JOSH GREEN, M.D.

SYLVIA LUKE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR | KA HOPE KIA'ĀINA





#### STATE OF HAWAI'I | KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAI'I **DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES** KA 'OIHANA KUMUWAIWAI 'ĀINA

P O BOX 621 HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

DAWN N.S. CHANG CHAIRPERSON BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

LAURA H.E. KAAKUA

M. KALEO MANUEL DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE
MANAGEMENT
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT ENGINEERING FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION

# **Testimony of** DAWN N. S. CHANG Chairperson

# **Before the House Committees on CULTURE, ARTS & INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS** and WATER & LAND

Thursday, March 30, 2023 9:30 AM **State Capitol, Conference Room 430** 

# In consideration of HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 81/HOUSE RESOLUTION 86 RECOGNIZING AUGUST 8, 2023, AS HAWAIIAN HONEYCREEPERS **CELEBRATION DAY**

House Concurrent Resolution 81/House Resolution 86 recognize August 8, 2023, as Hawaiian Honeycreepers Celebration Day and encourage the people, organizations and government of Hawai'i to observe this day with appropriate celebrations and activities to deepen the pilina (relationships) with the native manu (birds). The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports these measures.

Hawaiian honeycreepers are a unique group of forest birds found only in Hawai'i. The first ancestors of the honeycreepers arrived in the islands when Ni'ihau was just emerging from the ocean, and since then, honeycreepers have evolved into over 50 different species. Of the over 50 honeycreeper species, only 17 remain; many are now extinct, and 11 are federally and state listed as endangered or threatened under the Endangered Species Act and Chapter 195D, Hawai'i Revise Statutes, respectively.

The remaining honeycreepers are threatened by habitat loss and degradation and predation by introduced predators, however the biggest threat they face is avian malaria transmitted by nonnative mosquitoes. A single bite from an infected mosquito can kill a honeycreeper. Previously safe, mosquito-free habitat is disappearing due to warming temperatures in high elevation forests across the State.

Four species of Hawaiian Honeycreeper are currently facing an extinction crisis as warming temperatures enable mosquitoes to persist and transmit avian malaria to honeycreepers at high elevations year-round. 'Ākohekohe and kiwikiu on Maui and 'akikiki and 'akeke'e on Kaua'i are all expected to become extinct within the next decade. Swift conservation intervention is needed to avert these extinctions. To protect these and other honeycreeper species, the Department and partner agencies are working toward deploying an incompatible insect technique to suppress populations of mosquitoes at landscape scale in key honeycreeper habitat areas on Maui and Kaua'i.

Given the urgent need to protect honeycreepers (especially 'ākohekohe, kiwikiu, 'akikiki and 'akeke'e), designating a day to celebrate these unique birds will allow for targeted outreach and education surrounding honeycreeper conservation.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of these measures.

#### **HCR-81**

Submitted on: 3/25/2023 8:17:19 PM

Testimony for CAI on 3/30/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Serena Marsden	Le Jardin Academy Kindergarten & 2nd Grade	Support	In Person

Comments:

House of Representatives

Committee on Culture, Arts & International Affairs

Thursday, March 30, 2023

Conference Room 430

State Capitol

415 South Beretania Street

Testimony in Support of Resolution HCR81

Recognizing August 8, 2023, as Hawaiian Honeycreepers Celebration Day

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and members of the Culture, and International Affairs (CAI) committee. We would like to express our support for Resolution HCR81. This resolution is a critical step towards bringing awareness to create further protections for Hawai'i's Honeycreepers. By passing this resolution, we will be taking proactive measures to bring community awareness to the plight of Hawai'i's Honeycreepers and have a designated day to celebrate their environmental and cultural importance in Hawai'i.

We believe that this resolution is necessary because Hawai'i's Honeycreepers are disappearing at an alarming rate, and having a designated Hawaiian Honeycreepers Celebration Day will bring much-needed community awareness and support. This year, our students came together to "Raise their Leo for the Manu", by creating beautiful works of art, and a fundraiser "Help for Hawai'i's Honeycreepers" in an effort to raise awareness and support for Hawai'i's Honeycreepers. Their projects and art reflect the commitment of today's youth to help protect and conserve these beautiful, precious species for generations to come. Please see their videos here:

LJA Kindergarten Hawai'i Honeycreepers Advocacy Project: <a href="https://youtu.be/nXVFBII117U">https://youtu.be/nXVFBII117U</a> (4 minutes/11 seconds)

2nd Grade "Help for Hawai'i's Honeycreepers" Fundraiser: <a href="https://youtu.be/UVxD\_zwYdq0">https://youtu.be/UVxD\_zwYdq0</a> (1 minute/36 seconds)

Therefore, we urge all members to support Resolution HCR81 and vote in favor of its passage. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Serena Marsden

Le Jardin Academy Teacher

Kindergarten and 2nd Grade



The House of Representatives
Committee on Culture, Arts, & International Affairs
Committee on Water & Land
Thursday, March 30, 2023 9:30 AM
Conference Room 430 & Videoconference
State Capitol 415 South Beretania Street

#### **Testimony IN SUPPORT of HCR81**

Aloha Chair Tam, Chair Ichiyama, Vice Chair Martinez, Vice Chair Poepoe, and members of the committee. My name is Kailee Lefebvre and I am testifying on behalf of the Coordinating Group on Alien Pest Species (CGAPS). We are **in support of HCR81** *Recognizing August 8, 2023 as Hawaiian Honeycreepers Celebration Day*.

I've lived on Oahu my entire life and up until last year I could only name one native Hawaiian forest bird species. I grew up in Honolulu and spent a lot of time outside in my backyard but am ashamed at how disengaged I was from our natural areas and native species.

Since then, I studied tropical plants at UH Manoa and have been working in conservation for the past 10 years. When my supervisor asked me to engage with haumana to learn about the legislative process and advocate for native Hawaiian honeycreepers, I was thrilled. This project gave me the best reason to finally learn about the honeycreepers and how to help save them. Offering kumu and haumana the opportunity to learn about their invaluable role speaking up for themselves and their environment has also helped me realize how important saving our manu are to not only them, but many in their communities. The haumana and kumu have been incredibly eager to learn about the honeycreepers, the threats they face, and ways to help them. Some classes have gone above and beyond helping our manu by starting fundraisers, raising awareness in their communities, and conducting related science projects. They have been especially excited to submit their testimonies pleading with you to help save our manu. Their passion shines through the words of their testimonies, poems, and art. Their efforts have been inspiring.

There was an emotional public meeting of the Board of Land and Natural Resources on March 24, 2023 where they discussed a possible mosquito control effort to help save manu on Maui. This included a number of powerful and heartfelt testimonies which brought not only testifiers but also board members to tears. Whether in favor or opposed to the project, it was undeniable to all how dire the need is to do something and how important and loved manu are to the people of Hawai'i.

I am proud to say that I'm building pilina with our manu and intend to make up for time lost appreciating and trying to save them. I dream about the day that manu are so prevalent that



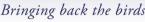
we don't feel the disconnect that I once felt and instead can see and hear them often so that we all can build that pilina and celebrate them year-round. I ask for your support in passing this resolution.

Mahalo for your time and consideration,

Kailee Lefebvre, CGAPS Planner Kaileehl@hawaii.edu (808) 726-0181







RE: Support for House Resolution 86 and House Concurrent Resolution 81

Aloha mai e Chair Lee, Vice-Chair Rawlins-Fernandez, and Members of the Culture, Arts, & Internaltional Affairs and Water & Land committees

American Bird Conservancy (ABC) supports the passage of this resolution and appreciates the opportunity to provide comments on HR 86 and HCR 81. ABC is a 501(c)(3) national non-profit organization dedicated to conserving wild native birds and their habitats throughout the Americas. ABC has had a strong and growing program in Hawai'i for over a decade, working with state, federal, and private partners to protect, manage, and restore critical habitats for some of the most endangered birds in Hawai'i across nearly all of the islands.

ABC supports the designation of August 8th as a day to Celebrate Hawaiian Honeycreepers. A day to remember that we share our home with manu found nowhere else in the world. A day to celebrate and reestablish pilina with manu that were historically abundant, but now are on the brink of extinction. As co-inhabitants of our island home, we must do what we can to support the native species in Hawai'i.

This resolution recognizes the importance of these manu and will increase support for additional programs and activities protecting and restoring them. Endemic honeycreepers are highly endangered across the Hawaiian Islands, such as the iconic 'i'iwi now found nowhere else in the world besides Kaua'i, Maui, and Hawai'i island, although historically found on all the main Hawaiian Islands- Our honeycreepers are integral to healthy forests, serving as pollinators, seed dispersers, and insect predators. Their beauty, mannerisms, and spiritual connotations are woven into mele, hula, 'ōlelo no'eau, and materials created through featherwork. These birds also serve as sentinels for the health of our other native plants and animals in the forests of Hawai'i, indicating the severity of threats to the native forest ecosystems.

A recent US Department of Interior report (Paxton et al. 2022) estimated 'akikiki on Kaua'i are likely to go extinct in 2023, and the 'ākohekohe, kiwikiu, and 'akeke'e soon after that. The demise of the Hawaiian honeycreepers is being driven by exposure to avian diseases transmitted by non-native mosquitoes. Rising global temperatures allow these mosquitoes to invade the last forested strongholds for our honeycreepers. Landscape-control of mosquitoes is the most urgent conservation problem in Hawai'i. The Birds, Not Mosquitoes program is working to solve this problem and break this cycle, and this resolution will help promote awareness of the importance and critical role of our honeycreepers to Hawai'i. If the disease cycle is not broken, many other honeycreeper species will follow these four into extinction. Thus, irreparably losing part of Hawai'i's biological diversity and cultural richness.

Unfortunately, due to their restriction to high-elevation forests and low population numbers, many humans that call Hawai'i home have never seen, nor know who is, a Hawaiian honeycreeper. Thus, bringing awareness to the endangered species that call Hawai'i home will strengthen pilina with these manu and highlight that there is still hope to save them from extinction. This hope is created by the individuals, communities, organizations, and partnerships working tirelessly to create a safe space for the native species of Hawai'i.

Mahalo nui loa for your consideration and support in protecting our treasured Hawaiian birds,

Chris Farmer cfarmer@abcbirds.org

Hawai'i Program Director 808-987-1779

Lukanicole Zavas

Lukanicole Zavas lzavas@abcbirds.org Outreach Manager for Birds, Not Mosquitoes 808-330-3240

Commented [CF1]: This is the most critical bit of the statement why to support and what the resolution will accomplish. If you have another thing to include or a spare sentence could add it back

Ok- nvm get to this later.

Commented [LZ2R1]: I moved this sentence to lead into the paragraph. To highlight it a bit more.

Commented [CF3R1]: Good idea. I clarified that this resolution does not actually protect or restore (ie, there is no money or funds

Commented [CF4]: ? why call these two out? for this purpose?

Could do any of them - or one for each island, or the iconic 'I'iwi (this is not a big deal and doubt the committee will notice -just caught my eye)

Commented [LZ5R4]: Changed to the 'i'iwi

Commented [CF6R4]: I like this - odd of the committee being familiar with 'I'iwi higher than 'Ākohekohe or Kiwikiu.

#### **HCR-81**

Submitted on: 3/27/2023 2:31:02 PM

Testimony for CAI on 3/30/2023 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Laura Warner	My third grade students would like to present their support of the bill for the honeycreeper and why	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

#### Comments:

Here is the written form of what they would like to state in person through zoom.

Our third grade class is celebrating the Hawaiian Honeycreeper. We are advocating to you, our legislators to protect and bring awareness of our native hawaii forest birds.

There were once 55 different native species of honey creepers. Today only 17 remain, with 11 being endangered or threatened. Of the 142 Endemic bird species of Hawaii, 95 have gone extinct.

My class has reserached Hawaii's honeycreepers and then presented to each other. We have learned that HONEYCREEPERS are very SPECIAL because they are only found here in Hawaii. And we know that once they are gone, they are gone forever. Our forest needs our native birds, they help our watershed. Bird droppings spread seeds, with out the droppings our native forest plants cannot be propagated, we also lose our native forest plants too. Without Hawaii forests to catch the rain, the land floods, and causes erosion. The erosion at **Pinao bay** we saw how the coral reef was destroyed and then thrown up onto the beach.

Birds are sensitive near their eyes, mosquitoes can bite them, and mosquitoes carry avian malaria and pox. This kills our native birds. Our climate is changing due to carbon dioxide gases. Mosquitoes can travel Higher due to climate change, and it is warmer in higher elevations. Unfortunately, UNGULATES have destroyed higher elevation forest. On Hawaii island the cloud forest areas are covered with gorse. Natives cannot not grow. On Saddle road their are huge herds of wild goats, with hundreds and hundreds grazing. Lots of babies in these herds, so they are growing and growing in number.

