

TWELFTH DAY

Monday, February 5, 2024

The House of Representatives of the Thirty-Second Legislature of the State of Hawai'i, Regular Session of 2024, convened at 12:01 p.m., with Vice Speaker Ilagan presiding.

The invocation was delivered by Representative Lisa Kitagawa, after which the Roll was called showing all members present with the exception of Representatives Cochran, Gates, Ichiyama, Kapela, and Nakashima, who were excused.

By unanimous consent, reading and approval of the Journal of the House of Representatives of the Eleventh Day was deferred.

INTRODUCTIONS

The following introduction was made to the members of the House:

Representative Morikawa introduced Koa Fuller and Nathaniel Fisher, boating advocates from Kaua'i.

ORDER OF THE DAY

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Representative Perruso, for the Committee on Higher Education & Technology, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 29-24) recommending that H.B. No. 2176, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Representative Nakamura moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 2176, HD 1 pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

Representative Ward rose to speak in support of the measure, stating:

"Mr. Speaker, gently, may I speak in favor of this bill, please? Mr. Speaker, I commend the authors for being ahead of the curve because AI is going to be a mainstream event, a mainstream phenomenon, a mainstream issue when it comes to facts, when it comes to campaigns. In fact, there's another bill that says if you use AI in your campaign literature, hey, cite it, just like they do in bibliographies when you're doing a paper at the university. The point is, we're ahead of the curve. And the point is, this stuff is going to come in really, it's going to meet us and hit us hard if we're not prepared. So, I commend the authors again. Thank you."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 2176, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, with Representatives Cochran, Gates, Kapela, and Nakashima being excused.

Representative Woodson, for the Committee on Education, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 30-24) recommending that H.B. No. 2620, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Labor & Government Operations.

On motion by Representative Nakamura, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 2620, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PROCUREMENT," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Labor & Government Operations, with Representatives Cochran, Gates, Kapela, and Nakashima being excused.

Representative Woodson, for the Committee on Education, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 31-24) recommending that H.B. No. 2774, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems.

On motion by Representative Nakamura, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 2774, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO LOCAL AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems, with Representatives Cochran, Gates, Kapela, and Nakashima being excused.

Representative Woodson, for the Committee on Education, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 32-24) recommending that H.B. No. 2403, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Finance.

On motion by Representative Nakamura, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 2403, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT MAKING AN EMERGENCY APPROPRIATION TO THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION FOR CHARTER SCHOOLS," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Finance, with Representatives Cochran, Gates, Kapela, and Nakashima being excused.

Representative Woodson, for the Committee on Education, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 33-24) recommending that H.B. No. 2402, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Finance.

On motion by Representative Nakamura, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 2402, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT MAKING AN EMERGENCY APPROPRIATION TO THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION FOR FOOD SERVICES," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Finance, with Representatives Cochran, Gates, Kapela, and Nakashima being excused.

Representative Woodson, for the Committee on Education, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 34-24) recommending that H.B. No. 2043, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

On motion by Representative Nakamura, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 2043, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, with Representatives Cochran, Gates, Kapela, and Nakashima being excused.

Representative Woodson, for the Committee on Education, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 35-24) recommending that H.B. No. 1969, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Finance.

Representative Nakamura moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 1969, HD 1 pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Finance, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

Representative Garcia rose to speak in support of the measure, stating:

"In support. I would just like to note that the original version of the bill was a lot better, which included fruit trees, and now it's been removed. So, still in support, but I would just like to see fruit trees planted everywhere. Thank you."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 1969, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Finance, with Representatives Cochran, Gates, Kapela, and Nakashima being excused.

Representative Woodson, for the Committee on Education, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 36-24) recommending that H.B. No. 1654, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Labor & Government Operations.

Representative Nakamura moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 1654, HD 1 pass Second Reading and be referred

to the Committee on Labor & Government Operations, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

Representative Perruso rose and asked that the Clerk record an aye vote with reservations for her, and the Chair "so ordered."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 1654, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Labor & Government Operations, with Representative Perruso voting aye with reservations, and with Representatives Cochran, Gates, Kapela, and Nakashima being excused.

