

House of Representatives in March 1959, there were no fewer than 88 bills pending that would have, if enacted, admitted Hawaii as a State. The people of Hawaii, through our territorial legislature, had petitioned the Congress for statehood on 17 different occasions.

Back in the fifties, times were very different. In those days, the concept of statehood for a group of tiny islands in the middle of the Pacific Ocean seemed far-fetched to many. However, the admission of Alaska removed the doubts of those who felt the United States should be one contiguous land mass.

After nearly 40 years of Congressional debates, investigations, hearings, and visitations, we achieved what so many of us in the Territory of Hawaii deeply desired. The State of Hawaii has come a long way since 1959 and I am very proud of the achievements of the people of Hawaii. I believe Hawaii has proven to be a credit to our Nation. I would like to take this opportunity to give my colleagues some insight into the tremendous changes that have taken place in the 50th State over the past 40 years.

Hawaii has the reputation of being the "Health State," and that reputation is well deserved. We lead the Nation in providing access to health care with more than 96 percent of the Hawaii population having health insurance. Hawaii leads the Nation with the lowest number of deaths from breast cancer, and ranks second in the Nation for the lowest number of deaths due to all cancers, heart disease, and diabetes.

Our territory of 600,000 American citizens in 1959 has more than doubled in 40 years. No territory, with the exception of Oklahoma, ever possessed a population as large as Hawaii's at the time it sought statehood in the Union. Consider these facts. In 1959, Hawaii contributed into the U.S. Treasury \$166 million in taxes, putting Hawaii ahead of 10 States in taxpayer contributions. The per capita income of Hawaii was \$1,821, ranking it 25th amongst the States, and the total income was more than in eight States. Current per capita income is more than 14 times that original amount, ranking Hawaii 15th amongst the States. Further, last year the people of Hawaii contributed \$2.7 billion to Federal coffers in the form of taxes.

In 1959, sugar was king; 974,000 tons of sugar were produced in Hawaii. Though sugar is no longer king in Hawaii, agriculture has and continues to be a significant contributor to the state's economy providing nearly \$3 billion in sales and more than 40,000 jobs. Sugar remains an important crop and pineapple production has been stable for many years. Additionally, diversified agriculture, including flowers, fruits, vegetables, macadamia nuts, coffee, and livestock, is a very bright spot in our State's economy. It is one of the few economic sectors experiencing growth. In 1987, diversified crops surpassed sugar in farm fate value in Hawaii and never looked back. After its

pristine beaches and warm tropical waters, Hawaii's attraction lies in its green space. Without agricultural production, much of this lush green environment, many come to expect of Hawaii, would be lost.

With sugar's downsizing, Hawaii is taking advantage of an opportunity that has been available in the islands in 150 years, that is, agricultural land is available in large quantities. The State is now taking an unobstructed look at agriculture in its broadest sense. Beyond traditional products, Hawaii and its year-round growing capability is ripe for development of high value products like herbal dietary supplements, cosmetics, ethical drugs, specialized fruits and vegetables, and natural industrial products. There is also potential for agriculture as a service industry in the areas of bioremediation of contaminants, carbon sequestering forest production, seed testing and propagation for use worldwide, and development of innovative pest management strategies.

The State of Hawaii has become a world class player in the science and technology arena. Manua Kea, on the Island of Hawaii, is known internationally as the best site for optical, infrared, and millimeter/submillimeter astronomy. It is the chosen site for all four of the new generation of 8- or 10-meter class telescopes now under construction in the Northern Hemisphere. The observatories include: the Gemini project, the Keck Observatory, Canada-France-Hawaii, the Joint Astronomy Center, Subaru, Smithsonian, and the California Institute of Technology. Eight nations are represented atop Manua Kea with the United States' presence most prominent.

The Maui Research and Technology Park is fast earning a reputation as one of the world's most sophisticated high technology centers. MRTP is home to the Maui High Performance Computing Center, the newest of 12 national supercomputing resource centers.