We are the future of Hawaii! Would you like to still see the Apapane in the Ohia trees of Volcano? Would you like to see the native forest at higher elevations instead of gorse?
We would like to SAVE our native birds.
We are advocating to Legislatures to help protect and save our native birds.
This letter is to advocate for the Hawaiian Honeycreeper.
Aloha,
Volcano School of Art & Sciences

Class

Mrs. Warner's 3rd Grade

#### **HCR-81**

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 6:05:40 PM

Testimony for CAI on 3/30/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Elizabeth Sancho	Kanuikapono Public Charter School	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

#### Comments:

The House of Representatives

Committee on Water and Land and

**Committee on Culture, Arts, and International Affairs** 

Thursday, March 30, 2023

9:30 AM, Conference Room 430

**State Capitol** 

415 South Beretania Street

Honolulu, Hawai'i

Testimony in support of HCR 81 and HR 86

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

We, the 4th grade students at Kanuikapono Public Charter School, are in full support of HCR 81 and HR 86. We live in Anahola, Kapa'a, Koloa, Wailua, and Princeville on the island of Kaua'i.

We strongly support the Celebrate Hawaiian Honeycreepers Resolution. We think this is extremely important and here are some reasons why. Anastasia says that it is important for the birds to stay alive because they keep our forest alive. Violet says that we need the 'elepaio because it helps the forest by eating the bugs that don't belong in the trees. Justine and Ozzie want you to know that the main predators of the native birds are rats and cats and it is important to control those populations. Halia wants you to know some good news.

The 'elepaio has shown some resistance to avian malaria which is transmitted by mosquitoes. Elijah says that there are only 500 puaiohi left on Kaua'i. Solomon wants you to know that there are only 950 akeke'e left on Kaua'i. Saaral wants you to know that the akikiki have pinkish legs and feet and even their beak is pink. Armando says that the 'elepaio eats insects from old koa trees. Breeani wants you to know that the 'apapane's colors range from grayish brown to yellow-brown in color. Dante says that the predators to the akeke'e are rats, owls, cats, and barn owls, too. Mehana wants you to know that 'elepaio are known for their singing because it is so beautiful. Owen says, "Did you know that the akikiki bird pokes around tree bark looking for insects while calling softly to its friends." Mililani wants you to know that the 'apapane lays two to four eggs. Naviah says that the 'apapane can be found on all of the main Hawaiian islands. Sy wants you to know that the i'iwi are losing their habitats. Russden says that the i'iwi is a special bird because of its bright red feathers. Lehua wants you to know that the 'anianiau only weighs 9-10 grams. Lilah says that the 'akikiki is gray and white and not as bright and colorful as other native forest birds but equally important. Those were some facts that we learned in our research.

We want to share with you why these birds are important to us personally. Violet enjoys going up to Koke'e and actually seeing these birds. She wants her grandkids to be able to see them as well. Breeani wants the birds to stay alive so that she can go up to Koke'e and see them, even take a picture. She has never seen them yet and really wants to see them. Lilah wants these native birds to stay alive because they have pretty songs. Mehana doesn't want these birds to become extinct because they are so cute. Halia doesn't want them to go extinct because their songs and chirps are pretty. Naviah doesn't want these birds to go extinct because these birds are fabulous and they cannot be found anywhere else in the world. Anastasia doesn't want these birds to go extinct because the other half of her family live in Michigan and they have never seen birds like this before. She would like her family to see these birds one day. Lehua wants these birds to survive because they are so important to our forests up in Koke'e. Violet also doesn't want them to go extinct because they are special to our island of Kaua'i and all of our islands.

Please use your voice to help pass the Celebrate Hawaiian Honeycreepers Resolution. Mahalo nui loa!

Sincerely,

Auntie Elizabeth Sancho and Hui Liko, the 4th Grade

Kanuikapono Public Charter School

Anahola, Hawai'i

# The Nature Conservancy, Hawaiʻi and Palmyra 923 Nuʻuanu Avenue Honolulu, HI 96817

Tel (808) 537-4508 Fax (808) 545-2019 nature.org/HawaiiPalmyra

# Testimony of The Nature Conservancy Supporting HCR 81/HR 86, Recognizing August 8, 2023, As Hawaiian Honeycreepers Celebration Day.

# Committee on Culture, Arts and International Affairs Committee on Water and Land March 30, 2023, 9:30 AM Conference Room 430 and via Videoconference

Aloha Chairs Tam and Ichiyama, Vice Chairs Martinez and Poepoe, and Members of the Committees:

The Nature Conservancy (TNC) supports HCR 81/HR 86, Recognizing August 8, 2023, As Hawaiian Honeycreepers Celebration Day.

Hawai'i's cherished honeycreepers evolved with the Hawaiian Islands. Their song, image and significance are woven into the fabric of the islands' culture and place. Their feathers adorned Hawaiian royalty. Hawaiian chants celebrate their existence. As pollinators, Hawaiian honeycreepers fill an irreplaceable niche within Hawai'i's native forests, which are the source of all our islands' freshwater. If we lose these special birds, we also lose the ecological functions they perform and a piece of Hawaiian culture.

While it took millions of years for these beautiful and melodious birds to evolve uniquely to their environment, we could lose them in our lifetime. Only 17 of more than 50 species of Hawai'i's forest birds remain, and many are critically endangered due to several threats.

One of the most urgent threats is invasive mosquitoes, which were introduced to Hawai'i in roughly the past 200 years. As the climate warms, mosquitoes are reaching higher elevations where Hawai'i's forest birds are defenseless against mosquito-borne diseases like avian malaria. Just one bite can kill a native bird. Four Hawaiian honeycreepers are at risk of extinction within the next ten years: 'akikiki ~ one year; kiwikiu ~ six years; 'akeke'e ~ eight years; and 'akohekohe ~ ten years.

Hawai'i is taking action to prevent the loss of any more honeycreepers. Historically, pesticide application and management of breeding habitat were the only options for controlling mosquitoes, neither of which are appropriate for controlling mosquitoes in the forest habitat where Hawai'i's endemic forest birds persist. But now there is hope with an approach called Incompatible Insect Technique (IIT) which leverages naturally occurring bacteria within the invasive mosquitoes and releases of "incompatible" male mosquitoes to suppress populations. Note, male mosquitoes are nectar feeders and do not bite humans or wildlife, nor are mosquitoes important for native species or ecosystem function in Hawai'i.

#### BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Duke E. Ah Moo Paul D. Alston Kris Billeter Dr. C. Tana Burkert Anne S. Carter (Chair) Ka'iulani de Silva Dave Eadie Matt Emerson Hon. Judith Epstein Dr. Alan M. Friedlander Benjy Garfinkle Sean A. Hehir Puni Jackson Brett MacNaughton Janet Montag Alicia Moy Bradley E. Smith Julie Smolinski Vern Yamanaka Richard N. Zwern

The Nature Conservancy, Hawai'i and Palmyra March 30, 2023 Page 2

We are excited to have an option for saving our birds from mosquito-borne disease that is safe for animals and humans alike. Decades ago, IIT was developed for agricultural pest and human disease control, and it went through rigorous vetting and regulatory approvals to be applied safely in human-inhabited areas. This project is proposing to release incompatible male mosquitoes in the remote mountain forests of our islands, starting on Maui. Most people will not even see the released male mosquitoes as they will not interact with humans.

IIT is a good option for disrupting the avian malaria disease crisis imperiling Hawai'i's endemic forest birds: it is specific to only one species of mosquito, it does not introduce toxicants to the environment, and the removal of introduced mosquitoes will not impact the native food web in Hawai'i's forests. Furthermore, this action would not introduce any new organisms to Hawai'i. Wolbachia, the genus of intracellular bacteria naturally occurring in mosquitoes, prevents reproduction when mating male and female mosquitoes carry incompatible strains.

Recognizing August 8<sup>th</sup> as Hawaiian Honeycreepers Celebration Day will help to bring public attention and support to the efforts to prevent extinctions of these iconic birds. TNC supports these efforts to engage the public and strengthen support for conservation efforts.

Mahalo for the opportunity to support HCR 81 and HR 86.

The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i and Palmyra is a non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation of the lands and waters upon which all life depends. The Conservancy has helped protect more than 200,000 acres of natural lands in Hawai'i and Palmyra Atoll. We manage 40,000 acres in 13 nature preserves and work in over 50 coastal communities to help protect and restore the nearshore reefs and fisheries of the main Hawaiian Islands. We forge partnerships with government, private parties, and communities to protect forests and coral reefs for their ecological values and for the many benefits they provide to people.

## **Testimony in Support of HCR81**

Dear Chair Ichiyama, Vice Chair Poepoe and Members of the Committee,



I strongly support the resolution **HCR81** to make August 8, 2023 Hawaiian Honeycreeper day. Honeycreepers are important because they help grow plants that help the watershed. They're important to ecosystems, and important to Hawaiian culture. To start with, Hawaiian Honeycreepers help grow plants that help the watershed. They help pollinate Ōhi'a lehua which helps collect fresh groundwater for our watershed. Furthermore, they are important to the ecosystem because if they die out a huge part of our natural ecosystem and culture will too. Out of 50 species, only 17 species are left. Last but not least They are important to Hawaiian culture because their feathers were used to make capes for ali'i, and were seen as spiritual guides or *aumakua*. In conclusion, why I think we should have a state Hawaiian honeycreeper day is because they need to be

recognized. They do so much for the environment like helping grow plants that help the watershed, and they deserve to be cared for.

Sincerely, Michael Fujimoto Grade 5 Mānoa Elementary School

## **Testimony in Support of HCR81**

Dear Chair Ichiyama, Vice Chair Poepoe and Members of the Committee,

I strongly agree with **HCR81** that we should make August 8, 2023 Hawaiian Honeycreeper Day because if not, future generations won't see or learn about the honeycreepers,



the native ecosystems will collapse, and we must remember that these birds are important to the biodiversity of our forests.

To start, future generations may never see or learn about these birds because these birds are native to here and they are endemic. These species are also endangered meaning that the population of these birds are very low. If these birds are gone, the future generations wouldn't know that these birds existed.

Furthermore, these birds also help our native ecosystems and they keep it alive. There might be native plants and animals to the ecosystems too and might not be found anywhere else. If these birds are gone, the native plants might go extinct, then the animals that eat those plants will go extinct, then the habitat/ecosystem might not be a good place to live in for the animals and thus the habitat/ecosystem will collapse.

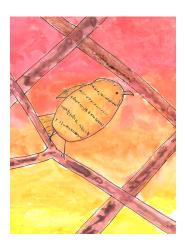
Finally, The biodiversity of our forests is what makes our forests unique. Several plants depend on these honeycreepers and some of these plants might be endemic to Hawai'i. Since some of these plants or animals might be endangered, they might depend on honeycreepers to try and keep them alive. If the honeycreepers are gone, those plants and animals that depend on the birds might go extinct and researchers won't have evidence that the species existed. Therefore, we should take care of the Hawaiian Honeycreepers and protect them so that they won't go extinct and thus making August 8 Hawaiian Honeycreeper Day.

Sincerely, Kylie Fukunaga Grade 5 Mānoa Elementary School

#### **Testimony in Support of HCR81**

Dear Chair Ichiyama, Vice Chair Poepoe and Members of the Committee,

I strongly support the resolution **HCR81** to make August 8, 2023 Hawaiian Honeycreeper Day! To begin with, They are so important to Hawaiian culture. The Hawaiians used the feathers of the birds



have thus been used in the Hawaiian traditions to create leis and adorn cloaks and helmets for nobles. They used these honeycreepers because certain honeycreepers serve as kinolau, or physical embodiments and representatives of ancient Hawaiian deities. They found the Hawaiian Honeycreepers when a kupuna came to visit Maui, he called the birds to soar over and sing, eventually letting the other kupuna and the people see their beauty. The 'I'iwi ( Scarlet Hawaiian Honeycreeper ) symbolizes hawaii. They are the third most common native land bird on the Hawaiian Islands. There are some large colonies of these birds in Hawaii and Kaui and there are smaller colonies on Molokai and Oahu. Which leaves an estimate of there being 350,000 of the 'I'iwi left.

Moving forward, without them some ecosystems could entirely collapse leading to extinctions of many other native plants and animals of Hawaii.

Another big problem is climate change. Now that some areas of the forests are warmer due to climate change it is allowing mosquitos to reach areas that were once avian malaria-free now infecting many species of animals and reptiles. Since the mosquitoes are sucking the blood from their eyes it is leaving the birds to be permanently blind which is causing them to get killed by predators or fly into trees and die. We need to bring more awareness to this disease and support ways to fight the mosquitoes.

Last but not least, It is important that future generations know about these birds and that they try to make an effort to bring them back. It is important for children of Hawaii to know about the birds and how they are a part of our culture and ecosystem. Some ways we can prevent these birds from going extinct is by bringing birds into captivity until mosquito control is achieved and using conservation translocation to move birds from forests threatened by avian malaria to disease free areas. If we get their numbers back up the thing that could bring them back down is avian malaria caused by global warming since it is getting warmer it is allowing mosquitoes to come to higher areas in the rainforests. But, if the community does not know about the problem we won't be able to solve it.

Although there are not many of the birds left, and it will be hard to bring them back, if we make a great effort to try, I believe that one day I, and future generations to come will get to see them soar high in the sky once again.

Sincerely,
Cade Hara
Grade 5
Mānoa Elementary School

#### **Testimony in Support of HCR81**

Dear Chair Ichiyama, Vice Chair Poepoe and Members of the Committee,

I strongly support the resolution **HCR81** to make August 8th, 2023, Hawaiian Honeycreeper Day.



