

THIRTY-EIGHTH DAY

Monday, March 24, 2025

The Senate of the Thirty-Third Legislature of the State of Hawai'i, Regular Session of 2025, convened at 11:36 a.m. with the President in the Chair.

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

The Chair announced that he had read and approved the Journal of the Thirty-Seventh Day.

MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR

The following messages from the Governor (Gov. Msg. Nos. 745 to 758) were read by the Clerk and were disposed of as follows:

Gov. Msg. No. 745, submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Natural Area Reserves System Commission, the nomination of THORNE ABBOTT, term to expire June 30, 2029, was referred to the Committee on Water and Land.

Gov. Msg. No. 746, submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Public Accountancy, the nomination of ALEXANDER SMITH, term to expire June 30, 2029, was referred to the Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection.

Gov. Msg. No. 747, submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Public Accountancy, the nomination of ZACHARY JOHNSON, term to expire June 30, 2029, was referred to the Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection.

Gov. Msg. No. 748, submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Hawai'i Board of Optometry, the nomination of ASHLEY PORTER, term to expire June 30, 2029, was referred to the Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection.

Gov. Msg. No. 749, submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Hawai'i Board of Optometry, the nomination of KATHRYN MAU, term to expire June 30, 2029, was referred to the Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection.

Gov. Msg. No. 750, submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Motor Vehicle Repair Industry Board, the nomination of NATHAN KONISHI, term to expire June 30, 2029, was referred to the Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection.

Gov. Msg. No. 751, submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Hawai'i Medical Board, the nomination of GARY BELCHER, term to expire June 30, 2029, was referred to the Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection.

Gov. Msg. No. 752, submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Speech Pathology and Audiology, the nomination of OLIVIA UCHIMA, term to expire June 30, 2029, was referred to the Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection.

Gov. Msg. No. 753, submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Real Estate Commission, the nomination of AUDREY ABE, term to expire June 30, 2029, was referred to the Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection.

Gov. Msg. No. 754, submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Real Estate Commission, the nomination of P DENISE LA COSTA, term to expire June 30, 2028, was

referred to the Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection.

Gov. Msg. No. 755, submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Real Estate Commission, the nomination of JENNIFER ANDREWS, term to expire June 30, 2029, was referred to the Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection.

Gov. Msg. No. 756, submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Psychology, the nomination of LIANNE PHILHOWER, term to expire June 30, 2029, was referred to the Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection.

Gov. Msg. No. 757, submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Hawai'i Board of Veterinary Medicine, the nomination of KIMBERLEY THOMSON-KERR, term to expire June 30, 2028, was referred to the Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection.

Gov. Msg. No. 758, submitting for consideration and confirmation to the State Council on Developmental Disabilities, the nomination of KAREN GLASSER, term to expire June 30, 2026, was referred to the Committee on Health and Human Services.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

Senator Rhoads, for the Committee on Judiciary, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1350) recommending that H.B. No. 145, H.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 H.B. No. 145, H.D. 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO EXPUNGEMENT," passed Second Reading and was placed on the calendar for Third Reading on Tuesday, March 25, 2025.

ORDER OF THE DAY

THIRD READING

H.B. No. 998:

Senator Rhoads moved that H.B. No. 998, having been read throughout, pass Third Reading, seconded by Senator Chang.

Senator Awa rose to speak in opposition to the measure as follows:

"In this bill, I learned that police, right now, when they're giving you a citation, they have eleven requirements that they have to fulfill, and two of those requirements are a problem. One of them is, if they don't put (on the citation), the Social Security number on or your address, that, when they get to court, it can be thrown out, and so this looks to fix that, especially when police are trying to cite homeless. What I disagree in this bill is that, in the last part of it, it does say that omission of any of the information listed in paragraphs (1) to (11)—those are the eleven requirements—or any error in the citation shall not be grounds for dismissal as long as there's no prejudice, and that I have a problem with. It gives me flashbacks to the news when reporters put out misinformation and then, you know, there's no accountability to it. We need to hold our officers accountable to doing their job with integrity and getting it right, so that's my opposition to this. Mahalo."

