

TWENTY-FIFTH DAY

Tuesday, March 4, 2025

The House of Representatives of the Thirty-Third Legislature of the State of Hawai‘i, Regular Session of 2025, convened at 9:16 a.m., with Speaker Nakamura presiding.

The Roll was called showing all members present with the exception of Representatives Pierick and Ward, who were excused.

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

SENATE COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications from the Senate (Sen. Com. Nos. 38 through 61) were received and announced by the Clerk:

Sen. Com. No. 38, transmitting S.B. No. 289, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO ETHICS ADMINISTRATIVE FINES," which passed Third Reading in the Senate on February 28, 2025.

Sen. Com. No. 39, transmitting S.B. No. 329, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO WATER POLLUTION," which passed Third Reading in the Senate on February 28, 2025.

Sen. Com. No. 40, transmitting S.B. No. 391, SD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO RECYCLING," which passed Third Reading in the Senate on February 28, 2025.

Sen. Com. No. 41, transmitting S.B. No. 436, SD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL," which passed Third Reading in the Senate on February 28, 2025.

Sen. Com. No. 42, transmitting S.B. No. 443, SD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO AGRICULTURAL LANDS," which passed Third Reading in the Senate on February 28, 2025.

Sen. Com. No. 43, transmitting S.B. No. 447, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO A DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH PILOT PROGRAM," which passed Third Reading in the Senate on February 28, 2025.

Sen. Com. No. 44, transmitting S.B. No. 448, SD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO AGRICULTURE," which passed Third Reading in the Senate on February 28, 2025.

Sen. Com. No. 45, transmitting S.B. No. 744, SD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CONDOMINIUMS," which passed Third Reading in the Senate on February 28, 2025.

Sen. Com. No. 46, transmitting S.B. No. 841, SD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO MARINE LIFE CONSERVATION DISTRICTS," which passed Third Reading in the Senate on February 28, 2025.

Sen. Com. No. 47, transmitting S.B. No. 865, SD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO AGRICULTURE," which passed Third Reading in the Senate on February 28, 2025.

Sen. Com. No. 48, transmitting S.B. No. 938, SD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION," which passed Third Reading in the Senate on February 28, 2025.

Sen. Com. No. 49, transmitting S.B. No. 1023, SD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE SPAYING AND NEUTERING OF ANIMALS," which passed Third Reading in the Senate on February 28, 2025.

Sen. Com. No. 50, transmitting S.B. No. 1042, SD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO MENTAL HEALTH," which passed Third Reading in the Senate on February 28, 2025.

Sen. Com. No. 51, transmitting S.B. No. 1197, SD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO AIRCRAFT," which passed Third Reading in the Senate on February 28, 2025.

Sen. Com. No. 52, transmitting S.B. No. 1269, SD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO GEOTHERMAL RESOURCES," which passed Third Reading in the Senate on February 28, 2025.

Sen. Com. No. 53, transmitting S.B. No. 1341, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO ENERGY INDUSTRY INFORMATION REPORTING," which passed Third Reading in the Senate on February 28, 2025.

Sen. Com. No. 54, transmitting S.B. No. 1359, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE HAWAII EMPLOYER-UNION HEALTH BENEFITS TRUST FUND BASE COMPOSITE MONTHLY CONTRIBUTION," which passed Third Reading in the Senate on February 28, 2025.

Sen. Com. No. 55, transmitting S.B. No. 1361, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM'S EMPLOYER REPORTING REVIEW," which passed Third Reading in the Senate on February 28, 2025.

Sen. Com. No. 56, transmitting S.B. No. 1381, SD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE HAWAII NATIONAL GUARD," which passed Third Reading in the Senate on February 28, 2025.

Sen. Com. No. 57, transmitting S.B. No. 1522, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO VEHICLE TITLE TRANSFERS," which passed Third Reading in the Senate on February 28, 2025.

Sen. Com. No. 58, transmitting S.B. No. 1530, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII," which passed Third Reading in the Senate on February 28, 2025.

Sen. Com. No. 59, transmitting S.B. No. 1547, SD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO SPECIAL PURPOSE REVENUE BONDS TO ASSIST ALOU KAUAI FARMING, AN AGRICULTURAL ENTERPRISE, IN THE FINANCE, OPERATION, AND MAINTENANCE OF A PROJECT TO REVITALIZE THE DAIRY INDUSTRY," which passed Third Reading in the Senate on February 28, 2025.

Sen. Com. No. 60, transmitting S.B. No. 1609, SD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CHILD CARE," which passed Third Reading in the Senate on February 28, 2025.

Sen. Com. No. 61, transmitting S.B. No. 1651, SD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC MEETINGS," which passed Third Reading in the Senate on February 28, 2025.

On motion by Representative Morikawa, seconded by Representative Garcia and carried, the following Senate Bills passed First Reading by title and further action was deferred: (Representatives Pierick and Ward were excused.)

S.B. No. 289
S.B. No. 329
S.B. No. 391, SD 1
S.B. No. 436, SD 1
S.B. No. 443, SD 1
S.B. No. 447
S.B. No. 448, SD 1
S.B. No. 744, SD 1
S.B. No. 841, SD 1
S.B. No. 865, SD 1
S.B. No. 938, SD 1
S.B. No. 1023, SD 1
S.B. No. 1042, SD 1
S.B. No. 1197, SD 1
S.B. No. 1269, SD 1
S.B. No. 1341
S.B. No. 1359
S.B. No. 1361
S.B. No. 1381, SD 1
S.B. No. 1522
S.B. No. 1530

S.B. No. 1547, SD 1
 S.B. No. 1609, SD 1
 S.B. No. 1651, SD 1

INTRODUCTIONS

The following introductions were made to the members of the House:

Representative Shimizu introduced his staff: Carole Kaapu and Kylie Higashi; and his friends, Linda Miyata and Cheryl Toyofuku.

Representative Kila introduced Mā'ili resident, Uncle Kekai.

Representative Kahaloa introduced self-advocates and staff from the Arc of Kona: Ray Corpuz, Katlin Laureno, Lois Phillip, Shannon Salas, Noel Trim, and Zac Trim; and from Full Life Hawai'i: Dennett Sonoda and "Auntie Cookie" Ford.

Representative Poepoe introduced self-advocates from Moloka'i: Natalie Greenleaf, Rebecca Reich, Henry Freitas, Brandon Reny-Wong, Ernest Kapu, and Lydell Kaupu.

Representative Perruso introduced Kat Brady and Henry Curtis.

ORDER OF THE DAY

SUSPENSION OF RULES

On motion by Representative Morikawa, seconded by Representative Garcia and carried, the rules were suspended for the purpose of considering certain House Bills for Third Reading by consent calendar. (Representatives Pierick and Ward were excused.)

CONSENT CALENDAR

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

At this time, the Chair stated:

"Members, there will be no discussion as these are items agreed to by this body for placement on the consent calendar."

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1005) recommending that H.B. No. 450, HD 2, as amended in HD 3, pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 450, HD 3, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1008) recommending that H.B. No. 807, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 807, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CONDOMINIUMS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1009) recommending that H.B. No. 640, HD 2, as amended in HD 3, pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 640, HD 3, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CHILD WELFARE," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1010) recommending that H.B. No. 430, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 430, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO INTERNSHIPS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1011) recommending that H.B. No. 864, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 864, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1012) recommending that H.B. No. 474, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 474, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO FALL PREVENTION," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1013) recommending that H.B. No. 1431, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 1431, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO ORAL HEALTH," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1019) recommending that H.B. No. 280, HD 2, as amended in HD 3, pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 280, HD 3, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE COMMUNITY OUTREACH COURT," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1020) recommending that H.B. No. 701, HD 2, as amended in HD 3, pass Third Reading.

Representative Todd moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 701, HD 3 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

Representative Chun's written remarks in support of the measure are as follows:

"Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of House Bill 701, House Draft 3, which aims to establish a tax credit for nonpaid family caregivers. At the beginning of the legislative session, this was identified as one of the top priorities for the Legislative Kupuna Caucus and I want to thank the chairs of Health and Human Services, Economic Development and Technology, and Finance for their work in moving this measure forward.

"As a co-convenor of the Kupuna Caucus, I believe that this bill safeguards the well-being of *kupuna* by supporting family caregivers who are the backbone of the long-term care system in Hawai'i.

"House Bill 701, House Draft 3 addresses this by establishing a tax credit for nonpaid family caregivers. In this way we can make available a source of financial relief to families balancing employment and other personal demands with caregiving responsibilities.

"For these reasons, I stand in strong support of House Bill 701, House Draft 3. Thank you, Madam Speaker."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 701, HD 3, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1021) recommending that H.B. No. 880, HD 2, as amended in HD 3, pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 880, HD 3, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO EARLY CHILD INTERVENTION," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1024) recommending that H.B. No. 683, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 683, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO STUDENT TRANSPORTATION," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1028) recommending that H.B. No. 549, HD 2, as amended in HD 3, pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 549, HD 3, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO AN EARLY LEARNING APPRENTICESHIP GRANT PROGRAM," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1030) recommending that H.B. No. 3, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 3, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO BEACH MANAGEMENT ON THE NORTH SHORE OF OAHU," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1033) recommending that H.B. No. 867, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 867, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO RECREATIONAL FACILITIES," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1035) recommending that H.B. No. 89, HD 2, as amended in HD 3, pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 89, HD 3, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO TEACHER HOUSING," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1036) recommending that H.B. No. 286, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 286, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE INDIVIDUAL HOUSING ACCOUNT PROGRAM," passed Third

Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Matayoshi, for the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1041) recommending that H.B. No. 1379, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 1379, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Matayoshi, for the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1043) recommending that H.B. No. 1422, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 1422, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR CARRIERS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Matayoshi, for the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1044) recommending that H.B. No. 423, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 423, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO WORKERS' COMPENSATION," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Matayoshi, for the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1045) recommending that H.B. No. 1499, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 1499, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Matayoshi, for the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1048) recommending that H.B. No. 799, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 799, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH CARE," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Tarnas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1052) recommending that H.B. No. 320, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

Representative Todd moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 320, HD 2 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

Representative Chun's written remarks in support of the measure are as follows:

"I rise in strong support of House Bill 320, House Draft 2, which establishes a supported decision-making agreement for qualified adults. This proposal is championed by the Hawai'i State Council on Developmental Disabilities, making today's vote especially meaningful as March is recognized as Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month.

"I want to thank the chair of Human Services and Homelessness and the chair of Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs for their leadership in advancing this measure. In particular, I commend the chair of Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs for convening the conservator and guardianship working group, which identified this as a solution to address gaps in our existing laws.

"Currently, legal guardianship or conservatorship is often the only option for individuals who need assistance in making decisions—but it is not always the best or preferred choice. This bill provides an alternative by allowing qualified adults to establish supported decision-making agreements with trusted members of their community.

"By doing so, we empower individuals with developmental disabilities, mental illness, or age-related challenges to retain greater autonomy while still receiving the support they need. This measure upholds their dignity, promotes self-determination, and strengthens their ability to live independently.

"For these reasons, I stand in strong support of House Bill 320, House Draft 2. Thank you, Madam Speaker."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 320, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO SUPPORTED DECISION-MAKING AGREEMENTS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Tarnas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1055) recommending that H.B. No. 1120, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 1120, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO NUISANCES," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Tarnas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1057) recommending that H.B. No. 576, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 576, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO RESTRICTIONS ON THE TRANSFER OF REAL PROPERTY UNDER CHAPTER 201H, HAWAII REVISED STATUTES," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Tarnas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1060) recommending that H.B. No. 70, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 70, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CONDOMINIUM," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Tarnas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1062) recommending that H.B. No. 1093, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 1093, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE HAWAII PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITY," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Tarnas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1063) recommending that H.B. No. 1096, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 1096, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO TENANT SELECTION," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Tarnas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1064) recommending that H.B. No. 1411, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 1411, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HOUSING PREFERENCE," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Tarnas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1068) recommending that H.B. No. 162, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 162, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO COLLECTIVE BARGAINING," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Tarnas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1069) recommending that H.B. No. 359, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 359, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO COVERED OFFENDER REGISTRATION," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Tarnas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1070) recommending that H.B. No. 1283, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

Representative Todd moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 1283, HD 2 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

Representative Lamosao's written remarks in support of the measure are as follows:

"I am in strong support of HB 1283, HD 2 because it serves to do the following for domestic violence survivors:

- Offers protections to survivors by ensuring they are not coerced to participate in mediation against their will.
- Requires screening for domestic abuse by mediators to prevent further harm.
- Allows survivors to have a support person present if they choose to mediate, which can provide emotional and legal protection.
- Ensures alignment with best practices in trauma-informed care, offering survivors accommodations that prioritize their safety."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 1283, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO FAMILY," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Tarnas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1072) recommending that H.B. No. 712, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 712, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Tarnas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1076) recommending that H.B. No. 1334, HD 2, as amended in HD 3, pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 1334, HD 3, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO MEAT DONATION," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Tarnas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1079) recommending that H.B. No. 302, HD 2 pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 302, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CANNABIS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Tarnas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1081) recommending that H.B. No. 1158, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 1158, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO FIREFIGHTING AT COMMERCIAL HARBORS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Tarnas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1082) recommending that H.B. No. 1066, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 1066, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE EARLY LEARNING BOARD," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Tarnas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1083) recommending that H.B. No. 1343, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 1343, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Tarnas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1084) recommending that H.B. No. 1141, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 1141, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO UPDATING PUBLIC LAND LEASES ISSUED PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 171, HAWAII REVISED STATUTES," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Tarnas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1086) recommending that H.B. No. 511, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 511, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC LANDS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Tarnas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1087) recommending that H.B. No. 1348, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 1348, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC LANDS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Tarnas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1088) recommending that H.B. No. 345, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B.

No. 345, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE STATE SHRIMP," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1098) recommending that H.B. No. 1064, HD 2 pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 1064, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO FIRE PROTECTION," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1101) recommending that H.B. No. 620, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 620, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1102) recommending that H.B. No. 628, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 628, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1105) recommending that H.B. No. 943, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 943, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HOMELESSNESS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1106) recommending that H.B. No. 214, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 214, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO GOVERNMENT," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1107) recommending that H.B. No. 806, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 806, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO FIREWORKS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1108) recommending that H.B. No. 984, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 984, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO AGRICULTURAL LOANS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1111) recommending that H.B. No. 1337, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 1337, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO ENDEMIC PLANTS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1115) recommending that H.B. No. 448, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 448, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO TECHNOLOGY ENABLEMENT," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1116) recommending that H.B. No. 449, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 449, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1117) recommending that H.B. No. 373, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 373, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HOUSING," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1118) recommending that H.B. No. 417, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 417, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE RENTAL HOUSING REVOLVING FUND," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1119) recommending that H.B. No. 432, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 432, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE RENTAL HOUSING REVOLVING FUND," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1125) recommending that H.B. No. 1428, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 1428, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HOUSING," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1129) recommending that H.B. No. 1009, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 1009, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE DWELLING UNIT REVOLVING FUND," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1133) recommending that H.B. No. 395, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 395, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO JURY DUTY," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1134) recommending that H.B. No. 396, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 396, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO COMPENSATION FOR COURT-APPOINTED COUNSEL," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1135) recommending that H.B. No. 398, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 398, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO COMPENSATION FOR COURT-APPOINTED REPRESENTATION," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1136) recommending that H.B. No. 399, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 399, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO DISTRICT COURT JUDGES," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1137) recommending that H.B. No. 401, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 401, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO DISTRICT COURT JUDGES," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1139) recommending that H.B. No. 560, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 560, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE JUDICIARY," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1140) recommending that H.B. No. 648, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 648, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO GUARDIANSHIP AND CONSERVATORSHIP SERVICES," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1142) recommending that H.B. No. 727, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 727, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE WOMEN'S COURT," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1143) recommending that H.B. No. 871, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 871, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION ACT," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1147) recommending that H.B. No. 175, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

Representative Todd moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 175, HD 1 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

Representative Lamosao's written remarks in support of the measure are as follows:

"I strongly support HB 175, HD 1, which holds property owners accountable for their lack of maintenance. This could lead to issues with invasive species and the risk of wildfires. This is a step towards prevention and holding bad actors accountable."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 175, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO PROPERTY MAINTENANCE," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1148) recommending that H.B. No. 299, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 299, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE HAWAII INVASIVE SPECIES COUNCIL," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1149) recommending that H.B. No. 306, HD 2 pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 306, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO STATE WATER CODE PENALTIES," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1150) recommending that H.B. No. 309, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 309, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO FISHPONDS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1153) recommending that H.B. No. 506, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 506, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CONSERVATION ENFORCEMENT," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1157) recommending that H.B. No. 1278, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 1278, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HAZARDOUS TREE REMOVAL," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1165) recommending that H.B. No. 454, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 454, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE HAWAII TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

THIRD READING

H.B. No. 983, HD 1:

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, H.B. No. 983, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

H.B. No. 1050, HD 1:

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, H.B. No. 1050, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO TITLE 24, HAWAII REVISED STATUTES," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

H.B. No. 544, HD 1:

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, H.B. No. 544, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO PET INSURANCE," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

H.B. No. 991, HD 1:

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, H.B. No. 991, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORD CHECKS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

H.B. No. 994, HD 1:

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, H.B. No. 994, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE OFFENSE OF PROMOTING PORNOGRAPHY FOR MINORS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

H.B. No. 412, HD 1:

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, H.B. No. 412, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO LOBBYING," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

H.B. No. 413, HD 1:

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, H.B. No. 413, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO LOBBYIST CONTRIBUTIONS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

H.B. No. 371, HD 1:

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, H.B. No. 371, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

H.B. No. 389, HD 1:

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, H.B. No. 389, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO UNCREWED AIRCRAFT OFFENSES," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

H.B. No. 980, HD 1:

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, H.B. No. 980, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO ANIMALS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

H.B. No. 1173, HD 1:

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, H.B. No. 1173, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO TAX LIENS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

H.B. No. 794, HD 1:

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, H.B. No. 794, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO STATE BONDS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

H.B. No. 795, HD 1:

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, H.B. No. 795, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE GENERAL FUND," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

H.B. No. 1147, HD 1:

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, H.B. No. 1147, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE EARNED INCOME TAX CREDIT," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

H.B. No. 1149, HD 1:

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, H.B. No. 1149, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO GENERAL EXCISE TAX EXEMPTIONS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

H.B. No. 1153, HD 1:

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, H.B. No. 1153, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO FUNDING ADJUSTMENTS FOR STATE PROGRAMS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

At 9:25 a.m., the Chair noted that the following bills passed Third Reading:

H.B. No. 450, HD 3
H.B. No. 807, HD 2
H.B. No. 640, HD 3
H.B. No. 430, HD 2
H.B. No. 864, HD 2
H.B. No. 474, HD 2
H.B. No. 1431, HD 2

H.B. No. 280, HD 3
H.B. No. 701, HD 3
H.B. No. 880, HD 3
H.B. No. 683, HD 2
H.B. No. 549, HD 3
H.B. No. 3, HD 2
H.B. No. 867, HD 2
H.B. No. 89, HD 3
H.B. No. 286, HD 2
H.B. No. 1379, HD 2
H.B. No. 1422, HD 2
H.B. No. 423, HD 2
H.B. No. 1499, HD 2
H.B. No. 799, HD 2
H.B. No. 320, HD 2
H.B. No. 1120, HD 2
H.B. No. 576, HD 2
H.B. No. 70, HD 1
H.B. No. 1093, HD 1
H.B. No. 1096, HD 1
H.B. No. 1411, HD 1
H.B. No. 162, HD 2
H.B. No. 359, HD 2
H.B. No. 1283, HD 2
H.B. No. 712, HD 2
H.B. No. 1334, HD 3
H.B. No. 302, HD 2
H.B. No. 1158, HD 1
H.B. No. 1066, HD 1
H.B. No. 1343, HD 1
H.B. No. 1141, HD 1
H.B. No. 511, HD 1
H.B. No. 1348, HD 2
H.B. No. 345, HD 2
H.B. No. 1064, HD 2
H.B. No. 620, HD 1
H.B. No. 628, HD 1
H.B. No. 943, HD 1
H.B. No. 214, HD 1
H.B. No. 806, HD 1
H.B. No. 984, HD 2
H.B. No. 1337, HD 1
H.B. No. 448, HD 1
H.B. No. 449, HD 1
H.B. No. 373, HD 1
H.B. No. 417, HD 1
H.B. No. 432, HD 1
H.B. No. 1428, HD 1
H.B. No. 1009, HD 1
H.B. No. 395, HD 1
H.B. No. 396, HD 1
H.B. No. 398, HD 1
H.B. No. 399, HD 1
H.B. No. 401, HD 1
H.B. No. 560, HD 1
H.B. No. 648, HD 1
H.B. No. 727, HD 1
H.B. No. 871, HD 1
H.B. No. 175, HD 1
H.B. No. 299, HD 1
H.B. No. 306, HD 2
H.B. No. 309, HD 1
H.B. No. 506, HD 1
H.B. No. 1278, HD 2
H.B. No. 454, HD 2

H.B. No. 983, HD 1
H.B. No. 1050, HD 1
H.B. No. 544, HD 1
H.B. No. 991, HD 1
H.B. No. 994, HD 1
H.B. No. 412, HD 1
H.B. No. 413, HD 1

H.B. No. 371, HD 1
 H.B. No. 389, HD 1
 H.B. No. 980, HD 1
 H.B. No. 1173, HD 1
 H.B. No. 794, HD 1
 H.B. No. 795, HD 1
 H.B. No. 1147, HD 1
 H.B. No. 1149, HD 1
 H.B. No. 1153, HD 1

At this time, the Chair stated:

"Members, please remember to submit to the Clerk the list of House bills on the consent calendar for which you will be inserting written comments in support or in opposition. This must be done by adjournment of today's floor session."

At 9:25 a.m., the Chair declared a recess subject to the call of the Chair.

The House of Representatives reconvened at 10:07 a.m.

ORDINARY CALENDAR

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1006) recommending that H.B. No. 925, HD 2, as amended in HD 3, pass Third Reading.

Representative Todd moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 925, HD 3 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

Representative Iwamoto 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. 925, HD 3, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE ARTS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 47 ayes to 2 noes, with Representative Iwamoto voting aye with reservations, with Representatives Garcia and Shimizu voting no, and with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1007) recommending that H.B. No. 1378, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

Representative Todd moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 1378, HD 2 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

Representative Iwamoto 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. 1378, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE STATE FOUNDATION ON CULTURE AND THE ARTS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representative Iwamoto voting aye with reservations, and with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1014) recommending that H.B. No. 751, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

Representative Todd moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 751, HD 2 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise in opposition to this bill with brief comments, please. I want to thank the introducer of this well-intended bill I totally agree with on principle. My opposition is based on testimony from the counties of Maui and Hawai'i Island, which expressed the unresolved problems they would have if this bill is passed, and their inability to comply

with the requirements of this bill. So, to protect their interests, I am opposing this bill. Thank you."

Representative Cochran rose to speak in support of the measure with reservations, stating:

"Thank you, Speaker. I'm going to vote with reservations. There's opposition from our Maui County mayor and so that's what I wanted to revisit for. 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. 751, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO ORGANIC WASTE," passed Third Reading by a vote of 44 ayes to 5 noes, with Representative Cochran voting aye with reservations, with Representatives Alcos, Garcia, Matsumoto, Muraoka, and Shimizu voting no, and with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1015) recommending that H.B. No. 982, HD 2, as amended in HD 3, pass Third Reading.

Representative Todd moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 982, HD 3 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise in opposition. This bill will pass along wildfire negligence costs from HEI and HECO to consumers. That is a disservice to a community already injured by fire that has the highest electric rates in the nation. The electric company wanted to meet with me about why we should pass on all of these costs to our ratepayers, our constituents. They want to make sure that we're all ready to pay their bill. Yet Scott Seu, the CEO of Hawai'i Electric Industries, earned \$958,333 in salary, and his total compensation is \$5.4 million. And Shelee Kimura, the president and CEO of the HECO subsidiary of HEI, earned \$575,000 in salary, with a total compensation of \$1.47 million.

"The House has spent hundreds of millions of dollars already because of the wildfire. I can't vote yes to let a for-profit entity pass along its debt to the public it serves. Given our current administration and control by rich corporate owners and CEOs, who I am told I should not call out as influential donating oligarchs, we must stand up for the rights of the middle class and vote no on utility securitization bills. To do anything less is to support the oligarchy.

"My constituents are being ravaged by corporate interests. We must not rubber stamp this or any bill for the powerful special interests. And I refuse to let a for-profit entity pass along its debt to the public it's supposed to be serving. Thank you."

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise in opposition. And I do so on behalf of the ratepayers and the future claimants who may suffer injury and damage from the next fire that might come about. The utilities, when they were questioned during the hearings, they did not set forth a clear path on how they would get their shareholders to divvy up their share or 50% of the fund. It was mentioned that they might be able to sell some assets, like to MECO or the Maui utility. But if they did that, it would mean that the ratepayer revenue that they were also counting on wouldn't be theirs. You know what I'm saying? So, yes, they might put in as a shareholder, but now they've just cut out a ratepayer portion.

"And I just want to end by quoting something that the AG brought up. They said that if the fund's available moneys are less than 50% of the aggregate liability limit as defined in the bill, the fund will only make payments to participating utilities, not to claimants. So, it would totally wipe out any claim by a claimant, monies would just go to utilities. For that reason, I'm in opposition. Thank you."

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

"Thank you, Speaker. And yes, I rise in opposition to this bill and previous last year. It's basically, for me, balancing the bill of HECO, MECO, on the backs of the ratepayers. In particular, the fire survivors of Lahaina, like myself. And so, I completely have a hard no on this one. Thank you."

Representative La Chica rose to speak in opposition to the measure, stating:

"Madam Speaker, in opposition. Same reason, Hawai'i's families are already struggling with a rising cost of living, rising food costs, skyrocketing insurance. Particularly for my communities, rising property insurance, condo insurance. And to me, I can't complain, Hawaiian Electric has really done a great job in responding to the wildfire as well as responding to a lot of the power outages and being responsive to our community."

"And I do agree that we really need to fund the Wildfire Recovery Fund. It's a very important financial resource. But just having our residents and the ratepayers being the first stop for shouldering the half a billion dollars, when there's just so many folks struggling, it's just probably not a balanced approach that we need at this time. *Mahalo*."

