

FIFTY-THIRD DAY

Tuesday, April 28, 2026

The Senate of the Thirty-Third Legislature of the State of Hawai'i, Regular Session of 2026, convened at 12:05 p.m. with the President in the Chair.

The Roll was called showing all Senators present.

The Chair announced that he had read and approved the Journal of the Fifty-Second Day.

Senator Wakai introduction

HOUSE COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications from the House (Hse. Com. Nos. 840 to 872) were read by the Clerk and were disposed of as follows:

Hse. Com. No. 840, informing the Senate that on April 27, 2026, the Speaker appointed conferees on the part of the House for the consideration of amendments proposed by the House to the following Senate bills:

S.B. No. 903, S.D. 2 (H.D. 2):

Representatives Tarnas, Keohokapu-Lee Loy, co-chairs; Kahaloa, Garcia.

S.B. No. 2101, S.D. 1 (H.D. 1):

Representatives Lowen, Perruso, co-chairs; Matsumoto.

S.B. No. 2550, S.D. 1 (H.D. 1):

Representatives Woodson, Yamashita, co-chairs; La Chica, Olds, Souza.

S.B. No. 2983, S.D. 1 (H.D. 1):

Representatives Tarnas, chair; Poepoe, Garcia,
was placed on file.

Hse. Com. No. 841, informing the Senate that on April 27, 2026, the Speaker appointed conferees on the part of the House for the consideration of amendments proposed by the Senate to the following House bill:

H.B. No. 2433, H.D. 1 (S.D. 1):

Representatives Tarnas, chair; Perruso, Poepoe, Garcia,
was placed on file.

Hse. Com. No. 842, returning S.C.R. No. 8, which was adopted by the House of Representatives on April 27, 2026, was placed on file.

Hse. Com. No. 843, returning S.C.R. No. 20, S.D. 1, which was adopted by the House of Representatives on April 27, 2026, was placed on file.

Hse. Com. No. 844, returning S.C.R. No. 28, S.D. 1, which was adopted by the House of Representatives on April 27, 2026, was placed on file.

Hse. Com. No. 845, returning S.C.R. No. 32, which was adopted by the House of Representatives on April 27, 2026, was placed on file.

Hse. Com. No. 846, returning S.C.R. No. 40, which was adopted by the House of Representatives on April 27, 2026, was placed on file.

Hse. Com. No. 847, returning S.C.R. No. 48, which was adopted by the House of Representatives on April 27, 2026, was placed on file.

Hse. Com. No. 848, returning S.C.R. No. 55, which was adopted by the House of Representatives on April 27, 2026, was placed on file.

Hse. Com. No. 849, returning S.C.R. No. 57, S.D. 1, which was adopted by the House of Representatives on April 27, 2026, was placed on file.

Hse. Com. No. 850, returning S.C.R. No. 69, which was adopted by the House of Representatives on April 27, 2026, was placed on file.

Hse. Com. No. 851, returning S.C.R. No. 74, which was adopted by the House of Representatives on April 27, 2026, was placed on file.

Hse. Com. No. 852, returning S.C.R. No. 83, which was adopted by the House of Representatives on April 27, 2026, was placed on file.

Hse. Com. No. 853, returning S.C.R. No. 87, which was adopted by the House of Representatives on April 27, 2026, was placed on file.

Hse. Com. No. 854, returning S.C.R. No. 94, which was adopted by the House of Representatives on April 27, 2026, was placed on file.

Hse. Com. No. 855, returning S.C.R. No. 99, S.D. 1, which was adopted by the House of Representatives on April 27, 2026, was placed on file.

Hse. Com. No. 856, returning S.C.R. No. 114, S.D. 1, which was adopted by the House of Representatives on April 27, 2026, was placed on file.

Hse. Com. No. 857, returning S.C.R. No. 139, which was adopted by the House of Representatives on April 27, 2026, was placed on file.

