

## NINTH DAY

**Wednesday, January 31, 2018**

The Senate of the Twenty-Ninth Legislature of the State of Hawai'i, Regular Session of 2018, convened at 11:33 a.m. with the President in the Chair.

The Roll was called showing all Senators present.

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

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

"I'd like to introduce one of my constituents, who is visiting with us today. Actually, he used to sit here on the floor with us. I want to introduce Shan Tsutsui, Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai'i for another – how much longer are you here? For today.

"I first met the lieutenant governor years ago, when he came by my law partner's office and we were sitting around; some people were enjoying adult beverages – I can't remember who. And we were trying to find someone to run for the vacant – well, it wasn't a vacant Senate seat yet, but it was a seat that represented our community, and this young guy sitting there, all of a sudden said, 'You know, I might be interested.' And we said, 'Yeah, yeah, okay,' and he ended up filing; he ended up running, and he ran probably one of the best campaigns ever, one that was truly grassroots, and it turned out that he was probably one of the best representatives of my community that we've had in many years. (And it didn't hurt that he went to Maui High School like I did.) And when I was privileged enough to be appointed to the State House, he was a very good partner. In fact, he was the senior partner because, unfortunately, I wasn't with the majority in the House, so I think I was an additional person that he had to take care of in whatever position he had in the State Senate. I remember, in the last campaign that we did together, when he was running for re-election in 2012, I recall that we were sign-waving together on Ka'ahumanu Avenue. I was actually listening to the World Series while we were sign-waving, and he was telling me that he was thinking that he was going to try to become president in the Senate. And I said, 'Yeah, yeah, yeah, right.' And he did, and he again served capably, very capably, in that position. I think those of us who were serving in the House understood that, for the first time in a while, I think the Senate probably showed the House that there was another chamber in the Capitol. I think his one, probably, mistake was to leave the State Senate because that opened it up for me.

"But I'm very glad to be able to call him friend; he's been someone who I care about, and I know that he has always cared about my family as well, and we all share a lot of the same friends, and I want to thank you for your service to the state. And, you know, for everyone here, I don't blame you for wanting to go home; I look forward to that every Friday. Thank you."

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

"We can't let our esteemed colleague and friend go without a little more ceremony, so we have styled a very unusual but unique Senate congratulatory certificate for our friend. It's unique in that it's been signed with messages from your former colleagues, all of us here, and I wanted to take this opportunity to read just a paragraph so that you can be memorialized in our Journal. It says:

The Hawai'i State Senate is honored to formally recognize and thank Shan Tsutsui for his years of service first as a State Senator and as Lieutenant Governor.

... Shan ... has been a strong advocate for R.E.A.C.H. (Resources for Enrichment, Athletics, Culture and Health). This program provides an organizational framework for public middle and intermediate schools to offer expanded learning opportunities during after-school hours. Lieutenant Governor Shan Tsutsui was also a driving force behind the Farm to School Initiative, which supplies schools with fresh, locally grown produce in order to improve the nutrition of our Keiki. ...

The Senate of the Twenty-Ninth Legislature of the State of Hawai'i hereby recognizes Lieutenant Governor Shan Tsutsui for his dedication to furthering successful initiatives and programs which have been of great benefit to the future leaders of our islands and expresses its appreciation and aloha for his service to the people of the State of Hawai'i. We wish him and his wife, Lyndelle, and their three daughters, Mikayla, Kaylee and Kenna great success and happiness in all future endeavors.

"So, as a token of our appreciation, we are presenting you with this certificate that shares some messages from all of us. Mahalo."

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

"Sadly, I do not have any wisdom from Dr. Seuss, but I do have something that I would like to share briefly with my fellow Under 40 Club member. For those of you who may not know, on the very first day here in the State Senate, I was privileged enough to receive a very special lei from our lieutenant governor. I was very scared, walking into this building for the first time, and he came up to me and he presented me with a gift. And I can tell you, though, upon the birth of my first child, I put that gift to very good use. It was a lei, much like this [*holds up lei*] that also contained a pacifier because, he proudly told me, 'I have been waiting for you for so long because now I am no longer the youngest member of the State Senate. Congratulations!' It took me a decade for the good senator from Hawai'i Kai to take over the reins of being the new youngest member of the State Senate – congratulations, by the way! But upon him creeping up to that age where he was going to be leaving us, we made a pact that we would forever be members of the Under 40 Club. We grandfathered ourselves in, by the way, since we're both now over 40, and we also capped it off, so we are proud members – the only members – of the Under 40 Club of the Hawai'i State Senate.

