

PRAYER FOR THE OPENING OF THE LEGISLATIVE SESSION
--January 20, 2010--

Your mercy, Lord, spans the sky;
Your justice runs deeper than the sea.
Lord, you embrace all life. (Ps. 36)

God, you have been our help from ages past. As challenging as these times are to the people of Hawaii, we are secure in the knowledge of your love and care -- your graciousness grounds our hope.

Humbly, and, at such times as these, even fearfully, we recognize that we ourselves are the ordinary means by which you exercise your Providence for your people. May the gifts of your spirit -- wisdom, counsel, perseverance and a joyful heart -- animate us as we exercise our leadership. In our relations with one another may "evil talk never pass our lips; and may what we say be for the benefit of others, things that will really help them. (Eph. 4:29)."

God, give strength to your people,
Bless your people with peace. (Ps. 29)

And let our prayer give joy to you, O God,
You who are our joy. (Ps. 104)

Amen