The University of Hawaii's successful cloning of three generations of mice from adult cells stunned the international scientific community and has brought significant prestige and attention to the University and the State.

Forty years ago, when the Members of Congress debated the suitability of Hawaii as a state, questions were raised about our Americanism. During World War II, the loyalty and patriotism of Americans of Japanese ancestry living in Hawaii were called into question. When we finally received the call to duty in early 1943, 1,500 Hawaii volunteers were sought by the U.S. Army. In less than a week, 15,000 had volunteered, and Hawaii was not yet a State.

We continue our strong commitment to military service. Hawaii is home to all the services, and we continue to demonstrate our support for our nation's military as a member of our Hawaii community. We are home to the USS *Missouri* and the USS *Arizona* me-

morials which symbolize the beginning and end of World War II, and pay tribute to the many brave men and women who have their lives for our nation. Hawaii has been bestowed with this high honor of stewardship that we will proudly uphold.

Tripler Army Medical Center is a leader in medical care, medical education, and research. It has also earned national recognition for its work in telehealth technology applications, most appropriately called AKAMAII which in Hawaiian means "brilliant or smart." The state-of-the-art Spark M. Matsunaga Veterans Medical Center will open in early 2000 at Tripler, and the two agencies have worked collaboratively to integrate services and information systems, providing both active duty personnel and veterans with the best medical care available anywhere. We are also very proud of the Center of Excellence in Disaster Management and Humanitarian Assistance, a military-civilian partnership that facilitates joint disaster response operations through research, education, and information management.

It is clear that none of the concerns expressed in those years preceding statehood have become reality. Hawaii did not fall to communism. Hawaii's distance has not diminished the strength of the United States, but in fact has enhanced its military and economic power into the Asia-Pacific region. Further, Hawaii remains one of the greatest examples of a multiethnic society living in relative peace.

I have had the privilege of serving the people of Hawaii in the U.S. Congress since statehood. Over these years, the people of Hawaii have proven their unflinching loyalty and devotion to America's ideals. Hawaii's achievements are a testament to our desire to continually share the best of who we are and what we have to offer our fellow Americans.

So, as we celebrate 40 years of statehood, Hawaii looks toward the new millennium with pride, dignity and the hope for an even brighter future.

EXPLANATION OF ABSENCE

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, on Friday, July 16, 1999, I was necessarily absent during Senate action on rollcall vote No. 211, a motion to invoke cloture on Amendment No. 297, a Lott amendment in the nature of a substitute to S. 557, an original bill to provide guidance for the designation of emergencies as a part of the budget process.

Had I been present for the vote, I would have voted against cloture.

RENOMINATION OF CHAIRMAN LINDA J. MORGAN TO THE SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

Mr. HOLLINGS. Mr. President, I rise today to applaud the renomination by the President of Linda J. Morgan to another term with the Surface Transportation Board, and his express intention to re-designate her as Chairman.

Linda Morgan, who was with us on the Commerce Committee for several years, has been Chairman of the Board and its predecessor, the Interstate Commerce Commission, since 1995. Many times before, I have publicly praised the outstanding job she has done in steering the Board and the transportation sector through some very rough seas. Her intellect, knowledge, competence and experience continue to be indispensable to the resolution of the many issues that confront this key segment of the economy. And she has exhibited the kind of integrity, fairness, spirit, and work ethic that are essential to the proper exercise of the Board's important adjudicative functions.

With this reappointment, the Senate has the opportunity to approve a first-rate leader and public servant—one of the best and brightest. I know that I will have the cooperation of all of my colleagues on the Commerce Committee and in the full Senate in expeditiously moving this outstanding nomination through to confirmation.

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Williams, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting two treaties and sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE RECEIVED DURING ADJOURNMENT—AUGUST 11, 1999

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 7, 1999, the Secretary of the Senate, on August 11, 1999, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bills:

H.R. 211. An act to designate the Federal building and United States courthouse located at 920 West Riverdale Avenue in Spokane, Washington as the "Thomas S. Foley United States Courthouse", and the plaza at the south entrance of such building and courthouse as the "Walter F. Horan Plaza".

