule 37(6), action on Stand. Com. Rep. No. 3383 and Gov. Msg. No. 603 was deferred until Thursday, March 28, 2024.

#### ORDER OF THE DAY

#### ADOPTION OF RESOLUTIONS

#### MATTERS DEFERRED FROM MONDAY, MARCH 25, 2024

Stand. Com. Rep. No. 3350 (S.C.R. No. 17):

By unanimous consent, Stand. Com. Rep. No. 3350 and S.C.R. No. 17, entitled: "SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE HAWAII PUBLIC

HOUSING AUTHORITY TO UTILIZE THE STATE'S RENTAL SUPPLEMENT PROGRAM TO PROVIDE HOMEOWNERS INSURANCE PREMIUM ASSISTANCE TO HOUSING OWNERS WHO RENT OR LEASE TO QUALIFIED KUPUNA A MORTGAGE PROPERTY WITHIN DESIGNATED LAVA ZONES," was recommitted to the Committee on Housing and the Committee on Health and Human Services.

Stand. Com. Rep. No. 3351 (S.R. No. 9):

By unanimous consent, Stand. Com. Rep. No. 3351 and S.R. No. 9, entitled: "SENATE RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE HAWAII PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITY TO UTILIZE THE STATE'S RENTAL SUPPLEMENT PROGRAM TO PROVIDE HOMEOWNERS INSURANCE PREMIUM ASSISTANCE TO HOUSING OWNERS WHO RENT OR LEASE TO QUALIFIED KUPUNA A MORTGAGE PROPERTY WITHIN DESIGNATED LAVA ZONES," was recommitted to the Committee on Housing and the Committee on Health and Human Services.

Senator San Buenaventura rose to speak on a point of personal privilege as follows:

"The point of personal privilege is that the recommittal is based upon my continuing research to find a more stable form of financial assistance for the kūpuna in lava zones 1 and 2. Thank you."

#### RE-REFERRAL OF SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTIONS

The Chair re-referred the following Senate concurrent resolutions that were offered:

S.C.R. No.: Re-referred to:

S.C.R. No. 68 Committee on Hawaiian Affairs

S.C.R. No. 151 Committee on Agriculture and Environment

#### RE-REFERRAL OF SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The Chair re-referred the following Senate resolutions that were offered:

S.R. No.: Re-referred to:

S.R. No. 56 Committee on Hawaiian Affairs

S.R. No. 129 Committee on Agriculture and Environment

At this time, Senator DeCoite announced that the Women's Legislative Caucus's 25th annual Easter basket drive and reveal of the Easter bunny and Easter chick would take place that day. Senator DeCoite explained that staff would be accepting baskets until 1:30 p.m. for the main picture-taking event with the Easter bunny and chick and that participants would assemble with all the baskets in front of the Father Damien Statue on the Rotunda level immediately after the House session. Senator DeCoite then noted that participating organizations included the Domestic Violence Action Center, Institute for Human Services, Parents And Children Together, the Salvation Army Hawai'i, and Mohala Mai Women's Prison Project. Senator DeCoite clarified that Easter basket and online donations were welcomed. Senator DeCoite thanked the members for their support.

The Chair announced that there would be a Majority Caucus meeting immediately following adjournment.

#### ADJOURNMENT

At 11:53 a.m., on motion by Senator Kanuha, seconded by Senator DeCoite and carried, the Senate adjourned until 11:30 a.m., Thursday, March 28, 2024.