Representative Woodson, for the Committee on Education, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 37-24) recommending that H.B. No. 1653, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Labor & Government Operations.

On motion by Representative Nakamura, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 1653, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Labor & Government Operations, with Representatives Cochran, Gates, Kapela, and Nakashima being excused.

Representative Woodson, for the Committee on Education, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 38-24) recommending that H.B. No. 1649, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Finance.

On motion by Representative Nakamura, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 1649, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Finance, with Representatives Cochran, Gates, Kapela, and Nakashima being excused.

Representative Woodson, for the Committee on Education, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 39-24) recommending that H.B. No. 1648, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

On motion by Representative Nakamura, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 1648, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, with Representatives Cochran, Gates, Kapela, and Nakashima being excused.

Representative Woodson, for the Committee on Education, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 40-24) recommending that H.B. No. 1614, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Finance.

On motion by Representative Nakamura, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 1614, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO TEACHERS," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Finance, with Representatives Cochran, Gates, Kapela, and Nakashima being excused.

Representative Woodson, for the Committee on Education, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 41-24) recommending that H.B. No. 1537, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Representative Nakamura moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 1537, HD 1 pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

Representative Garcia rose to speak in opposition to the measure, stating:

"Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In opposition. Mr. Speaker, increasing taxes is not the solution to solve Hawai'i's problems. A bill similar to this passed in 2018, which was ruled invalid by the Hawai'i State Supreme Court in less

than one month prior to the 2018 election. And even if this time the wording is different, it's still a creation of a new tax. Revenue is not the problem. It's the careless stewardship of tax dollars that's the problem.

"We don't have enough money for education. Really? The DOE forfeits hundreds of millions of dollars by mistake. The superintendent, who makes \$240,000 a year currently, is being considered for an increase to \$350,000 a year. Government is not the answer to our problems. Government is the creator of these problems. Stop increasing Hawai'i's cost of living. *Mahalo*."

Representative Alcos rose and asked that the Clerk record a no vote for him, and the Chair "so ordered."

Representative Pierick rose and asked that the Clerk record a no vote for him, and the Chair "so ordered."

Representative Ward rose to speak in opposition to the measure, stating:

"Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition. Mr. Speaker, this bill is the county being usurped by the state. We want to get in on the property tax issue. The Constitution was very clear, and the founders of the State of Hawai'i, and the founders and the writers of the Constitution of the State of Hawai'i were very clear. The right to tax property is that solely of the counties.

"We are aggressive. We are greedy. We are the ones who need all the money. And we say, well, we can overstep them because we're going to tax the rich who've got \$300 million houses. Mr. Speaker, there's a separation of state and county, and this thing goes over the line and it's a very bad precedent. In fact, we even open up the precedent, I think last year or the year before, we're allowing the counties to do their TAT. Sometimes we're going to have a Maui or a Kaua'i or a TAT that hits the roof. And we will have no control over it because we've let this genie out of the bottle. And taxation, you know, there's no limit to what we need in terms of funding government. There's no limit to what we need to just tax a little bit more, a little bit more.

"Which brings me to the conclusion of my speech. And that is, Mr. Speaker, we cannot keep slicing the pie thinner and thinner. Governor stood there the other day and said, 44% of all the Hawai'i families are ALICE families, asset limited income challenged earners, the working poor. Then he threw a real bomb and he said 63% of the Hawaiian families are ALICE families, the working poor, 63%. So, my question is this, Mr. Speaker, what the hell are we doing here, if we're not getting people jobs to get the money, instead of just slicing the pie thinner and thinner and giving you a tax break for this, giving you a tax break for that? Let's get them ready to have jobs that make money, they can put a roof over their head and they could put food on their family.

"This is just another grab in this bill, to say we're going to tax you more and we're going to give it to the state rather than to the counties. And the state needs to get an economy that's diversified. The state needs to get an economy that will put food on the table for these ALICE families, 63% of the Hawaiian families. Mr. Speaker, that's embarrassing. All of us should be embarrassed. One of our communities, 63% of the people cannot afford food or rent over them. We are not doing our job, Mr. Speaker. Having said that, I have no strong feelings about this bill."