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. In support. I think there's a lot of misunderstanding about this bill and what it's doing. And I won't go into a lot of detail here, but I think there's some things that need to be corrected on the record. I will say, there's a lot of work to still be done on this bill, and there's a lot of answers that we still need from HECO. But the underlying intention is to help improve the financial situation of the utility, which impacts ratepayers. Because if the utility has a terrible credit rating, they cannot access capital at a reasonable rate, and that becomes rate based. That's already how rates work."

"And so the idea of this measure, if it has the intended effect, which again, we're still trying to figure out whether it will or not, is that it would be less cost to ratepayers to be able to shore up the utility's financial situation, improve their credit rating, and then allow them to move forward with ongoing needs they have for wildfire mitigation plan, for implementing that, for other infrastructure improvements to increase resilience at a cost that won't be punitive to ratepayers."

"I guess as a worst-case scenario, again, there's a lot of uncertainties and a lot of moving parts, so it's certainly a work in progress. But there is a scenario where we don't pass this, there's still a need for capital to be accessed and money to be borrowed, and that costs ratepayers more because they're not able to get a good interest rate on it. And so, I think it's hard to know what the impact to ratepayers is against sort of a counterfactual that we can't really predict, and that's the trickiness in trying to figure out this bill. But I want people to understand the fundamental reason why we're considering it and what we're trying to do."

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise in support with reservations. I had submitted a green slip, so I would like to recall that. And I am revising my position, acknowledging the powerful testimony that was provided by previous speakers, but also considering, in this time of great uncertainty with the federal situation, I think that the chair of EEP makes a really important argument. And for that reason, I am voting with reservations. 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. 982, HD 3, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO WILDFIRES," passed Third Reading by a vote of 43 ayes to 6 noes, with Representative Perruso voting aye with reservations, with Representatives Amato, Cochran, Garcia, Iwamoto, La Chica, and Poepoe voting no, and with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1016) recommending that H.B. No. 1295, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 1295, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CLEAN

ENERGY," passed Third Reading by a vote of 47 ayes to 2 noes, with Representatives Garcia and Kong voting no, and with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1017) recommending that H.B. No. 1365, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 1365, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1018) recommending that H.B. No. 212, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 212, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HOMELESSNESS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1022) recommending that H.B. No. 424, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 424, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO SCHOOL MEALS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1023) recommending that H.B. No. 636, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

Representative Todd moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 636, HD 2 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

"Madam Speaker, in strong support. Every year we appropriate hundreds of millions of dollars towards our capital improvement projects to improve the schools in each of our districts, but currently we have no central system to be able to track these projects. This bill would enable us to do that, give us access to the data to track the school facilities conditions, enrollment capacity, as well as track the progress of various capital improvement projects in our district. It would provide us with an annual report to the Legislature as well as to the superintendent and the Board of Education. This helps us make better decisions as well as grants transparency for where taxpayer monies will go. So just wanted to *mahalo* the chairs of Education as well as Finance for helping this bill go through. *Mahalo*."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 636, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1025) recommending that H.B. No. 754, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 754, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO COMMUNITY SCHOOLS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1026) recommending that H.B. No. 1293, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 1293, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PROCUREMENT," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1027) recommending that H.B. No. 1437, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

Representative Todd moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 1437, HD 2 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

Representative Iwamoto rose to speak in support of the measure with reservations, stating:

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise with reservations. This bill would provide an exemption to collecting general excise taxes whenever a nonprofit school conducts a fundraiser. And the various committees received testimony from many of the private schools, including many of our representing, and mentioning fun activities like the Punahou Carnival, which I've been to, as many of us have been to, many times.

"If we're going to be handing out GET exemptions, I would prefer that we do so to needs, basic needs, things like medical and hygiene supplies. Those should get the GET exemptions, not luxury experiences like the Punahou Carnival.

"Furthermore, the nonprofit activity, like Punahou Carnival, many people don't go to the carnival and then eat the food there and then turn around and then go to a movie and have popcorn. Basically, those events that are seeking tax exemption, they are competing with businesses that actually do collect GET and are going to pay GET. So, because of that competition, because it's not a necessity, I raise concerns. Thanks."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 1437, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO GENERAL EXCISE TAX EXEMPTIONS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representative Iwamoto voting aye with reservations, and with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1029) recommending that H.B. No. 1171, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 1171, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII RELIEF FUNDING," passed Third Reading by a vote of 47 ayes to 2 noes, with Representatives Garcia and Muraoka voting no, and with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1031) recommending that H.B. No. 86, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 86, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES," passed Third Reading by a vote of 48 ayes to 1 no, with Representative Muraoka voting no, and with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1032) recommending that H.B. No. 778, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

Representative Todd moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 778, HD 2 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. In strong support, brief remarks. Madam Speaker, this bill is critically important, I believe, to how we continue to manage our lands. We're going to be taking up a number of measures regarding the agricultural district, but really this, this bill is the first step that we need to take to really understand what we have. And what I appreciate about this bill is that at the Water Land Committee, it was amended to ensure that when conducting the study, the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development would clearly define and prioritize the protection of productive agricultural lands, including adopting measures to ensure agricultural lands designated for agricultural production are not compromised for short term developmental needs. And also including direct input from the agricultural community in the land use study process. Again, this is a really critical first step as we remain concerned about issues of food security and overdevelopment. Thank you, Madam Speaker."

Representative Kahaloa rose in support of the measure and asked that the remarks of the representative from Makiki be entered into the Journal as her own, and the Chair "so ordered." (By reference only.)

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 778, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO INTEGRATED LAND USE," passed Third Reading by a vote of 48 ayes to 1 no, with Representative Garcia voting no, and with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1034) recommending that H.B. No. 1494, HD 2, as amended in HD 3, pass Third Reading.

Representative Todd moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 1494, HD 3 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise in strong opposition and request brief comments, please. This bill essentially kills the current new Aloha Stadium Entertainment District development, a project which has been years in the making and is set to be finalized by the end of June this year. As we know and understand, the wheels of government do turn at a slower pace with many obstacles and challenges. And I would encourage patience to see this project through this important milestone.

"If this bill passes to end the NASED project, the millions that have been invested to this point will go down the drain and quite possibly subject the state to legal ramifications and reimbursement charges from the development team in place. I'm guessing that liability would be in the several millions as well. Additionally, I believe this would put a very ugly stain on the state's reputation. The global business and development community will view the State of Hawai'i as a very untrustworthy partner, which will greatly affect our standing and be detrimental for future interests from construction and development partners. The state's options for future projects working arrangements will be significantly reduced and limited, which will affect cost outcomes.

"To consider a relocation to the university campus, it is my understanding that the university is not soliciting for and is not encouraging this project. The campus footprint and infrastructure is limited and will not accommodate the stadium requirements. The displacement caused by a relocation of this magnitude would create a rippling effect, adding to the cost of the stadium project itself. There will be a significant delay as we reset the clock. And the targeted 2028 University of Hawai'i football season will no longer be doable. Who knows how long it will take to get up to speed with planning, environmental impact studies, legislative agreement, which might be the lengthiest factor, funding, in addition to construction duration.

"I suggest we adopt the Water & Land chair's bold and creative amendment, which redirected the project back to the Hālawā site, reappropriated funds to prevent lapsing of the current funding, authorizes the ability to sell naming rights with related signage and income stream, allows accepting other private donations. In general, Madam Speaker, this measure is untimely, counterproductive, and not advantageous to the state. I ask you to please vote this down. Thank you."

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. Rising in support. Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise today in support of House Bill 1494, HD 3 because this bill is both practical and necessary to safeguard the future of UH athletics. For five years, we have been promised a world-class replacement for Aloha Stadium, one that would elevate UH football and serve the broader community. And let me be clear, we all deserve a world-class stadium. But we also have a responsibility to live within our means and make fiscally responsible decisions.

"The financial reality of the New Aloha Stadium Entertainment District, or NASED, has shifted dramatically. At a recent Senate hearing, the developer acknowledged a funding shortfall of several hundred million dollars, raising the risk of this project turning into a costly boondoggle. While we hope NASED can move forward without additional taxpayer funds, hope alone is not a strategy. If this deal collapses, it would be an unmitigated disaster for UH football.

"And now the situation has become more uncertain. Today, President Trump's new 25% tariffs on steel and aluminum imports from Canada and Mexico went into effect. These are obviously critical materials for stadium construction. And rising costs will only make an already underfunded project even more difficult to complete. Without a permanent stadium solution, UH will be forced to spend tens of millions of dollars just to replace the current temporary bleachers with yet another set of temporary bleachers, a stopgap measure that is neither sustainable nor befitting a Division I program.

"This isn't just about football. It's about ensuring our student athletes and our university are not left behind due to poor planning and misplaced optimism on our part. At some point, we must face the reality of the hand we've been dealt. As the saying goes, we need to know when to hold them and know when to fold them. And unfortunately, right now, the NASED project is looking more and more like a bad hand, one that could leave us with nothing if we don't act now. Meanwhile, the \$350 million allocated for NASED is set to lapse this summer without a signed deal. If that happens, reappropriating these funds could take years, if the political will even exists to do so.

"This bill is not about giving up hope on a new stadium. It's about ensuring that we have a responsible contingency plan before it's too late. This bill offers a practical plan B, potentially transforming Clarence T.C. Ching Field into a permanent facility that can sustain UH football if NASED's grand vision does not materialize. I won't stand here and claim that this bill is a perfect solution, but it is the responsible one. As stewards of taxpayer dollars, we must balance our aspirations with financial prudence to ensure UH football has a stable, sustainable future. Madam Speaker, a vote to support HB 1494 is a vote to protect UH football, our student athletes, and our state's commitment to higher education and athletics. Thank you."

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

"In support. And with due respect to my colleague from Moanalua, I'd like to please request that the words from the representative from Mānoa be inserted into the Journal as my own," and the Chair "so ordered." (By reference only.)

Representative Souza rose in support of the measure and asked that the remarks of the representative from Mānoa be entered into the Journal as her own, and the Chair "so ordered." (By reference only.)

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

"Same request and brief comment. I just want to add that most large cities are willing to spend really big to attract professional sports teams. And even still, research has shown that almost no large stadium complex is making a significant return on investments for the cities in which they're sited. So, given that we don't have a large professional sports team, I really don't see this as being a smart investment for the people of Hawai'i. Thank you."

Representative Alcos rose to speak in support of the measure with reservations, stating:

"With reservations. I do like that we need to give University of Hawai'i a bigger stadium. Something now, than waiting five years from now. But I also believe that Hawai'i should be one of the sports complex in the Pacific and to build a big stadium, bigger parks, more sports facilities, and bring in more tourism to the State of Hawai'i. I believe that some other states cannot make it, but Hawai'i is different. I feel that when we had the Pro Bowl, we brought a lot of tourism here, drive our economy.

"I think we can do it with Hawai'i being the sports hub of the Pacific. And maybe even get the Pacific Rim to help put the finance into the building of our sports complex. It doesn't always have to come straight from our state funding. But to lose the Aloha Stadium, it was our central location for, not just University of Hawai'i, the swap meet, the kids in our communities to have a venue somewhere in a central or someplace close by. I think it's a need. I think that we got to work on something like this. And Hawai'i sells itself. A lot of people want to come here and train, it's all year round. So, that's the only reason why for reservations. Thank you."

Representative Shimizu rose to respond, stating:

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. I am still in opposition. I appreciate the comments that were shared. And I'd like to clarify that we as a legislature, I was not part of this, but we made a commitment to the developers, to the bidding process. The development is not just a stadium. It is an entertainment district. So, the strategy around that is to generate a entertainment district that does not rely just on sports events happening at the stadium. It is designed to attract other types of venues, concerts, a whole array.

"If you were to see the developer's presentation, you would see that it is not just sports centered. There are definitely arguments for and against supporting this bill or supporting the current NASED project. And I would argue that the comments that I previously made would have more standing and make a stronger argument for continuing with the NASED project. 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. 1494, HD 3, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO SPORTS FACILITIES," passed Third Reading by a vote of 44 ayes to 5 noes, with Representative Alcos voting aye with reservations, with Representatives Garcia, Holt, Kong, Shimizu, and Tam voting no, and with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1037) recommending that H.B. No. 741, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

Representative Todd moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 741, HD 2 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

Representative Iwamoto 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. 741, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HOUSING," passed Third Reading by a vote of 48 ayes to 1 no, with Representative Iwamoto voting aye with reservations, with Representative Muraoka voting no, and with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1038) recommending that H.B. No. 830, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

Representative Todd moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 830, HD 2 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

Representative Shimizu rose to speak in support of the measure with reservations, stating:

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise in support of this bill with reservations and brief comments, please. My reservation is based on the testimony from the State Historical Preservation Division that requested the use of third-party reviews be at its discretion instead of mandated. And also,

they testified that complicated projects may not be appropriate to be assigned to third-party reviewers and should stay with SHPD for liability issues. So, I just wanted to highlight that concern. Thank you."

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise in opposition. So, I've been noticing that we have a tendency to underfund departments. And then we follow through by putting artificial deadlines on them, which then trigger the department to hire a private third-party consultant to do the work that we underfunded them to not be able to do. Which actually then makes it much more difficult for the department to fill the vacancies. Because now everyone who they would have gone to or who could have done the job is now getting paid much more through a private company. And so, it just perpetuates this cycle and I'd rather not see this kind of privatization of work that could and should have been done by state workers. Thank you."

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

"Thank you. Just noting my reservations based upon the representations by the representatives from Moanalua and from Kaka'ako."

Representative Cochran rose to speak in support of the measure with reservations, stating:

"Thank you, I rise with reservations. In Maui County we hired archeologists specifically to vet through permitting, to deem if it had to go through SHPD. And so that helped kind of alleviate and push our permitting faster. So, this third-party, it's kind of sketchy to me who they are, how culturally astute are they to our sensitivity to where we're from. And so, I see the need. But again, I want to make sure that it's done properly with the right people in mind. Thank you."

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. 830, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HISTORIC PRESERVATION REVIEWS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 48 ayes to 1 no, with Representatives Belatti, Cochran, Perruso, and Shimizu voting aye with reservations, with Representative Iwamoto voting no, and with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1039) recommending that H.B. No. 1294, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 1294, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO AGRICULTURAL WORKFORCE HOUSING," passed Third Reading by a vote of 47 ayes to 2 noes, with Representatives Garcia and Muraoka voting no, and with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1040) recommending that H.B. No. 1298, HD 2, as amended in HD 3, pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 1298, HD 3, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HOUSING," passed Third Reading by a vote of 48 ayes to 1 no, with Representative Muraoka voting no, and with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Matayoshi, for the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1042) recommending that H.B. No. 951, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

Representative Todd moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 951, HD 2 pass Third Reading, 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 Matsumoto rose in support of the measure with reservations and asked that her written remarks be inserted in the Journal, and the Chair "so ordered."

Representative Matsumoto's written remarks are as follows:

"Although I understand the importance of improving telehealth capabilities, especially for rural communities, I do have concerns about the potential for this system to be abused. The Legislature needs to be mindful of the potential consequences, especially in regard to increasing access to opiates. For this reason, I vote with reservations."

Representative Alcos 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. 951, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO PRESCRIPTION DRUGS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Alcos, Garcia, and Matsumoto voting aye with reservations, and with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Matayoshi, for the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1046) recommending that H.B. No. 350, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 350, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO ENERGY," passed Third Reading by a vote of 48 ayes to 1 no, with Representative Marten voting no, and with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Matayoshi, for the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1047) recommending that H.B. No. 874, HD 2, as amended in HD 3, pass Third Reading.

Representative Todd moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 874, HD 3 pass Third Reading, 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. 874, HD 3, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CHILD PERFORMERS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representative Garcia voting aye with reservations, and with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Matayoshi, for the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1049) recommending that H.B. No. 48, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 48, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO COFFEE LABELING," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Matayoshi, for the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1050) recommending that H.B. No. 256, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 256, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION," passed Third Reading by a vote of 48 ayes to 1 no, with Representative Garcia voting no, and with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Tarnas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1051) recommending that H.B. No. 239, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

Representative Todd moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 239, HD 1 pass Third Reading, 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 Shimizu rose to speak in support of the measure with reservations, stating:

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise in support with reservations and brief comments, please. My reservation is from testimony that stated if a child is not considered abused or neglected due to poverty, then that child would not receive any help or services. If that is the case, there needs to be some careful review to see that children in need of help and services are not inadvertently overlooked because of this new assessment. I yield, thank you."

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

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

"Thank you, in strong support. Currently, children are not taken away from their homes in Hawai'i solely due to poverty, but due to community concerns, the point of this bill is to clarify that. I do appreciate that there was a lot of thought about the wording and there were amendments, that my colleague may or may not be aware of, made to make sure that children are not left in a dangerous situation just because the family is poor, that they are removed from any situation where they might be at risk or danger. 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. 239, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CHILD ABUSE," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Amato, Garcia, and Shimizu voting aye with reservations, and with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

At 10:41 a.m., Representative Todd requested a recess and the Chair declared a recess subject to the call of the Chair.

The House of Representatives reconvened at 10:42 a.m.

At 10:46 a.m., the Chair noted that the following bills passed Third Reading:

H.B. No. 925, HD 3
H.B. No. 1378, HD 2
H.B. No. 751, HD 2
H.B. No. 982, HD 3
H.B. No. 1295, HD 2
H.B. No. 1365, HD 2
H.B. No. 212, HD 2
H.B. No. 424, HD 2
H.B. No. 636, HD 2
H.B. No. 754, HD 2
H.B. No. 1293, HD 2
H.B. No. 1437, HD 2
H.B. No. 1171, HD 2
H.B. No. 86, HD 2
H.B. No. 778, HD 2
H.B. No. 1494, HD 3
H.B. No. 741, HD 2
H.B. No. 830, HD 2
H.B. No. 1294, HD 2
H.B. No. 1298, HD 3
H.B. No. 951, HD 2
H.B. No. 350, HD 2
H.B. No. 874, HD 3
H.B. No. 48, HD 2
H.B. No. 256, HD 2
H.B. No. 239, HD 1

Representative Tarnas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1053) recommending that H.B. No. 963, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

Representative Todd moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 963, HD 2 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

Representative Iwamoto 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. 963, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMES AGAINST ELDERS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representative Iwamoto voting aye with reservations, and with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Tarnas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1054) recommending that H.B. No. 729, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

Representative Todd moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 729, HD 2 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

Representative Alcos 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. 729, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO MARRIAGE OF MINORS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 46 ayes to 3 noes, with Representative Alcos voting aye with reservations, with Representatives Garcia, Kong, and Muraoka voting no, and with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Tarnas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1056) recommending that H.B. No. 36, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

Representative Todd moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 36, HD 2 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

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

"Madam Speaker, request for a ruling on a potential conflict. In an abundance of caution, Madam Speaker, I'm requesting your determination of whether I have a conflict of interest pursuant to our House Rules related to House Bill 36, inasmuch as the law firm that employs me litigated the matter of Sheldon Haleck in this state. I was an active attorney on this case, and the Haleck case is actively cited to as a reason for the introduction of House Bill 36 by the mother and family of Sheldon Haleck. The case has long since been resolved before the introduction of House Bill 36. My firm is no longer actively retained by the family of Sheldon Haleck, nor has any work been done by my law firm on House Bill 36. May I request a ruling on a potential conflict, Madam Speaker?"

The Chair addressed Representative Belatti, stating:

"Thank you for consulting with our attorneys in advance of today's session, Representative Belatti, no conflict, and this will apply to the remainder of this session."

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

Representative Alcos 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. 36, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO EXCITED DELIRIUM," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Alcos, Garcia, and Matsumoto voting aye with reservations, and with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Tarnas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1058) recommending that H.B. No. 918, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

Representative Todd moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 918, HD 2 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. In strong support. Colleagues, over the years, we have dealt with many different types of labeling and truth in labeling legislation. Today, I stand before you in strong support of this proposed do not flush legislation, and just want to take a minute to let you know why it's important.

"This is a very necessary and urgent measure to protect Hawai'i's fragile ecosystem, marine life, and public health. This bill is not just about plumbing or wastewater management, it's about safeguarding the very essence of our islands, our pristine waters, our coral reefs, and the wellbeing of our future generations. Hawai'i is unique, not just in its beauty, but in its vulnerability.

"Our wastewater systems were not designed to handle nonbiodegradable materials like wipes, yet they're being marketed as flushable. People believe this and everyday flush these items down the toilet, leading to clogged sewer lines, costly repairs, and most critically, contamination of our oceans. One single flush wipe can tangle in pipes, causing backups that release raw sewage into our environment. When these materials break down, they contribute to microplastic pollution, harming marine life, and threatening our fishing and tourism industries.

"This legislation is not about an inconvenience, it's about a responsibility. Across the country, states and municipalities are recognizing the dangers of improper flushing by enacting laws to prevent it. Congress is also looking into this, and Hawai'i must do the same. By requiring clear labeling on products, increasing public awareness, and improving wastewater regulations, we can prevent costly damage and protect our waters for generations to come. We have a duty to honor our islands, our ancestors, and our *keiki*. And passing this legislation is a step toward a cleaner, healthier Hawai'i. 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. 918, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO LABELING," passed Third Reading by a vote of 46 ayes to 3 noes, with Representatives Garcia, Kong, and Muraoka voting no, and with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Tarnas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1059) recommending that H.B. No. 1277, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 1277, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO DIGITAL FINANCIAL ASSET," passed Third Reading by a vote of 47 ayes to 2 noes, with Representatives Garcia and Muraoka voting no, and with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Tarnas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1061) recommending that H.B. No. 528, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

Representative Todd moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 528, HD 1 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

"I rise in opposition. Thank you, Madam Speaker. I couldn't find much testimony supporting why this bill was needed. HHFDC did provide one paragraph that was the most minimal testimony I've ever seen. But what really concerns me about this bill is that it exempts, potentially, the developer from complying with HRS 516 and 516D. Both of those statutes contain many consumer protection safeguards. And even though this is a

hypothetical future, I would not want to see the consumers who purchase housing from those developers to be without recourse. Thank you very much."

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

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

Representative Belatti 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. 528, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO RESIDENTIAL LEASEHOLDS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 47 ayes to 2 noes, with Representatives Amato, Belatti, and Souza voting aye with reservations, with Representatives Iwamoto and Perruso voting no, and with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Tarnas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1065) recommending that H.B. No. 1325, HD 2, as amended in HD 3, pass Third Reading.

Representative Todd moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 1325, HD 3 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

"Thank you, Speaker. In support. This bill establishes a standard to ensure that when tenants are displaced by 201H projects financed with state and federal funds, their needs are met, and their rights are respected. It requires that the developer provide relocation assistance or the right of first refusal in a comparable unit in the completed development as well as ongoing communication and information.

"This bill is really close to my heart because almost exactly two years ago, I was involved in organizing the 130 households at Kapiolani Village Apartments who were evicted to make way for Kuilei Place. Those tenants were living in aging, but very actually affordable housing. And then the second they received their eviction notice, they had to fight the developer every step of the way for the relocation assistance that they deserved, knowing that when this project was completed, even though it was a workforce housing project and kind of held up as a model of what development should look like, they wouldn't be able to afford a unit in the completed project.

"Some of these tenants were disabled *kupuna*, others were college students or service workers, and I got to spend a lot of time with them, get to know them, do some really hard work together and then watch them face the reality of being displaced. And then their homes sat vacant for almost two years until Kapiolani Village apartments were recently broken down.

"Today, we see a very similar fight at Kuhio Park Terrace, where public housing tenants are being temporarily displaced for the mixed income redevelopment of their homes. And I really want to highlight their hard work on this bill, which is why I'm standing up now. Some of these tenants have lived at KPT for their entire lives. And they're not against redevelopment, they just want to make sure that when it's completed, they get to return to their home. As public housing tenants, they have the right to return. But they've had to organize to make sure that this is carried out properly. And as of today, there are still serious issues with that process.

"But the good thing is that with process, we can amend, develop, and improve. And so, they've shown up three times so far to testify and remind us that when we're talking about housing production, we're not just talking about units, we're talking about people and communities. Aunties who are keeping kids in check, kids who want to stay with their friends at school. We're talking about access to community and youth programs, and an entire community that is looking out for each other. So, I think we should do everything we can to make sure that we respect those relationships to place and community.

"And I want to acknowledge and commend this body for making really significant efforts to produce more affordable housing, increase density, speed up housing production. But we also have to acknowledge that many people in our community are questioning whether this development is for them. And I think that this bill is a good first step in showing our constituents that we are really serious about doing development without displacement, and that even though we might be pushing for pretty significant changes to their neighborhoods, we don't want the communities who make them special to have to change.

"This bill has a lot of support from across the stakeholder spectrum, from the tenants themselves, to HHFDC, to the Chamber of Commerce. And so, I'm really grateful to the chairs for helping me with this bill. And as it moves to the Senate, I hope we can continue conversation and hopefully implement even further protections for these tenants. Thank you so much."

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. In support, strong support. I just wanted to also extend my thanks to the chairs and thank my colleague from Kaimukī-Kapahulu for her work on this bill. As she mentioned, this bill is very important to the people in my community, in Kalihi at KPT, who simply want to maintain their sense of community. So, thank you very much for moving this forward."

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

Representative Souza rose in support of the measure and asked that the remarks of the representative from Kaimukī and the representative from Kalihi be entered into the Journal as her own, and the Chair "so ordered." (By reference only.)

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 1325, HD 3, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HOUSING," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Tarnas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1066) recommending that H.B. No. 1008, HD 2 pass Third Reading.

Representative Todd moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 1008, HD 2 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

Representative Iwamoto 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. 1008, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HISTORIC PRESERVATION REVIEWS OF STATE AFFORDABLE HOUSING PROJECTS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 48 ayes to 1 no, with Representative Iwamoto voting aye with reservations, with Representative Garcia voting no, and with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Tarnas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1067) recommending that H.B. No. 54, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

Representative Todd moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 54, HD 2 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise in opposition with brief comments, please. With respect to the introducer, I agree that excessive speeding is a safety concern. However, from serving on the Public Safety Committee, we are trying to move from a punitive model to a rehabilitative corrections system, which will better help our people and not unnecessarily overload our jail facilities.

"This bill increases punitive sentencing. As an example, a judge can currently sentence jail time from 10 days to 30 days maximum. Which, according to the Office of the Public Defender, 30 days max is hardly ever given out. This bill would mandate a minimum 30-day jail sentence time, and this is just one example among other increased sentencing requirements.