Hse. Com. No. 858, returning S.C.R. No. 160, which was adopted by the House of Representatives on April 27, 2026, was placed on file.

Hse. Com. No. 859, returning S.C.R. No. 165, S.D. 1, which was adopted by the House of Representatives on April 27, 2026, was placed on file.

Hse. Com. No. 860, returning S.C.R. No. 177, which was adopted by the House of Representatives on April 27, 2026, was placed on file.

Hse. Com. No. 861, returning S.C.R. No. 178, which was adopted by the House of Representatives on April 27, 2026, was placed on file.

Hse. Com. No. 862, returning S.C.R. No. 179, which was adopted by the House of Representatives on April 27, 2026, was placed on file.

Hse. Com. No. 863, returning S.C.R. No. 41, S.D. 1, as amended in H.D. 1, which was adopted by the House of Representatives on April 27, 2026, was placed on file.

On motion by Senator Wakai, seconded by Senator DeCorte and carried, the Senate disagreed to the amendments proposed by the House to S.C.R. No. 41, S.D. 1, and requested a conference on the subject matter thereof.

Hse. Com. No. 864, returning S.C.R. No. 78, S.D. 1, as amended in H.D. 1, which was adopted by the House of Representatives on April 27, 2026, was placed on file.

On motion by Senator Wakai, seconded by Senator DeCorte and carried, the Senate disagreed to the amendments proposed by the House to S.C.R. No. 78, S.D. 1, and requested a conference on the subject matter thereof.

Hse. Com. No. 865, returning S.C.R. No. 90, as amended in H.D. 1, which was adopted by the House of Representatives on April 27, 2026, was placed on file.

On motion by Senator Wakai, seconded by Senator DeCorte and carried, the Senate disagreed to the amendments proposed by the House to S.C.R. No. 90, and requested a conference on the subject matter thereof.

Hse. Com. No. 866, returning S.C.R. No. 130, as amended in H.D. 1, which was adopted by the House of Representatives on April 27, 2026, was placed on file.

On motion by Senator Wakai, seconded by Senator DeCorte and carried, the Senate disagreed to the amendments proposed by the House to S.C.R. No. 130, and requested a conference on the subject matter thereof.

Hse. Com. No. 867, returning S.C.R. No. 159, S.D. 1, as amended in H.D. 2, which was adopted by the House of Representatives on April 27, 2026, was placed on file.

On motion by Senator Wakai, seconded by Senator DeCorte and carried, the Senate disagreed to the amendments proposed by the House to S.C.R. No. 159, S.D. 1, and requested a conference on the subject matter thereof.

Hse. Com. No. 868, returning S.C.R. No. 162, S.D. 1, as amended in H.D. 1, which was adopted by the House of Representatives on April 27, 2026, was placed on file.

On motion by Senator Wakai, seconded by Senator DeCorte and carried, the Senate disagreed to the amendments proposed by the House to S.C.R. No. 162, S.D. 1, and requested a conference on the subject matter thereof.

Hse. Com. No. 869, returning S.C.R. No. 173, S.D. 1, as amended in H.D. 1, which was adopted by the House of Representatives on April 27, 2026, was placed on file.

On motion by Senator Wakai, seconded by Senator DeCorte and carried, the Senate disagreed to the amendments proposed by the House to S.C.R. No. 173, S.D. 1, and requested a conference on the subject matter thereof.

The Chair announced:

“Conferees may be named at a later date.”

Hse. Com. No. 870, informing the Senate that on April 27, 2026, the Speaker appointed conferees on the part of the House for the consideration of amendments proposed by the House to the following Senate bills:

S.B. No. 2024, S.D. 2 (H.D. 1):

Representatives Woodson, Lee, co-chairs; La Chica, Olds, Souza.

S.B. No. 2075, S.D. 1 (H.D. 2):

Representatives Ilagan, Hussey, co-chairs; Gedeon.

