

TWENTY-FIRST DAY

Tuesday, February 18, 2025

The Senate of the Thirty-Third Legislature of the State of Hawai'i, Regular Session of 2025, convened at 11:37 a.m. with the President in the Chair.

The Roll was called showing all Senators present, with the exception of Senators DeCoite, Gabbard, and San Buenaventura who were excused.

The Chair announced that he had read and approved the Journal of the Twentieth Day.

At this time, Senator Kidani introduced members of her staff who were seated in the gallery: committee clerk Lisa Barnett; office manager Danicia Honda; and legislative aides Sean Earing; Shaylin Mae Eligio; and Rianna Ramos, who had offered a moment of contemplation prior to the Senate's floor session.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Senator Dela Cruz, for the Committee on Ways and Means, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 675) recommending that S.B. No. 1464 pass Second Reading and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

On motion by Senator Wakai, seconded by Senator DeCorte and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 1464, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CONFORMITY TO THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE," passed Second Reading and was placed on the calendar for Third Reading on Wednesday, February 19, 2025.

Senator Dela Cruz, for the Committee on Ways and Means, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 676) recommending that S.B. No. 1278, as amended in S.D. 1, pass Second Reading and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

On motion by Senator Wakai, seconded by Senator DeCorte and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 1278, S.D. 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE GENERAL EXCISE TAX," passed Second Reading and was placed on the calendar for Third Reading on Thursday, February 27, 2025.

Senator Dela Cruz, for the Committee on Ways and Means, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 677) recommending that S.B. No. 430, as amended in S.D. 1, pass Second Reading and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

On motion by Senator Wakai, seconded by Senator DeCorte and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 430, S.D. 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION," passed Second Reading and was placed on the calendar for Third Reading on Thursday, February 27, 2025.

Senator Dela Cruz, for the Committee on Ways and Means, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 678) recommending that S.B. No. 325, as amended in S.D. 1, pass Second Reading and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

On motion by Senator Wakai, seconded by Senator DeCorte and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 325, S.D. 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE GENERAL FUND," passed Second Reading and was placed on the calendar for Third Reading on Thursday, February 27, 2025.

Senator Dela Cruz, for the Committee on Ways and Means, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 679) recommending that S.B. No. 1300, S.D. 1 pass Third Reading.

By unanimous consent, action on Stand. Com. Rep. No. 679 and S.B. No. 1300, S.D. 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO SCHOOL MEALS," was deferred until Wednesday, February 19, 2025.

Senator Dela Cruz, for the Committee on Ways and Means, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 680) recommending that S.B. No. 1567, S.D. 1 pass Third Reading.

By unanimous consent, action on Stand. Com. Rep. No. 680 and S.B. No. 1567, S.D. 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE CLASSIFICATION AND COMPENSATION SYSTEMS," was deferred until Wednesday, February 19, 2025.

Senator Dela Cruz, for the Committee on Ways and Means, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 681) recommending that S.B. No. 855, S.D. 1 pass Third Reading.

By unanimous consent, action on Stand. Com. Rep. No. 681 and S.B. No. 855, S.D. 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HAWAII RETIREMENT SAVINGS ACT," was deferred until Wednesday, February 19, 2025.

Senator Dela Cruz, for the Committee on Ways and Means, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 682) recommending that S.B. No. 1588, S.D. 1 pass Third Reading.

By unanimous consent, action on Stand. Com. Rep. No. 682 and S.B. No. 1588, S.D. 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO NUCLEAR ENERGY," was deferred until Wednesday, February 19, 2025.

Senator Dela Cruz, for the Committee on Ways and Means, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 683) recommending that S.B. No. 552, S.D. 1 pass Third Reading.

By unanimous consent, action on Stand. Com. Rep. No. 683 and S.B. No. 552, S.D. 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO AGRICULTURE," was deferred until Wednesday, February 19, 2025.

Senator Dela Cruz, for the Committee on Ways and Means, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 684) recommending that S.B. No. 529, S.D. 1 pass Third Reading.

By unanimous consent, action on Stand. Com. Rep. No. 684 and S.B. No. 529, S.D. 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION," was deferred until Wednesday, February 19, 2025.

Senator Dela Cruz, for the Committee on Ways and Means, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 685) recommending that S.B. No. 440, S.D. 1, as amended in S.D. 2, pass Third Reading.

By unanimous consent, action on Stand. Com. Rep. No. 685 and S.B. No. 440, S.D. 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION," was deferred until Thursday, February 27, 2025.

Senator Dela Cruz, for the Committee on Ways and Means, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 686) recommending that S.B. No. 327, S.D. 1, as amended in S.D. 2, pass Third Reading.

By unanimous consent, action on Stand. Com. Rep. No. 686 and S.B. No. 327, S.D. 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO INTERNSHIPS," was deferred until Thursday, February 27, 2025.

Senator Dela Cruz, for the Committee on Ways and Means, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 687) recommending that S.B. No. 1186, S.D. 1, as amended in S.D. 2, pass Third Reading.