Firstly, I support this idea because they are extremely important to the biodiversity of our native forests. They evolved from the Asian Rose Finch into over fifty different types of honeycreepers. Now there are only seventeen out of fifty types left. They are found in Uka, the mountains, Ula, the lower part of the valley, and Kai, the ocean. And, fun fact, the honeycreepers actually evolved to mimic the shapes of the native flowers used by the honeycreepers to live and survive if not off of bugs.

In addition, without them, the huge parts of our native ecosystems will collapse. We will lose our native forests that are slowly thriving beautifully, we will have too much water and less of a smooth watershed. One of the worst parts of this is we will have less biodiversity. The reason why it is so

important is because some of the forests are popular tourist sights and it has almost every color in the rainbow which makes the mountains so majestic.

Moreover, these amazing birds are *very* important to Hawaiian culture. Cultural clothing made with the feathers of honeycreepers were meant to represent them. The birds would be a signal of messages or sometimes the *aumakua*, or guardian angels of people. Since the birds would help to pollinate our native flowers, the people of Hawaii would make fragrant flower lei with the bird's help.

Therefore, without the help of us humans and the special qualities of the honeycreepers, we will lose our biodiversity, the importance to Hawaiian culture, the understanding of the birds, and worst of all, our wonderful home the ecosystem has given to us.

Sincerely, Erielle Ho Grade 5 Mānoa Elementary School

#### **Testimony in Support of HCR81**

Dear Chair Ichiyama, Vice Chair Poepoe and Members of the Committee,

I strongly support the resolution HCR81 to make August 8, 2023, Hawaiian



Honeycreeper day. strongly support this because they need to be known about.

To begin with, the Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important to the biodiversity of Native Forests. The Honeycreepers help pollinate the flowers in the Native Forests which helps more native plants grow. To this day, only 17 species or less out of 50 original species are left. Honeycreepers play an important role in balancing native ecosystems and help control there being too much of what they eat. If more of the Honeycreepers go extinct there might be tons of the insects that they ate.

In addition, future generations will never get to see/learn about the Honeycreepers if they are not cared for. For example, I have never seen a honeycreeper before, but I hope I will get to see one soon. This would also affect a cultural aspect because people would not know how the capes, helmets, and staffs that are a part of Native

Hawaiian culture. If we don't give these birds recognition not a lot of people would know about them.

Last but not least, without the Honeycreepers, native ecosystems could and would collapse. This is because the birds let us know if the forest is healthy. They do this by getting enough food, which tells us that the forest is healthy. If the Honeycreeper disappeared then the trees would not get pollinated so they could make seeds which would make the forests disappear and then after that erosion would destroy the islands.

Therefore Hawaiianhoneycreepers should have recognition they deserve so more people will get the chance to learn about them, can help save them, and so we can hopefully kill the mosquitos that are preying on them.

Sincerely, Jett Ikeda Grade 5 Mānoa Elementary School

#### **Testimony in Support of HCR81**

Dear Chair Tam, Vice Chair Martinez and Members of the Committee,

I believe we should support the resolution **HCR81** to create a day to recognize Hawaiian



Honeycreepers. They are important to the biodiversity in our native forests and there are only 17 different species of honeycreepers on our islands left. That means that we only have 17 different honeycreepers to pollinate our native plants. This is the only bird that can eat māmāne so if it goes extinct the māmāne won't pollinate and māmāne would go extinct too. Honeycreepers evolved up to 50 species but only 17 different species survived and there are not very many birds in those species left today.

In addition, they help the native plants grow. One way is to eat bark off of a tree to help growth of itself and the tree. Furthermore, they eat some native plants to help them pollinate and grow. Without these birds, plants that are important to our islands won't grow.

Last but not least, they are very important to Hawaiian culture.

Their feathers were used for helmets, leis, and a kahili staff. They also inspired mele, hula, oli, and mo'olelo. Out of 50 different species of honeycreepers, only 17 survived, and 12 are on this island.

Therefore, the 50 different species of honeycreepers that were evolved are dead except for 17. We need those honeycreepers to pollinate our native plants. Honeycreepers have inspired mele, hula, oli, and mo'olelo. They provide a lot of things for our ecosystem and our culture and history as well.

Sincerely, Aizen Kanno-Tadena Grade 5 Mānoa Elementary School

# **Testimony in Support of HCR81**

Dear Chair Tam, Vice Chair Martinez and Members of the Committee,

I strongly support **HCR81** and believe that Hawaiian Honeycreepers should have their own state day. They need their own state day because they are important to Hawaiian culture, they are going extinct, and without them native ecosystems would collapse.

To begin with, Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important to Hawaiian culture. They are very important to Hawaiians because they are symbols of power and spiritual protectors of many Hawaiian families. Native Hawaiian kings even wore coats out of their feathers. When they made those coats they only took 1 feather out of each bird. One feather!

Another reason we need a state Honeycreeper day is because unless we take action Hawaiian Honeycreepers will go extinct. Hawaiian Honeycreepers are currently getting closer to extinction at an alarming rate because of avian malaria being spread by mosquitoes. Before, the mosquitoes couldn't really harm the honeycreepers but now because of global warming they are doing significant damage. You can see the effect of that in how the population of Honeycreepers have decreased by 98% in the last 15 years and scientists believe that unless we intervene, they will go extinct within 10 to 30 years. If we successfully protect the Honeycreepers then future generations will learn from it and protect other species too.

Finally, without the Honeycreepers native ecosystems will collapse. If they go extinct, the Ohia Lehua, a plant only honeycreepers mostly pollinate, will also die out. If the Ohia Lehua dies out the watershed will collect less water after rain storms. If there is less water then other native plants will also die out but the sturdy invasive weeds will still live.

In conclusion, we should have a state day to recognize the Hawaiian Honeycreepers because they are important to Hawaiian culture, they are going extinct, and without them native ecosystems would collapse.

Sincerely, Kento Maruo Grade 5 Mānoa Elementary School

## **Testimony in Support of HCR81**

Dear Chair Tam, Vice Chair Martinez and Members of the Committee,

I strongly support the resolution **HCR81**to make August 8, 2023 Hawaiian Honeycreeper day. I support the resolution for these reasons: they help with the biodiversity, native ecosystems could collapse without them, and they are important to Hawaiian culture.



To begin with, Honeycreepers help with the biodiversity in the native forests. They keep the insect population in check by eating them. The Honeycreepers also facilitate the growth of native plants. Another important job they do is tell you how healthy the native plants are.

In addition, they keep native forests from collapsing. If the honeycreepers go extinct some certain plants would die and those plants could be important. It would cause certain animals to die because the certain plants would die. All the habitats for the animals and plants would all disappear because they are all linked. Last but not least, they are very, very important to Hawaiian culture. They were traditionally prized for their feathers, and important Native Hawaiian essentials like capes, helmets, leis, and hair ornaments couldn't be made without them. These accessories are very important to

Hawaiian culture because they are a part of their culture. We must protect these birds as they were important to the first people of our islands.

In conclusion, honeycreepers help with our biodiversity, without them our forest would die and they are very important to Hawaiian culture. They deserve to be recognized so many others can understand their importance to Hawai'i.

Sincerely, Matthew Miura Grade 5 Mānoa Elementary School

# **Testimony in Support of HCR81**

Dear Chair Tam, Vice Chair Martinez and Members of the Committee,

I strongly support the resolution **HCR81** to make August 8, 2023 Hawaii Honeycreepers Day.

To begin with they are very important to Hawaii culture because their feathers were used for capes in old Hawaiian times. Also, they kept native plants alive, and they kept the Ohia tree alive as well which plays an important part in our watershed's health. Furthermore without the



Honeycreepers, the Native ecosystem would collapse because if they die other native animals and plants would soon follow, and eventually there may come a day when there are no native plants or animals left.

Furthermore, they help with native plants because they pollinate some native plants, and they are the key to the watershed because of the ohia tree they pollinate. These trees help absorb water and help prevent erosion; without them the Honeycreepers our forests may be at risk and many plants would begin to die off.

Last but not least, they are important to Hawaiian culture because they were traditionally honored for their feathers

which Hawaiians used for capes. So they hold a special place in our culture as well. So with all these reasons you should also support us and join to fight to keep the Honeycreepers alive by making a day to honor the Hawaiian Honeycreepers so we can appreciate these amazing birds for years to come.

Sincerely, Lael Moreno Grade 5 Mānoa Elementary School

#### **Testimony in Support of HCR81**

Dear Chair Tam, Vice Chair Martinez and Members of the Committee,

I strongly support the resolution **HCR81** to make August 8 2023 Hawaiian Honeycreeper day because Hawaiian honeycreepers are very important culturally and have a strong place in the ecosystems of hawaii.



Firstly without them native ecosystems could and would probably collapse. In addition native plants depend on the honeycreepers for pollination. This means without the Hawaiian Honeycreepers native plants may slowly die off, and insect populations could get out of control without the birds that eat those types of insects. Insects on the branches of native trees and larva on the forest floor can both become overpopulated if Hawaiian honeycreepers end up going extinct.

Secondly the future generations of people will never get to see or learn about them if they aren't cared for and protected. In addition people may forget that the Hawaiian honeycreepers ever existed because they are extinct. Hawaiian honeycreepers are very special to Hawaiian culture. So if the hawaiian honeycreepers are gone some of the details and stories in Hawaiian culture may no longer make sense if these hHawaiian birds go uncared for. People may not ever get to see the beauty of these birds and their feathers. People may

want to see the Hawaiian Honeycreepers in action and may become interested in them, but without them around that interest in culture and science may be altered and eventually extinct.

Thirdly the Hawaiian Honeycreepers are extremely important to the background and history of hawaii. Moreover, these Hawaiian birds were used to be known as symbols in stories and were known as important because of their feathers. Red honeycreepers were used for their feathers. These were used to make clothing that was very important to Hawaiian culture. The red hawaiian honeycreepers were known as sacred because their feathers were used to make clothing worn to battle or special ceremonies. These pieces of clothing also became a mark of society ranking. Some stories had been made about these Hawaiian honeycreepers. These stories are called mo'olelo and are extremely important to Hawaiian culture. Without these birds so much history and culture would have to be known as more in the past then the present.

In conclusion, culture, plants, and ecosystems can be changed if we don't remember that these birds need help and are getting close to becoming extinct.

Sincerely, Madisyn Nakano Grade 5 Mānoa Elementary School

# **Testimony in Support of HCR81**

Dear Chair Tam, Vice Chair Martinez and Members of the Committee,

I strongly support the resolution **HCR81** to make August 8 Hawaiian Honeycreeper day. To begin with we should make this day Hawaiian Honeycreeper day because future generations will not get to see it if it isn't cared for. Here are my reasons. They should be cared



for more because the next generation can learn about their history and how their ancestors lived. The Honeycreepers need more public awareness so people will know about their struggles and put more effort into keeping them alive. People should know more about the honeycreepers because they are almost extinct. To add on to the last sentence, in the past fifteen years the population decreased by 98% because people didn't know how much they were struggling.

Furthermore they are important to the biodiversity of our native forests. Invasive species are destroying the watershed, and the native honeycreepers can help with that by taking care of the plants that are most important to the care of the watershed. If the honeycreepers die the whole ecosystem will fall apart. When the ecosystem dies the culture is lost and people would never know how their culture was. The Hawaiian Honeycreepers can pollinate

the Ohia Lehua and if the pollinators are gone, the plants will be gone too. The Ohia tree has a very important role in keeping the watershed alive and working.

Lastly, Honeycreepers help the native plants and animals. They help by keeping the population of everything in balance. They do that by pollinating plants that other animals need to survive. If they die the native plants will die and then soon all the native plants/animals will die. Finally they can do things that other animals can't.

Therefore Honeycreepers can help pollinate endangered plants, and future generations can see/learn more about their culture and how their ancestors live, and they will keep the watershed in order

Sincerely, Ezra Parker Grade 5 Mānoa Elementary School

# **Testimony in Support of HCR81**

Dear Chair Tam, Vice Chair Martinez and Members of the Committee,

I strongly support resolution **HCR81** to make August 8, 2023 "Hawaiian Honeycreeper Day!" Firstly, I support this cause because they are a key part of Hawaiian Culture. Culture-wise,

they are symbol messagers, and many believe when they behave in a certain way this tells us something is off, or abnormal.



Moving on, without them our native ecosystems could collapse. This could happen because an ecosystem consists of many abiotic and biotic factors that are all used to make an ecosystem run properly. Some biotic or abiotic rely on each other to survive. As without one part of the whole system the whole system could fall down like blocks stacked on an unstable tower.

Moreover, honeycreepers help with native plant growth. To add on, the (native) plants are key to watershed health, and honeycreepers play important roles as pollinators. There are many consequences of fewer honeycreepers, but one important one

could even be less fresh water to drink and use. In conclusion honeycreepers impact our ecosystem, community, and shouldn't be extinct. This is why we need to bring awareness to the dangers they face and help them.

Sincerely,
Zoe Ranchez
Grade 5
Mānoa Elementary School

## **Testimony in Support of HCR81**

Dear Chair Tam, Vice Chair Martinez and Members of the Committee,

I strongly support resolution **HCR81** to make August 8, 2023 Hawaiian Honeycreeper Day. Let me start by talking about Honeycreepers, what they do for us, what they do for our environment, and how we should do something in return for them.