S.B. No. 2730, S.D. 2 (H.D. 1):

Representatives Tarnas, chair; Poepoe, Garcia,
was placed on file.

Hse. Com. No. 871, informing the Senate that on April 27, 2026, the Speaker appointed conferees on the part of the House for the consideration of amendments proposed by the Senate to the following House bill:

H.B. No. 2581, H.D. 2 (S.D. 2):

Representatives Belatti, Tarnas, Morikawa, co-chairs; Shimizu,

was placed on file.

Hse. Com. No. 872, informing the Senate that on April 28, 2026, the House made the following changes to the conferees on the following bills:

S.B. No. 2050, S.D. 1 (H.D. 2)

Representative Matayoshi added as co-chair.

Representative Grandinetti discharged as co-chair.

S.B. No. 2471, S.D. 2 (H.D. 2)

Representative Keohokapu-Lee Loy added as co-chair,

was placed on file.

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORTS

Senator Rhoads, for the Committee on Conference on the disagreeing vote of the Senate to the amendments proposed by the House to S.B. No. 2466, presented a report (Conf. Com. Rep. No. 2-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2466, H.D. 2, as amended in C.D. 1, pass Final Reading.

In accordance with Article III, Section 15 of the Constitution of the State of Hawai‘i, action on Conf. Com. Rep. No. 2-26 and S.B. No. 2466, H.D. 2, C.D. 1, entitled: “A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE CHIEF ELECTIONS OFFICER,” was deferred for a period of 48 hours.

Senator Inouye, for the Committee on Conference on the disagreeing vote of the House to the amendments proposed by the Senate to H.B. No. 1163, H.D. 1, presented a report (Conf. Com. Rep. No. 3-26) recommending that H.B. No. 1163, H.D. 1, S.D. 2, as amended in C.D. 1, pass Final Reading.

In accordance with Article III, Section 15 of the Constitution of the State of Hawai‘i, action on Conf. Com. Rep. No. 3-26 and H.B. No. 1163, H.D. 1, S.D. 2, C.D. 1, entitled: “A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO COMMERCIAL DRIVERS LICENSING,” was deferred for a period of 48 hours.

Senator Elefante, for the Committee on Conference on the disagreeing vote of the House to the amendments proposed by the Senate to H.B. No. 1514, H.D. 2, presented a report (Conf. Com. Rep. No. 4-26) recommending that H.B. No. 1514, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, as amended in C.D. 1, pass Final Reading.

In accordance with Article III, Section 15 of the Constitution of the State of Hawai‘i, action on Conf. Com. Rep. No. 4-26 and H.B. No. 1514, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, C.D. 1, entitled: “A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO WORKERS’ COMPENSATION,” was deferred for a period of 48 hours.

Senator Elefante, for the Committee on Conference on the disagreeing vote of the Senate to the amendments proposed by the House to S.B. No. 3082, S.D. 1, presented a report (Conf. Com. Rep. No. 5-26) recommending that S.B. No. 3082, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, as amended in C.D. 1, pass Final Reading.

In accordance with Article III, Section 15 of the Constitution of the State of Hawai‘i, action on Conf. Com. Rep. No. 5-26 and S.B. No. 3082, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, C.D. 1, entitled: “A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO MILITARY FAMILIES,” was deferred for a period of 48 hours.

Senator Elefante, for the Committee on Conference on the disagreeing vote of the Senate to the amendments proposed by the House to S.B. No. 2135, S.D. 2, presented a report (Conf. Com. Rep. No. 6-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2135, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, as amended in C.D. 1, pass Final Reading.

In accordance with Article III, Section 15 of the Constitution of the State of Hawai'i, action on Conf. Com. Rep. No. 6-26 and S.B. No. 2135, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, C.D. 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO PRIVACY," was deferred for a period of 48 hours.