Representative Woodson rose to speak in support of the measure, stating:

"Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In support. This proposal simply proposes a constitutional amendment for properties over \$3 million. One of the previous speakers indicated that our superintendent is paid perhaps too much, when in fact, he's paid actually less than what you see in comparable school districts. And it is also not true that the DOE actually forgoes lots of money each and every year. That is just an inaccurate statement. And for these reasons and others, I humbly recommend that we continue the proposal just to see if our other colleagues will support it as we move on through this session. Thank you."

Representative Perruso rose to speak in support of the measure, stating:

"Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And I appreciate the comments of the previous speakers. In strong support. So, I would just like to note that this measure would impose a property tax surcharge on non-owner-occupied residences valued at over \$3 million. And that those moneys would be used to fund not

just our Department of Education but our P20 system. So, funding for our pre-K through support for our university undergraduates.

"And I also want to speak to a couple of assertions that were made. The first is that there's a clear distinction and demarcation between the responsibilities of the counties and the state. We have overlapping areas of responsibilities. And in this particular area, the counties used to carry the responsibilities for facilities and transportation. They no longer contribute in any meaningful way to our public school system. This measure would change that by changing the Constitution. The Constitution is a living document. If it were frozen, we would see, I think, massive unrest. Amending the Constitution gives us a chance to change the structure of government.

"And I think another important assertion to address is that there is not already shared responsibility. So, it's my understanding that the counties enjoy access to GET funds, TAT funds. So, we are already sharing in these revenue-generating mechanisms. And this provides us another way to actually address this question of speculation in the islands by folks who, for the most part, the data shows, primarily do not live here. So, to use those funds to support our public education systems, I think is a valuable proposition. *Mahalo.*"

Representative Belatti rose to speak in support of the measure, stating:

"Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In strong support. Mr. Speaker, this measure would look at taxing properties over \$3 million. We can go even higher. Let me share with you a property that was sold in October 2023 in Park Lane, Ala Moana, according to the Honolulu Star-Advertiser, an unnamed wealthy buyer recently paid \$27.5 million for a penthouse condominium in Honolulu, eclipsing the peak pay for that same property of \$22 million when it was first sold six years ago new.

"Mr. Speaker, my husband and I scrimped and saved for over 15 years to buy a little piece of air in the sky that is valued under \$600,000. You can see that in my financial disclosure, maybe it's around \$700,000 now. This measure would not affect us. This measure is going to affect the wealthy, the uber wealthy that are purchasing, for the price of paradise, properties that are over millions of dollars. Not our local family, not our local people.

"So, if this is a measure that can be crafted and properly get at these unnamed wealthy buyers purchasing penthouses for over \$27.5 million, yes, let's do that. Let's consider that as an option for our public school students, for our public school teachers, for our public work employees, who day in and day out work to make the ALICE wages that they are desperately trying to make so they can afford a little piece of pie in the sky that is valued at under \$1 million, far under \$1 million. Thank you, Mr. Speaker."

Representative Amato rose in support of the measure and asked that the remarks of Representatives Belatti and Perruso be entered into the Journal as her own, and the Chair "so ordered." (By reference only.)

Representative Kobayashi rose to speak in support of the measure, stating:

"Mr. Speaker, in support. A point of clarification. This bill says that public funds may be appropriated but may not be appropriated for the support or benefit of any sectarian or nonsectarian private educational institution. But then it goes on to say, except that proceeds may be appropriated to finance or assist nonprofit corporations, nonprofit private and sectarian and nonsectarian schools, colleges, and universities. I believe that's a contradiction. I am also not sure that the DOE is a nonprofit organization. Thank you."

Representative Nakamura rose, stating:

"Mr. Speaker, I'd like to remind members that this bill is up for second reading and there are two additional committees that will be reviewing this bill. So, just want to remind members that there will be further discussion on this measure."

Representative Souza rose to speak in support of the measure, stating:

"Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In strong support, and I would request that the words from the representative from Makiki be inserted into the Journal as my own. Thank you," and the Chair "so ordered." (By reference only.)

Representative Matsumoto rose and asked that the Clerk record an aye vote with reservations for her, and the Chair "so ordered."