First off, without honeycreepers native plants won't grow because they need to be pollinated in order to thrive and reproduce new seeds so new generations can see them in the future. Many insects and other species help pollinate flowers and other native plants, but some native plants just can't survive without Hawaiian Honeycreepers to pollinate them. The ecosystem has a course, if one creature dies out, and more of those species fall, the plants and other animals that depend on the species, they will die and so on. Once one species runs out, more and more of Hawai'i's precious life will eventually be gone except for the ones kept away and isolated from the outside world. They would all be extinct in the wild, so why not recognize these birds now, to help stop the lack of these magnificent Hawaiian Honeycreepers.

Moreover, they have a close connection with our watersheds! In order for our watershed to thrive and keep producing freshwater, the Hawaiian Honeycreepers need to be here because they keep our other native plants alive. Those plants hold up all of the mud and rain from coming down the mountain so the watershed cycle can run its course, and so the ocean and coral doesn't get covered up. Otherwise, it would happen again, more native plants, fish, animals, mammals, and more would begin to disappear, like how Hawaiian Honeycreepers are doing now.

Last but not least, Hawaiian Honeycreepers are very important to Hawaiian culture because they were used to create ali'i staff, capes, clothing, and more. But if we don't have any of the Hawaiian Honeycreepers anymore, people from all over will not know what or where all of it came from, because there would be none left. These birds are still so significant to Hawaiian culture.

In conclusion, I really believe everyone should get to recognize these birds, and do something to at least help them. Even if it takes one small step like picking up after yourself, or recycling cans, to even just a tiny little step to saving these birds, it just matters how many people will take those steps. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Ailee Uyechi
Grade 5
Mānoa Elementary School

The House of Representatives
Committee on Culture, Arts & International Affairs
Committee on Water and Land
March 30, 2023
9:30 a.m., Conference Room 430
State Capitol

#### Testimony in Support of HCR81 and HR 86

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

I, Charis Pettiford, am in support of HCR81 and HR 86, recognizing August 8, 2023 as Hawai'i Honeycreepers Celebration Day which would name August 8, 2023, otherwise known as 8/08/23, as Hawai'i Honeycreepers Celebration Day.

I have lived in Hawai'i, on the island of Oahu, for all 13 years of my life. Although I have never gotten the chance to see one of our native birds for myself, I know how beautiful and unique they all are- and once were. I know of the many extinctions that have occurred over the years, their importance to Hawaiian culture, and the islands themselves, and I know that their extinction is the fault of not theirs, but our shortcomings. Invasive species, avian malaria, habitat loss, all of these factors can be traced back to us, the humans. There have been, and are, ongoing efforts to help the remaining honeycreepers survive and continue to live on, but a lot more effort is needed to fully restore them to their original numbers. These birds, the honeycreepers. The native Hawaiians respected and recognized that they had been here much longer than them, that they could, with their wings, reach heights that they could only dream of reaching. They have served such a large part in keeping our forests alive, in watching over our islands long before people inhabited these lands. The least we can do is respect them by giving them this one day to be honored. Please consider this bill, for Hawai'i's silent guardians. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely, Charis Pettiford 8th Grader at Moanalua Middle School

Greetings Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

I, Jenna Calimpong, am in support of HCR81 and HR 86 which is to reserve August 8th as a day to remember the Hawaiian birds that's going extinct.

I feel this is useful because while some people are trying to save the Hawaiian birds, all we can do is start making a "memorial" of the birds that we have unfortunately lost. For the birds that are still around, we can use that day to educate people about the endangered birds and maybe tell them how they can possibly help save the birds.

Sincerely, Jenna Calimpong Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

I, Ryan Erickson, am in support of HCR81 and HR 86, recognizing August 8, 2023 as Hawai'i Honeycreepers Celebration Day, which would make August 8th Honeycreeper Day.

I very recently learned that the Honeycreeper bird has been in Hawai'i before human life. They have helped with Hawai'i having the beautiful ecosystem it has today. They are going extinct. According to the one article I read,"of the more than 50 species of honeycreepers endemic to Hawai'i, only 17 species remain and 12 of those are designated as critically endangered or threatened by the federal or State government." That's 34% and of that 17 birds, about 71% of them are endangered. If you were to make August 8th (8,08) Honeycreeper day, people would pay attention to it and would be more likely to helping these endangered species. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely, Ryan Erickson Moanalua Middle School

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee.

I, Adelade Evans, am in support of HCR81 and HR 86, relating to the Hawai'i Honeycreepers Celebration Day.

I have learned just how important that honeycreepers actually are. Being the pollinators, seed dispersers, nutrient cyclers, and best managers. They are an extremely important part of the life cycle, and their dying numbers and decreasing species causes the forest to deteriorate, and become less healthy. Honeycreepers manage the forest, and help it to stay healthy, to ensure that it acts as a sponge to bring in, filter, and retain water. Honeycreepers also have a deep connection with cultural areas. They were used as an artform to show power, and authority, by using their feathers.

The Hawai'i Honeycreepers Celebration Day could be a day that shows, and improves the relationship between us and them. It can give people an idea of how important they are to the natural habitat, and it could deepen the relationship we have with them if we continue to celebrate them, and continue to work hard to bring them back, and stop extinction.

Sincerely, Adelade Evans Coordinating from Class D7.

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

I, Piru Faipea-Soi, am in support of HCR81 and HR 86. This relates to Recognizing August 8, 2023 as Hawai'i Honeycreepers Celebration Day.

Lately, I have come across the situation that our manu, or birds, are facing. As our manu, on the Hawaiian Islands, they hold with them much culture and importance. However, they are in dire need of help and support that we could provide. Not only are they birds of culture, they are also responsible for the health of the forests. They are needed as pollinators, seed dispersers, pest managers, and more. These birds represent Hawai'i as messengers between the gods and so much more. Yet, they're decreasing in number gradually as time passes. We could change this fate for our mana. Helping them is not just benefiting them solely, but us and the environment all together. I hope you consider this sincerely, protecting and supporting our mana and all their 17 remaining species. Mahalo nui loa for your consideration.

Sincerely, Piru Faipea-Soi Moanalua Middle School, 8th grade

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

I, Leah Fernando, am in support of HCR81 and HR 86, recognizing the 8th day of August as of the year 2023 as Hawaii Honeycreeper Celebration Day.

I have learned that our islands of Hawaii are dealing with a bird extinction crisis with bird species becoming extinct and the remaining species facing critical threats. Way before when the bird population was striving, there were over 50 species of hawaiian honeycreepers and now we are only left with a mere 17 species including 12 of those species listed as critically endangered or threatened. These birds are facing many problems such as the loss of their feeding and nesting habitats, invasive predators and deadly diseases spread by mosquitoes. Just one bite from the mosquito would most likely leave the bird with a result of death. If this continues, many of the Hawaiian honeycreeper population would most likely go extinct in the next 10 years. There are different types that function as pollinators, nutrient cyclers, seed dispersers and pest managers. The gods respected them as messengers way back in native Hawaii. People should be culturally knowledgeable of problems that Hawaii is facing. Community awareness and support is essential to help continue this bird population.

Sincerely, Leah Fernando Student of Moanalua Middle School

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

I support HCR81 and HR 86 because I want to make the bird survive and I do not want people to think that birds are just for eating. The reason why I do this is because I lost my bird to a mosquito that died 2 years ago. The reason why I want to support this is because my family almost got sick from a mosquito that has all the diseases that we do not know about. Another reason why I want to support this is because birds help the nature of the world because they have given plants and neither have they ever given to any plant.

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

I, Danielle Ingram am in support of recognizing Aug 8, 2023 as Hawai'i Honeycreepers Celebration Day.

I have recently been learning about honeycreepers in my studies. I have recognized how significant they are to Hawai'i and so much more. I have learned about how 17 forest bird species native to the island are poised, ready to move, or prepared and waiting for something to happen, to disappear. My studies have also taught me that "the birds survive on the nectar of those trees' lehua blossoms and they play an important role as pollinators of many native Hawaiian plants." [Endangered Bird Poised To Get Hundreds Of Thousands Of Protected Acres In Hawaii Conservationists took the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to court last year to spur action that was overdue for the imperiled native honeycreeper. [By Marcel Honore / January 2. 2023] Along with their loss of habitat. "the threats to the remaining manu species, particularly honeycreepers, include loss of their feeding and nesting habitat, degradation of that habitat by invasive plants, insects, and even diseases such as Rapid 'Ōhi'a Death, direct predation by invasive rats, cats, and mongoose, and deadly diseases spread by mosquitoes, particularly avian malaria" Lasty, my studies have taught me one of the many reasons that some honeycreepers are no longer with us, "since the ...introduction of mosquitoes in 1826 and the mosquito-spread diseases such as avian malaria and pox in the 1900s, the range of Hawaiian honeycreepers has largely shrunk to the high-elevation cool forests such as the Alaka'i Plateau on Kaua'i, Haleakalā on Maui, and Mauna Kea and Mauna Loa on Hawai'i..." I hope you will accept this bill to help save our honeycreepers. Mahalo for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Danielle Ingram
Moanalua Middle School

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

I, Roanne Justo-Kawakami, am in support of HCR81 and HR 86, in making a celebration day for the honeycreepers on August 8th, 2023.

We have been learning about the history of the honeycreepers and how they are important to Hawai'i and to their culture. Many of these birds have already gone extinct, in which a lot more are close to extinction as well. These birds facilitate the growth and health of our native plants, they are also important to Hawaiian culture, in which they have made many of our clothings. For example, helmets, crowns, cloaks, leis, and many more have been made with the birds feathers. Honeycreepers overall are important to Hawai'i, they provide for us with our plants and the culture. Thank you for taking the time to consider this resolution.

Sincerely, Roanne Justo-Kawakami Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

I, Draven Kaawa am in support of "Honeycreepers Celebration"

I support the celebration of Honeycreepers because they are birds that are very endangered. Recently they have gotten more support from organizations and have a chance of survival. So, at least to me, these birds deserve a day to celebrate their support. After everything these birds went through and their spiesease decreasing I think they deserve a day that celebrates their survival.

Sincerely, Draven Kaawa

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

I, Haley Kashiwamura, am in support of HCR81 and HR 86, recognizing August 8, 2023 as Hawai'i Honeycreepers Celebration Day.

Only 17 of the 50 honeycreepers endemic to Hawai'i remain, and 12 of the 17 are critically endangered. Honeycreepers play a very important part in the environment. They pollinate plants, manage pests, and keep Hawaii's forests healthy. Honeycreepers also play an important role in the history of Hawai'i. They are messengers between gods and their feathers were used in an artform. It's incredibly important that we save these birds, and recognizing August 8th as Hawai'i Honeycreepers Celebration Day will bring awareness to them. With this awareness we can all help save the remaining honeycreepers endemic to Hawai'i.

Sincerely, Haley Kashiwamura Moanalua Middle School

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

I, Jonah Na'a, am in support of this resolution, HCR81 and HR 86, relating to the honeycreepers of Hawai'i.

I have just learned that there are only 17 species of the Honeycreepers left in Hawai'i. 12 of them being critically endangered or threatened. That's more than half of the species almost extinct. It's so sad because honeycreepers essentially watched and created the Hawai'i grow and be the Hawai'i we live in now. If we didn't have these birds, Hawai'i wouldn't be hawaii. Back then, we used the birds feathers in artwork to adorn ali'i with symbols of their power and their responsibility. These birds are part of our culture, even if we didn't know. This mosquito disease (Avian Malaria) mainly is the reason why the birds are dying. Just one bite from a mosquito that carries Avian Malaria will kill the birds. It's so sad that our birds are going to be extinct soon, so I think the Hawaiian Honeycreepers Celebration Day should be a thing to show

that we love our birds. 808, The Hawai'i number to represent. I hope you will consider this bill as it will honor the birds as they go away. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely, Jonah Na'a Moanalua Middle School

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

I, Asia Obie am in support of HCR81 and HR 86, relating to making August 8, 2023 as Hawaiian Honeycreeper Celebration Day which would make August 8, 2023 as a day to recognize and appreciate the Hawaiian Honeycreeper on this day.

The Hawaiian Honeycreeper are pollinators, nutrient cyclers, seed dispersers, and pest managers. They make sure the forest is healthy and able to retain and filter water. Hawaiian Honeycreepers were seen as messengers to the gods, elements in nature (akua). The feathers from these birds were used as a symbol of power and authority. This just shows how much these birds matter to not only the land but to the people as well. There used to be a strong relationship between these birds and the people of hawaii. These birds were used to determine the health of a forest. These are all things the Hawaiian Honeycreeper have done and continue to do for the people and the land that they live on. But yet, 95 out of the used 142 have gone completely extinct. They have been wiped out and will never be seen again, even though there are 47 left which is left then half. All of those birds are endangered, if we don't do something about this then soon every 142 species of Honeycreeper would be gone. The next generation will never ever see these birds again, we would struggle to keep the Islands healthy. Fresh water is not unlimited without the birds there wouldn't be a lot of trees to block the sun making sure our water doesn't evaporate soon we'll run out. Without healthy strong forest then the land would be exposed more vulnerable to erosion, the water won't filter down to the aquifer. I could go on and on about how important birds are to the forest, and more. This is just the forest so please consider how much more these birds do. Thank you for reading this and considering a resolution for these birds.