Senator Rhoads, for the Committee on Conference on the disagreeing vote of the Senate to the amendments proposed by the House to S.B. No. 2727, presented a report (Conf. Com. Rep. No. 7-26) recommending that S.B. No. 2727, H.D. 1, as amended in C.D. 1, pass Final Reading.

In accordance with Article III, Section 15 of the Constitution of the State of Hawai'i, action on Conf. Com. Rep. No. 7-26 and S.B. No. 2727, H.D. 1, C.D. 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO DISCRIMINATION," was deferred for a period of 48 hours.

Senator Elefante, for the Committee on Conference on the disagreeing vote of the Senate to the amendments proposed by the House to S.B. No. 3097, S.D. 1, presented a report (Conf. Com. Rep. No. 8-26) recommending that S.B. No. 3097, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, as amended in C.D. 1, pass Final Reading.

In accordance with Article III, Section 15 of the Constitution of the State of Hawai'i, action on Conf. Com. Rep. No. 8-26 and S.B. No. 3097, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, C.D. 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE EXEMPTION FROM CIVIL SERVICE OF EXECUTIVE PERSONNEL OF THE EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM," was deferred for a period of 48 hours.

Senator Inouye, for the Committee on Conference on the disagreeing vote of the House to the amendments proposed by the Senate to H.B. No. 1696, H.D. 2, presented a report (Conf. Com. Rep. No. 9-26) recommending that H.B. No. 1696, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, as amended in C.D. 1, pass Final Reading.

In accordance with Article III, Section 15 of the Constitution of the State of Hawai'i, action on Conf. Com. Rep. No. 9-26 and H.B. No. 1696, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, C.D. 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO COMMERCIAL DRIVER'S LICENSES," was deferred for a period of 48 hours.

Senator Inouye, for the Committee on Conference on the disagreeing vote of the House to the amendments proposed by the Senate to H.B. No. 2021, H.D. 2, presented a report (Conf. Com. Rep. No. 10-26) recommending that H.B. No. 2021, H.D. 2, S.D. 2, as amended in C.D. 1, pass Final Reading.

In accordance with Article III, Section 15 of the Constitution of the State of Hawai'i, action on Conf. Com. Rep. No. 10-26 and H.B. No. 2021, H.D. 2, S.D. 2, C.D. 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION," was deferred for a period of 48 hours.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Senator Kim, for the Committee on Education, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 3932) recommending that the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of ANNE MARIE MATSUZAKI to the Hawai'i Commission for National and Community Service, in accordance with Gov. Msg. No. 744.

In accordance with Senate Rule 37(6), action on Stand. Com. Rep. No. 3932 and Gov. Msg. No. 744 was deferred until Wednesday, April 29, 2026.

Senator Kim, for the Committee on Education, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 3933) recommending that the

Senate advise and consent to the nomination of CHERYL CUDIAMAT to the Early Learning Board, in accordance with Gov. Msg. No. 752.

In accordance with Senate Rule 37(6), action on Stand. Com. Rep. No. 3933 and Gov. Msg. No. 752 was deferred until Wednesday, April 29, 2026.

Senator Kim, for the Committee on Education, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 3934) recommending that the Senate advise and consent to the nominations to the Board of Regents of the University of Hawai'i of the following:

MARIE LADERTA, in accordance with Gov. Msg. No. 804; and

KEITH AMEMIYA, in accordance with Gov. Msg. No. 805.

In accordance with Senate Rule 37(6), action on Stand. Com. Rep. No. 3934 and Gov. Msg. Nos. 804 and 805 was deferred until Wednesday, April 29, 2026.

Senator Kim, for the Committee on Education, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 3935) recommending that the Senate advise and consent to the nominations to the Board of Directors of the Research Corporation of the University of Hawai'i of the following:

MICHAEL NEDBAL, in accordance with Gov. Msg. No. 695; and

DAVID KARL, in accordance with Gov. Msg. No. 802.