The motion was put by the Chair and carried, H.B. No. 998, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CONTENTS OF CITATIONS," having been read throughout, passed Third Reading on the following showing of Ayes and Noes:

Ayes, 21. Noes, 2 (Awa, DeCorte). Excused, 2 (Gabbard, Richards).

RE-REFERRAL OF HOUSE BILLS

The Chair re-referred the following House bills that were received:

H.B. No.:	Re-referred to:
H.B. No. 302, H.D. 2, S.D. 1	Jointly to the Committee on Health and Human Services and the Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection, then jointly to the Committee on Judiciary and the Committee on Ways and Means
H.B. No. 422, H.D. 1, S.D. 1	Committee on Housing, then jointly to the Committee on Ways and Means and the Committee on Education
H.B. No. 1482, H.D. 1, S.D. 1	Jointly to the Committee on Health and Human Services and the Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection, then jointly to the Committee on Judiciary and the Committee on Ways and Means

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

“I’d like to say that we, from the Hawai‘i Island and in Hilo, Miss Issha Rose Mata has been nominated and voted to be our Miss Hawaii USA. And we hope that we have an opportunity later to meet her someday here. Thank you, Mr. President.”

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

“Members of the Senate, this Tuesday, March 25, 2025, is the annual Manufacturing and Innovation Day at the Capitol. My counterpart in the House, Representative Ilagan, and I invite you to join us in celebrating Hawai‘i’s local manufacturers and technology innovators. This event highlights their valuable contributions to our state’s economy and fosters meaningful connections with legislators and the broader community. Join us on the fourth floor of the Capitol from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Hope to see you all there. Mahalo.”

Senator DeCoite then reminded the members that the Women’s Legislative Caucus’s 26th annual Easter basket drive would take place on Friday, April 11, 2025, immediately following the House of Representatives floor session, on the Rotunda level. Senator DeCoite noted that participating organizations included the Domestic Violence Action Center, Institute for Human Services, Parents And Children Together, the Salvation Army Hawai‘i, and the Mohala Mai Women’s Prison Project. Senator DeCoite explained that Easter basket donations as well as online donations were welcomed and urged members not to miss their chance to find out which freshman legislator would have the honor of serving as the Easter bunny. On behalf of herself, Senator Kidani, and their House counterparts, Senator DeCoite announced that they looked forward to the participation of all members.

The Chair made the following announcement:

“The deadline to file standing committee reports on Senate concurrent resolutions that need to move laterally to the final committee is 5:00 p.m. this afternoon.”

The Chair then thanked Senator Kidani for an outstanding Education Week. The Chair noted that he had been thrilled to see four honorees from Kaua‘i who had been recognized the previous week and congratulated Senator Kidani and her staff on a fantastic job.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

On motion by Senator Wakai, seconded by Senator DeCorte and carried unanimously, the Senate authorized the adoption of standing committee reports recommending that Senate concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions be referred to the committees of last referral. In consequence thereof, and subsequent to its recessing at 11:44 a.m., the Senate took the following actions on the following resolutions and standing committee reports:

Senator Kim, for the Committee on Higher Education, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1351) recommending that S.C.R. No. 138, as amended in S.D. 1, be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

On motion by Senator Wakai, seconded by Senator DeCorte and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.C.R. No. 138, S.D. 1, entitled: “SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE AUDITOR TO CONDUCT A MANAGEMENT AND PERFORMANCE AUDIT OF THE OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC STRATEGY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII,” was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Senator Kim, for the Committee on Higher Education, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1352), recommending that S.R. No. 155, as amended in S.D. 1, be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

On motion by Senator Wakai, seconded by Senator DeCorte and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.R. No. 155, S.D. 1, entitled: “SENATE RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE AUDITOR TO CONDUCT A MANAGEMENT AND PERFORMANCE AUDIT OF THE OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC STRATEGY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII,” was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Senator Kim, for the Committee on Higher Education, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1353) recommending that S.C.R. No. 142, as amended in S.D. 1, be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