Sincerely,
Asia Obie
Coordinating Group of 8th Moanalua Middle

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

I Jaylen Puaoi support HCR81 and HR 86: want to help all birds without dying I have recently discovered that Several Hawaiian honeycreepers —found nowhere else on Earth are on the brink of extinction. Their biggest threat comes from avian malaria, a mosquito-borne illness that was introduced to the islands by humans in the early 1900s. I will help all honeycreepers stop being extinct and find then and save them.

Sincerely,

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

I, Alyssa Sodetani am in support of HCR81 and HR 86, recognizing August 8 of the year 2023 as Hawai'i Honeycreepers Celebration Day.

I have learned that Honeycreepers, along with many other native Hawaiian birds, are endangered and on the brink of extinction. Many species of native Hawaiian birds have gone extinct and become endangered because of disease and invasive animals such as mongoose, rats, cats, etc. Allowing August 8th in the year of 2023 to become recognized as Hawai'i Honeycreepers Celebration Day would raise awareness of the birds along with all the other cousins of the Honeycreepers and the entire native bird population, as small as it may be. Allowing this testimony to go through would not affect anything and Hawai'i would not be at loss for anything. It is just one day to be recognized that would raise awareness for Hawaii's avian wildlife population. There is nothing to lose by allowing this testimony to go through and would ultimately be able to help Hawai'i. If more people knew about these birds, people would perhaps develop a more appreciative view on the birds and Hawaii's wildlife in general.

Sincerely, Alyssa Sodetani Moanalua Middle School

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

I, Mahea Takenishi, am in support of HCR81 and HR 86, recognizing August 8, 2023 as Hawai'i Honeycreepers Celebration Day.

Honeycreepers are one of Hawaii's most important bids. These birds have helped create the Hawaiian Islands and help keep Hawaii's forests healthy. Sadly, the honeycreeper's numbers are fastly decreasing. There are many threats going to these birds. Some of the threats are the warm climates and mosquitoes. As you know, mosquitos and the honeycreepers are mostly likely around the warmer climates. One bite from the mosquito can cause death to these birds. This is a very important topic the state needs to look at. Also, Hawaii's ecosystem needs to stay healthy, but we need the honeycreepers' help. They work as pollinators, nutrient cyclers, pest managers, and dispersers. Without these magnificent birds, the ecosystem can fall. I hope you can consider passing this resolution and help protect the honeycreepers and the ecosystem. Mahalo for your consideration.

Sincerely, Mahea Takenishi

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

I, Ethan Armstrong, am in support of HCR81 and HR 86, relating to recognizing August 8, 2023 as Honeycreepers Celebration day.

I recently have been learning about honeycreepers and how they are dying due to the uncontrolled spread of avian and malaria. More than half of the 50 species of honeycreepers are extinct and we can't let the 17 species that are left to die. They are dying rapidly because one bite from the mosquitoes who are carrying malaria can kill a honeycreeper. By making August 8 a day to recognize the Honeycreepers it will spread more awareness to the people of Hawaii. So that we can help bring back the honeycreepers to thrive in the forest and bring back how it was before when you could hear the honeycreepers from anywhere. I really hope you will consider this as it will help the honeycreepers from going extinct. Mahalo for your considerations.

Mahalo, Ethan Armstrong Moanalua Middle School

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

I, Jake Ryan Cabuyadao, am in support of HCR81 and HR 86, relating to the greatness of honeycreepers.

I have realized that the population of honeycreepers is decreasing from diseases like malaria from mosquitoes and has been around since 1826 and one bite from a mosquito to the honeycreepers would kill them and it is estimated that they will all be extinct in the next 10 years. They are also being hunted by predators and it's not good so I hope you consider this bill and it will help the population of these exotic birds and Thank you.

Mahalo, Jake Ryan Cabuyadao

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

I, Lia Choi, am in support of HCR81 and HR 86, "Recognizing August 8, 2023 as Hawaii Honeycreepers Celebration Day."

I learned that the native birds and honeycreepers of Hawaii are essential to Hawaii's ecosystems and culture. The threats the Honeycreepers have, need to be reduced as the numbers are rapidly dwindling. Global warming and climate change is increasing the number of mosquitoes as the temperatures rise. The mosquitoes expand their territories as the cooler areas get warmer. Avian malaria can kill the birds after just one bite, increasing the risk of the birds dying substantially. Habitat loss, diseases, and invasive plants all increase the chance of the extinction of the manu in the next 10 years.

Conservation efforts are needed to protect the birds and keep our ecosystem thriving. They are essential pollinators that keep the forests and native plants healthy. Our ancestors and alii in ancient Hawaii used the feathers of the honeycreepers to honor the power and authority of the leaders. Hawaii Honeycreepers Celebration Day will be dedicated to spread awareness and support conservation efforts to protect our birds. I hope you consider this resolution to protect our native manu that is so essential to Hawaii.

Mahalo, Lia Choi

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

I, Elijah Green am in support of HCR81 and HR 86, "Recognizing August 8, 2023 as Hawai'i Honeycreepers Celebration Day"

I have realized how Important the Honeycreeper is to Hawaii's environment. The Honeycreepers main position in Hawaii's ecosystem is to pollinate the flowers and plants. The Honeycreepers are one of Hawaii's main pollinators, if they go extinct the whole ecosystem of Hawaii would be severely damaged. Their population is already starting to decrease in areas like Honolulu or where there is a city, because the city leaves less room for their habitat. They also have many animals that harm their population like mosquitoes and mongoose because they carry deadly diseases that can kill the Honeycreepers. I believe that having an annual Honeycreeper day would help bring attention to the decrease in their population and overall help them out. I hope you will consider this bill to help out the honeycreeper population. Mahalo for your consideration.

Sincerely, Elijah Green Moanalua middle school team 8A

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

I, Addison Kelley, am in support of HCR81 and HR 86, Relating to August 8, 2023 as Hawai'i Honeycreeper celebration day which would designate the Hawaiian Honeycreepers as the state endemic tree of Hawai'i.

I have recently heard from teachers and public speakers at my school that these Hawaii Honeycreepers are going to be extinct within the next 10 years. I think that these birds are very important to the Islands of Hawaii and they should be protected. I have heard that more than 90 birds have gone extinct out of 142.

Sincerely, Addison Kelley 8th grade student of Moanalua Middle School

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

I, Justin Kelley, am in support of HCR81 and HR 86, "Recognizing August 8, 2023 as Hawai'i Honeycreepers Celebration Day."

I have recently heard from the past few weeks that Hawaii's native birds are about to go extinct. And I heard that there are barely any of them left, so I, Justin, wish to help the birds repopulate (if we can) and I would also like to help make this resolution (Hawai'i Honeycreepers

Celebration Day." I always thought Hawaii was beautiful from the ads I've seen, but honestly it looks nothing like it. I wished I got to see more Hawaii birds when I first got here but it made me disappointed. When I heard the reason why, it made me feel like I want to help bring Hawaii back to its proper state. We will need all the help in order to bring back Hawaii's birds and I will do anything no matter what!

Sincerely, Justin S. Kelley

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Phoenix Kotich from Moanalua Middle School (MMS). I am here to support the "Honeycreeper Celebration Day".

I think that having a Honeycreeper Celebration Day is a good idea because it is a native bird from the islands. This would make sense because these birds are from the islands unlike other birds that might represent our state. Another reason for this day is because there are not many left. These birds have played a big role for the islands. I have recently learned that they have helped the ecosystem stay healthy and strong. They pollinate the plants and flowers which helped keep the forests healthy. We tend to try our best to keep these Honeycreepers safe and not letting them go extinct. I believe that sending out this message and making this bird a state celebration day will help spread the message and help keep the Honeycreepers alive. Mahalo for your time and consideration.

Sincerely, Phoenix Kotich From, Moanalua Middle School

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

I, Forrest Lyons, am in support of HCR81 and HR 86, Relating to Recognizing August 8, 2023 as Hawai'i Honeycreepers Celebration Day.

This resolution should really become a reality because of how much the honeycreepers need it and how much it would help the environment. First of all, 50 species of honeycreepers are endemic to Hawai'i, only 17 species remain and 12 of those are designated as critically endangered or threatened meaning that most of them are already dead and or dying so this shows how they really could really use the help. Second of all, feeding and nesting habitat, degradation of that habitat by invasive plants, insects, and even diseases are just some of the many ways the honeycreepers are dying out, showing how horrible their situation is. Third of all, the honeycreepers function as pollinators, nutrient cyclers, seed dispersers, and pest managers, keeping the forests of Hawai'i healthy and ensuring that the forests can function like a sponge to draw in, filter, and retain water. This explains some of the ways they help us and the environment. In conclusion the honeycreepers are in really bad danger so they won't be able to help the environment if they are all extinct.

Mahalo, Forrest Lyons Team 8A of Moanalua Middle School

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

I, Abbygaile Mills, am in support of recognizing August 8, 2023, as Hawai'i Honeycreepers Celebration Day.

The Honeycreeper species has been sacred to our land as well as the ancestors of this island and we cannot risk losing them. They were thought of as beings of authority and power, and were used in many artforms of ancient pieces. There were once 50 species of Honeycreepers but only 17 remain while 12 of those are critically endangered. Besides the problem of mosquito transmitted diseases, there are also invasive species, predators, climate change, and starvation that these birds have to worry about. They are only seen on a few islands such as Kaua'i, Maui, and Hawai'i. They are also pollinators, helpful for our ecosystems, for our native plants and many could possibly die without these birds. The forests used to be filled with their calls and chirps, but now they have gone silent due to how small the percentage of the species is left and how high they have been driven up due to the dangers below. Please, value these Hawaiian Honeycreepers for how important they are for our land and our people and I hope you can take this into consideration among yourselves. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely, Abbygaile Mills Moanalua Middle, Team 8A

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

I, Kanna Nakagawa, am in support of HCR81 and HR 86 relating to having August 8th for the day of Hawaiian Honeycreepers.

The reason why we are having a day for honeycreepers is because of the close extinction of them. There are only 17 types of honeycreepers out of 50 left on Earth right now. And the reason why the honeycreepers are losing population right now is mainly because of us, humans. We've been building houses and stores where the honeycreepers call home. And we also have the fault for bringing in invasive species to Hawaii. The mosquitoes for instance, that carry avian malaria, will kill honeycreepers with only one bite. To stop these things from happening, we need awareness from everyone. So we will like to have August 8 as our official Hawaiian Honeycreeper Day so we can all remind people about them and what they're facing.

Sincerely, Kanna Nakagawa Moanalua Middle School

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

I hope you're doing well whenever you may be reading this.

I, Dylan Riley Rodriguez, am in support of HCR81 and HR 86, regarding the safety and wellbeing of hawaiian honeycreepers, which are currently going extinct.

From what I currently know of this situation, Hawaiian honeycreepers which are endemic species to Hawaii are currently going extinct, a big reason being avian malaria being spread around by mosquitos. After learning about the many reasons why we should be acting upon keeping these creatures, I firmly believe that attempting to keep Hawaiian honeycreepers around is important. Some big reasons are that honeycreepers are a natural pollinator in Hawaii and their personal connection the people of Hawaii have with these birds. They don't only work as pollinators, they also act, nutrient cyclers, seed dispersers, and pest managers. I very much care about the standing of this species in Hawaii for all these reasons, and I hope that you'll consider this proposition. Mahalo for your consideration, and have a great day.

Sincerely,
Dylan Riley Rodriguez
Student of Moanalua Middle School, Team 8A

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

Aloha I am Hayden Tiu and I am in support of HCR81 and HR 86. I have learned that almost 50 honeycreepers and only 17 are left to live in the wild and so many are dying because their plants are dying with them while humans are making it worse for them. There are many viruses like malaria that are killing them because of the warmed climate. A carrier of them is mosquitos. They go to the honeycreepers and give them the disease that is only one way they are dying out. A ship had brought mosquitoes eggs in there water and dumped it and the eggs hatched

They can go up the mountains because of climate change. And one bite of the mosquitos can kill one honeycreeper since they are so small. There was a river in kauai that had honeycreepers that sang but now you not hear and songs by them.

Sincerely Hayden Tiu

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

I, Daron Bret Uemoto, am in favor of HCR81 and HR 86, relating to the creation of Honeycreepers Celebration day on August 8th

As most know, most honeycreeper species are going extinct for various reasons such as diseases. In fact, 12 out of the remaining 17 species are critically endangered. Honeycreepers are very special animals, they have been a part of Hawaiian culture for centuries now. They are a part of our history, their feathers are parts of ancient Hawaiian clothes. The lives of the Honeycreepers matter just as much as any other human or species. Honey creepers aren't just a part of our history, they are pollinators that help our environment. Lots of native tree species rely on these birds. I hope you will consider this testimony and thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Daron Bret Uemoto
Moanalua Middle School

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

I, Faith Yoder am in support of Recognizing August 8, 2023 as Hawai'i Honeycreepers Celebration Day. I have been learning about the importance of Honeycreepers in Hawaii for over a week. I do believe and agree with the fact that they support all of the forests. As well as their crucial importance to the environment, they are truly remarkable, and deserve recognition.

Sincerely,
Faith Yoder
Moanalua Middle School

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

I, Naia Anulao am in support of HCR81 and HR 86, relating to Hawai'i Honeycreepers Celebration Day.