In accordance with Senate Rule 37(6), action on Stand. Com. Rep. No. 3935 and Gov. Msg. Nos. 695 and 802 was deferred until Wednesday, April 29, 2026.

Senator Kim, for the Committee on Education, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 3936) recommending that the Senate advise and consent to the nominations to the Hawai'i Medical Education Council of the following:

CHRISTOPHER YHEULON, in accordance with Gov. Msg. No. 507;

JUDE DOMIZIO, in accordance with Gov. Msg. No. 659;

LANCE SEGAWA, in accordance with Gov. Msg. No. 665;

MARTINA KAMAKA, in accordance with Gov. Msg. No. 666;

COLLEEN INOUE BAUM, in accordance with Gov. Msg. No. 667;

TAMMY HO, in accordance with Gov. Msg. No. 668;

MARY ANN SPADARO ANTONELLI, in accordance with Gov. Msg. No. 669; and

RUSSELL WOO, in accordance with Gov. Msg. No. 670.

In accordance with Senate Rule 37(6), action on Stand. Com. Rep. No. 3936 and Gov. Msg. Nos. 507, 659, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, and 670 was deferred until Wednesday, April 29, 2026.

ORDER OF THE DAY

ADVISE AND CONSENT

Stand. Com. Rep. No. 3930 (Gov. Msg. No. 551):

Senator San Buenaventura moved that Stand. Com. Rep. No. 3930 be received and placed on file, seconded by Senator McKelvey and carried.

Senator San Buenaventura then moved that the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of AMANDA LUNING to the

State Council on Developmental Disabilities, term to expire June 30, 2029, seconded by Senator McKelvey.

The motion was put by the Chair and carried on the following showing of Ayes and Noes:

Ayes, 25. Noes, none.

Stand. Com. Rep. No. 3931 (Gov. Msg. No. 673):

Senator San Buenaventura moved that Stand. Com. Rep. No. 3931 be received and placed on file, seconded by Senator McKelvey and carried.

Senator San Buenaventura then moved that the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of BRONSON KOBAYASHI to the Commission on Fatherhood, term to expire June 30, 2029, seconded by Senator McKelvey.

The motion was put by the Chair and carried on the following showing of Ayes and Noes:

Ayes, 25. Noes, none.

ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION

MATTER DEFERRED FROM MONDAY, APRIL 27, 2026

Stand. Com. Rep. No. 3929 (S.R. No. 20, S.D. 1):

On motion by Senator Wakai, seconded by Senator DeCorte and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.R. No. 20, S.D. 1, entitled: "SENATE RESOLUTION URGING AN IMMEDIATE AND PERMANENT CEASEFIRE AND AN END TO HOSTILITIES IN IRAN," was adopted, with Senators DeCorte and Fevella voting "No."

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

RECONSIDERATION OF ACTIONS TAKEN

S.C.R. No. 110, S.D. 1 (H.D. 1):

Senator Inouye moved that the Senate reconsider its action taken on April 17, 2026, in disagreeing to the amendments proposed by the House to S.C.R. No. 110, S.D. 1, seconded by Senator Wakai and carried.

Senator Inouye then moved that the Senate agree to the amendments proposed by the House to S.C.R. No. 110, S.D. 1, seconded by Senator Wakai.

Senator Inouye noted:

REMARKS

The motion was put by the Chair and carried, the Senate agreed to the amendments proposed by the House to S.C.R. No. 110, S.D. 1, and S.C.R. No. 110, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, entitled: "SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, IN COORDINATION WITH THE HAWAII HOUSING FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION, TO CONVENE A WORKING GROUP TO EVALUATE THE FEASIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING STATE-OWNED OR STATE-CONTROLLED WAREHOUSE AND LOGISTICS FACILITIES NEAR PORTS, HARBORS, AND AIRPORTS TO REDUCE MATERIAL COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH PUBLICLY FINANCED HOUSING PROJECTS," was placed on the calendar for Final Adoption on Wednesday, April 29, 2026.

