

FORTY-FIRST DAY

Thursday, March 28, 2002

The Senate of the Twenty-First Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2002, convened at 11:44 o'clock a.m. with the President in the Chair.

The Divine Blessing was invoked by Pastor Gerald Chinen, Well Spring Covenant, after which the Roll was called showing all Senators present with the exception of Senators Hemmings and Matsuura who were excused.

The President announced that he had read and approved the Journal of the Fortieth Day.

Senator Matsunaga introduced and congratulated the following winners of the 2002 Spark Matsunaga World Peace Poster Contest: Tanya Ferreira, grand prize winner; and Charissa Wittig, Chelsey Kaneshiro and Reyn Nishizuka, merit winners. Accompanying the winners were the following sponsors of the Peace with Aloha Calendars: Patty Jo Chong, AT&T; Bernard Ho, HMSA; Jon Yoshimura, Honolulu City Council; and Lt. Governor Mazie Hirono.

Senator Kawamoto then introduced Admiral Dennis C. Blair, Commander in Chief, U.S. Pacific Command, and his wife, Diane, and expressed the Senate's sincere appreciation to both of them for fostering successful partnerships between the military community and the State of Hawaii.

At this time, President Bunda invited Admiral Blair to the podium to address the members of the Senate.

Admiral Blair addressed the Senate as follows:

"I certainly have to thank President Bunda and Senator Kawamoto for arranging this presentation. It's been about 3½ years since you welcomed Diane and me here in Hawaii and this is, for us, our third time living here. I was here as a youngster going to Kainalu Elementary school . . . going to school barefoot. I was again here as a naval station commander and now as the CINC.

"For those of you who've lived in Hawaii all your lives, I can tell you you're truly blessed. You have a beautiful state and a population of very patriotic Americans and it's a pleasure to have shared your island.

"During these past three years, we've been through a lot of good times and we've been through some tough times together. Your university defeated both my alma maters – the Naval Academy and the Air Force Academy – at the Aloha Stadium. The Navy loss was particularly difficult, although it was a thrilling game, because I lost a bet to Senator Kawamoto at the time and I had to pay up. (Laughter.)

"I had the pleasure of being able to fire the gun and run in three Great Aloha Runs and what a wonderful event that is, with our men and women in uniform running in formation and all of the citizens of Hawaii running side-by-side. It's just a fantastic event.

"On the sadder side, there was the collision of one of our submarines, the Greenville, last year with the Ehime Maru ship. Although that was a tragic event, in the end I believe it showed the strength of our relationship with Japan on many levels, because dealing with the aftermath of that was not only the responsibility of the Armed Forces of the United States and the Navy, but the people and the government of Hawaii stepped

forward in order to reach out to Japan and do everything that we could following that event.

"I participated in three Hawaii military appreciation celebrations. I've seen a lot of them around the country and no state does it better than Hawaii – thank you very much. That wonderful medal ceremony and parade for our Medal of Honor winners . . . it was heartwarming to see Hawaii's AJAs, our other World War II veterans, receive their long denied recognition, including our own Senator Inouye.

"And then there was the 11th of September and those in Hawaii I think particularly felt that attack not only because of our legacy but because of the Hawaiians who were there in the World Trade Center and some who were in the Pentagon who had served here in Hawaii. And as Senator Kawamoto mentioned, that event really pulled us together and I think we made this state as safe as any place in the United States following that.

"And then, finally, the 60th anniversary of the Pearl Harbor attack last year . . . a tremendous celebration. Many of the veterans returning with their families and a chance for all of us to say thank you to that great generation.

"I'd also like to thank the Senate for their help in the past three Sessions, especially those of Senator Kawamoto and Senator Sakamoto. Thank you very much for your strong leadership. I believe that working together, we in the armed forces and you in the Legislature of Hawaii have been able to make this a better place not only for those of us who wear the uniform and live here for a few years, but for all members of this great State.

"I know that my successor who's been nominated, Admiral Fargo, is no stranger to you. He's been part of your State for two years. He and his wife Sarah feel about Hawaii the way Diane and I feel about it, and I'm sure we will have this same sort of strong partnership that we've had in the past.

"So as I said, it was an honor to be welcomed by you three years ago; it's an honor to say aloha again to you now. Diane and I are deeply honored that you did this. We leave the islands, but we will retain the 'aloha spirit' forever. We will be a haole couple in Virginia in the immediate future – we'll take off our shoes before we enter the house; if you listen to our stereo there'll be Braddah Iz and Pure Heart being played; we've got that Sam Choy's cookbook out on our desk; and if you come visit us, we'll be glad to set you up with a nice plate lunch. (Laughter.)

"Mahalo nui loa, my friends, thank you very much."

Senator Kanno, in recognition of Prevent Child Abuse Hawaii's 20th anniversary, introduced the following individuals: Chuck Braden, Aileen Deese, Jennifer Murphy and Stacey Christianson.

At 12:22 o'clock p.m., the Senate stood in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

The Senate reconvened at 12:34 o'clock p.m.

HOUSE COMMUNICATION

Hse. Com. No. 320, informing the Senate that the House has disagreed to the amendments proposed by the Senate to the following House bills:

H.B. No. 1970 (S.D. 1);
 H.B. No. 2009, H.D. 1 (S.D. 1);
 H.B. No. 2305, H.D. 1 (S.D. 1);
 H.B. No. 2387, H.D. 1 (S.D. 1);
 H.B. No. 2427, H.D. 1 (S.D. 1); and
 H.B. No. 2438, H.D. 1 (S.D. 1),

was read by the Clerk and was placed on file.

