

## SECOND DAY

Thursday, June 27, 2024

The Senate of the Thirty-Second Legislature of the State of Hawai'i, Special Session of 2024, convened at 11:02 a.m. with the President in the Chair.

The Roll was called showing all Senators present, with the exception of Senators Fukunaga, Gabbard, Ihara, Kidani, Kim, Richards, and San Buenaventura who were excused.

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

Senator Keohokalole introduced Vincent Tan, a Kalani High School graduate and summer intern studying psychology at Connecticut College. Accompanying him in the gallery was committee clerk Jaymee Weisberg.

The Chair, in good humor, expressed his hope that Mr. Tan's experience in the Senate would not lead him to change his major after "studying [their] psychology."

**ORDER OF THE DAY  
ADVISE AND CONSENT**

Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1 (Gov. Msg. No. 1):

Senator Rhoads moved that Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1 be received and placed on file, seconded by Senator Elefante and carried.

Senator Rhoads then moved that the Senate consent to the appointment of REBECCA COPELAND as Judge of the Circuit Court of the First Circuit, for a term of 10 years, seconded by Senator Elefante.

Senator Rhoads rose to speak in support of the appointee as follows:

**REMARKS**

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

Ayes, 16. Noes, 1 (Awa). Excused, 7 (Fukunaga, Gabbard, Ihara, Kidani, Kim, Richards, San Buenaventura).

Senator Rhoads introduced Judge Rebecca Copeland, who was present in the gallery with her husband, Jesse, and their daughter, Maya. Senator Rhoads noted that Judge Copeland would be filling the vacancy created by the retirement of Judge Gary Chang.

Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2 (Gov. Msg. No. 2):

Senator Rhoads moved that Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2 be received and placed on file, seconded by Senator Elefante and carried.

Senator Rhoads then moved that the Senate consent to the appointment of BRIAN COSTA as Judge of the Circuit Court of the First Circuit, for a term of 10 years, seconded by Senator Elefante.

Senator Rhoads rose to speak in support of the appointee as follows:

**REMARKS**

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

Ayes, 16. Noes, 1 (Awa). Excused, 7 (Fukunaga, Gabbard, Ihara, Kidani, Kim, Richards, San Buenaventura).

Senator Rhoads introduced Judge Brian Costa, who was present in the gallery with his wife, Thuan Costa, and wished to acknowledge his late mother, Jeannette Costa, as well as his father, James Costa, and brother Perry Costa, who were watching the live stream online. Senator Rhoads noted that Judge Costa would be filling the vacancy created by the retirement of Judge Jeffrey Crabtree.

Stand. Com. Rep. No. 3 (Gov. Msg. No. 3):

Senator Rhoads moved that Stand. Com. Rep. No. 3 be received and placed on file, seconded by Senator Elefante and carried.

Senator Rhoads then moved that the Senate consent to the appointment of DYAN MEDEIROS as Judge of the Circuit Court of the First Circuit, for a term of 10 years, seconded by Senator Elefante.

Senator Rhoads rose to speak in support of the appointee as follows:

**REMARKS**

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

Ayes, 17. Noes, none. Excused, 7 (Fukunaga, Gabbard, Ihara, Kidani, Kim, Richards, San Buenaventura).

The Chair made the following comments:

**REMARKS**

Senator Rhoads introduced Judge Dyan Medeiros, who was present in the gallery and wished to recognize her late father, Albert Medeiros, Jr.; her 'ohana; individuals from her Family Court 'ohana, including Girls Court; her colleague Chuck Kleintop; and her sister. Senator Rhoads noted that Judge Medeiros would be filling the vacancy created by the retirement of Judge R. Mark Browning.

Stand. Com. Rep. No. 4 (Gov. Msg. No. 4):

Senator Rhoads moved that Stand. Com. Rep. No. 4 be received and placed on file, seconded by Senator Elefante and carried.

Senator Rhoads then moved that the Senate consent to the appointment of STEVEN NICHOLS as Judge of the Circuit Court of the First Circuit, for a term of 10 years, seconded by Senator Elefante.

Senator Rhoads rose to speak in support of the appointee as follows:

**REMARKS**

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

Ayes, 17. Noes, none. Excused, 7 (Fukunaga, Gabbard, Ihara, Kidani, Kim, Richards, San Buenaventura).

Senator Rhoads introduced Judge Steven Nichols, who was present in the gallery with his wife, Dr. Sharon Nichols; their daughters, Arianna, Alexandria, and Aubree; and his parents, Richard and Cynthia Nichols. Senator Rhoads noted that Judge Nichols would be filling the vacancy created by the retirement of Judge Edward Kubo.

Senator Rhoads requested that, at the appropriate time, the new judges and their families descend to the floor for photos, and the Chair so ordered.

The Chair announced that the Sergeant-at-Arms would escort the new judges and their families to be greeted and congratulated by the members immediately after adjournment.

#### **SENATE RESOLUTION**

The following resolution (S.R. No. 1) was read by the Clerk and was disposed of as follows:

S.R. No. 1           “SENATE RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PRESIDENT TO APPROVE THE JOURNAL OF THE SENATE ON THIS FINAL DAY OF THE FIRST SPECIAL SESSION OF 2024.”

Offered by: Senator Kanuha.

On motion by Senator Wakai, seconded by Senator DeCoite and carried, S.R. No. 1 was adopted.

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

#### **REMARKS**

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Senator Wakai moved that the Senate of the Thirty-Second Legislature of the State of Hawai‘i, Special Session of 2024, adjourn Sine Die, seconded by Senator DeCoite and carried.

At 11:23 a.m., the President rapped his gavel and declared the Senate of the Thirty-Second Legislature of the State of Hawai‘i, Special Session of 2024, adjourned Sine Die.