By unanimous consent, action on Stand. Com. Rep. No. 687 and S.B. No. 1186, S.D. 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO SUSTAINABLE FOOD SYSTEMS," was deferred until Thursday, February 27, 2025.

Senator Dela Cruz, for the Committee on Ways and Means, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 688) recommending that S.B. No. 533, S.D. 1, as amended in S.D. 2, pass Third Reading.

By unanimous consent, action on Stand. Com. Rep. No. 688 and S.B. No. 533, S.D. 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION," was deferred until Thursday, February 27, 2025.

Senator Dela Cruz, for the Committee on Ways and Means, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 689) recommending that S.B. No. 1466 pass Second Reading and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

On motion by Senator Wakai, seconded by Senator DeCorte and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 1466, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE EARNED INCOME TAX CREDIT," passed Second Reading and was placed on the calendar for Third Reading on Wednesday, February 19, 2025.

Senator Dela Cruz, for the Committee on Ways and Means, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 690) recommending that S.B. No. 1467 pass Second Reading and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

On motion by Senator Wakai, seconded by Senator DeCorte and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 1467, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO TAX APPEALS," passed Second Reading and was placed on the calendar for Third Reading on Wednesday, February 19, 2025.

Senator Dela Cruz, for the Committee on Ways and Means, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 691) recommending that S.B. No. 1470 pass Second Reading and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

On motion by Senator Wakai, seconded by Senator DeCorte and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 1470, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO INCOME TAX WITHHOLDING," passed Second Reading and was placed on the calendar for Third Reading on Wednesday, February 19, 2025.

Senator Dela Cruz, for the Committee on Ways and Means, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 692) recommending that S.B. No. 326, as amended in S.D. 1, pass Second Reading and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

On motion by Senator Wakai, seconded by Senator DeCorte and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 326, S.D. 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO REVOLVING FUNDS," passed Second Reading and was placed on the calendar for Third Reading on Thursday, February 27, 2025.

Senator Dela Cruz, for the Committee on Ways and Means, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 693) recommending that S.B. No. 721, as amended in S.D. 1, pass Second Reading and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

On motion by Senator Wakai, seconded by Senator DeCorte and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 721, S.D. 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING

TO THE ESTATE TAX," passed Second Reading and was placed on the calendar for Third Reading on Thursday, February 27, 2025.

Senator Rhoads, for the Committee on Judiciary, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 694) recommending that S.B. No. 283, as amended in S.D. 1, pass Second Reading and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

On motion by Senator Wakai, seconded by Senator DeCorte and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 283, S.D. 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO BRIBERY," passed Second Reading and was placed on the calendar for Third Reading on Thursday, February 27, 2025.

Senator Rhoads, for the Committee on Judiciary, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 695) recommending that S.B. No. 694 pass Second Reading and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

On motion by Senator Wakai, seconded by Senator DeCorte and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 694, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE DETENTION OF MINORS," passed Second Reading and was placed on the calendar for Third Reading on Wednesday, February 19, 2025.

Senator Rhoads, for the Committee on Judiciary, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 696) recommending that S.B. No. 780 pass Second Reading and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

On motion by Senator Wakai, seconded by Senator DeCorte and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 780, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS," passed Second Reading and was placed on the calendar for Third Reading on Wednesday, February 19, 2025.

Senator Rhoads, for the majority of the Committee on Judiciary, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 697) recommending that S.B. No. 1515, as amended in S.D. 1, pass Second Reading and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

On motion by Senator Wakai, seconded by Senator DeCorte and carried, the report of the majority of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 1515, S.D. 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS," passed Second Reading and was placed on the calendar for Third Reading on Thursday, February 27, 2025.

Senator Rhoads, for the Committee on Judiciary, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 698) recommending that S.B. No. 1545 pass Second Reading and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

On motion by Senator Wakai, seconded by Senator DeCorte and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.B. No. 1545, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO NEPOTISM," passed Second Reading and was placed on the calendar for Third Reading on Wednesday, February 19, 2025.

ORDER OF THE DAY

THIRD READING

S.B. No. 1465, S.D. 1:

On motion by Senator Dela Cruz, seconded by Senator Moriwaki and carried, S.B. No. 1465, S.D. 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO PASS-THROUGH ENTITY TAXATION," having been read throughout, passed Third Reading on the following showing of Ayes and Noes:

Ayes, 22. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (DeCoite, Gabbard, San Buenaventura).

At this time, Senator Chang announced that the Lunar New Year celebration at the Capitol would be taking place that afternoon in Conference Room 309 at 1:00 p.m.

The Chair announced that there would be a leadership meeting in his office immediately following adjournment.

The Chair then stated that he would be absent from session the following day because of a medical procedure and would be back in his office on Monday, February 24th.

ADJOURNMENT

At 11:42 a.m., on motion by Senator Wakai, seconded by Senator DeCorte and carried, the Senate adjourned until 11:30 a.m., Wednesday, February 19, 2025.