I recently have been more informed about the existence of the Hawaiian Honeycreepers and about there situation. Personally, I think that we should implement this resolution because these birds are important to the Hawaiian culture and they are also a part of Hawaiian history. We need to take care of these animals as they are integral to the ecosystem as well. They spread the pollen of native plants and they also are pest managers. There are various reasons to keep them and to try to save their species. These are all the reasons why I strongly support this resolution, thank you for your time and consideration.

Mahalo, Naia Anulao Moanalua Middle School, Team 8A

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

I, Lincoln Baguio, am in support of HCR81 and HR 86, recognizing August 8, 2023 as Hawai'i Honeycreepers Celebration Day.

Making this day a celebration day would help the Hawaiian Honeycreeper be recognized as an important bird. The day could be beneficial to the birds and help make it the state bird instead of the Nene. The birds were important to the history of Hawaii because of how they were used. Having a celebration day for the birds could save them from extinction, which would help out the plants and other animals from Hawaii. If the birds have a celebration day people would know more about them and want to keep them alive.

Sincerely, Lincoln Baguio Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

I, Michelle Barroga am in support of HCR81 and HR 86. This relates to the recognition of August 8, 2023 being Hawai'i Honeycreepers Celebration Day.

In my opinion, these special birds deserve at least a day of recognition. I have recently learned that honeycreeper species are extremely beneficial to people as well as native plants as they work as pollinators. Honeycreepers also keep insect populations under control. To add to this, honeycreepers are extremely important because people of Hawai'i symbolize them as spiritual guides for families in Hawaiian Culture. This proves that since they are so important for our culture and environment, they deserve the respect and recognition that they would get during the Honeycreepers Celebration day. These birds are also on the verge of going extinct and most are actually endangered which adds on to why they should be more widely recognized. With this day I believe that if others are more educated on the significance of this bird they would be willing to save this bird as well. With this, I hope you will consider this bill. Mahalo for your consideration, time, and understanding.

Kindest Regards, Michelle Anne Barroga Moanalua Middle School Team (8A)

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

I, Jayla Ford is in support of HCR81 and HR 86, "Recognizing August 8, 2023 as Hawai'i Honeycreepers Celebration Day."

The reason I support this is because since the mosquitos in 1826 many species has gone down tremendously. The birds are significant to Hawaiian culture. Ali'i would use the feather for clothing without harming the birds. There are originally 50 species but currently there are only 17 left. And the honeycreeper population has been declining because of the change of climate. But we as people also ruined their homes. They should be recognized for their beauty and their importance to Hawaiian Culture and our islands. I hope with all this information you can consider the resolution

Mahalo, Jayla Ford

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee.

I, Evan Fore, am in support of HCR81 and HR 86, recognizing August 8, 2023 as Hawai'i Honeycreepers Celebration Day, that would recognize August 8 as Hawaiian Honeycreeper Celebration Day throughout the state.

I have recently learned that Honeycreepers are an important part of the State's ecosystems and environment, and to the culture and pilina between the communities and manu. Also, I learned about the various threats to the Hawaiian honeycreepers that include loss of

habitat, predation from rats, cats, and mongoose, and diseases spread by mosquitoes, such as avian malaria and pox. It is estimated the remaining honeycreepers will go extinct in about 10 years, and the loss of the manu would be devastating to the ecosystems across Hawai'i. I hope that you will consider this resolution as it would help gain support for conservation efforts of the native manu of Hawai'i and save them from extinction. Mahalo for your consideration.

Sincerely, Evan Fore Moanalua Middle School, Team 8A

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

I, Miah Gomes Bernades, am in support of HCR81 and HR 86, relating to Honeycreepers Celebration Day, August8, 2023 in Hawai'i.

I have recently learned that on August 8, 2023 it will be honeycreepers celebration day. I think they deserve it because it won't be long until we kill them all and they will be extinct. We could change that by helping them and not get sick by mosquitoes and us damaging their home (some trees). Hawaiian honeycreepers pollinate native plants and keep the insect population under control, much to the benefit of people. They also attract tourists to Hawaii who enjoy watching the colorful birds. Several Hawaiian honeycreepers found nowhere else on Earth are on the brink of extinction. Their biggest threat comes from avian malaria, a mosquito-borne illness that was introduced to the islands by humans in the early 1900s. The situation is dire, but there is hope. So we can help but we have to stop destroying their homes. Mahalo for listening to my testimony.

Sincerely, Miah Gomes Bernades

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

I, Finn Horgan am in support of HCR81 and HR 86, relating to having 8/08 as the national honeycreeper bird day, for the state of Hawaii.

I have recently learned that the birds in Hawaii are rapidly going extinct. Having August 8th as national bird day will not affect anyone in a negative way. Birds have been honored since the early days of the polynesian culture, as the messengers of the gods. They were greatly honored by the ancient Hawaiians, and now are suffering because of what we, the people have done to their home. They are critically endangered, and should be honored, at the bare minimum at least until they are extinct. I hope you will consider this resolution, as it will be greatly appreciated by the citizens of Hawaii.

Sincerely, Finn Horgan Moanalua Middle School, Team 8A Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

I, Kelvin Hung Ino, am in support of HCR81 and HR 86 recognizing August,8 2023, relating to having August 8th being a day of celebration for the Honeycreepers. I have done some research and have learned that the Honeycreeper in Hawaiian culture represents spirit guides for families. I also learned that their feathers represent power. The Honeycreepers also play an important role in the ecosystem because they go around pollinating plants and reducing the amount of insects in the ecosystem. I hope you consider my testimony as a bill and thank you for taking the time to read my testimony.

Sincerely, Kelvin Hung Ino

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee.

I, Kevin Kamei, am in support of this matter, HCR81 and HR 86, relating to recognizing August 8, 2023 as Hawai'i Honeycreepers Celebration Day which would give a day of recognition to Hawaii's Honeycreepers.

The purpose of this recognition day, is to bring awareness to the dwindling number of native honeycreepers on Hawaii and this is important because Honeycreepers pollinate, disperse seeds, and are pest managers, keeping the forests of Hawaii healthy and ensuring Hawaii's forests are able to function well. The Honeycreepers are dying because of invasive species like mosquitos biting the Honeycreepers while they have diseases and because of low conversational efforts. Having all of the Honeycreepers wiped out will destroy Hawaii's history and will damage our ecosystem as well. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely, Kevin Kamei

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

I, Jayden Kim, am in support of HCR81 and HR 86, relating to the Honeycreepers, which would recognize August 8, 2023 as Hawai'i Honeycreepers Celebration Day.

Creating a holiday to recognize the honeycreepers would help raise awareness about the Honeycreepers and their potential extinction. This way, they are less likely to go extinct in the near future. These honeycreepers are important to Hawai'i for many reasons. For one thing, they are good for the environment. They pollinate the plants in many of the forests, which helps create new plants. This means that without the honeycreepers, the plant population would decline. The Hawaiian honeycreepers were also very culturally connected to Hawaiian culture. Without them, much of this culture would be lost. The feathers from Hawaiian honeycreepers are also important and are considered symbols of power in Hawaiian culture. If the honeycreepers are killed off, then people will be unable to get these feathers anymore. Mahalo for your consideration.

Sincerely, Jayden Kim Moanalua Middle School

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

I am Aiden Koide and I am in support of HCR81 and HR 86, relating to the lowering population of the Honeycreeper to be helped to be pulled out of endangerment.

I am supporting the Honeycreepers because they are one of our very small handful of native birds. Without the birds then we wouldn't be able to go outside to the woods and hear them. It would be beautiful to just hear them sing in the forest. Another reason they are important is because they tell us about our past. These birds show our Ali'i from way back when and their royalty. Finally without the bird then our number of native animals will decrease until there will be no more. I hope you will look at this and remember how important this resolution is. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely, Aiden Koide Moanalua Middle School, 8th Grade

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

I, Scott Robert Liddick III am in support of the Hawai'i Honeycreeper Celebration Day which would designate August 8 as a day to remember the Honeycreepers.

My school has recently got to hear the story of the Hawaiian Honeycreepers, and honestly, it's heartbreaking. So many species have gone extinct since Captain James Cook had found these Islands. After most of the species going extinct, I think it's only right that we commemorate a day in honor of these birds.

These birds were very important to old Hawaiian culture. Soon invasive species came in and brung diseases and started endangering the birds' food. Foreigners brought mosquitoes to this land, and it was devastating for these birds because of diseases like avian malaria. So all in all, these birds are precious and deserve a day of celebration.

Sincerely, Scott Robert Liddick III 8th grade of Moanalua Middle School

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

I, Mila Oka, am in support of HCR81 and HR 86, relating to Hawai'i Honeycreepers Celebration Day which would designate the day, August 8th as a day to celebrate Honeycreepers.

I have recently learned that the Hawaiian Honeycreepers are endangered and need to be recognized. They are endangered because of mosquitoes moving to higher elevations due to climate change. The reason we are trying to make this a bill is because it needs to get everyone's attention and needs everyone to realize this is a big deal. The reason I support this bill is due to the fact that Honeycreepers are native to the island and are one of a couple that are still on the island. But, they are really endangered and could go fully extinct in the span of 10 years. Unfortunately, it has come to the point where it needs to become a resolution to gain attention. Please take this into consideration.

Sincerely, Mila Oka Moanalua Middle School, 8A

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

I, Randi Racadio. am in support of HCR81 and HR 86, "Recognizing August 8, 2023 as Hawai'i Honeycreepers Celebration Day".

Honeycreepers, also known as the l'iwi, are important to their islands' culture. Early Hawaiians considered their native birds' red colors to be sacred and used 'l'iwi and other honeycreeper feathers to create elaborate cloaks, helmets, and leis. This beautiful bird is now in danger of immediate or near-term extinction across the whole western portion of its habitat. The threats to the remaining manu species, particularly honeycreepers, include loss of their feeding and nesting habitat, degradation of that habitat by invasive plants, insects, and even diseases such as Rapid 'Ōhi'a Death. 'l'iwi should be recognized and should have a day to celebrate their beauty. The day 8/08 is a cute and special way to celebrate the 'l'iwi. Mahalo for your consideration.

Me ka oiaio, Randi Racadio Moanalua Middle School, Grade 8

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

I, Eva M. Romualdo, am in support of HCR81 and HR 86, relating to Recognizing August 8, 2023 as Hawai'i Honeycreepers Celebration Day,

As you may or may not have known, many of the Hawaiian Honeycreeper birds are extinct or becoming extinct. This day will give the honeycreepers attention and recognition it needs for it could not be with us anymore. The honeycreepers serve an important role in Hawaii's ecosystems as it is native to the islands. Some honeycreepers are pollinators and many of them help with seed depositing and pest management. Not only do they play a big role in our nature, they also play a big role in native Hawaiian culture. Mahalo for your consideration for this important day for these hawaiian honeycreepers.

Sincerely, Eva M. Romualdo Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

I,Taryhn Shiroma am in support of HCR81 and HR 86, relating to the resolution for Recognizing August 8,2023 as Honeycreepers Celebration Day.

In the resolution I read It tells me how the Honeycreepers are in pretty bad danger which is really sad. Lots of animals are going extinct these days and we shouldn't just let this poor bird and other birds go extinct too. It's 2023 and let's make it a better year than last year. 95 of 142 birds have gone extinct. These birds, especially Honeycreepers, have trouble with their habitats, feeding, and nesting habitats. That's not even all of their problems. More and more problems are occurring for the birds. There are even a lot of diseases that are hurting the birds like the mosquitoes which can be very deadly to the birds. Please try and help the birds that would be great. Mahalo for your consideration.

Sincerely, Taryhn Shiroma

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee.

I Tilman Smithbey I am in support of the hawaii honeycreeper celebration day. It's important to recognize the birds of Hawaii that live among us,we share our land with them. Honeycreeper celebration day should be a day to celebrate the birds of hawaii that might go extinct. Due to its environment issues, that causes them to die, here in hawaii we do have many birds that live among us. Other birds of hawaii include, akikiki, akeke'e, kiwikiu, and akohekohe as well, those birds all mean something to hawaii. Most people don't care for the birds extinction, but they are very important for our environment. Scientist studies are trying to find a way to help increase honeycreeper birds numbers, by the help of colleges, more scientist, and people around the world trying to help, and also trying to control to mosquito population that was brought to hawaii.

Sincerely, Tilman Smithbey

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

I, Conner Tateishi am in support of HCR81 and HR 86, relating to recognizing August 8,2023 as Honeycreepers Celebration Day.

I have recently learned that honeycreepers are slowly being depleted to the abyss. Which meaning they only have a small amount of birds left until the honeycreepers are fully extinct and such as these birds, they are rare species meaning once they go extinct it will be almost as valuable as losing tigers. Thank you so much and we hope this message takes in effect

Sincerely, Conner tateishi Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

I, Slayter Teves, am in support of HCR81 and HR 86.

I have read the "Recognizing August 8, 2023 as Hawai'i Honeycreepers Celebration Day" and I have realized that having this holiday would not only make Hawai'i a better place, it would also benefit a lot of birds that benefit the environment. Making sure that the Hawaiian Honeycreepers are safe is beneficial because it would help the native plants which would also benefit the native hawaiian birds. Having the native birds alive will help keep the history of Hawai'i by showing all of the plants and animals that live here. If they are gone then there will only be pictures, and you couldn't see the plants or animals in real life. If the honeycreepers get support they will benefit a lot of other plants too, because they are pollinators.