"I oppose because it appears the new sentencing requirements may be excessive. And I, again, give my regards and respect to the introducer. But those are my reasons for opposition. Thank you, I yield."

Representative Iwamoto 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. 54, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR VEHICLES," passed Third Reading by a vote of 47 ayes to 2 noes, with Representatives Iwamoto and Perruso voting aye with reservations, with Representatives Shimizu and Souza voting no, and with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Tarnas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1071) recommending that H.B. No. 463, HD 2, as amended in HD 3, pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 463, HD 3, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO EVICTION RECORDS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 43 ayes to 6 noes, with Representatives Alcos, Garcia, Kong, Matsumoto, Muraoka, and Shimizu voting no, and with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Tarnas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1073) recommending that H.B. No. 901, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

Representative Todd moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 901, HD 2 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise in support. I'd like to start by thanking the chair of Education, who's also the introducer of this measure. Charter schools need to have the right to appeal directly to the Board of Education on matters regarding schools' operations, governance, and funding. I support this and reaffirm my support for this bill to help our charter schools. They provide parents with choices and fill an important role in our communities, reaching many students that are currently unreachable in the current DOE system. It is not only my hope that this will pass all the way through the leg, but also that we can eventually give charter schools compensation per student that is in parity with DOE-run schools. Thank you."

Representative Iwamoto 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. 901, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOLS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representative Iwamoto voting aye with reservations, and with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Tarnas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1074) recommending that H.B. No. 966, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 966, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO AGRICULTURAL TOURISM," passed Third Reading by a vote of 48 ayes to 1 no, with Representative Marten voting no, and with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Tarnas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1075) recommending that H.B. No. 1006, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 1006, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE AGRIBUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION," passed Third Reading by a vote of 48 ayes to 1 no, with Representative Perruso voting no, and with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Tarnas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1077) recommending that H.B. No. 194, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

Representative Todd moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 194, HD 1 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise today in strong support of House Bill 194, House Draft 1, which seeks to designate May 22nd of each year as Maritime Day in the State of Hawai'i. I am proud to have introduced this bill as a part of our caucus package for our newly formed Maritime Caucus, which I have the pleasure of co-chairing alongside the Senator from Hilo.

"This measure not only celebrates Hawai'i's rich seafaring heritage, but also recognizes the indispensable role the maritime industry plays in our daily lives. As an island state in the middle of the Pacific, we rely on our maritime workers to keep our shelves stocked and our economy moving.

"Hawai'i's connection to the sea is profound and enduring. From our earliest Polynesian navigators who traverse vast oceans, to the modern harbors that serve as the lifeline of our state, our maritime history runs deep. Today, our ports remain the critical gateway for food, clothing, fuel, construction materials, and countless other essentials.

"However, none of this would be possible without the hardworking men and women who keep our harbors running. Dock workers, port operators, ship crews, and logistics personnel work tirelessly, often in challenging and hazardous conditions, to ensure that goods flow seamlessly to every corner of our islands. They are the backbone of Hawai'i's supply chain, and their efforts deserve recognition.

"According to the U.S. Department of Transportation, Maritime Administration, by a joint resolution passed on May 20, 1933, Congress declared May 22nd to be National Maritime Day. The May 22 date, as the resolution stated, was implemented to pay homage to the day the steamship, the Savannah, set sail from Savannah, Georgia on the first successful transoceanic voyage under steam propulsion, which made a material contribution to the advancement of ocean transportation.

"By designating May 22 as Maritime Day in Hawai'i, we take the time to honor the contributions of those who have built and sustained Hawai'i's maritime industry, from earliest seafarers to today's port workers. This designation also serves to educate the public and raise awareness about the vital role our maritime industry plays in Hawai'i. Moreover, this recognition can inspire future generations to pursue careers in this field, ensuring the continued strength and resilience of our maritime sector for years to come.

"By moving House Bill 194, House Draft 1 forward, we affirm our respect for the sea and those who navigate it, ensuring that the spirit of *aloha* continues to sail forward. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this meaningful legislation. Thank you, Madam Speaker."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 194, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO MARITIME DAY," passed Third Reading by a vote of 48 ayes to 1 no, with Representative Garcia voting no, and with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Tarnas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1078) recommending that H.B. No. 957, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

Representative Todd moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 957, HD 1 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. In strong support. In the words of Hawai'i artist Sean Na'auao, I like my fish and poi, I'm a big boy. Lomi salmon, pipikaula, extra large lilikoi. Squid and chicken lu'au, and don't forget the laulau. Madam Speaker, on January 1st, Hawai'i recognized *kalo* as our state plant. In its most minute form, laulau is a value-added product, and we have the opportunity before us at the Legislature to recognize the significance and cultural heritage and importance, we have the opportunity here at the Legislature to fortify and support what is known to many as not just a dish but also a viable tool for economic development.

"Last year, this body passed Kimchi Day as an ode to the Korean history here in Hawai'i. And I think this year is a great opportunity to recognize the cultural significance and importance of our Native Hawaiian communities and food staples. Lau Lau is an enduring food that has transcended time and place for the people in Hawai'i.

"When I talk about economic development, I can think of many districts across the state that have roadside vendors that sell laulau, and its first iteration of a fundraiser to large businesses who sell this as a staple of food.

"I always talk about resistance is existence. By the fact that laulau continues to live today, it is a strong reminder that the Hawaiian culture lives thoroughly for the people of Hawai'i to enjoy. I appreciate the Culture & Arts chair for amending the bill to designate Lau Lau Day as the first Friday in May every year.

"So, with this before us, we have an opportunity to tell our constituents, our state, what food plays in Hawai'i, but also the way that it plays for constituents' livelihoods. To all the roadside vendors, the families who gather to make this tradition, and for the laulau that are dry, and for the laulau that are wet, I stand in strong support of this measure, Speaker."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 957, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO LAULAU DAY," passed Third Reading by a vote of 48 ayes to 1 no, with Representative Garcia voting no, and with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Tarnas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1080) recommending that H.B. No. 706, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 706, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HIGHWAY SAFETY," passed Third Reading by a vote of 47 ayes to 2 noes, with Representatives Garcia and Muraoka voting no, and with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Tarnas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1085) recommending that H.B. No. 510, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

Representative Todd moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 510, HD 1 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

Representative Shimizu rose to speak in support of the measure with reservations, stating:

"Thank you, Madam Chair. I rise in support with reservations and brief comments, please. My reservations are based on testimony from the Hawai'i Farm Bureau and the Land Use Research Foundation, which stated valid concerns regarding uncertainty of water provision that would greatly affect their agriculture, with no clarification or assurances to address that uncertainty, the possible overreach and unilateral control without prior coordination, among other concerns that I won't go into here.

"Therefore, I comment on these reservations to highlight the concerns with hope that they will be adequately addressed on the future

implementation of this bill. I note that in committee hearing during testimony and questioning related to these concerns, the director of DLNR, which stands for the Department of Land and Natural Resources, the director gave assurances that the department will have a process for public input. So, I just wanted to put that on the record. Thank you, Madam Chair."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 510, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO DECLARATION OF WATER SHORTAGE AND EMERGENCY," passed Third Reading by a vote of 45 ayes to 4 noes, with Representative Shimizu voting aye with reservations, with Representatives Alcos, Garcia, Kong, and Muraoka voting no, and with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Tarnas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1089) recommending that H.B. No. 458, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 458, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO BROTHER JOSEPH DUTTON DAY," passed Third Reading by a vote of 46 ayes to 3 noes, with Representatives Alcos, Garcia, and Muraoka voting no, and with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Tarnas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1090) recommending that H.B. No. 1162, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 1162, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO MOTORCYCLE INSTRUCTION PERMITS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 48 ayes to 1 no, with Representative Garcia voting no, and with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Tarnas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1091) recommending that H.B. No. 226, HD 2, as amended in HD 3, pass Third Reading.

Representative Todd moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 226, HD 3 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

Representative Iwamoto 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. 226, HD 3, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO WINDSHIELD TINTING," passed Third Reading by a vote of 47 ayes to 2 noes, with Representative Iwamoto voting aye with reservations, with Representatives Garcia and Souza voting no, and with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Tarnas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1092) recommending that H.B. No. 1159, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

Representative Todd moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 1159, HD 2 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

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

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

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

"Thank you, Madam Chair. Regarding SCR 1092, HB 1159, I rise in opposition with brief comments, please. I agree with the intent and goal of this bill to have coordinated procedures during an emergency to maximize

efficiency and required actions. I have personally gone back and forth on this bill and landed in opposition based on the following.

"With the testimony on both sides, especially from users affected, I believe there needs to be more discussion and communication amongst all stakeholders to properly achieve this goal and avoid unintended consequences. Without this thorough public input and vetting, I feel that during an emergency, with fear and anxiety at a high level, in a chaotic situation, and especially with this being a new procedure, there may be a high chance of miscommunication or lack of communication. And I feel that the 10,000 a day fine is too punitive and unfair at this point. Thank you, Madam Speaker."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 1159, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO COMMERCIAL HARBORS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 45 ayes to 4 noes, with Representatives Alcos, Iwamoto, and Matsumoto voting aye with reservations, with Representatives Garcia, Kong, Muraoka, and Shimizu voting no, and with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Tarnas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1093) recommending that H.B. No. 1137, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

Representative Todd moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 1137, HD 2 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise in opposition. Restoration of beach land sounds good, but in this bill it can mean shoreline hardening. Hardening shoreline significantly disrupts our natural coastal ecosystems by reducing habitat for wildlife, altering sediment transport patterns, impacting aquatic plant life, and can even lead to beach erosion in the long run, ultimately harming our overall biodiversity of shoreline area with a net loss to tourism, our economy, and quality of life for our community. I have vowed to protect the environment and will not be supporting this bill. And further, I urge anyone who cares about our ocean, our environment, or even tourism to vote no. Thank you, Madam Speaker."

Representative Iwamoto rose and asked that the Clerk record a no vote 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. 1137, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO RESTORATION OF BEACH LANDS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 47 ayes to 2 noes, with Representatives Amato and Iwamoto voting no, and with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Tarnas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1094) recommending that H.B. No. 732, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 732, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO SHORELINE MANAGEMENT AREAS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Tarnas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1095) recommending that H.B. No. 1087, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 1087, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HISTORIC PRESERVATION REVIEWS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 48 ayes to 1 no, with Representative Muraoka voting no, and with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Tarnas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1096) recommending that H.B. No. 969, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

Representative Todd moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 969, HD 2 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. In opposition. I recognize there's problems with putting a landfill over a significant water resource, and I support the intention of this measure. However, I'm very concerned that the City and County's testimony, that if HB 969, HD 1 were to become law and Act 73 was not amended, the city would have no choice but to pursue a legally prohibited expansion of the Waimānalo Gulch.

"The west side of O'ahu has borne the burden of managing all of the island's waste for far too long. The Legislature should not continue to ask leeward residents to shoulder this responsibility just because nobody wants a landfill in their backyard. The problem may be out of sight and out of mind for some of you, but not for me and many of my colleagues. Therefore, until we can provide the city with other options, I oppose this measure."

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

"With reservations and brief comment, thank you. I think it's, well, for me at least, and I speak for myself, that it's common sense not to put trash above aquifers. So therefore, I am supportive of the bill, but the reservations is the same point that my colleague mentioned from Wai'anae, in that the testimony submitted was if this does not pass, or if the landfill isn't allowed to be placed there, that the current landfill would be extended, broken promises. And so, for those reasons, with reservations."

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

"*Mahalo*, Madam Speaker. In opposition. I want folks to understand, my no vote is not against the concept of putting landfills above significant aquifers as defined by the Department of Health. But this really is the intent that it would then force what the county is trying to do here on the island of O'ahu, prohibiting the current landfill selection site.

"I think the large issue that we have come to face here in the Legislature is not one with each other, but the fact that the county had several years to prepare a plan and waited until right before the legislative session to unveil their plan, knowing well enough that legislation would come out. I also want to share that the proposed site that they did choose does impact agricultural land. And I think all of us in the Legislature want to support farming and agricultural use on agricultural-zoned lands.

"But with us moving forward on these discussions, we are all doing our best to protect our communities. But I will share the story of where the landfill resides. In the name Waimānalo Gulch, it is on the hillside in Nānākuli, just a stone-throw away from one of the HECO power plants that powers the entire island of O'ahu. And several miles down the road, you have what's known as the private industrial landfill that takes every construction site trash to the same area. So, the mountains of Nānākuli are natural, but the hillsides that have now come before it is layers of years and years' worth of trash. Nānākuli's Waimānalo Gulch Landfill also sits above a significant water table, but although not defined as an aquifer, it still sits above that.

"Largely, I think the biggest issue that we're facing is how we're going to manage trash. And I think everyone could agree, if everyone had their own landfills that every community was responsible for, we'd be much more involved in looking at reducing waste and management. But I think at this point, we are trying our best to exhaust resources and land sites to move this idea forward.

"But I think largely the one issue that we need to find is hoping our federal partners would be able to come to the table, be a part of the discussion, and lend land that they have available to help our O'ahu communities. The military plays a significant impact into the backyards of O'ahu, and I think now more than ever amidst the land lease renewals and every issue that comes forth with that, I hope that our federal partners are willing to be able to come to this table and find a solution forward so that Wai'anae no longer bears the landfill, Nānākuli no longer has a landfill, we do not put a landfill

on ag land, and we do not put a landfill over an aquifer. So, for those reasons, I'm in opposition."

Representative Marten rose in support of the measure with reservations and asked that the remarks the representative from Nānākuli be entered into the Journal as her own, and the Chair "so ordered." (By reference only.)

Representative Hussey rose in support of the measure with reservations and asked that the remarks the representative from Nānākuli be entered into the Journal as his own, and the Chair "so ordered." (By reference only.)

Representative Alcos rose in support of the measure with reservations and asked that the remarks the representative from Nānākuli be entered into the Journal as his own, and the Chair "so ordered." (By reference only.)

Representative Shimizu rose in opposition to the measure and asked that the remarks of his colleague from Wai'anae-Mākaha be entered into the Journal as his own, and the Chair "so ordered." (By reference only.)

Representative Reyes Oda rose in support of the measure with reservations and asked that the remarks of her colleague from Kapolei and Nānākuli be entered into the Journal as her own, and the Chair "so ordered." (By reference only.)

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. In support. No one wants a landfill over the aquifer. And no one wants a landfill in their backyard. And there's really no good place to put a landfill. Maybe this bill isn't the whole picture, but I think that it would be a little reckless to site a new landfill over the aquifer.

"And on the flip side of this, we have to start getting serious about waste reduction and looking at alternatives for how we manage waste so that we don't continue to hope for a place that we can pile it up, where it's out of everybody's view and out of everybody's backyard and out of way of causing any danger to the environment, because that is not possible.

"So, if we're going to continue to make waste and consume goods, it has to go somewhere. And now we're just kind of hitting a point today where we're faced with having to grapple with the reality of this situation that we find ourselves in that's just created by an unsustainable system of waste management that we've all been existing and participating in throughout our entire lives. So, I mean, this bill isn't the whole picture, but I still think it's a good measure and that I'm glad it's moving forward. Thank you."

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. In support. I think we've got a long way to go when it comes to landfill siting on O'ahu. There's still a process that we have to all embark on together. I did want to thank the chairs of the committees that this bill moved through, and I wanted to especially thank all the members of this body for being willing to engage on this issue. And may I please have the words of the representative from Nānākuli entered into the Journal as if they were my own," and the Chair "so ordered." (By reference only.)

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

"In support. And I would like to thank the chairs of EEP and Transportation for highlighting the bigger systemic issues that we're facing and adopt their words as my own," and the Chair "so ordered." (By reference only.)

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 969, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO WASTE OR DISPOSAL FACILITIES," passed Third Reading by a vote of 47 ayes to 2 noes, with Representatives Alcos, Garcia, Hussey, Marten, Reyes Oda, and Shimizu voting aye with reservations, with Representatives Kila and Muraoka voting no, and with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

At 11:23 a.m., the Chair noted that the following bills passed Third Reading:

H.B. No. 963, HD 2
H.B. No. 729, HD 2

H.B. No. 36, HD 2
 H.B. No. 918, HD 2
 H.B. No. 1277, HD 2
 H.B. No. 528, HD 1
 H.B. No. 1325, HD 3
 H.B. No. 1008, HD 2
 H.B. No. 54, HD 2
 H.B. No. 463, HD 3
 H.B. No. 901, HD 2
 H.B. No. 966, HD 2
 H.B. No. 1006, HD 2
 H.B. No. 194, HD 1
 H.B. No. 957, HD 1
 H.B. No. 706, HD 1
 H.B. No. 510, HD 1
 H.B. No. 458, HD 2
 H.B. No. 1162, HD 2
 H.B. No. 226, HD 3
 H.B. No. 1159, HD 2
 H.B. No. 1137, HD 2
 H.B. No. 732, HD 2
 H.B. No. 1087, HD 2
 H.B. No. 969, HD 2

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1097) recommending that H.B. No. 792, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 792, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO GOVERNMENT SERVICES," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1099) recommending that H.B. No. 960, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

Representative Todd moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 960, HD 1 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

Representative Souza 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. 960, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representative Souza voting aye with reservations, and with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1100) recommending that H.B. No. 110, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 110, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO LOCAL AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1103) recommending that H.B. No. 563, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

Representative Todd moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 563, HD 1 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

"I rise in strong support. I would also like to request permission to insert written comments into the Journal."

Representative Souza's written remarks are as follows:

"I strongly support HB 563, HD 1. I am delighted to see bills of this nature moving forward at the Legislature that bolster the space economy here in Hawai'i. The space economy globally is on pace to reach \$1.8 trillion dollars by 2035 and we need to determine where Hawai'i fits into this conversation. Other states are investing in their local space economies, as it is lucrative and it will help with economic diversification. This bill will appropriate funds to the Institute for Astronomy, in collaboration with the College of Engineering, to support the University of Hawai'i's Space Science and Engineering Initiative (SSEI). By investing in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) workforce development programs, we can look forward to the long-term investment of readying our local students to enter STEM jobs. As our local space economy grows, this will be beneficial.

"Over the interim, I was fortunate to attend the Maine Space Conference in Portland, Maine, where the State of Maine is creating their new space economy, which has been focused on workforce development and creating job opportunities in Maine, incentivizing rocket and satellite companies to do business in Maine, and planning the construction of the Maine Space Complex, which will include a data and advanced analytics center, a New Space Innovation Hub, and launch sites and services. Although we are not quite there yet with this kind of progress in the space economy here in Hawai'i, bills such as this one will continue to lay the groundwork for the potential of an evolving space economy in Hawai'i for the future."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 563, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII'S SPACE SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING INITIATIVE," passed Third Reading by a vote of 48 ayes to 1 no, with Representative Perruso voting no, and with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1104) recommending that H.B. No. 1168, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

Representative Todd moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 1168, HD 1 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

Representative Matsumoto 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. 1168, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII REVENUE BONDS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 47 ayes to 2 noes, with Representative Matsumoto voting aye with reservations, with Representatives Garcia and Muraoka voting no, and with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1109) recommending that H.B. No. 1450, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 1450, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO AGRICULTURAL CLIMATE RESILIENCY," passed Third Reading by a vote of 48 ayes to 1 no, with Representative Garcia voting no, and with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1110) recommending that H.B. No. 1187, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

Representative Todd moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 1187, HD 1 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

"Thank you. I stand in support, but I just wanted to add some comments as to why. And I see Cindy's Lei Shoppe, which I do patronize, voted in opposition. But my main reasoning is, we ship in all those purple Thai orchids, and Hawai'i is our orchid island, Kaua'i is our garden island. And

the flowers that I wear today are handpicked, handsewn, grown by myself back on Maui. And I think if we're going to keep shipping things in, I know it's cheaper due to labor costs versus ours. But we need to get back to sustainability and keeping our economy home and all of that. So, I'd love to pursue this, push this forward so we can get our agriculture growing back, the beautiful flowers like you see here that I'm wearing. And so, that's why I'm in support and I'm happy to see this here. Thank you so much."

Representative Matsumoto rose in support of the measure with reservations and asked that her written remarks be inserted in the Journal, and the Chair "so ordered."

Representative Matsumoto's written remarks are as follows:

"I recognize the intent of HB 1187 in supporting local agriculture and reducing the state's reliance on imported flowers and lei. Encouraging the use of locally sourced products can benefit Hawai'i's economy and sustainability efforts.

"However, only 10%-15% of the flowers and lei used in Hawai'i are grown locally, and the supply cannot meet demand. Industry leaders have raised concerns about labor shortages, rising costs, and the impact on businesses, tourism, and cultural practices. Without imports, prices could increase, and the floral industry could suffer. For these reasons, I vote with reservations on HB1187."

Representative Shimizu rose to speak in support of the measure with reservations, stating:

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise in support with reservations and brief comments. I acknowledge the necessary promotion and support for our local suppliers and thank the introducer for this good bill. The reservation is to highlight the testimony from the local flower community stating their current situation. The state does not have the resources to fill demand. This will place a burden on many floral businesses who rely on the importation of flowers. And farmers are currently facing workforce challenges. Therefore, I highlight these reservations to highlight these current deficits and to address and prepare for the future timetable that is targeted so that we can meet the goals of the bill. 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. 1187, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO PROCUREMENT," passed Third Reading by a vote of 46 ayes to 3 noes, with Representatives Matsumoto and Shimizu voting aye with reservations, with Representatives Garcia, Kong, and Muraoka voting no, and with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1112) recommending that H.B. No. 504, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

Representative Todd moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 504, HD 2 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

Representative Perruso rose in support of the measure and asked that her written remarks be inserted in the Journal, and the Chair "so ordered."

Representative Perruso's written remarks are as follows:

"As a strong advocate for the protection of Hawai'i's natural environment and sustainable development, I wholeheartedly support HB 504, which takes significant steps toward safeguarding our natural resources, combating climate change, and ensuring a sustainable future for generations to come. The bill effectively addresses urgent issues of environmental degradation and the growing pressures on our ecosystems, brought about by both climate change and unchecked tourism.

"The increasing environmental pressures we face today are compounded by a new federal political context that threatens to undermine long-standing environmental protections. With shifts in federal policy prioritizing deregulation and industry interests over environmental safeguards, Hawai'i

must take proactive steps to defend its ecosystems. HB 504 provides a crucial mechanism for ensuring that the state does not rely on uncertain federal action but instead takes control of its environmental stewardship through local, self-funded initiatives.

"One of the central merits of HB 504 is its focus on increasing the transient accommodations tax (TAT), an essential revenue-generating measure that will directly fund critical environmental stewardship efforts. This proposed tax increase is a step toward aligning the tourism industry's contributions with the costs it imposes on Hawai'i's fragile ecosystems. The proposed funds will be used for critical restoration projects that protect our native forests, coastal ecosystems, and watersheds, which are vital not only for the environment but also for the long-term sustainability of Hawai'i's economy, particularly in sectors dependent on tourism and natural resource management.

"The bill underscores the importance of our responsibility to future generations, as outlined in the Hawai'i State Constitution. By enhancing funding for the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) to manage projects like coral reef restoration, invasive species control, and wildfire prevention, HB 504 directly supports the maintenance of our natural assets, which are critical to the health and resilience of our communities. These investments will mitigate the long-term economic costs associated with environmental disasters, such as flooding, wildfires, and coastal erosion, which, if left unchecked, could undermine Hawai'i's tourism-based economy and damage our food and water security.

"Moreover, HB 504's provisions to promote 'sustainable' tourism are pivotal in mitigating the environmental impact of an industry that often operates with little regard for the delicate balance between economic gain and ecological preservation. By ensuring that tourism revenue contributes to mitigating the damage it causes, the bill provides tools to help us transition to regenerative tourism. The allocation of funds toward addressing climate change impacts, like coastal restoration and watershed management, is especially timely, given the escalating threats of sea-level rise and more frequent natural disasters. These measures will not only preserve Hawai'i's unique beauty but also enhance its resilience against climate change, ensuring that our islands remain habitable and protected in the face of global environmental changes.

"Furthermore, the bill's inclusion of a special fund for reimbursable general obligation bond debt service adds a layer of financial sustainability to the initiative, ensuring that the state has a reliable mechanism for financing these projects without burdening future generations with unsustainable debt.

"In this increasingly precarious federal context, where the rollback of protections for natural resources is all too sure, HB 504 represents a critical step for Hawai'i to assert its environmental sovereignty. The bill provides a clear path forward for preserving our natural heritage while ensuring the resilience of our communities and economy against the destructive forces of climate change. By passing this bill, Hawai'i can safeguard its future against the threats posed by both environmental degradation and federal disinvestment in our planet's well-being."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 504, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP," passed Third Reading by a vote of 42 ayes to 7 noes, with Representatives Alcos, Garcia, Kong, Matsumoto, Muraoka, Reyes Oda, and Shimizu voting no, and with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1113) recommending that H.B. No. 97, HD 2 pass Third Reading.

Representative Todd moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 97, HD 2 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

Representative Iwamoto 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. 97, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN

ACT RELATING TO TRAVEL INSURANCE," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representative Iwamoto voting aye with reservations, and with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1114) recommending that H.B. No. 348, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 348, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO SINGLE-USE PLASTICS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 45 ayes to 4 noes, with Representatives Alcos, Garcia, Muraoka, and Shimizu voting no, and with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1120) recommending that H.B. No. 739, HD 2 pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 739, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HOUSING," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1121) recommending that H.B. No. 833, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

Representative Todd moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 833, HD 1 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

Representative Cochran rose to speak in support of the measure with reservations, stating:

"Thank you, Speaker. I have reservations on this one. I agree that let's do a pilot program. We do have a land trust that started up in Lahaina in particular. But I'd like to make sure that the monies expended for these land trusts are documented and accounted for in real time, maybe besides just a year-end report of it. So, I just want to make sure that the monies are expended properly and actually going to what they're given, that it's being benefited to the community that it's given to. So, 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. 833, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO COMMUNITY LAND TRUSTS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representative Cochran voting aye with reservations, and with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1122) recommending that H.B. No. 1097, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 1097, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC HOUSING EVICTIONS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 48 ayes to 1 no, with Representative Amato voting no, and with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1123) recommending that H.B. No. 1409, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

Representative Todd moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 1409, HD 1 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

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

Representative Belatti 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. 1409, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO TRANSIT-ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Belatti, Chun, and Lamosao voting aye with reservations, and with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1124) recommending that H.B. No. 1410, HD 2 pass Third Reading.