ORDER OF THE DAY

ADVISE AND CONSENT

Stand. Com. Rep. No. 3082 (Gov. Msg. No. 237):

Senator Menor moved that Stand. Com. Rep. No. 3082 be received and placed on file, seconded by Senator Matsunaga and carried.

Senator Menor then moved that the Senate advise and consent to the nominations to the Public Utilities Commission of the following:

WAYNE H. KIMURA, terms to expire June 30, 2002, and June 30, 2008; and

JANET K. KAWELO, term to expire June 30, 2006,

seconded by Senator Matsunaga.

Senator Menor rose in favor of the nominees and said:

“Mr. President, I rise to speak in favor of Gov. Msg. No. 237.

“Mr. President, it’s a great pleasure for me to recommend to this body the confirmation of Wayne Kimura and Janet Kawelo to the positions on the Public Utilities Commission. As my colleagues are aware, both Mr. Kimura and Ms. Kawelo are exceptionally qualified individuals and are well recognized and experienced public servants in government for many years.

“Wayne Kimura has had very impressive professional experience which includes working as a budget analyst and researcher for the Senate Ways and Means Committee, program budget analyst for the former Department of Social Services and Housing, acting program budget analysis administrator for the Department of Budget and Finance, acting business services officer in the Lieutenant Governor’s Office, and as a planning and policy analyst in the Governor’s Office. More recently, Mr. Kimura served as Deputy Director of the Department of Budget and Finance and State Comptroller.

“Our other nominee, Janet Kawelo, also has a very distinguished record of government and private sector experience. For 14 years she was a research officer in the economic research division of First Hawaiian Bank. Using her expertise in economics, Ms. Kawelo helped the Senate Committee on Ways and Means draft and implement two constitutional amendments aimed at containing government spending via an expenditure ceiling. For eight years, the nominee worked as a researcher in the Lieutenant Governor’s Office then served as head researcher for the Governor. More recently, she served as Deputy Director of the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

“I would also like to add, Mr. President, that both of our nominees are currently serving as interim PUC commissioners and I have been informed that they have been doing an excellent job in those positions.

“There’s no question that the Public Utilities Commission will be facing some very complex and difficult issues in the future, but I’m confident, Mr. President, that both of our nominees will be up to the challenge of addressing these issues effectively on behalf of the people of Hawaii in that very important regulatory body.

“So, in that regard, I ask all of my colleagues to join me in supporting the confirmation of both of these gubernatorial nominees to the Public Utilities Commission.

“Thank you, Mr. President.”

Senator Slom rose in support of the nominees and said:

“Mr. President, I, too, rise on behalf of the Minority to give our support to the nominees, Mr. Kimura and Ms. Kawelo.

“I’ve known Ms. Kawelo for quite some time when we used to work across the street from each other – she at the bank that always said yes, unless you wanted a mortgage then they said no (laughter), and me at Bank of Hawaii. So I know her quite lengthy skills and diversification.

“We are very happy to support these nominees, but we will also tell you we will continue to hold your feet to the fire because we expect to see better things come from the Public Utilities Commission.

“Thank you, Mr. President.”

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

Ayes, 23. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Hemmings, Matsuura).

ADOPTION OF RESOLUTIONS

MATTERS DEFERRED FROM WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27, 2002

Stand. Com. Rep. No. 3077 (S.C.R. No. 43):

On motion by Senator English, seconded by Senator Hogue and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.C.R. No. 43, entitled: “SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ENCOURAGING ALL STATE AGENCIES TO DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO FOSTER COMPETITION IN THE INTERISLAND AIR TRANSPORTATION MARKET,” was adopted.

Stand. Com. Rep. No. 3078 (S.R. No. 24):

On motion by Senator English, seconded by Senator Hogue and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.R. No. 24, entitled: “SENATE RESOLUTION ENCOURAGING ALL STATE AGENCIES TO DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO FOSTER COMPETITION IN THE INTERISLAND AIR TRANSPORTATION MARKET,” was adopted.

Stand. Com. Rep. No. 3079 (S.C.R. No. 45):

On motion by Senator English, seconded by Senator Hogue and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.C.R. No. 45, entitled: “SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE PRESIDENT AND THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES TO TAKE ACTION NECESSARY TO HONOR OUR COUNTRY’S MORAL OBLIGATION TO PROVIDE FULL VETERANS BENEFITS

TO FILIPINO VETERANS OF THE UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES," was adopted.

Stand. Com. Rep. No. 3080 (S.R. No. 26):

On motion by Senator English, seconded by Senator Hogue and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and S.R. No. 26, entitled: "SENATE RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE PRESIDENT AND THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES TO TAKE ACTION NECESSARY TO HONOR OUR COUNTRY'S MORAL OBLIGATION TO PROVIDE FULL VETERANS BENEFITS TO FILIPINO VETERANS OF THE UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES," was adopted.

RE-REFERRAL OF HOUSE BILLS

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

House Bill	Referred to:
No. 57, H.D. 2	Committee on Judiciary
No. 2065, H.D. 1	Jointly to the Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Housing and the Committee on Health and Human Services

RE-REFERRAL OF SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTIONS

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

Senate Concurrent Resolution	Referred to:
No. 58	Jointly to the Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Housing, the Committee on Transportation, Military Affairs, and Government Operations and the Committee on Water, Land, Energy, and Environment, then to the Committee on Ways and Means
No. 154	Jointly to the Committee on Health and Human Services and the Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Housing

ADJOURNMENT

At 12:43 o'clock p.m., on motion by Senator English, seconded by Senator Hogue and carried, the Senate adjourned until 11:30 o'clock a.m., Monday, April 1, 2002.

Respectfully submitted,

Clerk of the Senate

Approved:

President of the Senate