Sincerely, Slayter Teves Moanalua Middle School Team 8A&C

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

I Naiema Albritton am in support of HCR81 and HR 86, relating to August 8th being Hawaii Honeycreepers Celebration day.

Not long ago I learned that these birds are very important to our ecosystems and our forests. They pollinate the flowers, which gives them the beautiful life and colors we see everyday. They are amazing creatures and they deserve to have a day to celebrate them. They do so many tasks to save and help our environment. Without them many of the plants in Hawaii would die and go extinct. We should appreciate the honeycreeper and give them a day in which we can celebrate them. Thank you for your time, I hope you consider my proposal.

Sincerely, Naiema Albritton Moanalua Middle School (8A)

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Christina Cobb-Tavares and I am in support of HCR81 and HR 86, relating to August 8 being Hawaii Honeycreepers Celebration day.

I recently just learned about the Hawaiian Honeycreepers going extinct and how important they are to our islands. This is important to me because these birds are very important to the ancient Hawaiian culture and it would be very nice to keep them around. This would mean a lot to me for the birds to come back again because I love watching the birds in my backyard and it would be really cool to see one of those native Hawaiian birds. There should be a day to celebrate the birds because maybe we could do something to help the birds out and the population will go up again. Thank you for taking the time to read this letter! I appreciate it!

Sincerely, Christina Cobb-Tavares Moanalua MIddle School (8A)

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

I, Faith Eom, am in support of HCR81 and HR 86 recognizing August 8, 2023 as Hawai'i Honeycreepers Celebration Day and I will tell my reasons why.

I didn't notice that our native Honeycreepers are going endangered, because I didn't care about them as much as I do now. I am aware that they're an endangered species because of a disease called "Avian Malaria" that was transferred from mosquitoes to the honeycreepers. I learned a lot of facts about the disease, what the bird population, and species is. I hope you consider this a bill because we need to stop spreading Avian Malaria so the honeycreepers population can increase instead of decreasing.

Sincerely, Faith Eom Moanalua Middle School 8A

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

I, Kyler Fernandez, am in support of HCR81 and HR 86, "Recognizing August 8, 2023 as Hawaii Honeycreepers Celebration Day."

It has come to my attention that the honeycreepers are essential for our community and islands to thrive. They help us in many ways. Such as, providing for the native flowers of hawaii. The birds greatly impact our ecosystem and it is important to conserve them and take action. The climate change causing the spread of mosquitoes has greatly affected the loss of birds. There are very little honeycreepers left, and we should be worried.

I support this resolution because of its effect on the future. It also has a great impact of keeping the history of Hawaii alive and thriving for future generations to live and experience. That is very important to me and this resolution will help to satisfy my desires and many others on keeping the honeycreepers thriving. I hope you take into mind this resolution to better protect the ecosystem, and history of Hawaii.

Sincerely, Kyler Fernandez Moanalua Middle School (Team 8A)

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

Aloha, I Mia Huang am in support of HCR81 and HR 86, recognizing August 8, 2023 as Hawai'i Honeycreepers Celebration Day.

I have recently learned that the hawaiian honeycreepers are endangered and there are very few species left. Only 17 species remain and 12 of them are critically threatened and

endangered. The bird species, specifically the honeycreepers, are losing their habitat, and feeding. The habitats are being destroyed by invasive plants, diseases, and insects. For most of the honeycreepers, one bite from a mosquito who has avian malaria can result in death for the birds. It has been estimated that the hawaiian honeycreepers will go extinct in the next 10 years if the mosquito population is not yet controlled. The hawaiian honeycreepers have a big connection to the island as well. They are integral to the state's culture, so we cannot lose these birds. There must be control of the mosquito population or the hawaiian honeycreepers will go extinct. I hope you will consider this bill as it will protect the beloved honeycreepers. Mahalo for your consideration.

Sincerely, Mia Huang Moanalua Middle School Team 8A

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

I think the Hawai'i Honeycreepers Celebration Day will help raise awareness to the endangered native manu species. Manu species help pollinate trees and flowers, this holiday will not only help the species but also help the environment. I think that people will be more aware of the birds and their extinction.

Sincerely, Baron Kang

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

In my opinion, I feel like we should have a holiday for the honeycreepers because if we have a holiday that everyone participates in, the people around the world would be more cautious of these types of birds. This is saying if they have a holiday they'll know more about these honeycreepers and help them survive, since we need them for our daily lives. Animals turn out to be very important towards humans and they don't even know it. This is why I feel like it's very important to include a holiday for the special honeycreepers.

Sincerely,

Kisslyn-Dior Kekona (Moanalua Middle School 8A)

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

I ,Eboni Keoni, am in support of HCR81 and HR 86, relating to Recognizing August 8, 2023 as Hawai'i Honeycreepers Celebration Day.

From what I have gathered the Honeycreepers are a treasure to Hawaii. They have significance in the ecosystem and a special place in Hawaii's culture and history. They pollinate

plants and not just any plants, they pollinate one of the plants whose numbers are slowly decreasing in Hawaii. Not only do they pollinate they also are seed dispersers, and pest managers, they keep Hawaii's forests healthy and running. They are also very important to the culture here in Hawaii; they are now respected and best protected. However, there are still problems like climate change is causing mosquitos to be around more often forcing honeycreepers to be pushed up into higher forests. Mosquitoes also carry a disease that could potentially kill the honeycreeper. And its not only the mosquitoes its loss of their feeding and nesting habitat, degradation of that habitat by invasive plants, insects, and even diseases such as Rapid 'Ōhi'a Death. However, I did not know any of this till I actually researched it, if we want to help the honeycreepers and protect them to the best of our ability we have to make them and their problems known. In hopes that there are people out there who genuinely want to help and we may get to create awareness by actually having a day for honeycreepers. People my actually start talking about it and hopefully the right people hear and want to help. I really hope to consider this resolution as it will help protect the only Hawaiian honeycreepers in the world. And thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely , Eboni Keoni Moanalua Middle School Team 8A

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

I, Sienna Lee am in support of HCR81 and HR 86. This relates to the recognition of August 8, 2023 being Hawai'i Honeycreepers Celebration Day.

In my opinion, these special birds deserve at least a day of recognition. I have recently learned that honeycreeper species are extremely beneficial to people as well as native plants as they work as pollinators. Honeycreepers also keep insect populations under control. To add to this, honeycreepers are extremely important because people of Hawai'i symbolize them as spiritual guides for families in Hawaiian Culture. This proves that since they are so important for our culture and environment, they deserve the respect and recognition that they would get during the Honeycreepers Celebration day. These birds are also on the verge of going extinct and most are actually endangered which adds on to why they should be more widely recognized. With this day I believe that if others are more educated on the significance of this bird they would be willing to save this bird as well. With this, I hope you will consider this bill. Mahalo for your consideration, time, and understanding.

Sincerely, Sienna Lee Moanalua Middle School Team (8A)

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

I, Ryley Ling, am in support of HCR81 and HR 86, relating to the Hawaiian Honeycreepers.

I have learned that the honeycreepers of Hawai'i are very important to make our forests healthy. 95 out of the 145 species have gone extinct, and this is a huge problem for Hawaii and its forests. Only around 17 remain from the remaining 47, with the rest of the 12 to be critically endangered, and protected by the state government.

With the introduction of the mosquitoes spreading diseases, it's fatal for the native birds of Hawai'i, and this is a problem as the temperatures of the Earth increases, the mosquitoes will move higher in elevation. The feathers of the birds show a sign of Hawaiian culture, and how Hawai'i has grown in all these years. I hope you will consider this resolution. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely, Ryley Ling Moanalua Middle School Team 8A

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

I, Takoda Dalles McCormick, am in support of HCR81 and HR 86.

I support this act because the birds played a significant role in Hawaiian culture before the mosquito killed most of them off. Plus the protection will spread awareness, allowing for the slow return for whatever is left of the honeycreeper species.

Thank you for your consideration Sincerely, Takoda McCormick from Moanalua Middle School, 8 Grade

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

I, Kaia Monden am in support of HCR81 and HR 86.

I think August 8, 2023 should be Hawai'i Honeycreepers celebration day. I think this because we should show appreciation for the Honeycreepers because they help keep our forests healthy.

We could help the Honeycreepers because they're endangered. They might go extinct if we don't take the initiative and help them.

When it is Honeycreeper day then we could also help them and also celebrate them.

From, Kaia Monden

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

I,Sefo Noga,am in support of HCR81 and HR 86 for August 8,2023 as Hawaiian honeycreepers celebrate day throughout the state.

I think that this is a good way to catch people attention and make everyone know about it. This will help us make it world wide or at least local known around hawaii. Because we are losing our native birds. We used them for clothing for our royalty. This is why we should celebrate Our birds.

Sincerely, Sefo noga Moanalua middle school

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

I, Bethany, would like to celebrate the day for honeycreepers. HCR81 and HR 86 Honeycreepers are starting to die because of this disease that is being spread out, climate change, and etc. We need to know how to stop honeycreepers from dying. Something that I learned was that honeycreepers are our hawaiian pollinators, they are being used by hawaiians for their robes, they are not actually dying because of this (they are using the feathers of the birds). Honeycreepers are the biggest thing in our lives to help our world stay together. Without them they are gonna die from being endangered and our forest will die also because the honeycreepers are not pollinating the land for our world. Something also extremely important is that honeycreepers are dying mostly because of mosquitoes, mosquitoes are a honeycreepers bigged predator. WHY? This is because they are going on to honeycreepers and the honeycreepers are catching the disease and its being spread to almost all the honeycreepers and that's why they are dying because of it. Mosquitoes like the warm temperature so that's why the honeycreepers and mosquitoes are both together and the honeycreepers are catching this disease. I think for this celebration for the honeycreepers, we need to make sure that they are safe and not go extinct because then who will pollinate our plants, forest, and our world. We should make an exhibit for our honeycreepers so that they can pollinate our land and they can be more safe without mosquitoes. HELP OUR HONEYCREEPERS!!

Sincerely, Bethany O'Lena, Moanalua middle school, 8th grade

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

I Calyx Pratt am in support of HCR81 and HR 86 in relation to the state endemic bird the Hawaiian honeycreeper, because of their declining population and critical role in the Hawaiian islands ecosystem and culture.

When I first got here I was oblivious to the problems going on in the ecosystem, mosquitoes are running rampant and carefree people are just ignoring it. It must stop. I feel people have overlooked the widespread extinction of various species including endemic birds everywhere, people say "I support anti-extinction causes." and that's it. We must make a change for the better and actually take action and responsibility for our stumbling blocks and fund, support, speak out, research, provide and debate for these endangered birds. Thank you for listening, please make a change.

Action pressed, Calyx Pratt.

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

I, Rylan Radosevich, am in support of HCR81 and HR 86, where August 8, 2023 will be Honeycreepers celebration day.

I have been learning about the local Honeycreepers situation in my social studies class, and I believe that they deserve a better life. There are only 17 Honeycreepers species left and 12 of them are at risk of extinction. Honeycreepers celebration day would be activities that can raise awareness for the Honeycreepers that would help people work together to save them. I believe this would be good because the more people who participate the more people we would have to help the Honeycreepers. Thank you for your consideration, and I hope you consider my thoughts.

Thank You, Rylan Radosevich

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee.

I, Sky Ramos, am in support of making August 8, 2023, as Hawaiian Honeycreepers celebration day throughout the state.

I think that having that day would be good for the islands of Hawaii because the birds have played an important part of our ecosystem for thousands of years. But now because of us humans they are becoming extinct and every year more and more birds become endangered. Some people don't remember that the bird's feathers would make up the chief's robes, helmets, and many more things that only the chiefs could wear. Therefore they have been an important part of our islands for a long long time.

Sincerely, Sky Ramos Moanalua Middle school eighth grade team 8A

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

I, Skyeler Suehiro am in support of HCR81 and HR 86 stating that August 8,2023 should be recognized as the honeycreepers Celebration day.

I have learned that there are many threats to the Honeycreepers population. Some of which include a decrease in habitat, diseases, and predators. I have also learned that the birds could go extinct in 10 years if the mosquito population is not controlled. Moreover, if the birds go extinct the environment will suffer as many plants rely on the birds to pollinate them. I hope you will consider this resolution as it will help the environment and many birds.

Sincerely, Skyeler Suehiro Moanalua Middle School

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

I, Heart Drianda Villacortez, am in support of HCR81 and HR 86, relating to creating a state holiday, surrounding the Hawaiian Honeycreepers, which would help create a safe environment for them by gathering support from the public.

Based on the results that I have learnt about this topic, it is well known that the Hawaiian Honeycreepers are in fact, endangered. Their population has been endangered because of the environment that they are surrounded in. Mosquitoes are spreading diseases, killing the majority of the Honeycreeper population. The habitat that they live in isn't safe, mosquitoes are thriving and Honeycreepers are dying. Therefore, in order to save this essential population and prevent them from going extinct, one of the best options is to create a safe environment. The Honeycreepers hold much importance to Hawaii, with historical and physical importance. They help the forests thrive by pollinating and cleaning the forests. By creating a state holiday, attention is brought to the topic and hopefully, the Honeycreepers will be safe again. Thank you for taking the time to read this and for your consideration.

