

## THIRTY-SIXTH DAY

Tuesday, March 31, 2026

The Senate of the Thirty-Third Legislature of the State of Hawai'i, Regular Session of 2026, convened at 11:35 a.m. with the President in the Chair.

The Roll was called showing all Senators present, with the exception of Senator Inouye who was excused.

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

Senator Hashimoto introduction

Senator Keohokalole introduction

The Chair comment

Senator Kim comment

Senator Elefante introduction

Senator Fevella introduction

Senator McKelvey introduction

Senator DeCorte introduction

The Chair introduction

Senator Hashimoto honored and recognized the Boys & Girls Club 2026 Youth of the Year finalists and candidates for their commitment to Hawai'i's communities and presented the following remarks:

**REMARKS**

Senator DeCoite rose to present the following remarks:

**REMARKS**

Senator Awa rose to present the following remarks:

**REMARKS**

Senator Wakai rose to present the following remarks:

**REMARKS**

Senator DeCorte rose to present the following remarks:

**REMARKS**

Senator Hashimoto rose and stated:

**REMARKS**

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

**MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR**

The following messages from the Governor (Gov. Msg. Nos. 796 to 799) were read by the Clerk and were disposed of as follows:

Gov. Msg. No. 796, submitting for consideration and confirmation, the appointment of ANNALISA M. BERNARD LEE as Circuit Court Judge of the Circuit Court of the Second Circuit (island of Maui), for a term of ten years, was referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Gov. Msg. No. 797, submitting for consideration and confirmation, the appointment of MICHAEL K. SOONG as Circuit Court Judge of the Circuit Court of the Fifth Circuit (island of Kaua'i), for a term of ten years, was referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Gov. Msg. No. 798, informing the Senate that on March 31, 2026, the Governor withdrew the nomination of KU'ULEIALOHA SANTOS to the Land Use Commission, under Gov. Msg. No. 758, from consideration by the Senate, was placed on file.

In compliance with Gov. Msg. No. 798, the nomination listed under Gov. Msg. No. 758 was returned.

Gov. Msg. No. 799, informing the Senate that on March 31, 2026, the Governor withdrew the nomination of ROGER BABCOCK, JR., to the Certification of Operating Personnel in Wastewater Treatment Plants, under Gov. Msg. No. 527, from consideration by the Senate, was placed on file.

In compliance with Gov. Msg. No. 799, the nomination listed under Gov. Msg. No. 527 was returned.

**STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Senator McKelvey, for the Committee on Government Operations, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 3399), recommending that S.C.R. No. 74 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. 74, entitled: "SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE AUDITOR TO CONDUCT AN AUDIT OF NO-BID CONTRACTS ISSUED BY STATE AND COUNTY AGENCIES UNDER PROCLAMATIONS DECLARING STATES OF EMERGENCY DURING THE SIX-YEAR PERIOD BETWEEN JANUARY 1, 2020, AND DECEMBER 31, 2025," was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Senator McKelvey, for the Committee on Government Operations, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 3400), recommending that S.R. No. 68 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. 68, entitled: "SENATE RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE AUDITOR TO CONDUCT AN AUDIT OF NO-BID CONTRACTS ISSUED BY STATE AND COUNTY AGENCIES UNDER PROCLAMATIONS DECLARING STATES OF EMERGENCY DURING THE SIX-YEAR PERIOD BETWEEN JANUARY 1, 2020, AND DECEMBER 31, 2025," was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

**ORDER OF THE DAY**

At this time, Senator San Buenaventura, Chair of the Committee on Health and Human Services, rose to request a waiver of the public notice requirement pursuant to Senate Rule 21 for Gov. Msg. No. 710.

Senator San Buenaventura noted:

**REMARKS**

The Chair granted the waiver.

Senator San Buenaventura announced that the Committee on Health and Human Services would be holding a public hearing on the measure the following day at 1:00 p.m. in Conference Room 225.

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 announced that there would be a leadership meeting in Room 409 immediately following adjournment and the greeting of honored guests.

#### 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 11:53 a.m., the Senate took the following actions on the following resolutions and standing committee reports:

Senator Lee, for the Committee on Water, Land, Culture and the Arts, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 3401) recommending that S.C.R. No. 108, 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. 108, S.D. 1, entitled: “SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF THREE PERPETUAL, NON-EXCLUSIVE EASEMENTS COVERING PORTIONS OF STATE SUBMERGED LANDS AT WAIALAE, HONOLULU, OAHU, FOR EXISTING DRAINAGE PURPOSES, AND FOR USE, OPERATION, REPAIR, AND MAINTENANCE OF THE EXISTING IMPROVEMENTS CONSTRUCTED THEREON,” 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. 3402) recommending that S.C.R. No. 76, 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. 76, S.D. 1, entitled: “SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE AUDITOR TO ASSESS THE SOCIAL AND FINANCIAL EFFECTS OF MANDATORY HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR BIOMARKER TESTING,” 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. 3403), recommending that S.C.R. No. 150 be referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

On motion by Senator Wakai, seconded by Senator DeCorte and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.C.R. No. 150, entitled: “SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE GOVERNOR TO OBTAIN A CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE EXEMPTION FROM THE DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION FOR REGISTERED MEDICAL CANNABIS PATIENTS AND REGISTRATION WAIVERS FOR STATE-LICENSED DISPENSARIES,” was referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Senator San Buenaventura, for the Committee on Health and Human Services, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 3404), recommending that S.R. No. 141 be referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

On motion by Senator Wakai, seconded by Senator DeCorte and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.R. No. 141, entitled: “SENATE RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE GOVERNOR TO OBTAIN A CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE EXEMPTION FROM THE DRUG

ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION FOR REGISTERED MEDICAL CANNABIS PATIENTS AND REGISTRATION WAIVERS FOR STATE-LICENSED DISPENSARIES,” was referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Senator Fukunaga, for the Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 3405), recommending that S.C.R. No. 69 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. 69, entitled: “SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE STATE AUDITOR TO CONDUCT A PERFORMANCE AUDIT OF THE HAWAII STATE BUILDING CODE COUNCIL,” was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Senator Fukunaga, for the Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 3406), recommending that S.R. No. 64 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. 64, entitled: “SENATE RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE STATE AUDITOR TO CONDUCT A PERFORMANCE AUDIT OF THE HAWAII STATE BUILDING CODE COUNCIL,” was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Senators Fukunaga and Wakai, for the Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs and the Committee on Energy and Intergovernmental Affairs, presented a joint report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 3407), recommending that S.C.R. No. 25 be referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

On motion by Senator Wakai, seconded by Senator DeCorte and carried, the joint report of the Committees was adopted and S.C.R. No. 25, entitled: “SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION OPPOSING CONDEMNATION OR THREATS OF CONDEMNATION BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO TAKE CONTROL OF POHAKULOA AND ANY STATE LAND,” was referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Senators Fukunaga and Wakai, for the Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs and the Committee on Energy and Intergovernmental Affairs, presented a joint report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 3408), recommending that S.R. No. 22 be referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

On motion by Senator Wakai, seconded by Senator DeCorte and carried, the joint report of the Committees was adopted and S.R. No. 22, entitled: “SENATE RESOLUTION OPPOSING CONDEMNATION OR THREATS OF CONDEMNATION BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO TAKE CONTROL OF POHAKULOA AND ANY STATE LAND,” was referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

#### ADJOURNMENT

At 5:00 p.m., the Senate adjourned until 11:30 a.m., Wednesday, April 1, 2026.