Representative Kong rose and asked that the Clerk record a no vote for him, and the Chair "so ordered."

Representative Ward rose, stating:

"Mr. Speaker, it's more of a point of order. Basically, it was in response and in reciprocal relationship to the majority leader who said, hey, this is only second reading. In my speech the other day, I said, remember, hey, minority, you guys are speaking on second reading. Well, the point is, majority, to remember that second reading is a way to flag what is the good, bad, and the ugly, and this is not one of the better-looking bills.

"The point is to catch these things early rather than say, at third reading. Third reading is like, boom, it's over with. The point is, we are a deliberative body. First reading is a giveaway. When people say, oh god, bill passed the first reading--"

The Chair addressed Representative Ward, stating:

"Representative Ward, I heard your point of order."

Representative Ward: "You heard the point of order. The point is to speak pejoratively against second reading, I take personally. And I think in the democratic process, it's out of order. Thank you."

Representative Garcia rose to respond, stating:

"Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Still in opposition. It was mentioned that this is just for the rich and for those who don't live here. I hear lots, tax the rich, tax the rich. Well, that's not going to solve Hawai'i's problems either. They say it's only for properties valued over \$3 million. Well, if you just look back 20 years ago, lots of properties which are currently valued closer to \$2 million was below \$1 million. So, in 10, 15, 20 years, a property value right now, if we continue in this direction of taxing the rich, taxing the rich, in 20 years, these \$1 million houses will end up being \$3 million and everyone's being taxed. No vote."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 1537, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT PROPOSING AMENDMENTS TO ARTICLES VIII AND X OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE STATE OF HAWAII TO AUTHORIZE THE LEGISLATURE TO ESTABLISH A SURCHARGE ON RESIDENTIAL INVESTMENT PROPERTY TO INCREASE FUNDING FOR PUBLIC EDUCATION," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, with Representative Matsumoto voting aye with reservations, with Representatives Alcos, Garcia, Kong, Pierick, and Ward voting no, and with Representatives Cochran, Gates, Kapela, and Nakashima being excused.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Transportation, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 42-24) recommending that H.B. No. 1981, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

On motion by Representative Nakamura, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 1981, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO TRAFFIC VIOLATIONS," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, with Representatives Cochran, Gates, Kapela, and Nakashima being excused.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Transportation, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 43-24) recommending that H.B. No. 1932, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

On motion by Representative Nakamura, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 1932, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, with Representatives Cochran, Gates, Kapela, and Nakashima being excused.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Transportation, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 44-24) recommending that H.B. No. 1997, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Representative Nakamura moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 1997, HD 1 pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

Representative Poepoe rose and asked that the Clerk record an aye vote with reservations for her, and the Chair "so ordered."

Representative Perruso rose and asked that the Clerk record an aye vote with reservations for her, and the Chair "so ordered."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 1997, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE INTERISLAND TRANSPORT OF HYDROGEN," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, with Representatives Perruso and Poepoe voting aye with reservations, and with Representatives Cochran, Gates, Kapela, and Nakashima being excused.

Representative Todd, for the Committee on Transportation, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 45-24) recommending that H.B. No. 2673, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Representative Nakamura moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 2673, HD 1 pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

Representative Ganaden rose to speak in support of the measure, stating:

"In strong support, Mr. Speaker. Potholes, broken street signs, consistent flooding. These are the kinds of things that we hear about all the time from our constituents, and that we often have to tell them that it's the responsibility of the county. I really commend the introducer and the previous committee for tackling this after many years. We have issues regarding private roads all throughout the state. This bill disproportionately affects working class communities and rural communities, where if we essentially force the hand of the county, we can really improve people's lives. Thank you."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 2673, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO ROADS," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, with Representatives Cochran, Gates, Kapela, and Nakashima being excused.

Representative Tarnas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 46-24) recommending that H.B. No. 1912 pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Finance.

On motion by Representative Nakamura, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 1912, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO JUDGES FOR THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE FIRST CIRCUIT," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Finance, with Representatives Cochran, Gates, Kapela, and Nakashima being excused.