H.R. 1219. An act to amend the Miller Act, relating to payment protections for persons providing labor and materials for Federal construction projects.

H.R. 1568. An act to provide technical, financial, and procurement assistance to veteran owned small business, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1664. An act providing authority for guarantees of loans to qualified steel and iron ore companies and to qualified oil and gas companies, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1905. An act making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year

ending September 30, 2000, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2565. An act to clarify the quorum requirement for the Board of Directors of the Export-Import Bank of the United States.

S. 606. An act for the relief of Global Exploration and Development Corporation, Kerr-McGee Corporation, and Kerr-McGee Chemical, LLC (successor to Kerr-McGee Chemical Corporation), and for other purposes.

S. 1543. An act to amend the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938 to release and protect the release of tobacco production and marketing information.

S. 1546. An act to amend the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 to provide additional administrative authorities to the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom, and to make technical corrections to that Act, and for other purposes.

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 7, 1999, the enrolled bills were signed, during the adjournment of the Senate, by the President pro tempore (Mr. THURMOND).

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE RECEIVED DURING ADJOURNMENT—AUGUST 12, 1999

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 7, 1999, the Secretary of the Senate, on August 12, 1999, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

S. 507. An act to provide for the conservation and development of water and related resources, to authorize the United States Army Corps of Engineers to construct various projects for improvements to rivers and harbors of the United States, and for other purposes.

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 7, 1999, the enrolled bill was signed, during the adjournment of the Senate, by the President pro tempore (Mr. THURMOND).

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 12:13 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Hanrahan, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 2670. An act making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2724. An act to make technical corrections of the Water Resources Development Act of 1999.

The messages also announced that the House insists upon its amendments to the bill (S. 1467) to extend the funding levels for aviation programs for 60 days, and asks a conference with the Senate on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon; and appoints the following Members as the managers of the conference on the part of the House:

From the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, for consider-

ation of the Senate bill and the House amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Mr. SHUSTER, Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, Mr. PETRI, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. EWING, Mr. HORN, Mr. QUINN, Mr. EHLERS, Mr. BASS, Mr. PEASE, Mr. SWEENEY, Mr. OBERSTAR, Mr. RAHALL, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. DEFAZIO, Mr. COSTELLO, Ms. DANNER, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD, and Mr. BOSWELL.

From the Committee on the Budget, for consideration of titles IX and X of the House amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. SHAYS, and Mr. SPRATT.

From the Committee on Ways and Means, for consideration of title XI of the House amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Mr. NUSSLE, Mr. HULSHOF, and Mr. RANGEL.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bill was read the first and second times by unanimous consent and referred as indicated:

H.R. 2724. An act to make technical corrections to the Water Resources Development Act of 1999; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

ENROLLED BILLS PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on August 11, 1999, he had presented to the President of the United States, the following enrolled bills:

S. 606. An act for the relief of Global Exploration and Development Corporation, Kerr-McGee Corporation, and Kerr-McGee Chemical, LLC (successor to Kerr-McGee Chemical Corporation), and for other purposes.

S. 1543. An act to amend the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938 to release and protect the release of tobacco production and marketing information.

S. 1546. An act to amend the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 to provide additional administrative authorities to the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom, and to make technical corrections to that Act, and for other purposes.

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on August 12, 1999, he had presented to the President of the United States, the following enrolled bill:

S. 507. An act to provide for the conservation and development of water and related resources, to authorize the United States Army Corps of Engineers to construct various projects for improvements to rivers and harbors of the United States, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, which were referred as indicated:

EC-4595. A communication from the Commissioner, Bureau of Reclamation, Department of the Interior, transmitting, a draft of proposed legislation relative to the Bureau's dam safety program; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.