Representative Todd moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 1410, HD 2 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

Representative Perruso rose in support of the measure and asked that her written remarks be inserted in the Journal, and the Chair "so ordered."

Representative Perruso's written remarks are as follows:

"I stand in strong support of HB 1410, a measure that will address some of the most pressing housing challenges our state is currently facing. With the strain on our fiscal resources due to the recent shifts in federal policies, we are now confronted with new budgetary pressures that demand innovative solutions. HB 1410 offers a timely and necessary approach to reconfigure how we fund and manage housing in Hawai'i, especially for our most vulnerable populations.

"This bill seeks to restructure the conveyance tax system, ensuring that the wealthiest property owners contribute their fair share. By implementing a marginal rate system and adjusting for multifamily properties on a per-unit basis, HB 1410 aligns our tax structure with the realities of Hawai'i's high-cost housing market. In doing so, we will ensure that the burden of housing costs is more equitably distributed, especially as property values continue to rise due to external economic factors beyond our control. This reform is vital, not only to support our state's infrastructure but to ensure that our housing policies remain responsive to the needs of all our residents.

"A particularly compelling component of this bill is the establishment of the Supportive Housing Special Fund. We know that our communities are diverse and face varying levels of need, from individuals struggling with addiction or mental illness, to veterans, survivors of domestic violence, and those transitioning from incarceration. This fund will provide a stable, dedicated resource to build, operate, and maintain housing that supports these individuals, which is critical for addressing Hawai'i's homelessness crisis. The current reliance on unpredictable legislative appropriations only heightens uncertainty for those relying on these services. A dedicated funding source will bring the stability necessary for these projects to thrive.

"Furthermore, the allocation of additional revenue to support infrastructure in transit-oriented development (TOD) areas will enhance our ability to create vibrant, mixed-use communities near public transit hubs. This forward-thinking approach not only addresses immediate housing needs but ensures that we are building the kinds of communities that are sustainable and resilient in the face of climate change and urbanization. By focusing on TOD areas, we are making strategic investments that align with long-term planning goals while mitigating future infrastructure challenges.

"As we face new fiscal realities, HB 1410 presents a way forward that will generate much-needed revenue—approximately \$35 million annually—while directly addressing the critical issue of affordable housing. In this time of fiscal strain, we must be innovative and responsive to the needs of our residents. This bill is a step in the right direction, providing solutions that will have a lasting and positive impact on our communities."

Representative Reyes Oda 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. 1410, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HOUSING," passed Third Reading by a vote of 43 ayes to 6 noes, with Representative Reyes Oda voting aye with reservations, with Representatives Alcos, Garcia, Kong, Matsumoto, Muraoka, and Shimizu voting no, and with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1126) recommending that H.B. No. 1467, HD 2 pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 1467, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HOUSING RESILIENCY," passed Third Reading by a vote of 45 ayes to 4 noes, with Representatives Alcos, Garcia, Muraoka, and Shimizu voting no, and with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1127) recommending that H.B. No. 606, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

Representative Todd moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 606, HD 1 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. In strong support. And I'd like to thank the introducer for bringing this measure forth and it was a priority for our Hawaiian Caucus package this year. I stand here today to advocate for a long overdue commitment, which is increasing funding for the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands to build homes for Native Hawaiians. This is not just a financial decision, it's a moral obligation, a matter of justice, and a crucial step towards fulfilling the promises made to the Native Hawaiian people over a century ago.

"Noting the absence of any funding for additional homesteads in the administration's budget, I'm really thankful that the House is passing this measure and showing our commitment to continue to address this overdue issue and end the waiting for over 28,000 on the waiting list. I'd like to special *mahalo* the JHA committee chair and Fin chair for making sure we got to this point.

"The Hawaiian Homes Commission Act of 1920 was intended to provide Native Hawaiians with the land and opportunity to build stable and thriving communities. And yet for decades, thousands of eligible families have been left waiting, some for decades and some never seeing that promise fulfilled in their lifetimes, Madam Speaker. Many people have died on the waiting list.

"Today, there are still more than 28,000 Native Hawaiians on the waiting list waiting for homestead land and many struggle with the high housing costs, displacement, and the erosion of cultural ties to the ancestral lands. As we all know, it's been noted many times that there are more Native Hawaiians living on the continent than in our islands.

"This legislation is a necessary and urgent investment in the future of Hawai'i. By increasing the funding to DHHL, we can accelerate home construction, develop essential infrastructure, and ensure that Native Hawaiian families have access to safe and affordable housing. It's unacceptable that in a state where land was taken away from Native Hawaiians, they now face some of the highest housing costs in the nation with little opportunity to reclaim their rightful place on the land.

"For a long time, the department has received much criticism for their lack of production of the new homesteads and the growing wait list. Some may say it was unfair criticism, as the department has been historically underfunded. From the inception of the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act in 1920 to 2022, there were about 10,000 homesteads awarded in the entire program. Since 2022 and the award of the \$600 million by this legislature, DHHL has plans to award an additional 6,000 leases on completion of the construction with the \$600 million. So that's 6,000 units currently, as opposed to the 10,000 in over 100 years. But that still leaves a wait list of over 20,000, and thus the need for this measure and additional funding for the department.

"This is not just a Native Hawaiian issue. This is a Hawai'i issue. And strengthening Native Hawaiian communities strengthen the entire state. When families have stable housing, they contribute to the economy, preserve cultural traditions, and build stronger communities for all of us.

"Now is the time to act. Let's honor our commitment, and let's invest in the people who have called these islands home for generations. Let's pass this legislation and give Native Hawaiians the homes that they were promised. *Mahalo*."

Representative Iwamoto rose in support of the measure and asked that the remarks of the representative from Chinatown be entered into the Journal as her own, and the Chair "so ordered." (By reference only.)

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

"Thank you, Speaker. In strong support. I would like to adopt the words of our Hawaiian Caucus chair as my own. Also, a quick comment. Just to add a little bit, the first infusion of \$600 million was so unprecedented and we're seeing that it's going to produce incredible results, and that can't have been a onetime thing, we need to keep the momentum going. That's all, thank you," and the Chair "so ordered." (By reference only.)

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

"Madam Speaker, in strong support. And may I also adopt the words from the Native Hawaiian Caucus chair as well as the representative from Moloka'i as if they were my own," and the Chair "so ordered." (By reference only.)

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. In strong support. May I also adopt the words of the representative from Moloka'i, also the chair of the Native Hawaiian Caucus. Thank you," and the Chair "so ordered." (By reference only.)

Representative Hussey rose in support of the measure and asked that the remarks of representative from Moloka'i and the chair of the Native Hawaiian Caucus be entered into the Journal as his own, and the Chair "so ordered." (By reference only.)

Representative Perruso rose in support of the measure and asked that the remarks of representative from Moloka'i and the chair of the Native Hawaiian Caucus be entered into the Journal as her own, and the Chair "so ordered." (By reference only.)

Representative Keohokapu-Lee Loy rose in support of the measure and asked that the remarks of representative from Moloka'i and the chair of the Native Hawaiian Caucus be entered into the Journal as her own, and the Chair "so ordered." (By reference only.)

Representative Olds rose in support of the measure and asked that the remarks of representative from Moloka'i and the chair of the Native Hawaiian Caucus be entered into the Journal as his own, and the Chair "so ordered." (By reference only.)

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

"*Mahalo*, Madam Speaker. In support. May I please adopt the words of the representative from Moloka'i and the chair of the Hawaiian Caucus and a brief comment. Madam Speaker, when we house Native Hawaiians, we are housing Hawai'i. When we free up the wait list, we allow residents in Hawai'i to have a place hold in the places that they are from. Our homesteads are the pillars of our communities, and they are one of our only ways to keep lifelong residents here in this state.

"It was the Legislature when you were the Housing chair and our lieutenant governor served as the Finance chair that you folks did the first infusion of what was unprecedented monies. I know the federal looming issues that are facing us in the state may pose a challenge for us to fund some of these measures. But every chance that we have the opportunity to fund Department of Hawaiian Home Lands, and for the staff at DHHL watching, it shows our commitment to this agency and a reaffirming commitment to support housing Native Hawaiians here in Hawai'i. *Mahalo*."

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

"Thank you, Speaker. In support. I just wanted to say that the extension is not a sign that they haven't done a good job spending the money. It's just so they can spend it to the best possible projects. But I think those of us on the working group overseeing Act 279, the spending, had been very impressed.

They've been doing a very good job. And that really gives this body confidence that when we have the funds to give, we can go back and do another installment. Because they really have been very conscientious and proactive in spending the money. Thank you."

Representative Reyes Oda rose in support of the measure and asked that the remarks of the representative from Nānākuli, the representative from Kailua, the representative from Moloka'i, and the chair of the Hawaiian Affairs Committee be entered into the Journal as her own, and the Chair "so ordered." (By reference only.)

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise in strong support. I would like to insert the words of the Native Hawaiian Caucus chair into the record as my own. And I also want just a brief comment. I firmly believe that when Hawaiians thrive, Hawai'i thrives. And I look forward to continued funding for the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands, as well as the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, and continuing to funnel our resources to Hawaiians. Thank you," and the Chair "so ordered." (By reference only.)

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise in strong support. And I remember thinking, I wish I could have gone to Kamehameha, but that was impossible. And I just pledge my support to the native people and their culture. *Aloha*."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 606, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOMELANDS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 48 ayes to 1 no, with Representative Muraoka voting no, and with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1128) recommending that H.B. No. 740, HD 2 pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 740, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HOUSING," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1130) recommending that H.B. No. 1408, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 1408, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1131) recommending that H.B. No. 126, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

Representative Todd moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 126, HD 1 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise in opposition to HB 126 with brief comments. Although I agree with the intent of this bill and thank the introducer, the concerns are based on HPD's testimony that this bill would affect their enforcement and be burdensome on their already short-staffed personnel, which would continue to affect their ability to do their job. And also, the attorney general commented in testimony that existing law adequately protects the rights of property owners. And for those reasons, I stand in opposition. 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. 126, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO PROPERTY FORFEITURE," passed Third

Reading by a vote of 45 ayes to 4 noes, with Representatives Garcia, Matsumoto, Muraoka, and Shimizu voting no, and with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1132) recommending that H.B. No. 134, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 134, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 46 ayes to 3 noes, with Representatives Garcia, Muraoka, and Shimizu voting no, and with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1138) recommending that H.B. No. 472, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

Representative Todd moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 472, HD 1 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

At 11:40 a.m., Representative Todd requested a recess and the Chair declared a recess subject to the call of the Chair.

The House of Representatives reconvened at 11:40 a.m.

Representative Shimizu rose in opposition to the measure and asked that his written remarks be inserted in the Journal, and the Chair "so ordered."

Representative Shimizu's written remarks are as follows:

"I rise in opposition with brief comments.

"My opposition is based on the Department of Transportation's testimony stating they're concerned that it's not intended to replace physical ID. Also, it is still not available for Android users, which doesn't allow the change for everyone.

"It is a good idea, and credit the introducer, but it may be ahead of its time and more vetting is needed to avoid unintended problems and ID crimes."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 472, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO DIGITAL IDENTIFICATION," passed Third Reading by a vote of 46 ayes to 3 noes, with Representatives Garcia, Matsumoto, and Shimizu voting no, and with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

At 11:45 a.m., the Chair noted that the following bills passed Third Reading:

H.B. No. 792, HD 1
H.B. No. 960, HD 1
H.B. No. 110, HD 1
H.B. No. 563, HD 1
H.B. No. 1168, HD 1
H.B. No. 1450, HD 2
H.B. No. 1187, HD 1
H.B. No. 504, HD 2
H.B. No. 97, HD 2
H.B. No. 348, HD 1
H.B. No. 739, HD 2
H.B. No. 833, HD 1
H.B. No. 1097, HD 1
H.B. No. 1409, HD 1
H.B. No. 1410, HD 2
H.B. No. 1467, HD 2
H.B. No. 606, HD 1
H.B. No. 740, HD 2
H.B. No. 1408, HD 1
H.B. No. 126, HD 1
H.B. No. 134, HD 1
H.B. No. 472, HD 1

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1141) recommending that H.B. No. 664, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

Representative Todd moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 664, HD 1 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise in opposition with brief comments, please. Although I agree with the intent of this bill and thank the introducer, there is already a Gun Violence and Violent Crimes Commission, which the attorney general testified there would be an overlap of duties. Therefore, with this existing commission in place, I believe we should be tasking this entity to provide the required asks of this bill and avoid redundancy to save money and minimize bureaucracy. 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. 664, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION," passed Third Reading by a vote of 45 ayes to 4 noes, with Representatives Garcia, Reyes Oda, Shimizu, and Souza voting no, and with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1144) recommending that H.B. No. 370, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

Representative Todd moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 370, HD 2 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. In opposition. Many individuals testified in opposition to this measure because they don't want their tax dollars paying for a candidate who does not represent their opinions, beliefs, or even live in their district. While it is true that this program is partially funded by a voluntary donation made while filing taxes, still this bill is accompanied by blank appropriation of general revenue into the Hawai'i Election Campaign Fund, as well as a recommended \$200,000 appropriation to the Campaign Spending Commission for FTEs. Therefore, taxpayer dollars are being spent to implement and operate this program. Thank you, Madam Speaker."

Representative Matsumoto rose in support of the measure with reservations and asked that her written remarks be inserted in the Journal, and the Chair "so ordered."

Representative Matsumoto's written remarks are as follows:

"Last year, I conducted a district-wide survey, in which I asked my constituents whether they supported the idea of using public funds to help fund political campaigns. The community response to this question was significantly negative. Although I understand the bill's intent for helping candidates fund their respective campaigns, I stand with my community and their voiced disapproval. For this reason, I vote with reservations."

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

"Thank you, Madam chair. I rise in support. Thank you very much. One in four voters live in a secured building or a gated community that makes low-cost door knocking impossible. No matter how earnest a candidate may be, this free personal delivery of their qualifications will never make it across that abyss. Even just sending one mailer to all registered voters in a district can cost \$7,000 for printing and postage. What should we tell candidates who do not have access to a trust fund, wealthy donors, or powerful electeds with a surplus of tobacco money in their campaign accounts? Should we tell the economically disadvantaged candidates that there is no path forward in our democracy for them?"

"Think about the billions of taxpayer dollars that we allocate. This bill appropriately invests a minuscule fraction to ensure we have the broadest economic diversity participating in those decisions. Who do you think has

an easier time fundraising in this state? A candidate who belongs to a political party that is in power or a candidate who belongs to a party not in power? And therefore, their party members are the lesser beneficiaries of pay-to-play politics political contributions. In fact, I bet partially publicly financed elections would be a greater game changer to such a minority party candidate. Thank you."

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. In support, brief comments. In the historic 1978 Hawai'i Constitutional Convention, the public financing of elections was established as a key part of our Constitution, stating that a public campaign fund could dilute 'the effective influence of money and large contributors' and 'to equalize opportunity for all to participate meaningfully in the political process.'

"In the years that followed, public funding of elections played a meaningful role in major races up and down the ballot in Hawai'i's local elections. But in recent decades, with rising costs and the flood, the flood of political spending unleashed by the U.S. Supreme Court's Citizens United decision in 2009, our public financing programs have not kept up with the reality of modern political campaigns.

"This bill looks at and contemplates modest changes to our public finance system. Because of these changes, and I do look forward to the continued movement of this bill forward, I vote strongly in favor because I believe in the need to provide a robust alternative to our current private money campaign finance system. I do want to keep the conversation going about what the system should look like during this legislative session. With all of those points in mind, Madam Speaker, in strong support. Thank you."

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. In strong support, and I would like the words of the representative from Makiki inserted into the record as my own. Thank you," and the Chair "so ordered." (By reference only.)

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

"In opposition. I want to read a quote from Thomas Jefferson from the year 1786, long time ago. 'To compel a man to furnish contributions of money for the propagation of opinions which he disbelieves and abhors, is sinful and tyrannical.' President Thomas Jefferson."

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. In strong support, and I would like to request the words of the representatives from Makiki and Kaka'ako be entered into the Journal as if they were my own. Thank you," and the Chair "so ordered." (By reference only.)

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

"Strong support and same request," and the Chair "so ordered." (By reference only.)

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 370, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO PARTIAL PUBLIC FINANCING OF ELECTIONS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 46 ayes to 3 noes, with Representative Matsumoto voting aye with reservations, with Representatives Garcia, Muraoka, and Reyes Oda voting no, and with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1145) recommending that H.B. No. 550, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 550, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO FIREWORKS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1146) recommending that H.B. No. 990, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

Representative Todd moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 990, HD 2 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

Representative Belatti rose, stating:

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. Rising to request to be excused from voting on House Bill 990. As I explained and requested of Chief Attorney Morita, House Bill 990 regarding making appropriations for claims against the state, its officers, or its employees, although I did not work on one of the matters listed in House Bill 990, the law firm I am employed by has a claim for settlement in this bill. Based upon the inclusion of this matter in House Bill 990, Chief Attorney Morita determined that a conflict of interest exists pursuant to rules. So, accordingly, based on this determination and House Rule 62.5, I request to be excused from voting on House Bill 990 and any Senate bill that might come over with claims against the state."

The Chair addressed Representative Belatti, stating:

"So ordered. Again, thank you again for reaching out to our House attorney to clarify this ahead of time."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 990, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT MAKING APPROPRIATIONS FOR CLAIMS AGAINST THE STATE, ITS OFFICERS, OR ITS EMPLOYEES," passed Third Reading by a vote of 47 ayes to 1 no, with Representative Garcia voting no, and with Representatives Belatti, Pierick, and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1151) recommending that H.B. No. 316, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

Representative Todd moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 316, HD 1 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

Representative Shimizu rose to speak in support of the measure with reservations, stating:

"Thank you, Madam Chair. I rise in support with reservations and brief comments. I agree that this is a good program with good results. My reservations are the concerns that the original \$12 million that was requested is quite high. And I would like to track the administrative costs of this program. And also, would like to see the recipients of this program remain in Hawai'i and pay it forward from their training invested in them. That's my support with reservations. Thank you, Madam Speaker."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 316, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE GREEN JOBS YOUTH CORPS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 46 ayes to 3 noes, with Representative Shimizu voting aye with reservations, with Representatives Alcos, Garcia, and Muraoka voting no, and with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1152) recommending that H.B. No. 505, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

Representative Todd moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 505, HD 1 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise in strong support with brief comments, please. I want to thank the introducer of this bill. With Red Hill being in my district, I have a vested interest and responsibility to promote efforts to further safeguard and promote additional corrective actions as needed to assure that our water will always be safe from contamination. This thoughtful bill establishes a Water Alliance Initiative coordinator, or WAI, for coordination of the Red Hill WAI initiatives. It continues to monitoring of the conditions at Red Hill and helps assure proper coordination between federal, county, and state agencies, as well as champion public transparency.

And those are the reasons I support this important bill. Thank you, Madam Speaker."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 505, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO RED HILL," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1154) recommending that H.B. No. 649, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

Representative Todd moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 649, HD 1 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

"Speaker, thank you. Opposition. I understand the need for funding for small boat harbors. I have a couple in my district. I see a lot of in the standing comm. report that a lot of companies from Lahaina itself, in particular, are not favorable to an increase in the fee. I want to stand by the hardship that they're going through, and as long as there's confidence that the monies gotten through such a fee goes back to that particular small boat harbor that's affected and needs to utilize the funds. But currently, the 3% that they are charged goes into the state general fund for boating, and it doesn't typically come back to us. So, those are just some concerns at this point and my reason for opposition. *Mahalo*."

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise in opposition with brief comments, please. This legislature has stepped up to address the Maui wildfire victims with generous legislation in 2024 and this year also with the global settlement. With many businesses and their economies still recovering and struggling, although with respect to this introducer, acknowledging the repairs that are needed, to increase costs and fees at this time to the users is not good timing, and I would recommend we defer. Thank you, Madam Speaker."

Representative Reyes Oda 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. 649, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO SMALL BOAT HARBORS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 42 ayes to 7 noes, with Representative Reyes Oda voting aye with reservations, with Representatives Alcos, Cochran, Garcia, Matsumoto, Muraoka, Shimizu, and Souza voting no, and with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1155) recommending that H.B. No. 800, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

Representative Todd moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 800, HD 1 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

Representative Hussey rose in support of the measure with reservations and asked that his written remarks be inserted in the Journal, and the Chair "so ordered."

Representative Hussey's written remarks are as follows:

"This bill will significantly hinder the efforts of the Public Land Trust (PLT) Working Group within the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) by complicating its mandate to inventory and track all 'ceded' lands (the Crown and Government Lands). These lands, which were illegally transferred from the Hawaiian Kingdom to the United States and subsequently conveyed to the State of Hawai'i, require meticulous documentation to ensure transparency, accountability, and adherence to the state's trust obligations to Native Hawaiians.

"The Public Land Trust and the State's Obligations

"The Public Land Trust was established under Section 5(f) of the Hawai'i Admission Act (Public Law 86-3, 1959), which stipulates that certain lands transferred from the federal government to the newly formed State of Hawai'i be held in trust for specific purposes, including:

1. The support of public schools and other public educational institutions,
2. The betterment of the conditions of Native Hawaiians, as defined in the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act, 1920, as amended,
3. The development of farm and home ownership on as widespread a basis as possible,
4. The making of public improvements, and
5. The provision of lands for public use.

"These lands, originating from the approximately 1.8 million acres of Crown and Government lands of the Hawaiian Kingdom, are integral to Hawai'i's legal and moral obligations to Native Hawaiians and the citizens of the Kingdom. The trust is intended to provide financial and land-based benefits to the Native Hawaiian community, a commitment reaffirmed through state laws, including the establishment of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) in 1978, which is entitled to a portion of the revenues generated from these lands.

"Further acknowledgment of these obligations is found in U.S. Public Law 103-150 (1993), known as the Apology Resolution, wherein the United States formally recognized that the overthrow of the Hawaiian Kingdom in 1893 was illegal and that the Hawaiian people never directly relinquished our sovereignty or claims to our national lands.

"How This Bill Undermines the Public Land Trust

"The PLT Working Group is tasked with identifying ceded lands, monitoring their use, and ensuring their proper management within the trust framework. However, this bill introduces several provisions that create obstacles to this process, including:

- Authorizing the transfer of land parcels between state agencies, which could obscure the status of these lands concerning trust obligations.
- Facilitating land exchanges between the State of Hawai'i and the City and County of Honolulu, potentially removing lands from the trust without adequate oversight.
- Allowing land transfers to settle debts between the State and the City and County of Honolulu, which might prioritize financial considerations over trust responsibilities.
- Including a provision that exempts certain lands from the definition of 'public lands,' effectively removing them from trust oversight and diminishing OHA's ability to claim its rightful share of revenues.

"Each of these provisions increases the complexity of the PLT Working Group's task by obscuring land ownership records, making it more challenging to determine which lands remain within the trust and under what conditions. The potential for lands to be transferred, reclassified, or exempted from public land status without clear oversight further erodes the transparency necessary for proper stewardship.

"Public Land Trust exemptions should be removed

"Speaker, at this point, I'd like to raise concerns about HRS §171-2, which contains 17 exemptions from the definition of public lands. These exemptions encompass a range of categories, including lands set aside for specific purposes, which I believe violates the constitutional prohibition in Article XI Section V requiring general legislation. Moreover, removal of these lands from the PLT constitutes a harm against the beneficiaries of the Public Land Trust. I respectfully urge your Legislature to reexamine these exemptions in future deliberations.

"Conclusion

"As trustees of the Public Land Trust, we have a legal requirement to ensure that the Crown and Government lands are properly accounted for and utilized in a manner that upholds the state's commitments to Native Hawaiians and the general public. Given the historical injustices acknowledged in U.S. Public Law 103-150 and the ongoing legal obligations of the state, any legislation that alters the status of ceded lands should be approached with extreme caution.

"*Mahalo* for the opportunity to speak on this measure."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 800, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO GOVERNMENT," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representative Hussey voting aye with reservations, and with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1156) recommending that H.B. No. 818, HD 2 pass Third Reading.

Representative Todd moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 818, HD 2 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

Representative Keohokapu-Lee Loy rose to speak in support of the measure, stating:

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. In support. First of all, I want to take the opportunity to thank the subject matter chairs from Water & Land and CPC for putting together a House Draft 2 that has really tailored in the comments from the Department of Land and Natural Resources along with the comments from Hawai'i Community Development Authority.

"Why I stand in strong support, two reasons. This bill actually provides a pathway for community stakeholders to begin to architect a future for the Waiākea Peninsula area, something that Hawai'i Island has not seen the entire time that this lands have been under ownership by the Department of Land and Natural Resources. But two, this bill truly is a legacy bill for our former Representative Nakashima, who stood in strong support of economic opportunities for Hilo. And what this bill does is actually elevate his legacy for economy and economic development in Hilo, but also puts the opportunity for stakeholders to architect a vibrant future filled with culture and community. Thank you, Madam Speaker. I yield."

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

"Thank you, Speaker. I'd like to have the words of District 2 representative entered as my own. I'm in strong support. And I can also say that this kind of process really helps bring together all the needs of our community, culturally, environmentally, and the business community, and find common threads that can really move our community forward. And I thank all those who have put time and effort to put this together. Thank you," and the Chair "so ordered." (By reference only.)

Representative Shimizu rose to speak in support of the measure with reservations, stating:

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise in strong support with reservation and brief comments, please. This bill is a great idea and has a great purpose. And I thank the representative from Hilo for this introduction. My reservation is the concern regarding the sustainability and longevity of this special fund. I wish it all the best and support this vision and look forward to see the successful achievement for this special part of Hilo, and look forward to a future visit to experience and enjoy these improvements. Thank you, Madam Speaker."

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

"Thank you, in support. In what will probably be my first speech for the year, I just wanted to say the words Banyan Drive and hope that it's the last time I have to do so on the floor. So, I'd strongly encourage our colleagues to support this measure and the Senate to please do their job. Thanks."

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise in strong support. I would also like to note that I think we should allow the representatives from Hawai'i Island to have their say when it comes to this issue. And I would also like the words of the representative from District 2 inserted into the Journal as my own. Thank you," and the Chair "so ordered." (By reference only.)

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 818, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE WAIÁKEA COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes,

with Representative Shimizu voting aye with reservations, and with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1158) recommending that H.B. No. 1358, HD 2, as amended in HD 3, pass Third Reading.