Representative Tarnas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 47-24) recommending that H.B. No. 1593, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Finance.

On motion by Representative Nakamura, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 1593, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Finance, with Representatives Cochran, Gates, Kapela, and Nakashima being excused.

Representative Tarnas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 48-24) recommending that H.B. No. 1609, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Finance.

Representative Nakamura moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 1609, HD 1 pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Finance, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

Representative Garcia rose and asked that the Clerk record an aye vote with reservations for him, and the Chair "so ordered."

Representative Kong rose and asked that the Clerk record an aye vote with reservations for him, and the Chair "so ordered."

Representative Ward rose and asked that the Clerk record an aye vote with reservations for him, and the Chair "so ordered."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 1609, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Finance, with Representatives Garcia, Kong, and Ward voting aye with reservations, and with Representatives Cochran, Gates, Kapela, and Nakashima being excused.

Representatives Tarnas and Gates, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs and the Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 49-24) recommending that H.B. No. 1952, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Health & Homelessness.

On motion by Representative Nakamura, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committees was adopted and H.B. No. 1952, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO MEDICAL CANNABIS," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Health & Homelessness, with Representatives Cochran, Gates, Kapela, and Nakashima being excused.

Representatives Tarnas and Gates, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs and the Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 50-24) recommending that H.B. No. 2443, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Health & Homelessness.

On motion by Representative Nakamura, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committees was adopted and H.B. No. 2443, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO MEDICAL CANNABIS," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Health & Homelessness, with Representatives Cochran, Gates, Kapela, and Nakashima being excused.

Representatives Tarnas and Gates, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs and the Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 51-24) recommending that H.B. No. 2444, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

On motion by Representative Nakamura, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committees was adopted and H.B. No. 2444, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORD CHECKS," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, with Representatives Cochran, Gates, Kapela, and Nakashima being excused.

Representative Matayoshi, for the Committee on Labor & Government Operations, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 52-24) recommending that H.B. No. 2199, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

On motion by Representative Nakamura, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 2199, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, with Representatives Cochran, Gates, Kapela, and Nakashima being excused.

Representative Matayoshi, for the Committee on Labor & Government Operations, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 53-24) recommending that H.B. No. 1944, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

On motion by Representative Nakamura, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 1944, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO WORKERS' COMPENSATION," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, with Representatives Cochran, Gates, Kapela, and Nakashima being excused.

Representative Marten, for the Committee on Human Services, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 54-24) recommending that H.B. No. 1533, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Finance.

On motion by Representative Nakamura, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 1533, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO DEATH BENEFITS," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Finance, with Representatives Cochran, Gates, Kapela, and Nakashima being excused.

Representative Marten, for the Committee on Human Services, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 55-24) recommending that H.B. No. 2535, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Education.

On motion by Representative Nakamura, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 2535, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CHILD CARE," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Education, with Representatives Cochran, Gates, Kapela, and Nakashima being excused.

Representative Marten, for the Committee on Human Services, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 56-24) recommending that H.B. No. 2224, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Finance.

On motion by Representative Nakamura, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 2224, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO LONG-TERM CARE," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Finance, with Representatives Cochran, Gates, Kapela, and Nakashima being excused.

Representative Marten, for the Committee on Human Services, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 57-24) recommending that H.B. No. 1771, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Finance.

On motion by Representative Nakamura, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 1771, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE HAWAII HEALTH AGING PARTNERSHIP," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Finance, with Representatives Cochran, Gates, Kapela, and Nakashima being excused.

Representative Lowen, for the Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 58-24) recommending that H.B. No. 1687, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Representative Nakamura moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 1687, HD 1 pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

Representative Garcia rose and asked that the Clerk record a no vote for him, and the Chair "so ordered."

Representative Kong rose and asked that the Clerk record an aye vote with reservations for him, and the Chair "so ordered."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 1687, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO ENERGY RESILIENCY," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, with Representative Kong voting aye with reservations, with Representative Garcia voting no, and with Representatives Cochran, Gates, Kapela, and Nakashima being excused.