On motion by Senator Wakai, seconded by Senator DeCorte and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.C.R. No. 142, S.D. 1, entitled: “SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR TO CONDUCT AN AUDIT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT MANOA ATHLETICS DEPARTMENT’S USE AND MANAGEMENT OF ITS FUNDS,” was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Senator Kim, for the Committee on Higher Education, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1354), recommending that S.R. No. 160, as amended in S.D. 1, be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

On motion by Senator Wakai, seconded by Senator DeCorte and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.R. No. 160, S.D. 1, entitled: “SENATE RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR TO CONDUCT AN AUDIT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT MANOA ATHLETICS DEPARTMENT’S USE AND MANAGEMENT OF ITS FUNDS,” was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Senator McKelvey, for the Committee on Government Operations, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1355) recommending that S.C.R. No. 44, as amended in S.D. 1, be referred to the Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection.

On motion by Senator Wakai, seconded by Senator DeCorte and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and

S.C.R. No. 44, S.D. 1, entitled: "SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STANDING COMMITTEE WHOSE PURVIEW INCLUDES CONSUMER PROTECTION, WITH THE SUPPORT OF THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU, TO CONVENE A LEGISLATIVE WORKING GROUP TO DETERMINE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ESTABLISHING APPROPRIATE FAMILY NOTICE AND STANDARDIZED CONSENT PROVISIONS FOR PRE-NEED CONTRACTS GOVERNING CREMATION," was referred to the Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection.

Senator McKelvey, for the Committee on Government Operations, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1356) recommending that S.C.R. No. 239, as amended in S.D. 1, be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

On motion by Senator Wakai, seconded by Senator DeCorte and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.C.R. No. 239, S.D. 1, entitled: "SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES, AND THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION TO PROVIDE UNIVERSAL CHANGING ACCOMMODATIONS IN ALL STATE FACILITIES, STATE PARKS, AND CITY AND COUNTY PARKS," was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Senator McKelvey, for the Committee on Government Operations, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1357), recommending that S.R. No. 215, as amended in S.D. 1, be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

On motion by Senator Wakai, seconded by Senator DeCorte and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.R. No. 215, S.D. 1, entitled: "SENATE RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES, AND THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION TO PROVIDE UNIVERSAL CHANGING ACCOMMODATIONS IN ALL STATE FACILITIES, STATE PARKS, AND CITY AND COUNTY PARKS," was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Senator Kim, for the majority of the Committee on Higher Education, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1358), recommending that S.C.R. No. 137 be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

On motion by Senator Wakai, seconded by Senator DeCorte and carried, the report of the majority of the Committee was adopted and S.C.R. No. 137, entitled: "SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR TO CONDUCT A PERFORMANCE AUDIT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII FOUNDATION," was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Senator Kim, for the Committee on Higher Education, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1359), recommending that S.R. No. 154 be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

On motion by Senator Wakai, seconded by Senator DeCorte and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.R. No. 154, entitled: "SENATE RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR TO CONDUCT A PERFORMANCE AUDIT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII FOUNDATION," was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Senator San Buenaventura, for the Committee on Health and Human Services, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1360) recommending that S.C.R. No. 8, as amended in S.D. 1, be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

On motion by Senator Wakai, seconded by Senator DeCorte and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.C.R. No. 8, S.D. 1, entitled: "SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE AUDITOR TO ASSESS BOTH THE SOCIAL AND FINANCIAL EFFECTS OF PROPOSED MANDATED HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR A PERCENTAGE OF THE COSTS OF INTRAVENOUS KETAMINE THERAPY TO TREAT DEPRESSION," was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Senator San Buenaventura, for the Committee on Health and Human Services, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1361) recommending that S.C.R. No. 120, as amended in S.D. 1, be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

On motion by Senator Wakai, seconded by Senator DeCorte and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.C.R. No. 120, S.D. 1, entitled: "SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE AUDITOR TO ASSESS THE SOCIAL AND FINANCIAL EFFECTS OF PROPOSED MANDATORY HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR CONTINUOUS GLUCOSE MONITORS," was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

ADJOURNMENT

At 5:00 p.m., the Senate adjourned until 11:30 a.m., Tuesday, March 25, 2025.