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

REMARKS

Senator San Buenaventura introduction

The Chair announced that there would be a leadership meeting in Room 409 immediately following adjournment.

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

REMARKS

APPOINTMENT OF CONFEREES

S.B. No. 2090 (H.D. 1):

In accordance with the disagreement of the Senate to the amendments proposed by the House to S.B. No. 2090, and the request for a conference on the subject matter thereof, the President appointed Senators San Buenaventura, chair; Rhoads, co-chair; McKelvey as manager on the part of the Senate at such conference.

S.B. No. 2140, S.D. 1 (H.D. 2):

In accordance with the disagreement of the Senate to the amendments proposed by the House to S.B. No. 2140, S.D. 1, and the request for a conference on the subject matter thereof, the President appointed Senators Elefante, chair; Rhoads, Ihara, co-chairs on the part of the Senate at such conference.

S.B. No. 2268, S.D. 2 (H.D. 1):

In accordance with the disagreement of the Senate to the amendments proposed by the House to S.B. No. 2268, S.D. 2, and the request for a conference on the subject matter thereof, the President appointed Senators McKelvey, chair; San Buenaventura, Keohokalole, Kanuha, co-chairs; Awa as manager on the part of the Senate at such conference.

S.B. No. 2353, S.D. 2 (H.D. 2):

In accordance with the disagreement of the Senate to the amendments proposed by the House to S.B. No. 2353, S.D. 2, and the request for a conference on the subject matter thereof, the President appointed Senators DeCoite, chair; McKelvey, Wakai, co-chairs on the part of the Senate at such conference.

S.B. No. 2852, S.D. 1 (H.D. 2):

In accordance with the disagreement of the Senate to the amendments proposed by the House to S.B. No. 2852, S.D. 1, and the request for a conference on the subject matter thereof, the President appointed Senators San Buenaventura, chair; Elefante, Rhoads, McKelvey, co-chairs on the part of the Senate at such conference.

S.B. No. 2928, S.D. 1 (H.D. 1):

In accordance with the disagreement of the Senate to the amendments proposed by the House to S.B. No. 2928, S.D. 1, and the request for a conference on the subject matter thereof, the President appointed Senators McKelvey, chair; Kanuha, co-chair; Fevella as manager on the part of the Senate at such conference.

H.B. No. 1166, H.D. 1 (S.D. 1):

In accordance with the disagreement of the House to the amendments proposed by the Senate to H.B. No. 1166, H.D. 1, and the request for a conference on the subject matter thereof, the President appointed Senators Inouye, chair; Kim, co-chair; DeCorte as manager on the part of the Senate at such conference.

H.B. No. 1481, H.D. 2 (S.D. 1):

The President appointed Senator Lamosao as co-chair and appointed Senator McKelvey as manager on the part of the Senate at the conference to be held for the consideration of amendments proposed by the Senate to H.B. No. 1481, H.D. 2.

H.B. No. 2505, H.D. 1 (S.D. 1):

In accordance with the disagreement of the House to the amendments proposed by the Senate to H.B. No. 2505, H.D. 1, and the request for a conference on the subject matter thereof, the President appointed Senators San Buenaventura, chair; Rhoads, co-chair; Fevella as manager on the part of the Senate at such conference.

H.B. No. 2581, H.D. 2 (S.D. 2):

In accordance with the disagreement of the House to the amendments proposed by the Senate to H.B. No. 2581, H.D. 2, and the request for a conference on the subject matter thereof, the President appointed Senators Fukunaga, chair; DeCoite, co-chair; Inouye, DeCorte as managers on the part of the Senate at such conference.

ADJOURNMENT

At 12:16 p.m., on motion by Senator Wakai, seconded by Senator DeCorte and carried, the Senate adjourned until 6:30 p.m., Wednesday, April 29, 2026, on a rising vote, observing a moment of silence in memory of Sam Hunt.