Representative Lowen, for the Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 59-24) recommending that H.B. No. 1970, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Representative Nakamura moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 1970, HD 1 pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

Representative Garcia rose and asked that the Clerk record a no vote for him, and the Chair "so ordered."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 1970, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO ENERGY," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, with Representative Garcia voting no, and with Representatives Cochran, Gates, Kapela, and Nakashima being excused.

Representative Lowen, for the Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 60-24) recommending that H.B. No. 1993, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

On motion by Representative Nakamura, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 1993, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO BEVERAGE CONTAINERS," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, with Representatives Cochran, Gates, Kapela, and Nakashima being excused.

Representative Lowen, for the Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 61-24) recommending that H.B. No. 2100, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Representative Nakamura moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 2100, HD 1 pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

Representative Garcia rose and asked that the Clerk record a no vote for him, and the Chair "so ordered."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 2100, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO ENERGY," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, with Representative Garcia voting no, and with Representatives Cochran, Gates, Kapela, and Nakashima being excused.

Representative Lowen, for the Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 62-24) recommending that H.B. No. 2517, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Representative Nakamura moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 2517, HD 1 pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

Representative Garcia rose and asked that the Clerk record a no vote for him, and the Chair "so ordered."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 2517, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO RENEWABLE ENERGY," passed Second

Reading and was referred to the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, with Representative Garcia voting no, and with Representatives Cochran, Gates, Kapela, and Nakashima being excused.

Representative Lowen, for the Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 63-24) recommending that H.B. No. 2616, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Representative Nakamura moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 2616, HD 1 pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

Representative Garcia rose and asked that the Clerk record a no vote for him, and the Chair "so ordered."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 2616, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTRIC VEHICLES," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, with Representative Garcia voting no, and with Representatives Cochran, Gates, Kapela, and Nakashima being excused.

Representative Lowen, for the Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 64-24) recommending that H.B. No. 2685, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Representative Nakamura moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 2685, HD 1 pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

Representative Garcia rose and asked that the Clerk record an aye vote with reservations for him, and the Chair "so ordered."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 2685, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO ENERGY," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, with Representative Garcia voting aye with reservations, and with Representatives Cochran, Gates, Kapela, and Nakashima being excused.

Representative Quinlan, for the Committee on Tourism, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 65-24) recommending that H.B. No. 2246, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Culture, Arts, & International Affairs.

On motion by Representative Nakamura, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 2246, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE STATE FOUNDATION ON CULTURE AND THE ARTS," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Culture, Arts, & International Affairs, with Representatives Cochran, Gates, Kapela, and Nakashima being excused.

Representative Quinlan, for the Committee on Tourism, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 66-24) recommending that H.B. No. 2735, as amended in HD 1, pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Culture, Arts, & International Affairs.

Representative Nakamura moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 2735, HD 1 pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Culture, Arts, & International Affairs, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

Representative Poepoe rose and asked that the Clerk record an aye vote with reservations for her, and the Chair "so ordered."

Representative Kahaloa rose to disclose a potential conflict of interest, stating:

"Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Requesting a ruling on a potential conflict. My fiancé is an employee at the Hawai'i Tourism Authority," and the Chair ruled, "no conflict."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 2735, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE HAWAII TOURISM AUTHORITY," passed Second Reading and was referred to the Committee on Culture, Arts, & International Affairs, with Representative Poepoe voting aye with reservations, and with Representatives Cochran, Gates, Kapela, and Nakashima being excused.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Representative Ward: "Mr. Speaker, I have a brief announcement. A heads up of what we put under everyone's door. It's the Lee Cataluna article about wake up, Honolulu. It's about the crime that's breaking out. I just hope everybody has a chance to read it. Thank you."

Representative Nakamura: "Please join me in wishing our chair of Human Services a happy birthday today."

LATE INTRODUCTIONS

The following late introduction was made to the members of the House:

Representative Ichiyama introduced Kalena Shea, member of the Honolulu City Youth Commission.

ADJOURNMENT

At 12:29 p.m., on motion by Representative Morikawa, seconded by Representative Garcia and carried, the House of Representatives adjourned until noon tomorrow, Tuesday, February 6, 2024. (Representatives Cochran, Gates, Kapela, and Nakashima were excused.)