Representative Todd moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 1358, HD 3 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. I'm in support. This bill relates to the Public Land Trust Working Group, and I have comments. I rise in strong support for House Bill 1358, House Draft 3, which would appropriate monies to the Office of Hawaiian Affairs to facilitate the hiring of necessary staff and the purchase of equipment and professional services on behalf of the Public Land Trust Working Group. This is critically important because we need to fulfill the intent of the Public Land Trust Working Group which is to conduct a proper accounting of all ceded lands in the public land trust inventory, account for all income and proceeds from the public land trust, and subsequently determine the 20% pro rata share of income and proceeds from the Public Land Trust due annually to OHA for the betterment of the conditions of Native Hawaiians.

"OHA deserves their rightful share of ceded land revenues, and it is long overdue. There is another bill moving this session that calls to repeal the Public Land Trust Working Group and instead create a Claims Review Working Group to create a process by which a master settlement agreement can be reached between the state and OHA. However, a master settlement agreement would not even be able to be contemplated without first laying the foundation with the work of the Public Land Trust Working Group, so we have a proper accounting of the ceded lands in the public land trust inventory.

"I look forward to moving this bill forward so we can finally have a proper accounting of the ceded lands, which will ultimately lead to providing Hawaiians with revenue that will help both Hawaiians and Hawai'i thrive. Thank you, Madam Speaker."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 1358, HD 3, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE PUBLIC LAND TRUST WORKING GROUP," passed Third Reading by a vote of 49 ayes, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Tarnas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1159) recommending that H.B. No. 229, HD 1 pass Third Reading.

Representative Todd moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 229, HD 1 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise in opposition with brief comments, please. I agree with the idea of having safety on our highways, but with respect to the introducer, with great respect, I feel the practical application of this bill will be very difficult to distinguish and enforce. And that is the reason for my opposition. Thank you."

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. In support. In 2023, we enacted Act 238, which prohibits certain oversized commercial vehicles from using the far-left lane on roadways to three or more lanes traveling in the same direction. However, by 2024, no citations has been issued due to the vague language and unclear enforcement measures. This measure before us allows us the opportunity to aim and strengthen the law that we passed before us to enhance road safety. Noting that there are only one roadway here in the entire state with more than three lanes, which is on the island of O'ahu."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 229, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION," passed Third Reading by a vote of 45 ayes to 4 noes, with Representatives Alcos, Garcia, Shimizu, and Souza voting no, and with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Tarnas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1160) recommending that H.B. No. 277, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

Representative Todd moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 277, HD 2 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

"Thank you. I rise in opposition with brief comments. I appreciate and agree with the introducer's intent to promote and improve safety if possible. My opposition is based on opposition testimony from our first responders, HPD, the Department of Law Enforcement, SHOPO, the Law Enforcement Standards Board, and the Attorney General's comments, that this could be handled by the Law Enforcement Standards Board.

"Note that the Law Enforcement Standards Board testified and commented that they are already examining issues such as vehicular pursuit policies and asked for this bill to be postponed as they would like to conduct more in-depth research and receive input from stakeholders. So, based on this compelling testimony, Madam Speaker, I encourage this deferment. 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. 277, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO VEHICULAR PURSUIT," passed Third Reading by a vote of 43 ayes to 6 noes, with Representatives Alcos, Garcia, Kong, Matsumoto, Muraoka, and Shimizu voting no, and with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Tarnas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1161) recommending that H.B. No. 367, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

Representative Todd moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 367, HD 2 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise in opposition. Number one, as a supporter of home rule for the counties, this bill allows, it's the state basically trumping the county building codes to allow homeowners or people who own property who are going to have some construction work done to, instead of hiring a licensed contractor, they can instead hire a handyman with less protections. And so, for those reasons, I'm voting in opposition."

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

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

Representative Reyes Oda 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. 367, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO BUILDING PERMITS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 48 ayes to 1 no, with Representatives Perruso and Souza voting aye with reservations, with Representative Iwamoto voting no, and with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Tarnas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1162) recommending that H.B. No. 420, HD 2, as amended in HD 3, pass Third Reading.

Representative Todd moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 420, HD 3 pass Third Reading, 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 Shimizu rose to speak in support of the measure with reservations, stating:

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise in support with reservations and brief comments, please. I totally agree that there needs to be more clarity and revisions to protect the contractor from unwarranted claims that ultimately drives up the cost of housing, which we are all trying to reduce. And at the same time, protecting consumers' positions.

"I am thankful for the respected Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs chair, who I believe made some significant amendments and improvements to the bill. But some important opposing attorney testimony involved in this arena were not able to review this final draft changes and we were not able to hear their feedback. I know we want to improve this legal framework and arrangement to accomplish a win-win situation and avoid any unintended consequences. So, my reservation is the need for careful ongoing discussion, monitoring, vetting, and adjustments as required. Thank you."

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

Representative Reyes Oda 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. 420, HD 3, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO REMEDIES," passed Third Reading by a vote of 48 ayes to 1 no, with Representatives Belatti, Garcia, Reyes Oda, and Shimizu voting aye with reservations, with Representative Muraoka voting no, and with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Tarnas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1163) recommending that H.B. No. 826, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

Representative Todd moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 826, HD 2 pass Third Reading, 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 Amato rose and asked that the Clerk record an aye vote with reservations for her, and the Chair "so ordered."

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise in opposition with brief comments, please. Although I agree with the introducer's intent to create more workforce housing, my opposition is based on the concern that the agricultural lands that would be exchanged was questionable with opposition testimony from the Department of Agriculture, the State Land Use Commission, and the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development. No information to confirm what lands were being transferred was available in the committee hearing. So, the concern of losing food producing land at this time leads me to oppose. Thank you, Madam Speaker."

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

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

"In support. Thank you, Madam Speaker. I just want to clarify that no lands are being transferred in any way under this bill. It just gives the county planning commissions broader authority to develop housing on agricultural land with a number of guardrails on the development. The land has to be adjacent to an existing urban state land use district. The land has to be identified in a general plan as a targeted growth area. And then the land has

to be used for workforce fee simple housing or long-term rental housing. So again, no land is being transferred under this bill. Thank you."

Representative Shimizu rose, stating:

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. With that clarification, I would like to change my no opposition to support with reservations. Thank you."

Representative Grandinetti 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. 826, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HOUSING," passed Third Reading by a vote of 47 ayes to 2 noes, with Representatives Amato, Belatti, Garcia, Grandinetti, and Shimizu voting aye with reservations, with Representatives Perruso and Poeopoe voting no, and with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Tarnas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1164) recommending that H.B. No. 661, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

Representative Todd moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 661, HD 2 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

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

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

Representative Iwamoto 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. 661, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW," passed Third Reading by a vote of 40 ayes to 9 noes, with Representatives Hussey, Iwamoto, Shimizu, and Souza voting aye with reservations, with Representatives Amato, Belatti, Grandinetti, Holt, Kahaloa, Kila, Marten, Perruso, and Poeopoe voting no, and with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1166) recommending that H.B. No. 476, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

Representative Todd moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 476, HD 2 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

"In strong support with brief comments. Thank you, Madam Speaker. This bill is about fairness. Right now, a teacher or nurse working full time pays a higher tax rate on their wages than an investor making money off stocks. That's backwards. This bill raises the capital gains tax for individuals, estates, and trusts, and for corporations, closing a loophole that benefits the wealthiest amongst us while working families shoulder the burden.

"Colleagues may worry that this will drive investment away or hurt business, but data from other jurisdictions that tax capital gains more fairly have not seen that effect. And in this moment, when we are seeing federal cuts devastating our state budget, we need to revisit these principles of our economic system. And it's important that we center the working families of Hawai'i, because when we do that, we can see clearly that investment income should not be taxed less than working wages. Thank you, Madam Speaker."

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise in opposition with brief comments, please. The cost of living is the number one issue for our constituents, and although this bill may seem to insulate most of the public because it appears to target higher income brackets, we know that those affected will be business owners, which in turn will affect employees and customers. Reduced expenditures will also affect retail and other consumer spending. In general, Hawai'i will continue to be a difficult place to live and do business. Our people are pleading with us to reduce the cost of living. And I beg to differ and believe that this bill is not going to help reduce the cost of living. So, I encourage you to defer. Thank you, Madam Speaker."

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

"Thank you, Speaker. In strong support. I just want to clarify that capital gains are a tax on capital goods that have been held for more than 365 days. They do not impact businesses or short-term sales or ordinary income. It's typically a gain on real estate, potentially on a business, and those who are tax advantaged and use this as a, who gain benefit from this. There's all kinds of ways to work it to reduce your taxable income and capital gains."

"But really, the fact that there's jets parked at Hilo International Airport on a valet service because there's too many jets in Kona, private jets, should say something about the people who do these real estate transactions and then have huge gains that could drop down to our tax system as stated by the representative from Makiki. I really think we should support this, and I hope everyone does. It will not hurt our lower income people. Thank you."

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

"Thank you, I rise in support. I'd like to appreciate the work of the authors to create a revenue-generating bill at a time when we so desperately need that. I think this is estimated to have \$50 million in revenue, and we're looking at potential very large shortfalls due to the policies of our new federal administration. I do really appreciate that. Thank you."

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise in opposition. I think a lot of people focus on the financial gain of selling something. But what they lack is the focus of the major risk that go into achieving that to be able to sell it. With that, I'm opposed."

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

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

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. In strong support. And I would actually like to enter the words of the representative from Hilo as if they were my own," and the Chair "so ordered." (By reference only.)

Representative Perruso continued, stating:

"And to add an additional comment. So, what I hear from the opposition is the idea or the notion that this measure is somehow anti-business or anti-investment. And I think that what I would emphasize in this conversation is that this minimal increase in the tax rate will help us provide better infrastructure, better housing, better support for our people, which is the basis for a strong economy."

"It strengthens business by helping us to fund schools, roads, and services that make Hawai'i livable. And I don't see this as, it's been characterized elsewhere as another tax hike. I see this as a correction to a flawed structure. Working families already pay more than their fair share through excise and income tax, and this simply levels the playing field. Thank you."

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. In strong support. I'd like to adopt the words of the representative from District 1 as my own. And also add, I'd like to go on a limb for a moment and say that I believe that we need to figure out not only how to tax capital gains, but also unrealized gains. Thank you very much," and the Chair "so ordered." (By reference only.)

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

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

"I rise in opposition. But I do appreciate the words from my colleague from Wahiawā, so I would like to enter her words into the Journal as my own. Thank you," and the Chair "so ordered." (By reference only.)

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and the report of the Committee was adopted and H.B. No. 476, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CAPITAL GAINS TAX," passed Third Reading by a vote of 40 ayes to 9 noes, with Representatives Kila, Lamosao, and Miyake voting aye with reservations, with Representatives Alcos, Amato, Garcia, Kong, Matsumoto, Muraoka, Reyes Oda, Shimizu, and Souza voting no, and with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1167) recommending that H.B. No. 1308, HD 2, as amended in HD 3, pass Third Reading.

Representative Todd moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 1308, HD 3 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. In strong support. Today I'm standing here in strong support of legalized online sports wagering in Hawai'i, which is an opportunity for us to generate much-needed revenue and regulate an already thriving underground market and provide consumers protection for residents who are currently placing bets in the shadows."

"Hawai'i is one of the last states in the nation to prohibit any form of legalized gambling. Yet it has not stopped thousands of residents from participating in online sports betting through offshore and illegal platforms."

"The reality is that sports wagering is already happening. I'm sure you guys all know somebody who's betting on the games a couple weeks ago. It's just happening without oversight, without consumer protections, and without any financial benefits to our state. Instead of ignoring this reality, we should embrace regulation and taxation as a way to control the industry responsibly. Honolulu Police Department has testified that there are anywhere from 70 to 100 illegal game rooms in operation in any time on O'ahu alone."

"By legalizing online sports wagering, Hawai'i can capture millions of dollars in tax revenue when we sorely need it. Approximately \$20 million by the latest estimates."

"In the Finance Committee, there were concerns raised that the fees were not high enough and the tax rates were not high enough, so we went back to rework the bill and there are higher estimates, which should definitely have enough revenues to run this program in a department. These are funds that could be used to increase enforcement at illegal game rooms, provide essential social programs, and implement gambling addiction mitigation programs, which we currently do not have."

"States that have already legalized online betting, such as New Jersey and Nevada, have seen substantial economic benefits. And we have the chance to use these funds to benefit and improve our communities rather than allowing them to flow out of the state to unregulated entities. Furthermore, regulation ensures that safeguards are in place to protect consumers, prevent fraud, and address problem gambling."

"Some are worried about people losing their life savings. Well, you can already gamble on the stock market and lose your life savings there, so take that into consideration. A legal state-monitored system would include age verification, responsible gaming, gambling programs, and measures to prevent criminal activities such as money laundering. Without these protections, residents are left to fend for themselves on unregulated websites that do not prioritize their safety."

"And the game rooms. I want to bring that up because there are other forms of gambling, but without a legal form of gambling, online gambling, they do often have to go to these game rooms to place their sports wagers."

So, this would allow them to avoid that whole shady underground game room.

"Opponents may argue that gambling is not in line with Hawai'i's values, but the reality is that our residents are already engaging in it. And I won't go back to the whole story about how Queen Liliuokalani was in favor of gambling back in the day.

"But instead of pushing it underground, let's bring it to the light and create a system that benefits our people and our economy. It's about modernization, this is about a financial opportunity, and it's about responsible governance. Let's make the right choice for Hawai'i and pass legislation to legalize and regulate online sports wagering. Thank you."

Representative Lamosao rose to speak in support of the measure with reservations, stating:

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. I will be casting a vote with reservations, but I would like to adopt the words of the representative from Chinatown. *Mahalo*," and the Chair "so ordered." (By reference only.)

Representative Hussey rose to speak in support of the measure with reservations, stating:

"Same request, thank you," and the Chair "so ordered." (By reference only.)

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise in strong opposition with brief comments, please. Every one of us wants the best for our *keiki* and our future generations. We champion new laws that protect and fight for their safety and wellbeing. We value education as a path for advancement and a successful life in future. I don't think, and highly doubt, that parents would tell their children to get involved with gambling or sports wagering as a legitimate or preferred endeavor to get ahead in life and make good career earnings to support your family.

"But by passing this bill, this is an open-door messaging, modeling, and setting an example for our next generations. Will they be distracted and lured into thinking it's okay to consider an easier path and way for income, that it's a lot easier than studying and working hard for things that matter, for things of substance that help contribute to make our society a better place? It's better to study a team's won-loss record and players' performance stats to place bets more strategically and intelligently. Maybe I'm being overly dramatic to make a point, but I believe there will be serious consequences that will reshape our culture and history. And I truly pray and hope that we do not go down this path by opening this door. Thank you."

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

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

"I oppose to this bill, Madam Speaker. Gambling brings, I can understand that it bring tax money to our community, to our state. But sometimes that kind of money might be called dirty money to some people in their view. Do we need those kind of money to take care our families? I'm looking at that what comes along with gambling and sports and making gambling in Hawai'i legal, there's a lot of bad things that follows. Open many bad sex trafficking, to stealing, to all kind of bad things that happens when you open doors to making legalizing gambling.

"Do we want to see Hawai'i to be like Vegas? That's a question that we should be asking ourselves. But I don't know no one that made a living off of gambling. There may be a few people online that I'll see that make good money on gambling. But, it's a recreation that we do to take on with our families to gamble, but it's also an addiction. Gambling can lose when you bet \$5, you lose it then you want to be \$10, then you lose it then you want to try bet again, and you chasing.

"And I've seen more people in our families, in our state, always chasing. And I also seeing people that losing their house, losing their wives, losing their families, all because they chasing these online bets or these bets that they place here and there. But I haven't seen one that made a living and

saying, hey, I'm going to move up because I made so much more money. Most of my friends went the opposite way.

"This bill, to legalize gambling, like I said, it's a question. Do we want this kind of money in the State of Hawai'i, to fix our roads? And sometimes, maybe taking care of our families more ethically might be the better choice. Thank you."

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

"I rise in opposition. Thank you. I have no moral objections to gambling. I have no moral objections. My concern is one of economics. Even local game rooms, which I do not support, even chicken fights, which I do not support, those gambling models locally actually contribute to a circular economy, because that money is staying within the community. The online gaming, most of that money goes into, obviously it's digital, so it's just going into another state perhaps. And the way the model and the profit model for gambling is that that money's leaving.

"There's been a lot of studies to show that gambling does impact lower-income households and individuals. And those are the ones I'd rather, and even though there might be some tax revenue generated, I'd rather increase the conveyance tax or the capital gains tax by half a percentage to make up that loss revenue by not legalizing online gaming. But for those reasons, I oppose. Thanks."

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

"I oppose this bill. Listening to my colleagues talk about this bill would help raise money to help foster good gambling habits or if you get one habit they can help counsel you. Without the bill, you no gamble. Nobody forcing you to log on. And then the guys that the underground market is already thriving, we can use that same argument for meth dealers and cocaine dealers and even fentanyl. It doesn't make it right. I enjoy gambling personally myself. It's a nice little vacation my wife and I can take to Las Vegas where it is legal. Thank you."

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. Rising in opposition. I rise in opposition to the legalization of sports gambling, as outlined in this bill. While proponents argue it could generate revenue for the state, the cost will far outweigh any potential benefits. Legalized sports gambling would open the door to a host of social and economic risks that could devastate individuals, families, and the overall wellbeing of our islands.

"Unfortunately, I have witnessed firsthand the destructive power of gambling addiction. A family member of mine struggled with it for years. What began as an occasional wager spiraled into a dangerous habit. One that drained their savings, strained family relationships, and led to a financial black hole that took years to get out of. The emotional toll was just as severe. The stress, broken trust, and desperation to win it back devastated not only that person but everyone who loved them, and I wouldn't wish that pain upon anyone.

"Hawai'i has been one of the few states to resist the spread of legalized gambling, and for good reason. We have prioritized protecting our communities over the promise of easy revenue. Studies show that gambling addiction skyrockets when access to betting is expanded. Sports gambling is particularly risky because it can be integrated into daily life. Unlike traditional casino gambling, where people must travel to a specific location, sports betting can be done in an instant from a smartphone, making it more accessible, more frequent, and ultimately, more addictive.

"The toll of problem gambling is profound. Families are torn apart as loved ones sink deeper into addiction, resulting in financial ruin, debt, and even crime. Gambling addiction has been linked to higher rates of depression, domestic violence, and substance abuse. We must weigh any promises of revenue against the inevitable costs of addiction, addiction treatment, social services, and law enforcement.

"Moreover, as a sports official, I'm deeply concerned about the damage legalized sports gambling can inflict on the integrity of athletics. It increases the risk of game fixing and corruption, undermining the very essence of fair

competition. Athletes, especially younger ones, could face immense pressure from gamblers, threatening the purity of sports as a genuine contest.

"Madam Speaker, once we allow the camel into the tent with sports gambling, casinos will not be far behind. Hawai'i's cultures and values are indeed unique. And we must be cautious about policies that could harm our way of life. Rather than relying on gambling revenue, we should focus on sustainable economic strategies that uplift our communities without creating new social problems.

"The risks of legalized sports gambling are too great to ignore. Our priorities should be protecting our residents, preserving our values, and ensuring that Hawai'i remains a place where families can thrive without the harmful effects of gambling. I've seen the devastation gambling addiction causes, and I don't want others in our community to endure the same pain. Madam Speaker, for these reasons I stand firmly in opposition to this bill. 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. 1308, HD 3, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO SPORTS WAGERING," passed Third Reading by a vote of 34 ayes to 15 noes, with Representatives Chun, Hussey, and Lamosao voting aye with reservations, with Representatives Alcos, Belatti, Garcia, Garrett, Grandinetti, Iwamoto, Marten, Matayoshi, Matsumoto, Muraoka, Perruso, Reyes Oda, Shimizu, Takayama, and Templo voting no, and with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

Representative Yamashita, for the Committee on Finance, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1168) recommending that H.B. No. 1194, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

Representative Todd moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 1194, HD 2 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

At this time, Representative Belatti offered Floor Amendment No. 2, amending H.B. No. 1194, HD 2 as follows:

SECTION 1. House Bill No. 1194, H.D. 2, is amended by amending the prefatory language for section 2 of the bill at page 4, lines 11 through 13, to indicate that the section is adding nine rather than eight new sections to chapter 457J, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

SECTION 2. House Bill No. 1194, H.D. 2, is amended by adding an additional new section to chapter 457J, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to be inserted on page 19, line 20, and to read as follows:

"§457J-1 Severability. If any provision of this chapter, or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the invalidity does not affect other provisions or applications of this chapter that can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this chapter are severable."

SECTION 3. House Bill No. 1194, H.D. 2, is amended by amending the definition of "certified professional midwife" on page 26, line 20 through page 27, line 9 to read as follows:

"Certified professional midwife" means a person who:

- (1) Graduated from an accredited educational program or pathway in midwifery, accredited by the Midwifery Education Accreditation Council, or successor organization, and holds a current and valid national certification as a certified professional midwife from the North American Registry of Midwives, or any successor organization[-]; or
- (2) Received certification through the North American Registry of Midwives' portfolio evaluation process pathway and obtained a midwifery bridge certificate from the North American Registry of Midwives, or any successor organization."

SECTION 4. House Bill No. 1194, H.D. 2, is amended by amending section 8 of the bill, at page 28, line 17 through page 32, line 11 to read as follows:

"SECTION 8. Section 457J-6, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended to read as follows:

~~"[E]§457J-6[3] Exemptions.~~ (a) ~~[A person may practice midwifery without a license to practice midwifery if the]~~ This chapter shall not apply to a person who is:

- (1) A certified nurse-midwife holding a valid license under chapter 457;
 - (2) Licensed and performing work within the scope of practice or duties of the person's profession that overlaps with the practice of midwifery; provided that the person does not use the title "midwife", "licensed midwife", or the abbreviation "L.M.", or any other words, letters, abbreviations, or insignia indicating or implying that the person is a midwife;
 - (3) A student [midwife] who is currently enrolled in [a] an accredited midwifery educational program and under the direct supervision of a qualified midwife preceptor;
 - ~~[(4) A person rendering aid in an emergency where no fee for the service is contemplated, charged, or received; or~~
 - ~~(5) [(4)]~~ (4) A person acting as a birth attendant ~~[on or before July 1, 2023,]~~ who:
 - (A) Does not use legend drugs or devices, the use of which requires a license under the laws of the State;
 - (B) Does not advertise that the person is a licensed midwife;
 - (C) Discloses to each client verbally and in writing on a form adopted by the department, which shall be received and executed by the person under the birth attendant's care at the time care is first initiated:
 - (i) That the person does not possess a professional license issued by the State to provide health or maternity care to women or infants;
 - (ii) That the person's education and qualifications have not been reviewed by the State;
 - (iii) The person's education and training;
 - (iv) That the person is not authorized to acquire, carry, administer, or direct others to administer legend drugs;
 - ~~[(v) Any judgment, award, disciplinary sanction, order, or other determination that adjudges or finds that the person has committed misconduct or is criminally or civilly liable for conduct relating to midwifery by a licensing or regulatory authority, territory, state, or any other jurisdiction;] and~~
 - ~~[(vi)]~~ (v) A plan for transporting the client to the nearest hospital if a problem arises during the client's care; and
 - (D) Maintains a copy of the form required by subparagraph (C) for at least ten years and makes the form available for inspection upon request by the department[-];
- provided that a person having any judgment, award, disciplinary sanction, order, or other determination that finds that the person has committed misconduct or is criminally or civilly liable for conduct relating to midwifery by a licensing or regulatory authority, territory, state, or any other jurisdiction shall not qualify for a birth attendant exemption;
- ~~[(b) Nothing in this chapter shall prohibit healing practices by traditional Hawaiian healers engaged in traditional healing practices of prenatal, maternal, and child care as recognized by any council of kupuna convened by Papa Ola Lokahi. Nothing in this chapter shall limit, alter, or otherwise adversely impact the practice of traditional Native Hawaiian healing pursuant to the Constitution of the State of Hawaii.~~
- ~~(c) Nothing in this chapter shall prohibit a person from administering]~~
- (5) Practicing Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices as protected under article XII, section 7 of the Hawaii State Constitution;
 - (6) Engaged in birth-related practices relating to healing by prayer or spiritual means alone in accordance with the tenets and

practices of any well-recognized church or religious denomination; provided that the person shall not claim to practice as a certified midwife, certified professional midwife, or licensed midwife unless licensed pursuant to this part;

- (7) Providing services in the case of emergency or the domestic administration of family remedies; or
- (8) Administering care to [a] the person's spouse, domestic partner, parent, sibling, or child."

SECTION 5. House Bill No. 1194, H.D. 2, is amended by amending page 37, lines 12 through 16 to read as follows:

"(B) A midwifery bridge certificate issued by the North American Registry of Midwives, or successor organization, for certified professional midwife applicants."

SECTION 6. House Bill No. 1194, H.D. 2, is amended by amending section 17 at page 47, line 12, to read as follows:

"SECTION 17. This Act shall take effect on June 29, 3000."

Representative Belatti moved that Floor Amendment No. 2 be adopted, seconded by Representative Souza.

Representative Belatti rose to speak in support of the proposed floor amendment, stating:

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. In support of this floor amendment, Madam Speaker, I offer this floor amendment with the deepest of *aloha* for all of my colleagues in this chamber, especially to the chairs this year who worked so diligently on this matter, to the members of the Women's Legislative Caucus who over the years have worked on the measures that have led up to the current law, and to my colleague from Kapolei who seconded this floor amendment.

"In my 18 years, Madam Speaker, this is an unusual thing for me to do. I don't and cannot recall a time when a floor amendment has been offered on a measure where members of two different parties have moved and seconded it. But it is that reason, it is that import, the importance of this measure and this floor amendment that's spoken to in the offering of this.

"This floor amendment makes three substantively important changes. First, in the area of protections of constitutional rights. I have said on this floor in the past, that one of the north stars guiding our decision-making on this floor is respect for our constitution, the United States Constitution and the Hawai'i State Constitution. I would also add to that as a guiding north star, our community.