"But I wanted to thank him for taking me in when it was quite a scary place to be, here amongst our esteemed colleagues – and for reminding me to make sure that I balance out the heavy work of representing my district but also taking time to be with my husband, to raise a family, to have a family, and what that would be like, because having two little children has still, to this very day, been the biggest blessing for me; to make sure that I had those family trips, that I played soccer with them on the field, that I went to Cub Scouts, that I took them out at every possible occasion, brought them to the Capitol but went home with them to tuck them into bed. You know, Shan, you've been that role model for me, and you deserve everything in the world in terms of making sure that you can be there for them. So, thank you for being role models for all of us moms and dads who want to make sure that we can set good policy for them but, at the very end of the day, make sure that they know that they've got a good parent who's always going to be there for

them. So, thank you so much for everything that you've done for us and what you've done for your family as well.

"So I now continue, as we start off in the beginning, we also do in the end, give you back a pacifier because you deserve this, and it's important that you remember: The Tao Te Ching, something that I remember reading long ago, reminds us that 'amidst the worldly comings and goings, observe how endings truly become beginnings.' This is not the end for you because I know that our state, our country, needs good leaders like you to remind us constantly what's important in what we do. So thank you."

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

"I remember when the lieutenant governor first came to the Senate, and I was so happy because, I said to him, 'Now you're the youngest member of the Senate!'" That was a title we've all passed on, right? You know, Shan has been such a great colleague to us, and for the Maui delegation, I can tell you that we've accomplished some incredible things together that Maui County, all four of our islands, have benefited from, and the entire state. But one thing I've always admired about Shan is this: that there was always the human side to him, and he always recognized the importance of family, the importance of the relation with each other, and the importance of friendship. So, we've been through a lot, Shan and I together, and 15 years of working together doesn't end here, and I look forward to working with you on many other projects in Maui and throughout the state. I do have a marble table stand upstairs that you can take home with you when you're ready. Thank you, Mr. President."

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

"Well, you can call him Shawn or you can call him Shane; recently it's Stan but I think his name is Shan! Mr. Lieutenant Governor, thank you for many memories; thank you for being a great friend. I remember, about nine-and-a-half years ago, when I first won my first election, he was on the phone with my friend Charlotte Nekota, telling her, 'She won her election! She won her election!' And I'm watching the TV and said, 'He doesn't know anything! I'm waiting for the announcement!' But thank you for being there when I first came in and helping me along. What I appreciate most in recent years is how hard you have worked on issues that are dear to me, not just coaching softball, but the Farm to School program; after-school, middle school programs, and I hope that we can continue your legacy because the next Farm to School program will be in Mililani. And I appreciate your hard work because we've talked about it for years, but it never happened until you did it. Good luck to you; mahalo."

The Chair presented the following remarks:

"Although not customary, I want to say something. In the 2000 election that Senator Keith-Agaran referenced, with the lieutenant governor running a textbook campaign, I personally was immersed in a very unsuccessful campaign to be the mayor of Kaua'i. In early 2003, my friend Senator Kim was coming to Kaua'i to meet with Mayor Baptiste, and with downtime before the meeting and the scheduled arrival of the plane, she asked me if I would pick her up, and I said, 'Sure, we can go get some coffee; we can chat for a little while – happy to see you.' And she came with some young, fresh-faced gentleman and, upon being introduced, I said, 'Oh, are you with Senator Kim's staff?' Well, I was corrected that this was the new senator from Maui, and then they said 'Shan,' and fortunately for me, he either forgot about the incident or forgave me when I came to the Senate, and he befriended me.

"It's unusual to be 14 years someone's senior yet refer to him as a mentor, someone who has tremendously influenced my life in a positive way, and I want to express my appreciation to him for that. I know, in talking about the succession, my comment was that his leaving leaves a gaping hole in the political fabric of this state. And while we've talked about the contributions he is going to be making because he's still young, in knowing his extended family, in knowing Lynn, Mikayla, Kaylee, and Kenna, it is certainly my belief that the greatest contribution that he is going to make to the State of Hawai'i is what his daughters are going to accomplish by the values that he and his wife and family have passed on to them and the skills and talent that they possess. And so, while I look forward to his next chapter, I'm certainly anxiously waiting to see the contribution that his three daughters are going to make to this great state. So, to you, Lieutenant Governor, thank you very much for your service; to your family, thank you so very much for sharing him with us and the rest of the state."

#### ADJOURNMENT

At 11:50 a.m., on motion by Senator Espero, seconded by Senator English and carried, the Senate adjourned until 11:30 a.m., Thursday, February 1, 2018.