"It is because of the constitution and the community that one of the areas of changes introduced by this floor amendment adds a religious exemption that honors our constitutional obligation to protect the free exercise of religion, as stated in Article 1, Section 4 of the Hawai'i State Constitution. This bill already protects and honors our obligation under Hawai'i State Constitution Article 12, Section 7, that obligates the state and obligates us, the Legislature, to protect all rights customarily and traditionally exercised for subsistence, cultural, and religious purposes by Native Hawaiians. I do want to acknowledge that the bill does that. But we equally have to protect our right to exercise a religion, and I am more and more concerned that this is a right that we may be disregarding. So, that is the first area of importance. The religious exemption added into this floor amendment mirrors, mirrors the same religious exemption that we have in HRS Chapter 457-13 for nurses. So, we already have that in statute for other nurses, for other healthcare providers, and it is appropriate for this measure.

"The second substantive area that is addressed by this floor amendment is the reinstatement of the birth attendant to deal with traditional practitioners. The reinstatement also includes a change from the underlying law, which adds a very critical, important, consumer protection that would have any person who has received a judgment, award, disciplinary sanction, order, or other determination finding that that person has committed misconduct or is criminally or civilly liable for conduct relating to midwifery by another licensing authority, shall not qualify for a birth attendant exemption. This is a critical new consumer protection provision that will ensure both the safety of our community as well as honor the practices of traditional practitioners.

"The third substantive area, Madam Speaker, amended by this floor amendment, is to create a pathway so that our people here who do not have access or the resources to go to school far from these shores, it creates a second pathway, a certification through the North American Registry of Midwives portfolio evaluation process pathway in order to enable them, those persons, to obtain a midwifery bridge certificate. This secondary pathway is important because, as noted by the circuit court that is considering litigation related to this area, the programs currently qualified under the current law and placed in the underlying bill--"

Representative Perruso rose to yield her time, and the Chair "so ordered."

Representative Belatti continued, stating:

"Thank you. The current pathway, both in the underlying bill, has already been determined by the circuit court to be an infringement upon a individuals' reasonable exercise, because they either require excessive education, do not exist in the state, or place unreasonable barriers on those persons and those similarly situated. For all of those reasons, Madam Speaker, I offer this amendment and speak in strong support. Thank you."

Representative Souza rose to speak in support of the proposed floor amendment, stating:

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise in support of the floor amendment. I stand with my colleague from Makiki in her remarks and I would like to have her words inserted into the Journal as my own," and the Chair "so ordered." (By reference only.)

Representative Souza continued, stating:

"I also just wanted to point to some of the important aspects of this amendment. And the first is in relation to the exemptions that's included. And I think it's important that we very clearly outline the exemptions that you see in the amendment before you, especially when it comes to Native Hawaiian cultural and traditional practitioners. I am concerned that without these exemptions being very specifically stated, that Native Hawaiian cultural and traditional practitioners could face penalties or possible criminalization upon practicing midwifery. And I think that in order to combat that in the current bill language, we would need, perhaps, a written opinion or a letter from the attorney general to address that particular issue. I also believe that it's important to safeguard the bill generally with a severability clause. So, for those reasons, I stand in support. Thank you."

Representative Iwamoto rose to speak in support of the proposed floor amendment, stating:

"I rise in support. Why I support this amendment is because the current bill requires Hawai'i residents to enroll in a mainland school to become a licensed midwife. The bill as it currently stands and the amendment seeks to fix, the amendment will allow Hawai'i residents to achieve licensure through the portfolio evaluation process, or PEP pathway. Twenty-seven states and Washington D.C. recognize this portfolio evaluation pathway to achieve licensure. There may have been some misstatements made in a hearing that only five states allow that, but that is incorrect and that was verified by the Center for Reproductive Rights. If you come to Hawai'i with your license from one of these 27 states or Washington, D.C., and you use the PEP pathway, then you can practice as a licensed midwife.

"And although the current bill that is up for amendments may have closed a loophole, it still grandfathers in mainland midwives to use the PEP pathway to practice moving forward. And we've heard testimony from some young women who are actually going through an apprenticeship PEP pathway currently. If the bill unamended goes forward, it will close the door on them practicing through their apprenticeship.

"NARM, which this bill cites many times as a licensure authority, NARM's board member, Dr. Melissa Cheyney, as an expert witness for the current court case in litigation, testified that there is no evidence that midwives who go through the midwifery school process have any better clinical outcomes than ones who go through the PEP pathway or apprenticeship process to become a licensed midwife.

"This is what is so infuriating for local midwives. They see their counterparts from the mainland recognized by the state for their practice and apprenticeship, but the local midwives are made to feel like criminals for

the very same, if not better, practice and apprenticeship. Thank you very much."

Representative Cochran rose to speak in support of the proposed floor amendment, stating:

"Thank you, Speaker. I rise in strong support and want to take the words of representative of Makiki as if my own, and a brief comment. I support the intent to, I mean, raising up our own, right? It's like we always talk about train the trainer, build our own workforce and what have you. This is the same concept, and this is for health, safety, and just perpetuating our traditional cultural practices here with our people. And so, if this can move us towards that end goal, then I'm very supportive and stand strong in support of this amendment. *Mahalo*."

Representative Takayama rose to speak in opposition to the proposed floor amendment, stating:

"In opposition to the proposed amendment. I'd like to address the three issues brought up by the proponents of this amendment in order. First of all, the religious exemption proposed under the amendment is not necessary, because in the underlying bill, there is no mention of religious beliefs, nor any attempt to regulate religious beliefs. I would also note that in the underlying bill, the Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices are fully protected under the State Constitution and fully recognized in the underlying bill.

"As far as adding a birth attendant exemption, this would defeat the purpose of requiring licensure for midwives in the first place, because the amendment has no definition of what a birth attendant actually is. There are no qualifications or standards to be a birth attendant, therefore no protection for mothers nor infants, which is the full intent of this bill.

"Third, the portfolio evaluation process that is proposed by this amendment should not be a pathway for licensure because it fails to meet international and national standards. I would note that the bill proposes adopting the accreditation standards of the Midwifery Education Accreditation Council. All 37 states that license midwives recognize such accreditation as a path to licensure. Since the Midwifery Education Accreditation Council established its first school in 2002, only five states, again, only five states, allow the portfolio evaluation process as a pathway to licensure. For all these reasons, Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues reject the proposed amendment."

Representative Hussey rose to speak in support of the proposed floor amendment, stating:

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise in support of the proposed amendment. Madam Speaker, our state has a troubling history with how we have dealt with Native Hawaiian traditional and cultural practice. We can think back before the time of statehood to, for instance, the early attempts to criminalize hula, the Hawaiian language, the basic practice of Hawaiian religion. These are all parts of our history. And which is also one of the reasons why, in the 1978 Constitutional Convention, the framers of that document made sure that there's language in there that protects Hawaiian traditional customary practices subject to the ability of the state to regulate those practices.

"Now, this bill rightfully incorporates that language or, I'm sorry, it references that language in the exemption clause, which means, therefore, that it's up to our body to be one of the bodies that decides what that regulation looks like. And so, it's really important then that this amendment provides for the PEP pathway for accreditation for licensure. And the reason why I believe that it's so important is for the reasons outlined by previous speakers.

"But the people who carry on these traditions, primarily the mothers, the midwives, and other birth workers, their ability to carry on those traditions is incumbent on the ability to access training and legal abilities to practice those traditions. If we have to go someplace far, far away, it makes it that much harder to practice those traditions.

"It reminds me, frankly, of the way in which we all love going to the beach. One of the reasons why we're able to go to access public beaches in Hawai'i is because of traditional rights carried on since the kingdom times to access public beaches. It's enshrined, for instance, in the PASH lawsuit.

Yet we still see instances where people, property owners, put up gates preventing access to public shorelines.

"My analogy, Speaker, is that what we see in the original bill in taking away that ability to use the PEP pathway is it's akin to putting up a gate to access these traditional customary rights. So, I will vote in favor of the amendment because it does provide that access. Thank you very much."

Representative Perruso rose to speak in support of the proposed floor amendment, stating:

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. In strong support of the amendment. So, it's my understanding, my position, that this measure needs to be amended to expand rather than restrict access to midwifery, as it currently does. As currently written, this bill effectively excludes local midwives, particularly Native Hawaiian and those in rural communities, not by language, but by the erasure of language. The amendment helps to add in exemptions and add in pathways to access that will change the effects of this measure. And by recognizing these alternative licensure pathways, which has been mentioned before, we can remove some barriers. So, if we're committed to equity and reproductive justice, we need to work on removing these barriers.

"House Bill 1194 should include, as has been mentioned, the portfolio evaluation process, PEP, as a recognized pathway to licensure. The North American Registry of Midwives, NARM, that offers two rigorous routes to certification, the MEAC pathway and the PEP pathway. The MEAC pathway requires graduation from one of eight accredited schools, none of which exist in Hawai'i, just to clarify and reassert that fact. And the PEP pathway, which offers midwives the opportunity to train through supervised apprenticeships. Both pathways require extensive hands-on experience and passing the same standardized exam.

"NARM has affirmed that they are equally rigorous and more than half of all certified professional midwives, CPMs, nationally, are credentialed through the PEP. Yet HB 1194 excludes this proven route, making licensure nearly impossible for many aspiring midwives in Hawai'i. Currently, under this exclusionary approach, none of the 42 licensed midwives are Native Hawaiians, and only one of the 42 licensed midwives is born and raised in Hawai'i.

"So, licensure, from my view, it should not be a tool of exclusion. And I say this as someone who takes licensure very seriously as a teacher. Regulation must be established to ensure safety and accountability, but without blocking qualified professionals from serving their communities. We need to expand our pathways. By expanding these licensure pathways, we can support local midwives and increase our access to culturally competent care.

"HB 1194 has the potential to be an equity-centered bill if we amend it. I urge my colleagues to support these changes as the bill moves so that we can pass a measure that uplifts our local midwives and ensures that all local families, all Hawai'i families, have the care they need. *Mahalo*."

Representative Ichiyama rose to speak in opposition to the proposed floor amendment, stating:

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise in opposition to the floor amendment. I have a few brief comments. I'm in opposition to the proposed floor amendment because it directly contradicts the recommendation of the Office of the Auditor and its recent sunset analysis on the regulation of the profession of midwifery, Report No. 25-03. In analyzing whether HRS Chapter 457J should sunset, the auditor looked to our own state laws on regulation of professions. HRS Chapter 26H-2 states that 'the legislature hereby adopts the following policies regarding the regulation of certain professions and vocations. The regulation and licensing of professions and vocations shall be undertaken only where reasonably necessary to protect the health, safety, or welfare of consumers of the services; the purpose of regulation shall be the protection of the public welfare and not that of the regulated profession or vocation.'

"Therefore, after its analysis, the Auditor's Office concluded that based on the significant health and safety risks posed to consumers, the auditor recommended full licensure of midwives. Creating a broad exemption for birth attendance as proposed in the current floor amendment would make licensure meaningless and contradict the recommendations of the auditor.

The auditor's report also found that current pathways are reasonable. It noted that current requirements for MEAC accredited schooling do not, and I quote, 'unreasonably restrict the entry into the profession of midwifery. Balanced against the risk to the mother and newborn under the care of a midwife, the requirements to practice midwifery in Hawai'i are not arbitrary and, in fact, are consistent with the requirements imposed by other states that regulate midwives.'

"For those reasons, I'm in opposition to the floor amendment. Thank you."

Representative Belatti rose to respond, stating:

"Thank you, in brief rebuttal. Madam Speaker, in brief rebuttal to the chair of Health, with respect to the fact that the underlying bill does not address religious concerns. Our obligation when we look at a law is to see if it's going to be applied fairly. And while the bill may not have explicitly called out religious practices, we do know that we are a cosmopolitan community. And we do know that there are Jewish midwives who may be affected. We know that there are other religions that had midwifery practices and we need to actively, proactively support and protect those religious practices when we know there might be a flaw.

"As I have stated with the underlying law, I have advised members of this body that there was potential challenges. And no matter what the auditor may determine, we have to determine it. And then it is the courts to determine the constitutionality. And in this instance, the underlying bill has flaws that we need to address in order to protect and balance our constitutional obligations.

"Secondly, Madam Speaker, with respect to, again, what the auditor has recommended. The provision of the traditional birth attendant does have consumer protections in this floor amendment. And so, it balances, it balances the protections for traditional customary religious practices with the need to protect our community. Thank you, Madam Speaker."

Representative Cochran rose to respond, stating:

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. Support. There was mention about international standards, and as I understand, these international standards that were stated is inapplicable to our country because we have, they apply to countries that don't have a certifying type of body, but we have NARM, North American Registry of Midwives, to be that type of certifying body. And this, we need to, I just feel like fighting this corporate colonization from the medical profession here. I just feel like this bill needs to open and broaden the participation of anyone who chooses to go down this path. And as currently written, it is very limiting.

"So, again, I'm very supportive of this amendment moving forward and to decriminalize this practice that is on the line of traditional cultural practitioner. And also, flying over here, I was thinking about Moses and Jesus told them to kill him, and the midwives set him free down the river. So, they're always been here from eons ago, protecting women, babies, and childbirth. And so, this is what I'm hoping at the end of the day we can make these amendments to support that. So, *mahalo* for this opportunity."

Representative Takayama rose to respond, stating:

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. Again in opposition to the proposed floor amendment. I would like to remind my colleagues, Madam Speaker, that the reason for the underlying bill is to enact professional standards of training, experience, and knowledge for midwives so that all expectant mothers can be assured of a safe quality of care when they utilize the services of a licensed midwife, just as when they see a medical doctor or an advanced practice nurse. Madam Speaker, I believe the proposed amendment weakens the standards proposed by the bill itself, and therefore I ask that the amendment be rejected. Thank you."

At this time, Representative Iwamoto requested a roll call vote.

The request for roll call was put to vote by the Chair and upon a show of hands, the roll call was approved.

Roll call having been approved, the motion that Floor Amendment No. 2, amending H.B. No. 1194, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO MIDWIVES," be adopted was put to vote by the Chair and failed to carry on the following show of ayes and noes:

Ayes, 15: Alcos, Amato, Belatti, Cochran, Garcia, Grandinetti, Hussey, Iwamoto, Matsumoto, Muraoka, Perruso, Poepoe, Reyes Oda, Shimizu, and Souza.

Noes, 34: Chun, Evslin, Garrett, Hashem, Holt, Ichiyama, Ilagan, Kahaloa, Kapela, Keohokapu-Lee Loy, Kila, Kitagawa, Kong, Kusch, La Chica, Lamosao, Lee, Lowen, Marten, Matayoshi, Miyake, Morikawa, Nakamura, Olds, Quinlan, Sayama, Takayama, Takenouchi, Tam, Tamas, Templo, Todd, Woodson, and Yamashita.

Excused, 2: Pierick and Ward.

(Main Motion)

At this time, Representative Belatti offered Floor Amendment No. 3, amending H.B. No. 1194, HD 2 as follows:

SECTION 1. House Bill No. 1194, H.D. 2, is amended by amending the prefatory language for SECTION 2 of the bill at page 4, lines 11-13, to indicate that the section is adding nine rather than eight new sections to chapter 457J, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

SECTION 2. House Bill No. 1194, H.D. 2, is amended by adding an additional new section to chapter 457J, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to be inserted on page 19, line 20, and to read as follows:

"§457J-1 Severability. If any provision of this chapter, or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the invalidity does not affect other provisions or applications of this chapter that can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this chapter are severable."

SECTION 3. House Bill No. 1194, H.D. 2, is amended by amending section 17 to read as follows:

"SECTION 17. This Act shall take effect on June 29, 3000."

Representative Belatti moved that Floor Amendment No. 3 be adopted, seconded by Representative Souza.

Representative Belatti rose to speak in support of the proposed floor amendment, stating:

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, because this bill deals with such important, critical areas of the law and concerns so many important constitutional protections, this floor amendment is offered to ensure further discussion before it leaves our chambers by adding, most importantly, a defective date of June 29, 3000 to make sure that there is further consideration and work to be done to address the concerns raised. This also includes a severability clause for Chapter 457J. Thank you, Madam Speaker."

Representative Souza rose to speak in support of the proposed floor amendment, stating:

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise in strong support of this floor amendment. I would also like the words of the representative from Makiki inserted into the record as my own. And I also do want to express the importance of the severability clause. As everyone could tell with just the previous floor amendment, that there are concerns and we need to make sure that we have the proper legal remedy in place by explicitly stating the severability clause in this particular bill in order to rectify any issues that could potentially be a problem in the future without rendering the entire bill invalid, and just that portion invalid if a court deems in the future that there are problems with this particular bill, as we brought up. I also would like to express the importance of the defective date to signify that this bill is still a work in progress. Thank you, Madam Speaker," and the Chair "so ordered." (By reference only.)

Representative Takayama rose to speak in opposition to the proposed floor amendment, stating:

"Madam Speaker, thank you. In opposition. I oppose the amendment because I believe it is neither warranted nor necessary. As far as the severability clause, HRS 1-23 already provides for severability for all enacted measures. As far as adding a defective date, I would note to the members that this measure has been thoroughly discussed in not one, not two, but three committees. By my count, it's undergone more than five hours

of hearings before the Health and Consumer Protection and Finance Committees, and we believe that it is ready for enactment. The Senate, which is to consider this measure, is free to disagree with us. But again, I ask my colleagues to reject this amendment as unnecessary and unwarranted. Thank you."

Representative Belatti rose to respond, stating:

"Sorry, brief rebuttal. In support of the floor amendment. Because this can affect so many lives and constitutional protections, our custom and practice in this building has been to send over bills that are truly works in progress over to the other chamber with defective dates. And to honor that custom and practice, if there are any concerns that this underlying bill could be problematic, could expend and use state resources at a time when we need our litigators to be litigating other things, I urge that this body send a clear message to the other chamber that there are problems with the underlying bill by supporting this floor amendment. Thank you, Madam Speaker."

Representative Souza rose to respond, stating:

"Thank you, also brief rebuttal. Still in strong support of the floor amendment. I just want to reiterate the fact that we're just trying to do our due diligence with this floor amendment so that we can add the legal aspect of the severability clause to make sure that the entirety of the bill is not rendered invalid, if any portion is deemed invalid, it will not render the entire bill invalid."

"And also, every bill so far, to my knowledge, that we're currently moving over to the Senate has a defective date. And so, I will reiterate that that is our custom and practice in this building. And that's just to my knowledge, I could be wrong. But we're simply doing our due diligence with this particular amendment. Thank you."

The motion that Floor Amendment No. 3, amending and H.B. No. 1194, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO MIDWIVES," be adopted was put to vote by the Chair and upon a voice vote, failed to carry, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

(Main Motion)

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

"On this bill, I oppose. Just to me, helping people was a way of life all this time, before hospitals was in there. Someone getting hurt, fell down, it was someone in your community being able to help, being able to support someone out there that needs medical assistance. Midwives are just trying to do the right thing, the things to help someone out. But seems like every time they running to help that person, there's red tapes. More red tapes or a hurdle they have to jump over. Another hurdle puts in the way, they have to jump over to help that person. And all they're trying to do is do their job and what we was trained to do when we see someone get hurt."

"Nowadays, you're go be like, don't touch them, because you're not a doctor. Someone fall off a tree or someone get in a car accident, don't touch them because maybe their neck, you not a doctor. But in this situation, they've been practicing this for mostly all their lives. It's not an amateur just going in there and doing the work. This comes between safety. And if you're in a remote location and you don't have the access to help these mothers that giving birth, or the way that they was always there to run to one area to help this person."

"I think that government is overreach. State is overreach. And clear their path. Take away the hurdles and let them be able to help. And I think it's a good thing in helping families out there. So, for that, I'm opposed."

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

"I stand in strong support. This bill mostly details the scope of practice for licensed midwives, allowing them to serve women in our state to the full extent of their training. However, the major motivation of the bill is to keep mothers and their much-anticipated babies as safe as possible when they choose a birth in an out-of-hospital setting. Consumers will enjoy a broader range of services within the home birth or other birth setting, including diagnostic testing, the use of prescription medication and medical devices within their licensed midwife scope of practice. The accredited education required provides consumers of home birth services with assurance that their

midwife has certain skills and knowledge. Having a license also gives consumers a path for recourse in the case of malpractice."

"The bill includes an unconditional exemption for traditional and customary Native Hawaiian practices as guaranteed in the Hawai'i Constitution. This addresses fully the court ruling that found the recognition by Papa Ola Lōkahi Kapuna Councils too restrictive."

"For those that do choose to become a licensed professional midwife in our state, there are options for fully online coursework and local clinical preceptors, which cost about \$15,000 total. A typical home birth fee is \$9,000. So, direct costs for such an education could be recuperated with just a few clients."

"The safety net will remain in place in our emergency rooms for failed home births. But it is my hope that with these regulations, the safety net will be used less frequently than it is today and that failed home births will no longer account for a disproportionate number of patients in our neonatal ICU, found in our only scientific study of the impact of planned home births."

"This is not a bill that was made in a vacuum. This is a bill that responds to an actual problem in our communities and in our hospitals when things go very poorly in an unregulated industry where mothers and sometimes their deceased infant ends up in the hospital to have that death recorded in the hospital, even though it was not due to a hospital service, it was due to an unregulated industry. For those reasons, I support this bill."

Representative Reyes Oda rose to speak in opposition to the measure, stating:

"Madam Speaker, I rise in opposition. This bill clarifies the scope of midwifery practice in the state, carves out exceptions for traditional Native Hawaiian healers performing cultural rights as protected by the Hawai'i State Constitution, as well as clarifies the process for renewals and exemptions for licensure. While I understand the necessity of heightened regulations stemming from reports published by the auditor and the vitality of competent care for mothers and babies, I still have concerns unaddressed by the current language."

"I acknowledge that the evolution of the House drafts were attempts by the respective committees to strike a balance between regulation and feasibility for local midwives to practice seamlessly in the state. However, I still feel that there are some matters left unresolved. The House Draft 1 created greater clarity for Native Hawaiian traditional practitioners to be able to continue their practices uninterrupted. But I believe that this piece requires greater strengthening to ensure that cultural and spiritual birth practices are clearly protected."

"Additionally, the current language of the bill fails to adopt an amendment, including the PEP midwifery bridge pathway to be accepted for those who obtain it after January 1, 2020, providing local student midwives with equitable access to licensure. Furthermore, the current language does not allow certified professional midwives to practice to their fullest scope of training, which can ultimately reduce out-of-pocket costs to families who choose these healthcare professionals. Finally, this bill has an effective date which prohibits further discussion. This is concerning as it is very nuanced, and complex issues require more collective discussion. For these reasons, I oppose."

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

"Thank you, Speaker. I rise in very strong opposition. And there is another bill, HB 1328, which I felt really wasn't given a chance. And in that in itself, just the beauty of it being a bipartisan bill, having support from both houses was incredible in itself. And you saw that in the floor amendments too, so I appreciate that. But this bill was just, was written by so many people from across the nation and our families and our practitioners right here in our Hawai'i."

The Chair addressed Representative Cochran, stating:

"Representative Cochran, are you talking about HB 1194?"

Representative Cochran continued, stating:

"I'm saying why I don't support it, and the reason being is because there was something on the floor, it was not given its due diligence. I heard that things have been vetted thoroughly. Well, I beg to differ on that. This bill was side by side with this 1194, and this moved forward with 75 in support, 300 in opposition, versus the other bill that had 700-plus in support.

"So, I don't know what that is. I listen to my constituents, and the voters, and the voices of the community that I represent. And what I represent is House District 14 with rural communities. Thank God for people like Ki'i Kaho'ohanohano, who was there after the fire to help our pregnant women. There was no services. Till today, we don't have services on our side of the island when the road shut down. We have one hospital on that entire island and rural areas like Kahakulua, I flew off a cliff driving that road, that is not a safe road. God forbid someone has some type of emergency, a mother giving birth, trying to give birth. Hā'ena, your island. Puna. It's like, statewide we need this practice. And I just don't get why it has been controversial since the day I arrived on this floor. It is so heartbreaking because people's lives are endangered, and these are mothers, I believe, who should have the choice.

"This is what it's about, too. Choice of who they want to attend their birth. Such a sacred thing in a mother's, in a female's life. And this is prohibiting. And for us to get our traditional cultural practices and our people of Hawai'i to raise into this level and to pursue their practice. This is hindering all of it.

"So, I don't agree at all with this. And thank you to the chair of Public Safety who tried to amend this to avoid us, this body, from being taken into litigation. There is a litigation that had put out some, that won in court, and yet this isn't even taking that into consideration. I take offense to that. So, yeah, I am very emotional about this subject and just wish that people could see it too. So, thank you for this time, opportunity for me to share my, speak my piece."

Representative Iwamoto rose in opposition to the measure and asked that the remarks of the representative from Lahaina be entered into the Journal as her own, and the Chair "so ordered." (By reference only.)

Representative Garcia rose in opposition to the measure and asked that the remarks of the representative from Lahaina be entered into the Journal as his own, and the Chair "so ordered." (By reference only.)

Representative Muraoka rose in opposition to the measure and asked that the remarks of the representative from Lahaina be entered into the Journal as his own, and the Chair "so ordered." (By reference only.)

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise in support. I would just like to share with my colleagues a story that I received from a former client of an unlicensed person. And I've edited this story so that their personal details are not revealed, because this person has been bullied and has sometimes been hesitant to come forward to share her story because of the personal attacks that she has been subjected to.

"She wrote to me, and I quote, in strong support of House Bill 1194, House Draft 1, to renew and update the midwife licensure law in Hawai'i. I'm sharing the very unfortunate and deeply personal circumstances of the home birth of my child. He was born in Hawai'i under the care of a person calling themselves a midwife. My son is non-ambulatory, non-verbal, 100% disabled, and requires full care with feeding, diapering, positioning, *et cetera*. Due to the lack of unregulated licensure and no oversight of the practice of midwifery in the State of Hawai'i, my son has irreversible brain damage and lifelong repercussions.

"After my son's birth injuries, I attempted to file a complaint with RICO. Unfortunately, because there was no regulation, no licensure, no reporting, no accountability, no requirement for liability insurance of any form, the case was dropped. I love my son above all else and have dedicated my life to his care and ever-changing needs. I have the support of my family, his care team and friends. Despite that support, his care is fully my responsibility. I do not wish for any other family to experience the type of delivery I had with an unlicensed midwife whose work was unregulated and unmonitored. It's a public threat.

"And I share that very personal story from a mom here in Hawai'i of the impact that this has on a family and the importance that was recognized by

the state auditor in not one, not two, but three separate reports stating that the services provided by a midwife to a mother and a newborn are such that full licensure is necessary. So, for those reasons, I'm in support of House Bill 1194. Thank you."

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. In opposition. I want to acknowledge that heartbreaking story of the previous speaker. As Health chair, I led the effort in many ways to ensure that we really had a strong regulation for midwives. I began that process with then Health chair who is now our current governor. And it took many, many years to get us to this point. There have been so many heartbreaking stories along the way.

"But I would note that there has been no complaint that I know of when the current law was in place that recognized traditional birth attendants and provided consumer protections such as a plan if there were to be some need to go to the hospital. Where there was disclosures and informed consents between the practicing birth attendant and the mother who was choosing that birth setting.

"And this is a hard area. I myself, I'm a mother, I would not choose a home birth. I would choose the medical hospital setting. But also, as a woman who believes that that act of birthing is a choice. That is the mother's choice. The current law and this bill, with its criminalization of some of those practices that we have seen can result in good outcomes and has not resulted in any complaints while those same protections were in place for the last several years, shows to me that there is a pathway for a better law. And that as it currently stands, the criminalization, the erasure of what we know are some very good practitioners in our community, is something that we cannot allow for this bill to do.

"So as this bill hopefully continues to move forward, noting that my own opposition, there is a framework, a place for this bill to be improved. But as it currently stands, as it is drafted, I am in opposition. Thank you, Madam Speaker."

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. In support. And I believe it's important to recognize in the vice speaker's comments the importance of preserving a woman's right to choose their preferred method of safe birth. The bill proposes professional standards of training, experience, and knowledge for midwives so that expectant mothers can be assured of a safe quality of care. And again, this measure fully recognizes the constitutionally protected role of Native Hawaiian traditional practices performed by traditional Hawaiian healers. For all those reasons, I ask my colleagues to support this important bill. Thank you."

Representative Cochran rose to respond, stating:

"Thank you, Speaker, for my second time around still in opposition. And so, I'm so sad to hear about the negative impacts that have occurred. But there's always a risk on every level. In the hospital, out of the hospital, whichever practices. But again, and it's I think that all the people I've spoken to, the different people from different countries I've spoken to, midwives are part of their everyday working, and in hospitals they work in conjunction with and they welcome the practice of midwifery within their medical institutions and facilities. We don't, and that's what boggles my mind also.

"And I was speaking to a guy, we were working together in the yard. And his wife, they did both, hospital, and he goes, hands down, both of them would do home births because of the process with your midwife that follows you from before, during, and after. You build this really tight, close relationship with, versus book an appointment in and out, and this is a relationship building. And so, it's such a beautiful type of setting, and the surrounding of your own home versus a cold type of environment in a hospital type of thing.

"And so, again, I think this is such a needed experience for, it's an option, but also everybody I've spoken to that have experienced midwifery practice and giving birth at home has nothing but beautiful and positive comments to say about it. Obviously, as I mentioned earlier, there are always risks involved in anything. But so far, you can prove both sides, that there is negative. But talking about, it's seemingly that people are pointing, that are supportive of the bill, are pointing that midwifery is dangerous and it's killed

and it's maimed and it's a negative practice, which I beg to differ and totally do not concur with because of the comments I've heard internationally and here also.

"So, I urge everyone to please support it. It's due, it's way overdue, as the chair of Public Safety had mentioned, that it's been a work in progress for a long time and please support it. *Mahalo*."

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. In support. I would just like to have the words of the representative from Waimānalo, the representative from Salt Lake, as well as our Health chair's words inserted into the Journal as if it was my own, and permission to provide a few comments as well," and the Chair "so ordered." (By reference only.)

Representative Tam continued, stating:

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise in support of this bill for many of the reasons that were said on the floor. But I do want to make a note of clarification that House Bill 1328 was given a fair hearing on February 10, so that the comments made by the representative from Lahaina regarding this bill not given its fair day, is utterly false."

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. In opposition. I also would like to appreciate the vice speaker for sharing that very emotional story. And it is quite unfortunate. I can also share my own family's story, if I may. Which is that we have had three children, two of which were born at home with a midwife, and a third which was born in a hospital, in a birthing center with a midwife. I think also we prefer the two that were born at home. Not the kids, but the experience. And part of it is simply that it was a context and a setting in which my wife was able to exercise her full choice as a mother about the birthing experience that she wanted for herself and for our children. So, I just wanted to enter that into the record and to provide some additional context.

"And the final thing I wanted to mention, Madam Speaker, is simply that, and this is in reply to comments made earlier by the representative from Waimānalo, is I guess fundamentally, my experience as a father who has dealt with midwives and *et cetera*, is that my sense is that it's a community of people that does not think of it as an industry, though the comments were about it being an unregulated industry. But fundamentally, I believe that these are people who are doing work out of love and out of a desire to provide the best possible care for mothers. So, thank you very much."

Representative Marten rose to respond, stating:

"Second time in support. I just wanted to say that this is not an anti-midwife bill or an anti-home birth or a birthing center bill. It in fact allows for a better, more full, safer standard of care in those settings. If you are Native Hawaiian, you can still do whatever you want, wherever you want, with no regulation from the state. If you are not, then you are asked to go through a standardized training so that we not only have a standard of care that is basic consumer protection, but also there is a recourse.

"And for those of us who sat through the hearings, it wasn't one story of a child that is now needing permanent care by its family and permanent financial support from the state. But we heard so many stories from healthcare providers, pediatricians, as well as OB/GYNs that are tasked with saving these mothers and trying to save the babies when they can when they are dropped off after failed home births. And it is heartbreaking for them. They are trained to provide a certain standard of care themselves and they are held to very strict training standards, investment in their education, malpractice, liability reviews, *et cetera*. And they have these mothers dropped off, and most often, the birth attendant does not come in, and it is their job to suddenly clean up the mess. They never castigate the mother or make them feel bad for their choice. It is their role, they want people to come in, they want people to feel comfortable coming in. So, they never put that on the mother.

"And I have heard some stories where they have had a mother in ICU for four days and later saw a post on social media saying she had such a great home birth experience. I don't know to what extent the mothers don't understand that a healthy mother with a healthy pregnancy should not be in

ICU for four days. But this is the kind of situation that we are faced with. And it is a regulation of this industry and standards and recourse for malpractice that motivates me to support this bill."

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

"In opposition. And basically, on the same grounds that I articulated earlier with respect to the amendment. But I would also like to request to insert additional comments in the Journal for the sake of time."

Representative Perruso's written remarks are as follows:

"While I recognize the intent behind HB 1194, I oppose the bill as currently written. It is important to ensure that this legislation is carefully crafted to protect public health and safety while balancing the needs and rights of midwifery practitioners. There are several areas of concern in the bill, particularly regarding its historical context, the implementation of regulations, and its impact on local cultural practices. I support the idea of regulation and licensure for midwifery but believe that several changes are necessary to better serve the community and improve the overall effectiveness of the bill.

"The bill references the 1931 licensure program, which had problematic roots, including colonial influences that sought to suppress indigenous practices, including midwifery. While it is critical to regulate midwifery for safety, this bill should recognize the colonial history that has impacted Native Hawaiian and other Indigenous practices. Moving forward, it is important to ensure that regulation does not unintentionally marginalize cultural practices. I support the idea of exempting traditional and customary practices from regulation, but the bill should be amended to clearly protect these practices through explicit exemptions while ensuring that clinical midwifery is held to appropriate safety standards.

"The public has consistently sought midwifery services, particularly those outside traditional hospital settings, as a matter of reproductive choice. However, regulation is necessary to ensure that midwifery practices meet health and safety standards. The bill should be amended to better align with community needs by removing any language that could unnecessarily criminalize midwifery attendants who are not licensed but are still providing safe and culturally relevant care. Regulation should be focused on clinical practices that pose a direct health risk while allowing traditional practices to thrive in parallel without legal interference.

"The Hawai'i Regulatory Licensing Reform Act requires that licensing be undertaken when reasonably necessary to protect public health and safety. However, the application of this standard in the bill may be too broad. The bill should be revised to reflect the actual need for regulation based on a comprehensive evaluation of safety risks. It is important to ensure that the licensure process is grounded in evidence and does not create unnecessary barriers for midwives or limit access to care, particularly for underserved communities. If regulation is implemented, it must be done in a way that does not force midwives to operate underground, which could increase risks.

"One of the key issues with the bill is its reliance on incomplete audits that do not take into account the known risks associated with regulation itself, such as transport delays, interference with backup networks, and the push to underground practices. To ensure that regulation effectively addresses health and safety concerns, audits should take a more holistic approach and evaluate all potential risks, including those introduced by regulatory measures themselves. Regulation should be based on evidence of harm, and when risks arise from regulatory practices, they must be mitigated through alternative solutions that maintain safety without unduly restricting access to midwifery services.

"The bill's focus on licensure for certified professional midwives (CPMs) and certified midwives (CMs) from accredited educational programs may unintentionally disadvantage local practitioners who are not trained through these specific pathways. Many local midwives may not follow the national accreditation standards but provide culturally relevant and safe care. The bill should be revised to include pathways like the Portfolio Evaluation Process (PEP), which allows experienced midwives to obtain licensure without adhering to a rigid accreditation process. This will ensure that local midwives can continue their practices legally while still meeting safety standards.

"It is essential that the bill distinguish between clinical midwifery and traditional cultural practices. While regulation of clinical midwifery is important for safety, Native Hawaiian and other cultural practitioners should not be subject to unnecessary regulation. The bill should explicitly clarify that the regulation of midwifery does not apply to Indigenous or cultural practices. At the same time, it is important to protect birthing persons' rights to choose their practitioners and their desired practices. The bill should respect these choices and ensure that midwives are able to provide culturally competent care without fear of legal repercussions.

"There are several sections of the bill that could benefit from clearer definitions and more specific language, particularly when it comes to terms like 'morbidity' and 'medical records.' These provisions need to be carefully revised to ensure they accurately reflect the practices of midwifery and do not inadvertently create legal confusion or conflict. For example, the bill's provisions around 911 activation, medical record sharing, and peer review should include parental consent as a core component to respect birthing persons' autonomy and privacy.

"Some provisions, such as those relating to the revocation of licenses based on vague criteria (e.g., 'failure to maintain trustworthiness' or 'engaging in conduct contrary to recognized standards'), are overly broad and could be misused. It is important to ensure that the criteria for licensure revocation are clear, specific, and grounded in evidence of actual harm. This will prevent the misuse of these provisions against midwives who are following best practices but may face unjust scrutiny.

"HB 1194 has the potential to create a strong regulatory framework for midwifery that ensures public health and safety while respecting the cultural and community needs of those seeking midwifery services. However, several provisions must be revised to strike a balance between necessary regulation and the protection of cultural practices. I support the regulation and licensure of midwifery but urge amendments to ensure that the bill does not inadvertently marginalize local practices, overreach into cultural traditions, or create unnecessary barriers to access. With thoughtful revisions by the Senate, HB 1194 can protect both the safety of birthing persons and the rights of midwifery practitioners to provide culturally competent care."

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

"Madam Speaker, in strong support. And may I please adopt the words of the Health chair, the representative from Lanikai, as well as the vice speaker into the Journal as if they were my own. And just brief comment. I mean, as a mom, like many of you who have had to endure many, many hours of labor, thankfully and very gratefully have had two very beautiful children. I mean, this involves critical quick decision-making, anesthesia, drugs. And I just believe that every mother and every newborn just deserves the best possible care. So, strong support, Madam Speaker," and the Chair "so ordered." (By reference only.)

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise in opposition. Just a brief comment. I feel that this bill is just not robust enough. I think it's still a work in progress. Thank you to vice speaker for sharing that very heartbreaking story and for sharing her perspectives. I also feel that there's not enough explicit safeguards within the bill, especially when it comes to Native Hawaiian cultural and traditional practitioners. Thank you."

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

"Thank you, Speaker. In opposition. But I also want to acknowledge and appreciate, I know this was a big lift and it was a work in progress for a really long time. So, I just want to acknowledge the work that went into the bill. I have a very new concern that, it's just a very new concern based on what's going on in our government.

"I'm thinking about in my district, thousands and thousands of constituents, residents on Medicaid. And Medicaid is, I think, expected to become increasingly unstable, uncertain, whether or not they are going to continue to have their coverage. If expectant mothers lose coverage, they may not have the choice to access hospital or clinical birth options. And home birth may be their only option, especially from neighbor islands that

have to travel to O'ahu, sometimes weeks ahead of time. That cost just cannot be covered without insurance.

"So, that's newly on my mind. I wish it didn't have to be, but it is. And so, I think we just, for me, keeping accessible home birth resources in our neighborhoods and communities for underserved areas is part of the reason for my opposition. 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. 1194, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO MIDWIVES," passed Third Reading by a vote of 34 ayes to 15 noes, with Representatives Alcos, Amato, Belatti, Cochran, Garcia, Grandinetti, Hussey, Iwamoto, Matsumoto, Muraoka, Perruso, Poepoe, Reyes Oda, Shimizu, and Souza voting no, and with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

At 1:39 p.m., the Chair declared a recess subject to the call of the Chair.

The House of Representatives reconvened at 2:34 p.m.

Representative Tarnas, for the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, presented a report (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1169) recommending that H.B. No. 1118, HD 1, as amended in HD 2, pass Third Reading.

Representative Todd moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that H.B. No. 1118, HD 2 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

Representative Todd moved that notwithstanding the recommendations contained in Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1169, that H.B. No. 1118, HD 2 be recommitted to the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

"In support. Thank you, Madam Speaker. Thank you to the majority caucus leader for doing the right thing in sending this bill back to committee. It was mentioned earlier about public testimony in committee hearings, and I just want to note that why I'm supporting this recommitment is that there was over 2,000 pieces of testimony submitted against this bill in the JHA Committee, just over 100 in support. The people of Hawai'i have spoken, so this is the right thing. Thank you very much. In support."

Representative Matsumoto rose in support of the motion to recommit and asked that the remarks of the previous speaker be entered into the Journal as her own, and the Chair "so ordered." (By reference only.)

Representative Takayama rose to speak in support of the motion to recommit, stating:

"In support, Madam Speaker. I just want to note that I totally agree with the words of the minority floor leader, that there were indeed thousands of pieces of testimony in opposition to the bill. To me, the strong message was that there are many, many people who totally misunderstand the importance of vaccinations to our communities and our islands. And I call on the governor to speak out urgently and firmly on the importance of protecting, especially our children who are most at risk of contracting potentially fatal diseases. Thank you."

Representative Muraoka rose in support of the motion to recommit and asked that the remarks of his colleague from Kapolei be entered into the Journal as his own, and the Chair "so ordered." (By reference only.)

Representative Alcos rose to speak in support of the motion to recommit, stating:

"Madam Speaker, I just want to say, alright. In support."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and H.B. No. 1118, HD 2, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO NON-MEDICAL EXEMPTIONS TO IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS," was recommitted to the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, with Representatives Pierick and Ward being excused.

At 2:43 p.m., the Chair noted that the following bills passed Third Reading:

H.B. No. 664, HD 1
 H.B. No. 370, HD 2
 H.B. No. 550, HD 2
 H.B. No. 990, HD 2
 H.B. No. 316, HD 1
 H.B. No. 505, HD 1
 H.B. No. 649, HD 1
 H.B. No. 800, HD 1
 H.B. No. 818, HD 2
 H.B. No. 1358, HD 3
 H.B. No. 229, HD 1
 H.B. No. 277, HD 2
 H.B. No. 367, HD 2
 H.B. No. 420, HD 3
 H.B. No. 826, HD 2
 H.B. No. 661, HD 2
 H.B. No. 476, HD 2
 H.B. No. 1308, HD 3
 H.B. No. 1194, HD 2

THIRD READING

H.B. No. 850, HD 1:

Representative Todd moved that H.B. No. 850, HD 1 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise in opposition to HB 850, HD 1. This bill, so I've been working with the community advocates for a while now regarding safeguards to consumer protections related to condo ownership. And a lot of them, for many years now, have raised concerns around proxy voting. And while I appreciate that this bill expands the use of electronic voting and other mechanisms that hopefully will decrease the use of proxy voting, this bill actually further authorizes proxy voting, which is a problem raised by a lot of condo owners because the management companies of the condos.

"They basically have all the access to emails, phone numbers, mailing addresses to the individual owners. So, when there's a proxy vote, and say they're going for a new director, their access always benefits the status quo or the current board members. So, if the new directors want to have new leadership, it's really, really hard when there's the use of proxies that are executed or managed by the management company. So, I circulated a PDF form that actually shows a very current version of what's happening, and it clearly shows that the management companies are in favor, oftentimes, of the current sitting board members. Thank you."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and H.B. No. 850, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CONDOMINIUMS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 47 ayes to 1 no, with Representative Iwamoto voting no, and with Representatives Kapela, Pierick, and Ward being excused.

H.B. No. 1091, HD 1:

Representative Todd moved that H.B. No. 1091, HD 1 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

Representative Cochran rose to speak in support of the measure with reservations, stating:

"Thank you, Speaker. WR with this. It's requiring the counties to take on a new sewer line infrastructure, and so much is that has gone into Lahaina after the wildfire built under the recovery and disaster dislocated communities. So, that's a tall order. But again, WR, I don't see anything really being vetted or comments from the county itself. But that's my take on it. Thank you."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and H.B. No. 1091, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO SEWER TRANSMISSION LINES," passed Third Reading by a vote of 48 ayes, with Representative Cochran voting aye with reservations, and with Representatives Kapela, Pierick, and Ward being excused.

H.B. No. 892, HD 1:

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, H.B. No. 892, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO GEOGRAPHICAL RESTRICTIONS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 43 ayes to 5 noes, with Representatives Alcos, Garcia, Matsumoto, Muraoka, and Reyes Oda voting no, and with Representatives Kapela, Pierick, and Ward being excused.

H.B. No. 125, HD 1:

Representative Todd moved that H.B. No. 125, HD 1 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

Representative Souza 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 H.B. No. 125, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO FIREARMS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 43 ayes to 5 noes, with Representative Souza voting aye with reservations, with Representatives Alcos, Garcia, Kong, Matsumoto, and Muraoka voting no, and with Representatives Kapela, Pierick, and Ward being excused.

H.B. No. 127, HD 1:

Representative Todd moved that H.B. No. 127, HD 1 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

Representative Reyes Oda 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 H.B. No. 127, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO PRETRIAL RELEASE," passed Third Reading by a vote of 41 ayes to 7 noes, with Representative Reyes Oda voting aye with reservations, with Representatives Alcos, Garcia, Kila, Kong, Matsumoto, Muraoka, and Shimizu voting no, and with Representatives Kapela, Pierick, and Ward being excused.

H.B. No. 128, HD 1:

Representative Todd moved that H.B. No. 128, HD 1 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

Representative Souza 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 H.B. No. 128, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM," passed Third Reading by a vote of 37 ayes to 11 noes, with Representatives Amato and Souza voting aye with reservations, with Representatives Alcos, Chun, Garcia, Holt, Kila, Kong, Lamosao, Matsumoto, Muraoka, Reyes Oda, and Shimizu voting no, and with Representatives Kapela, Pierick, and Ward being excused.

H.B. No. 141, HD 1:

Representative Todd moved that H.B. No. 141, HD 1 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

"In opposition. Madam Speaker, this bill would require that all the appointees to the Elections Commission go through the advice and consent of the State Senate. As I've said on second reading on this bill, this defeats the purpose of having a true bipartisan elections commission. Think about it for a moment. Each party, Democrat and Republican, should have the ability to appoint who they want to sit on this commission, because it is a bipartisan commission. And people from both parties should be selected by party leadership to sit on this commission.

"Going through the advice and consent of the Senate gives power to the party in power, which is currently the Democratic Party, to veto our appointees to the commission. In recent months and these last few years, the

Elections Commission meetings have gotten quite contentious. They've gone for hours, people going back and forth, lots of emotions flying around. But this is not the solution, to give the party in control veto power over the minority's appointments to the Elections Commission. So, no vote."

Representative Hussey rose in support of the measure with reservations and asked that the remarks of his colleague from Kapolei be entered into the Journal as his own, and the Chair "so ordered." (By reference only.)

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

"Madam Speaker, in support. I would just like the remarks that I made on February 27th on this floor to be inserted into the Journal as if they were made today," and the Chair "so ordered." (By reference only.)

Representative Tam continued, stating:

"And I would like to also add that this bill, in support again, is not about what's happening in meetings. It's all about transparency. If you look at many of our boards and commissions right now, a lot of them require advice and consent from the Senate. The Senate has the ability to vet them, as well as accept public testimony. The public deserves a right to know who's going to be working on their elections, who's going to oversee our election workers, who's going to oversee our chief elections officer. I balk at the notion that this is all intended by bad meetings. This is not. This is all about transparency. Thank you, Madam Speaker."

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise in support. First off, permission to insert written comments to the Journal. And brief comment. Essentially, this advice and consent process will not change the partisan balance on the Elections Commission. The Republican appointees and the Democrat appointees will remain the same in number. And so, I notice a lot of testimony coming out of the Judiciary Committee basically said that now we're going to have an elections commission that's going to be full of Democrats or full of the majority party, essentially, and that's incorrect. And so, the partisan balance will remain. Thank you."

Representative Souza's written remarks are as follows:

"I support HB 141, HD 1. This bill is a prime example of why it is important to read the language of legislation, not succumb to narratives, and argue based on facts.

"This bill will not change the number of Republican appointees and Democrat appointees on the Hawai'i Elections Commission and neither will it affect the current makeup of neighbor island seats on the Elections Commission. Again, this bill will not change the composition of the Elections Commission when it comes to partisan balance. The same number of Republican appointees and Democrat appointees will remain unchanged. What this bill does is subject the appointees to the advice and consent process in the Senate. This will ensure greater transparency and accountability when it comes to selecting the members on this very important commission—a commission which must objectively serve to uphold a value that I hold dear as a Republican—which is to preserve free and fair elections.

"This is why we must have a more robust process in place for the selection of these members. We need a check on the current system, which allows one individual to have a full and final say for a certain number of seats. For example, currently, on the Republican side in the House, the house minority leader selects (2) members on the current Hawai'i Elections Commission. It is not in the best interests of my constituents and the people of the State of Hawai'i to have one person in charge of over 22% (2 out of 9) of the seats on the Elections Commission. The same rationale applies for the selection of the remaining seats. We must have a check on these selections and it should be within the purview of the advice and consent process in the Senate.

"Testimony from the Hawai'i Islands Republican Women when this bill was heard in the Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs Committee further proves my point that we need to argue about accurate facts. The three main points in the testimony for this group stated that they are in opposition because this bill will be (1) a threat to the current bipartisan representation on the Elections Commission, (2) create a shift in power from bipartisan to

partisan, and (3) erode public confidence. As I mentioned previously, this bill will not change the partisan balance on the commission, therefore rendering the first two points irrelevant, and it will increase public confidence by putting the public on notice as to the appointed members. This will allow the public to engage in the process. The Elections Division—Office of the County Clerk for the County of Kaua'i also offered testimony at this hearing in support stating that 'House Bill 141 will increase transparency to the process for appointing members of the Elections Commission by providing the public with more opportunities to learn about and offer comment on nominees.' The League of Women Voters also offered testimony in support, stating that this bill will 'allow[] basic screening of nominees to determine if they support free, fair and equitable elections' and they 'believe[] that anyone serving on the Elections Commission should support democratic elections.'

"For these reasons, I support HB 141, HD 1 and its objective to further ensure free and fair elections in the State of Hawai'i."

Representative Garcia rose to respond, stating:

"In opposition still. Yes, the commission will still remain with the same amount of appointees from both parties, but again, that's not the point. The point is our appointees are now subject to the approval of the Democratic party that holds the majority in committee and on the floor in the State Senate. We are not a balanced legislature. There's just three minority members in the Senate, there's no way that our appointees could get a fair trial, a fair hearing, and a fair vote without partisan politics involved. We are all partisan. The Elections Commission is bipartisan, but the appointees are indeed partisan. And they should remain that way. Thank you."

Representative Souza rose to respond, stating:

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. Still in support and just a brief rebuttal to that. The advice and consent process is simply to make sure that the appointees are unbiased, they're able to do the work that they are tasked to do on the Elections Commission, and that's really important. We really need that checks and balance on the appointee process.

"For instance, on the House side, for the Republican appointees, it's the House minority leader who selects two members currently on the Elections Commission. And I think it's interesting how one person has the ultimate say in who's on the Elections Commission. And that is actually in reference to all seats, whether it's the Senate president or you, Madam Speaker, as far as the appointees. There should be a second checks and balance, there should be a second set of eyes. And that is the process of the advice and consent process in the Senate. That's the checks and balance on the system.

"So, we need people who are actually going to do the very important work of the Elections Commission, and it should not be subject to personal decisions. There should be that extra set of eyes. And the Senate should subject these appointees to the advice and consent process. Thank you."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and H.B. No. 141, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE ELECTIONS COMMISSION," passed Third Reading by a vote of 41 ayes to 7 noes, with Representative Hussey voting aye with reservations, with Representatives Alcos, Garcia, Kila, Matsumoto, Muraoka, Reyes Oda, and Shimizu voting no, and with Representatives Kapela, Pierick, and Ward being excused.

H.B. No. 372, HD 1:

Representative Todd moved that H.B. No. 372, HD 1 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

Representative Amato 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 H.B. No. 372, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 48 ayes, with Representative Amato voting aye with reservations, and with Representatives Kapela, Pierick, and Ward being excused.

H.B. No. 698, HD 1:

Representative Todd moved that H.B. No. 698, HD 1 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

Representative Iwamoto 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 H.B. No. 698, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO ANIMAL CRUELTY," passed Third Reading by a vote of 48 ayes, with Representatives Iwamoto and Souza voting aye with reservations, and with Representatives Kapela, Pierick, and Ward being excused.

H.B. No. 392, HD 1:

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, H.B. No. 392, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO FIREARMS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 42 ayes to 6 noes, with Representatives Alcos, Garcia, Kong, Matsumoto, Muraoka, and Shimizu voting no, and with Representatives Kapela, Pierick, and Ward being excused.

H.B. No. 893, HD 1:

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, H.B. No. 893, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO FIREARMS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 39 ayes to 9 noes, with Representatives Alcos, Garcia, Kila, Kong, Matsumoto, Muraoka, Reyes Oda, Shimizu, and Souza voting no, and with Representatives Kapela, Pierick, and Ward being excused.

H.B. No. 137, HD 1:

Representative Todd moved that H.B. No. 137, HD 1 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

Representative Iwamoto 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 H.B. No. 137, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO FIREARMS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 47 ayes to 1 no, with Representative Iwamoto voting aye with reservations, with Representative Reyes Oda voting no, and with Representatives Kapela, Pierick, and Ward being excused.

H.B. No. 381, HD 1:

Representative Todd moved that H.B. No. 381, HD 1 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

Representative Cochran rose to speak in support of the measure with reservations, stating:

"WR. I guess I'm just not comfortable with the blanks in this bill that will change the procurement thresholds for small purchases. I get that it hasn't been vetted since the '90s or something. But again, I'd feel more comfortable if there was actual dollar amount to know what they're considered small purchases. Thank you."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and H.B. No. 381, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO PROCUREMENT," passed Third Reading by a vote of 48 ayes, with Representative Cochran voting aye with reservations, and with Representatives Kapela, Pierick, and Ward being excused.

H.B. No. 988, HD 1:

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, H.B. No. 988, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO PROCUREMENT," passed Third Reading by a vote of 48 ayes, with Representatives Kapela, Pierick, and Ward being excused.

H.B. No. 1155, HD 1:

Representative Todd moved that H.B. No. 1155, HD 1 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

Representative Cochran rose to speak in support of the measure with reservations, stating:

"Again, WR. I think if I'm understanding, this is giving the government bodies for pretty much state procurement to exempt things that they consider to be not in the best interest of the state. So, I see a lot of decisions being made that's not in the best interest of places like my district or in the state. So, I don't have full confidence that I agree with that. So, thank you."

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

Representative Iwamoto 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 H.B. No. 1155, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO PROCUREMENT," passed Third Reading by a vote of 45 ayes to 3 noes, with Representatives Cochran, Iwamoto, and Reyes Oda voting aye with reservations, with Representatives Alcos, Kong, and Muraoka voting no, and with Representatives Kapela, Pierick, and Ward being excused.

H.B. No. 1297, HD 1:

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, H.B. No. 1297, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO PROCUREMENT," passed Third Reading by a vote of 45 ayes to 3 noes, with Representatives Alcos, Garcia, and Muraoka voting no, and with Representatives Kapela, Pierick, and Ward being excused.

H.B. No. 1414, HD 1:

Representative Todd moved that H.B. No. 1414, HD 1 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

"Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise in opposition with comments. I rise in strong opposition to this measure, House Bill 1414, HD 1, Relating to Procurement. The current language of the law in reference to procurement states, 'the contract shall be awarded with reasonable promptness by written notice to the lowest responsible and responsive bidder whose bid meets the requirements and criteria set forth in the invitation for bids.'"

"This bill will add additional language beyond this that states, 'provided that, if the purchasing agency determines that an award made to the lowest responsible and responsive bidder is not in the best interests of the State, the head of the purchasing agency, with the approval of the chief procurement officer, may award the contract to the responsible and responsive bidder whose bid is most beneficial to taxpayers or otherwise in the best interests of the State.'"

"This creates a situation where the floodgates will open to ethical concerns and subjectivity in selecting contracts, which undermines the purpose of the procurement code."

"This was a single-committee referral to Finance where there was testimony in opposition to this measure from the Department of Accounting and General Services, the State Procurement Office, the Department of Budget and Fiscal Services, the City & County of Honolulu, and the General Contractors Association of Hawai'i."

"I will elaborate more on highlights of the testimonies in opposition in my written comments. So, at this time, I am requesting to insert additional written comments into the Journal. Thank you."

Representative Souza's written remarks are as follows:

"I expressed in my comments during the House floor debate on HB 1414, HD 1 that I would elaborate with additional written comments on the highlights of the testimonies in opposition to this measure when this bill was

heard in the Finance Committee. Please consider this a more specific expression of the reasons for my opposition to this measure.

"In testimony from the State Procurement Office, it stated that '[f]air and open competition is a basic tenet of public procurement. Such competition reduces the opportunity for favoritism and inspires public confidence that contracts are awarded equitably and economically.' They further explained that 'the Code authorizes a variety of source selection methods to provide the best competition of all types of procurements.' This allows for the flexibility that appears to be the rationale for this bill.

"The Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) explained in their testimony about the importance of competitive sealed proposals, and states that '[i]f this bill is approved, it will reduce the transparency of the competitive sealed bid process because the words "most beneficial to taxpayers or otherwise in the best interests of the State" are subjective.'

"The Department of Budget and Fiscal Services stated in their testimony that 'HRS 103D-303 Competitive Sealed Proposals already provides for an award to be made to the responsible offeror whose proposal is determined in writing to be the most advantageous, taking into consideration price and the evaluation factors set forth in the request for proposals.' They also noted that '[o]fferors should be made aware of the method of award during the solicitation process. By determining best value after bids are received, the solicitation no longer has a fair and transparent process to award a contract.' They ultimately stated that '[t]he changes being proposed will lead to an increase in the amount of protests received and require additional time and resources.'

"The General Contractors Association stated in their testimony that '[a]llowing the head of the procuring agency to award it to any bidder they want would open the door to unethical procurement and circumvent the primary purpose of having a procurement code' and further, that '[u]nder this language, the procuring agency can award the procurement contract to anyone who bid on the work, whom they determine to be most beneficial to taxpayers, and not the lowest responsible bidder or even the second lowest responsible bidder. There is no framework for determining what "most beneficial to taxpayers or best interests of the state" means.'

"Due to ethical concerns, vagueness of the language utilized, and an attentiveness to fiscal responsibility, I am in strong opposition to this measure. We should be strengthening our laws to further eliminate ethical issues—not create them."

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

Representative Cochran rose in support of the measure with reservations and asked that the remarks of District 43 be entered into the Journal as her own, and the Chair "so ordered." (By reference only.)

Representative Belatti 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."

Representative Lamosao rose in opposition to the measure and asked that her written remarks be inserted in the Journal, and the Chair "so ordered."

Representative Lamosao's written remarks are as follows:

"I oppose HB 1414, HD 1 because it does not clearly define 'most beneficial to taxpayers or best interests of the state.' The proposed changes will also increase the number of protests received and require additional time and resources."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and H.B. No. 1414, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO PROCUREMENT," passed Third Reading by a vote of 44 ayes to 4 noes, with Representatives Belatti, Cochran, Iwamoto, and Perruso voting aye with reservations, with Representatives Amato, Kong, Lamosao, and Souza voting no, and with Representatives Kapela, Pierick, and Ward being excused.

H.B. No. 1145, HD 1:

Representative Todd moved that H.B. No. 1145, HD 1 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

Representative Iwamoto 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 H.B. No. 1145, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CONFORMITY TO THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE," passed Third Reading by a vote of 48 ayes, with Representative Iwamoto voting aye with reservations, and with Representatives Kapela, Pierick, and Ward being excused.

H.B. No. 1146, HD 1:

Representative Todd moved that H.B. No. 1146, HD 1 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

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

"In strong opposition and request to insert written comments, please."

Representative Perruso's written remarks are as follows:

"I am opposed to HB 1146, HD 1 because while this bill seeks to address a technical issue in pass-through entity taxation, it fails to address the deeper inequities in our tax system and ultimately reinforces tax advantages that overwhelmingly benefit the wealthiest business owners in Hawai'i.

"To understand the implications of this bill, we must first recognize what a pass-through entity (PTE) is. PTEs—including S corporations, partnerships, LLCs, and sole proprietorships—are business structures where profits 'pass through' directly to the individual owners, who then pay personal income tax on those earnings. Unlike C corporations, which face double taxation (once at the corporate level and again when dividends are paid to shareholders), PTEs avoid this double taxation entirely. This tax structure already confers a major financial advantage to business owners over wage earners, who do not have the same ability to shield their income from corporate taxes.

"Now, why was the pass-through entity tax (PTET) created in the first place? It is a federal tax workaround that states, including Hawai'i, implemented in response to the 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA), which capped state and local tax (SALT) deductions at \$10,000. This cap disproportionately affected wealthy individuals in high-tax states, so states enacted PTET laws that allow PTEs to pay state income tax at the entity level rather than the individual level. Why? Because unlike individuals, businesses are not subject to the SALT cap. This allows high-income business owners to deduct an uncapped amount of state income taxes from their federal taxable income—giving them a tax break unavailable to the vast majority of working people in Hawai'i.

"HB 1146, HD 1 is being presented as a correction to the existing PTET system because, under current law, PTE members receive a double tax benefit—(1) a credit for their share of taxes paid by the entity, and (2) a reduction in taxable income because the entity's taxes are deductible at the business level. The Department of Taxation has testified that this loophole results in a significant revenue loss to the state, projected to exceed \$37 million annually by FY2031. This bill eliminates that double benefit by requiring PTE members to add back their share of entity-paid taxes into their taxable income.

"However, it's important to ask who really benefits from this system. The vast majority of Hawai'i residents do not own pass-through entities. Most are wage earners who receive a paycheck and pay taxes at the individual level, with no ability to game the system through entity-level deductions or credits. Meanwhile, wealthy business owners—who already enjoy the benefits of pass-through taxation—get to use this system to sidestep federal tax liabilities that working people cannot escape.

"Even if this bill closes a loophole, the larger issue remains: we are tweaking a system that was never designed to benefit the majority of taxpayers in the first place. The Department of Taxation and the Tax Foundation of Hawai'i have both noted that this bill is a response to a federal issue—the SALT deduction cap—and that our state tax system does not

even impose the same restriction. In other words, this bill is not about fairness; it is about fine-tuning an already skewed system that favors high-income business owners over everyday residents.

"Instead of continuing to tweak a tax structure that benefits the wealthiest, we should be prioritizing progressive tax reforms that help working families—such as an expanded earned income tax credit, a renter's credit, and a more equitable tax structure that asks the wealthiest to pay their fair share.

"For these reasons, I oppose HB 1146, HD 1. We need real tax reform that lifts up working people—not just fixes tax loopholes for the rich while ignoring the broader inequities in our system."

The motion was put to vote by the Chair and carried, and H.B. No. 1146, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO PASS-THROUGH ENTITY TAXATION," passed Third Reading by a vote of 47 ayes to 1 no, with Representative Perruso voting no, and with Representatives Kapela, Pierick, and Ward being excused.

H.B. No. 1369, HD 1:

Representative Todd moved that H.B. No. 1369, HD 1 pass Third Reading, seconded by Representative Morikawa.

Representative Iwamoto 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 H.B. No. 1369, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION," passed Third Reading by a vote of 41 ayes to 7 noes, with Representative Iwamoto voting aye with reservations, with Representatives Alcos, Garcia, Matsumoto, Muraoka, Reyes Oda, Shimizu, and Souza voting no, and with Representatives Kapela, Pierick, and Ward being excused.

H.B. No. 1439, HD 1:

On motion by Representative Todd, seconded by Representative Morikawa and carried, H.B. No. 1439, HD 1, entitled: "A BILL FOR AN ACT MAKING APPROPRIATIONS FOR PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT COST ITEMS," passed Third Reading by a vote of 48 ayes, with Representatives Kapela, Pierick, and Ward being excused.

At 3:06 p.m., the Chair noted that the following bills passed Third Reading:

H.B. No. 850, HD 1
H.B. No. 1091, HD 1
H.B. No. 892, HD 1
H.B. No. 125, HD 1
H.B. No. 127, HD 1
H.B. No. 128, HD 1
H.B. No. 141, HD 1
H.B. No. 372, HD 1
H.B. No. 698, HD 1
H.B. No. 392, HD 1
H.B. No. 893, HD 1
H.B. No. 137, HD 1
H.B. No. 381, HD 1
H.B. No. 988, HD 1
H.B. No. 1155, HD 1
H.B. No. 1297, HD 1
H.B. No. 1414, HD 1
H.B. No. 1145, HD 1
H.B. No. 1146, HD 1
H.B. No. 1369, HD 1
H.B. No. 1439, HD 1

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS

By unanimous consent, the following resolutions (H.R. Nos. 26 through 35) and concurrent resolutions (H.C.R. Nos. 27 through 41) were referred to Printing and further action was deferred:

H.R. No. 26, entitled: "HOUSE RESOLUTION REQUESTING HAWAII'S CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO PETITION THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE TO ADDRESS THE LACK OF PARITY BETWEEN HAWAII AND OTHER STATES AND TERRITORIES PERTAINING TO THE EXPORT OF AGRICULTURAL GOODS," was jointly offered by Representatives Kahaloa, Amato, Belatti, Evslin, Garrett, Marten, Morikawa, Perruso, Reyes Oda, Takayama, Tam, and Tarnas.

H.R. No. 27, entitled: "HOUSE RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO RECONVENE THE WORKING GROUP ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 18, H.D. 1 (2024) TO CONTINUE THE EFFORTS TO ADDRESS ISSUES RELATED TO WATER AND AIR CONTAMINATION AND REMEDIATION ARISING FROM THE OPERATION OF THE PUULOA RANGE TRAINING FACILITY," was jointly offered by Representatives Reyes Oda and Alcos.

H.R. No. 28, entitled: "HOUSE RESOLUTION URGING THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU TO CONDUCT A STUDY ON THE ECONOMIC, SOCIAL, AND FISCAL IMPACT OF THE KAPIOLANI HOSPITAL NURSES STRIKE AND LOCKOUT TO THE STATE," was offered by Representative Reyes Oda.

H.R. No. 29, entitled: "HOUSE RESOLUTION REQUESTING EACH COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT TO INCREASE ENFORCEMENT AGAINST OUT-OF-STATE VEHICLES OPERATING ON PUBLIC ROADWAYS THAT HAVE NOT BEEN PROPERLY REGISTERED IN THE APPROPRIATE COUNTY," was offered by Representative Kila.

H.R. No. 30, entitled: "HOUSE RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII TO EXPLORE THE FEASIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING AN ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE RESEARCH CENTER AND IDENTIFY THE REQUIREMENTS FOR RECEIVING FEDERAL FUNDING FROM THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE ON AGING FOR ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE RESEARCH," was jointly offered by Representatives Chun, Amato, Garrett, Keohokapu-Lee Loy, Kila, Kitagawa, Marten, Morikawa, Olds, Poepoe, Reyes Oda, Shimizu, Takayama, and Ward.

H.R. No. 31, entitled: "HOUSE RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII TO CONDUCT A VIABILITY STUDY OF NUCLEAR ENERGY DEVELOPMENT IN HAWAII," was jointly offered by Representatives Chun, Evslin, Garrett, Takayama, and Ward.

H.R. No. 32, entitled: "HOUSE RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE POSTMASTER GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE TO RELOCATE THE PEARL CITY POST OFFICE TO THE UNITED STATES NAVY PROPERTY ON THE PEARL CITY PENINSULA," was jointly offered by Representatives Chun and Takayama.

H.R. No. 33, entitled: "HOUSE RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE TAX REVIEW COMMISSION TO IDENTIFY POSSIBLE MEANS BY WHICH THE HAWAII LONG-TERM CARE FINANCING PROGRAM CAN BE IMPLEMENTED," was jointly offered by Representatives Marten, Amato, Iwamoto, Keohokapu-Lee Loy, Lamosao, Matayoshi, Perruso, Takayama, and Tam.

H.R. No. 34, entitled: "HOUSE RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE HEALTH DATA ADVISORY COUNCIL TO CONFIRM THE NUMBER OF UNINSURED CHILDREN STATEWIDE AND PER COUNTY IN 2025 AND THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES MED-QUEST DIVISION TO ESTIMATE COSTS AND COLLABORATE WITH THE STATE HEALTH PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT AGENCY ON POLICY CHANGES NEEDED TO ACHIEVE THE GOAL OF UNIVERSAL HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR CHILDREN," was jointly offered by Representatives Marten, Amato, Keohokapu-Lee Loy, Olds, Perruso, Reyes Oda, and Takayama.

H.R. No. 35, entitled: "HOUSE RESOLUTION URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES AND OTHER STATE AGENCIES TO WORK WITH COMMITTED COMMUNITY GROUPS TO CO-STEWARD COMMUNITY FORESTS LOCATED ON PUBLIC LANDS FOR THE BETTERMENT OF THE STATE'S FORESTS AND COMMUNITIES," was jointly offered by Representatives Marten, Amato, Grandinetti, Lowen, Matsumoto, Shimizu, Takayama, and Tarnas.

H.C.R. No. 27, entitled: "HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REQUESTING HAWAII'S CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO PETITION THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE TO ADDRESS THE LACK OF PARITY BETWEEN HAWAII AND OTHER STATES AND TERRITORIES PERTAINING TO THE EXPORT OF AGRICULTURAL GOODS," was jointly offered by Representatives Kahaloa, Amato, Belatti, Evslin, Garrett, Marten, Morikawa, Perruso, Reyes Oda, Takayama, Tam, and Tarnas.

H.C.R. No. 28, entitled: "HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO RECONVENE THE WORKING GROUP ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 18, H.D. 1 (2024) TO CONTINUE THE EFFORTS TO ADDRESS ISSUES RELATED TO WATER AND AIR CONTAMINATION AND REMEDIATION ARISING FROM THE OPERATION OF THE PUULOA RANGE TRAINING FACILITY," was jointly offered by Representatives Reyes Oda and Alcos.

H.C.R. No. 29, entitled: "HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION URGING THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU TO CONDUCT A STUDY ON THE ECONOMIC, SOCIAL, AND FISCAL IMPACT OF THE KAPIOLANI HOSPITAL NURSES STRIKE AND LOCKOUT TO THE STATE," was offered by Representative Reyes Oda.

H.C.R. No. 30, entitled: "HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REQUESTING EACH COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT TO INCREASE ENFORCEMENT AGAINST OUT-OF-STATE VEHICLES OPERATING ON PUBLIC ROADWAYS THAT HAVE NOT BEEN PROPERLY REGISTERED IN THE APPROPRIATE COUNTY," was offered by Representative Kila.

H.C.R. No. 31, entitled: "HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII TO EXPLORE THE FEASIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING AN ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE RESEARCH CENTER AND IDENTIFY THE REQUIREMENTS FOR RECEIVING FEDERAL FUNDING FROM THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE ON AGING FOR ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE RESEARCH," was jointly offered by Representatives Chun, Amato, Garrett, Keohokapu-Lee Loy, Kila, Kitagawa, Marten, Morikawa, Olds, Poepoe, Reyes Oda, Shimizu, Takayama, and Ward.

H.C.R. No. 32, entitled: "HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII TO CONDUCT A VIABILITY STUDY OF NUCLEAR ENERGY DEVELOPMENT IN HAWAII," was jointly offered by Representatives Chun, Evslin, Garrett, Takayama, and Ward.

H.C.R. No. 33, entitled: "HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE POSTMASTER GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE TO RELOCATE THE PEARL CITY POST OFFICE TO THE UNITED STATES NAVY PROPERTY ON THE PEARL CITY PENINSULA," was jointly offered by Representatives Chun and Takayama.

H.C.R. No. 34, entitled: "HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO CALL A CONVENTION FOR PROPOSING AMENDMENTS PURSUANT TO ARTICLE V OF THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION LIMITED TO PROPOSING AMENDMENTS THAT IMPOSE FISCAL RESTRAINTS ON THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, LIMIT THE POWER AND JURISDICTION OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, AND LIMIT THE TERMS OF OFFICE FOR ITS OFFICIALS AND MEMBERS OF CONGRESS," was jointly offered by Representatives Chun, Alcos, Garcia, Keohokapu-Lee Loy, Kila, Kong, Matsumoto, Pierick, Reyes Oda, Shimizu, Ward, and Sayama.

H.C.R. No. 35, entitled: "HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE AUDITOR TO ASSESS THE SOCIAL AND FINANCIAL EFFECTS OF MANDATORY HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR BIOMARKER TESTING," was jointly offered by Representatives Chun, Amato, Garrett, Marten, Matsumoto, Olds, Perruso, and Takayama.

H.C.R. No. 36, entitled: "HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE AUDITOR TO ASSESS THE SOCIAL AND FINANCIAL EFFECTS OF PROPOSED MANDATORY HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR COLORECTAL CANCER SCREENINGS," was jointly offered by Representatives Chun, Evslin, Garrett, Marten, Matsumoto, Olds, Reyes Oda, Takayama, and Amato.

H.C.R. No. 37, entitled: "HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE HAWAII EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY TO COLLABORATE WITH RELEVANT AGENCIES TO DEVELOP INITIATIVES AND OUTREACH PROGRAMS TO INFORM KUPUNA ABOUT EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS," was jointly offered by Representatives Chun, Amato, Belatti, Garrett, Iwamoto, La Chica, Marten, Morikawa, Perruso, Shimizu, Souza, Takayama, Tam, Tarnas, and Ward.

H.C.R. No. 38, entitled: "HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE TAX REVIEW COMMISSION TO IDENTIFY POSSIBLE MEANS BY WHICH THE HAWAII LONG-TERM CARE FINANCING PROGRAM CAN BE IMPLEMENTED," was jointly offered by Representatives Marten, Amato, Iwamoto, Keohokapu-Lee Loy, Lamosao, Matayoshi, Perruso, Takayama, and Tam.

H.C.R. No. 39, entitled: "HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE HEALTH DATA ADVISORY COUNCIL TO CONFIRM THE NUMBER OF UNINSURED CHILDREN STATEWIDE AND PER COUNTY IN 2025 AND THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES MED-QUEST DIVISION TO ESTIMATE COSTS AND COLLABORATE WITH THE STATE HEALTH PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT AGENCY ON POLICY CHANGES NEEDED TO ACHIEVE THE GOAL OF UNIVERSAL HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR CHILDREN," was jointly offered by Representatives Marten, Amato, Keohokapu-Lee Loy, Olds, Perruso, Reyes Oda, and Takayama.

H.C.R. No. 40, entitled: "HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES AND OTHER STATE AGENCIES TO WORK WITH COMMITTED COMMUNITY GROUPS TO CO-STEWARD COMMUNITY FORESTS LOCATED ON PUBLIC LANDS FOR THE BETTERMENT OF THE STATE'S FORESTS AND COMMUNITIES," was jointly offered by Representatives Marten, Amato, Grandinetti, Lowen, Matsumoto, Shimizu, Takayama, and Tarnas.

H.C.R. No. 41, entitled: "HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE AUDITOR TO CONDUCT A SOCIAL AND FINANCIAL ASSESSMENT OF PROPOSED MANDATORY HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR NATIVE HAWAIIAN HEALING AND CULTURAL PRACTICES OFFERED THROUGH FEDERALLY QUALIFIED HEALTH CENTERS OR NATIVE HAWAIIAN HEALTH CARE SYSTEMS," was jointly offered by Representatives Marten, Keohokapu-Lee Loy, Olds, and Takayama.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Representative Tam: "Thank you, Madam Speaker. I am doing this now because it's on Friday. But Friday is Tourism Day, hosted by myself as well as my counterpart, the Tourism Chair in the Senate. Please join us as members of the industry will be on the fourth floor to talk about this important industry that employs so many of our local citizens. It will be Friday, March 7 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Thank you."

Representative Marten: "So, tomorrow at 10:45 a.m. in Room 430, we're going to be hosting an hour-long mock hearing for individuals with developmental disabilities to practice giving testimony. If anybody would like to participate, we would like to have an audience, please just contact my office. Thank you."

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

The following measures were referred to committee by the Speaker:

**S.B.
Nos.****Referred to:**

222, SD1 Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, then to the Committee on Finance

283, SD1 Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

289 Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

325, SD1 Committee on Finance

326, SD1 Committee on Finance

327, SD2 Committee on Labor, then to the Committee on Finance

329 Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection, then to the Committee on Finance

391, SD1 Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection, then to the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce

423, SD1 Committee on Education, then to the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

430, SD1 Committee on Finance

436, SD1 Committee on Labor, then to the Committee on Finance

440, SD2 Committee on Education, then to the Committee on Finance

443, SD1 Jointly to the Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems and the Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection, then to the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce

447 Committee on Health, then to the Committee on Labor, then to the Committee on Finance

448, SD1 Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems, then to the Committee on Finance

533, SD2 Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection, then to the Committee on Education, then to the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce

693, SD1 Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems, then to the Committee on Finance

721, SD1 Committee on Finance

744, SD1 Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, then to the Committee on Finance

841, SD1 Committee on Water & Land, then to the Committee on Finance

865, SD1 Committee on Higher Education, then to the Committee on Finance

938, SD1 Committee on Labor, then to the Committee on Finance

1023, SD1 Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems, then to the Committee on Culture & Arts, then to the Committee on Finance

1042, SD1 Committee on Health, then to the Committee on Finance

1117, SD2 Committee on Transportation, then jointly to the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce and the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, then to the Committee on Finance

1186, SD2 Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems, then to the Committee on Economic Development & Technology, then to the Committee on Finance

1197, SD1 Committee on Transportation, then to the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce

1269, SD1 Jointly to the Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection and the Committee on Economic Development & Technology, then to the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, then to the Committee on Finance

1278, SD1 Committee on Economic Development & Technology, then to the Committee on Finance

1341 Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection, then to the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

1359 Committee on Labor, then to the Committee on Finance

1361 Committee on Labor, then to the Committee on Finance

1381, SD1 Committee on Public Safety, then to the Committee on Finance

1390, SD1 Committee on Education

1393, SD1 Committee on Education, then to the Committee on Water & Land, then to the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

1515, SD1 Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, then to the Committee on Finance

1522 Committee on Transportation, then to the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

1530 Committee on Higher Education, then to the Committee on Finance

1547, SD1 Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems, then to the Committee on Finance

1609, SD1 Committee on Human Services & Homelessness, then to the Committee on Finance

1620 Committee on Health, then to the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce

1651, SD1 Committee on Labor, then to the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

1669, SD2 Jointly to the Committee on Housing and the Committee on Transportation, then to the Committee on Water & Land, then to the Committee on Finance

ADJOURNMENT

At 3:07 p.m., on motion by Representative Morikawa, seconded by Representative Garcia and carried, the House of Representatives adjourned until noon Thursday, March 6, 2025. (Representatives Kapela, Pierick, and Ward were excused.)

OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The copy of the following record of Oath of Office for Representative Gene Ward was received by the Clerk:

State of Hawai`i
Oath of Office

State of Hawai`i
City and County of Honolulu } ss.

I, Gene Ward, do solemnly swear that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States, and the Constitution of the State of Hawai`i, and that I will faithfully discharge my duties as a member of the House of Representatives of the State of Hawai`i to the best of my ability.


Gene Ward

Subscribed and sworn to before me this
3rd day of March, A.D. 2025.

MALE Reckhowald
Honorable Mark E. Reckhowald
Chief Justice, Hawai`i Supreme Court