Sincerely, Heart Drianda Villacortez Moanalua Middle School Grade 8, Team 8A

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

I think that having a holiday to support the birds in Hawai'i would be a great idea. Not only will it raise awareness but it will also help keep them alive. Without the holiday people might forget about the birds and not take care of them. The holiday will definitely improve the population and pollinators. This is why we should have a holiday.

Sincerely, Amirah Watford-Monrose

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

I, Taylor Wright am in support of HCR81 and HR 86, relating to Honeycreepers national day being August 8th (8.08).

I have recently learned how endangered the native Honeycreeper bird is and I believe that it is crucial that they become recognized and protected. There are only fewer than 2,000 'ākohekohe and fewer than 200 of the kiwikiu. It is important to recognize this jeopardize species as they play an important role in Native Hawaiian culture. The honeycreepers' vibrant colored feathers have been praised and used on cloaks, helmets, leis, etc. Honeycreepers are

also considered spiritual guides for families and their feathers also symbolize power. If this species remains unrecognized, they are prone to extinction which would leave many people devastated as well as harming Native Hawaiian culture. I hope you will consider this resolution as it brings protection to our native animals and our culture. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely, Taylor Wright Moanalua Middle School

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

I, Anthony would like to help support HCR81 and HR 86 for August, 8 as Hawai'i HoneyCreepers celebration day.

I think that we should make August 8 as Hawai'i Honeycreepers celebration day because there are only around 2,000 honeycreepers left in the Hawaiian islands and that's not a lot of birds and their numbers are only dwindling. Also there are only 60 different species of native birds to the Hawaiian islands, and there could be even less if we don't do anything about it.

Honeycreepers also are super important to the heart of Hawaiians because they are seen as spiritual animal guides for families, kind of like how Mexicans see the Alebrije as their spiritual animal. Honeycreepers hold a special place in the heart of everyone in the Hawaiian islands even if they don't know it, so we need to do everything we can to protect them from extinction. Mahalo for your consideration

Sincerely, Anthony, bass

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

I, Genna Fukumitsu am in support of HCR81 and HR 86, relating to recognizing Honeycreepers which would make August 8 (8.08) Hawai'i Honeycreepers Celebration Day.

I have recently been informed about how many Honeycreepers in Hawai'i are endangered. Having August 8 become Hawai'i Honeycreepers Celebration Day will spread awareness about the hidden issues and importance of the Honeycreepers. To begin with, most of Hawai'i's Honeycreepers are already extinct. Out of 50 species, only 17 remain; however, in those 17 species, 12 are endangered. In addition, these Honeycreepers are very important to Hawaiian Culture, they play a large role. With them becoming extinct, a part of Hawaiian culture dies off with them. These manu (birds) were seen as messengers from the islands all the way to the gods above. They also were used for their vibrant feathers, they were very sacred to early Hawaiians. They used them to create cloaks, leis, and helmets. As well as culture, the Honeycreepers play a big part in Hawai'i forests. Without them, the ecosystem would collapse. They pollinate, they're nutrient cyclers, seed dispersers, pest managers, keep insects under control, and many more. With this resolution to be passed, the Honeycreepers have a second chance to thrive.

Sincerely, Genna Fukumitsu Moanalua Middle School, Team 8A

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

Hello members of the committee, I think that August 8, 2023 should be recognized as Hawaii honeycreeper celebration day because some of the honeycreepers are becoming endangered. For example there used to be more than 50 honeycreepers and now there are only 17 honeycreepers left and 12 of those honeycreepers are endangered. One of the reasons why these birds are dying is because of mosquitos biting some of the honeycreepers and the mosquitos could carry malaria and that kills the honeycreeper. Another reason why some of the honeycreepers are dying so much is because they have a loss of feeding and because of a loss of nesting habitat. It is estimated that in 10 years a lot of the honeycreepers will go extinct if nothing is done.

Sincerely, Anthony Garcia

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

My name is George Hallinan I am in favor of the honeycreepers celebration day. I'm in favor because it would let me see the last 17 species of honeybirds and let my kids see them. It will also help with climate change. Help with the mosquitos. It is important to me cus I love to watch birds so seeing more of them would be so fun. The sound of the honeycreepers are the best. They are only found in Hawaii so if we lose the honeycreepers would be the worst for the kids like me who like birds and for the future of Hawaii. Thank you for your consideration

Sincerely, George Hallinan Moanalua Middle School 8th grade

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

I, Madison Mikami in support HCR81 and HR 86 "recognizing August 8, 2023 as Hawai'i Honeycreepers Celebration Day."

I learned that the Honeycreepers play an important role in Hawaiian history, culture and ecosystem. As 17 living species of Honeycreepers over the around 50 that were once living are now pronounced critically endangered. Mosquitoes, as the climate moves higher and gets hotter, mosquitoes move to warmer areas such as areas Honeycreepers live in. A bite from a mosquito can lead to the death of a Honeycreeper because of avian malaria. The Honeycreeper population has decreased because of this cause. It is expected that in 10 years the honeycreeper will go extinct.

Sincerely, Madison Mikami

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

I, Jaziah Ornellas am writing this to support of Hawai'i Honeycreeper Celebration Day which would let us observe Hawai'i Honeycreepers Day with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

I think this is a good idea because it's pretty much just another celebration or holiday and it's not like everyone has to celebrate it. But with this day it can make more people know about what's going on with the honeycreepers and then maybe it'll make them wanna help with the birds. I learned that the main reason why these birds are endangered is because of mosquitos. Since the introduction of mosquitos the range of Hawaiian Honeycreepers have largely shrunk to high elevation. Mosquitoes aren't the only cause there are rats, cats, and mongooses. But if we were to move them or grow more plants to help the birds I think that can help a little. I hope this will help make a difference. Thank you.

From, Jaziah Ornellas, Moanalua Middle School, 8th grade.

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 10:21:39 AM

Testimony for CAI on 3/30/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Lorrie M Ito	Highlands Intermediate School	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**House of Representatives** 

**Committee on Culture Arts and International Affairs** 

**Representative Adrian Tam** 

**Representative Rose Martinez** 

**Committee on Water and Lan** 

**Representative Linda Ichiyama** 

**Representative Mahina Poepoe** 

March 30, 2023

9:30 am Conference Room #430

**State Capitol** 

Testimony in Support of HCR81 and HR86

Aloha Chair Tam and Chair Martinez, Chair Ichiyma and Chair Poepoe, and members of the committees of Culture Arts and International Affairs, and the Committee on Water and Land.

I am writing to you in support of resolution HCR81 and HR86 regarding declaring 8/08 Hawaiian Honeycreepers Celebration Day. I support this resolution because I want people to take care of our birds, including the Hawaiian Akepa. If people cut down the trees where would they live? Please help the Honeycreepers.

With Aloha,
Kymberlee mewkang
8th grade student
Highlands Intermediate School
1460 Ho'olaulea Street
Pearl City, HI 96782
(808) 307-5000
I am writing to you in support of resolution HCR81 and HR86 regarding declaring 8/08 Hawaiian Honeycreepers Celebration Day. I support this resolution because not only are Honeycreepers endemic to Hawai'i but they are very important and special birds to the Hawaiian people. This species is rare. Please help them.
With Aloha,
Cashton Dre Lazaro
Cashton Dre Lazaro
Cashton Dre Lazaro  8th grade student
Cashton Dre Lazaro  8th grade student
Cashton Dre Lazaro  8th grade student
Cashton Dre Lazaro  8th grade student  Highlands Intermediate School  I am writing to you in support of resolution HCR81 and HR86 regarding declaring 8/08 Hawaiian Honeycreepers Celebration Day. I support this resolution because I don't want
Cashton Dre Lazaro  8th grade student  Highlands Intermediate School  I am writing to you in support of resolution HCR81 and HR86 regarding declaring 8/08  Hawaiian Honeycreepers Celebration Day. I support this resolution because I don't want our grandchildren to be robbed of seeing the pretty Honeycreepers.
Cashton Dre Lazaro  8th grade student  Highlands Intermediate School  I am writing to you in support of resolution HCR81 and HR86 regarding declaring 8/08  Hawaiian Honeycreepers Celebration Day. I support this resolution because I don't want our grandchildren to be robbed of seeing the pretty Honeycreepers.  With Aloha,

Hig	<b>zhl</b>	ands	Inter	medi	ate :	Schoo	o
		anus	111111	muu	au		U,

I am writing to you in support of resolution HCR81 and HR86 regarding declaring 8/08 Hawaiian Honeycreepers Celebration Day. I support this resolution because I want more people to see beautiful animals. I want people to see the beautiful things of Hawai'i. I believe birds are the most beautiful thing on earth.

With Aloha,

**Catherine Labisores** 

8th grade student

**Highlands Intermediate School** 

I am writing to you in support of resolution HCR81 and HR86 regarding declaring 8/08 Hawaiian Honeycreepers Celebration Day. I support this resolution because according to my research they will be extinct in 10 years.

With Aloha,

**Tejay James** 

8th grade student

**Highlands Intermediate School** 

I am writing to you in support of resolution HCR81 and HR86 regarding declaring 8/08 Hawaiian Honeycreepers Celebration Day. I support this resolution because the Honeycreepers will be extinct in 10 years. I want the next generation to see them too.

With Aloha,

Yiwen Guo 8th grade student

**Highlands Intermediate School** 

I am writing to you in support of resolution HCR81 and HR86 regarding declaring 8/08 Hawaiian Honeycreepers Celebration Day. I support this resolution because the Hawaiian Honeycreeper is a very important bird to the culture and the people of hawaii. It will be sad if this bird goes extinct. It would be a very sad day when the people have to mourn over a bird.

With Aloha,

**Colt Dunaway** 

8th grade student

**Highlands Intermediate School** 

I am writing to you in support of resolution HCR81 and HR86 regarding declaring 8/08 Hawaiian Honeycreepers Celebration Day. I support this resolution because I want the Honeycreepers to stay alive longer. and we don't have to say goodbye to them. I want the next generation to see them.

With Aloha,

Ezra-wayne antolin-somildam

8th grade student

**Highlands Intermediate School** 

I am writing to you in support of resolution HCR81 and HR86 regarding declaring 8/08 Hawaiian Honeycreepers Celebration Day. I support this resolution because Honeycreepers will be extinct in 10 years if mosquito populations are not controlled. We need to help the Honeycreepers by increasing awareness.

With Aloha,

**Oston Phaynid** 

8th grade student

**Highlands Intermediate School** 

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 11:24:49 AM

Testimony for CAI on 3/30/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Drew Cohick	Hawaii Technology Academy	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The House of Representatives

Committee on Culture, Arts, and international affairs

March 30th, 2023

9:30am, Conference room 224

**State Capital** 

Testimony in support of HCR 81

Aloha Chair Tam, Vice Chair Martinez, and Members of the Committee

I, Drew Cohick, am a supporter of HCR 81 relating to the resolution to designate August 8th as Hawaiian Honeycreeper Day. Our native forests are under attack from various human and climate caused problems. Our native Ohi'a forests cannot regenerate nor thrive without these uniquely evolved species of forest birds. I implore all legislatures to consider this resolution to bring more attention and resources to help save our forest birds. With Avian malaria, deforestation, Rapid Ohi'a Death, invasive predators, and habitat loss, these small birds need all the attention and help that they can get.

Sincerely,

**Drew Cohick** 

Local science teacher

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 11:36:42 AM

Testimony for CAI on 3/30/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submi	tted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
No	oah	НТА	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The House of Representatives

Committee on Culture, Arts, and international affairs

March 30th, 2023

9:30am, Conference room 224

**State Capital** 

**Testimony in support of HCR 81** 

Aloha Chair Tam, Vice Chair Martinez, and Members of the Committee,

I Noah Disilvestri is in support of HCR 81. HCR 81 would make august 8th Hawaiian honeycreeper day.

The purpose of bill HCR 81 is to spread awareness about Hawaiin honeycreepers.

I recently learned that honeycreepers were endangered in Hawaii and that there were essential for Hawaiian culture.

This decision impacts the community since honeycreepers are a native species and everyone would be glad it is back, Therefore, I urge the committee to support HCR 81.

Thank you for listening.

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 11:38:10 AM

Testimony for CAI on 3/30/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	ted By Organization Testifier Position		Testify
Kamuela Koenig	НТА	Support	Written Testimony Only

#### Comments:

Aloha Everyone, I am writing to you because I think that we should have a protection plan for Po'o-uli because fewer than 200 birds are remaining and could go extinct in the next two years. A single bite from an infected mosquito can kill. If we do not do anything about this they will go extinct. That's why we need to act fast for these birds. They are our birds and we need to be protecting them because with those birds alive they also take care of ohia trees and we need ohai to live on this beautiful island we call home. Thank you for your time.

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 11:48:42 AM

Testimony for CAI on 3/30/2023 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Levi Costa	НТА	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

he House of Representatives

Committee on Culture, Arts, and international affairs

March 30th, 2023

9:30am, Conference room 224

**State Capital** 

### **Testimony in support of HCR 81**

Aloha Chair Tam, Vice Chair Martinez, and Members of the Committee, I recently learned about the Hawaiian Honeycreepers. They are birds that almost have instinct but we can save them. We need to help the birds and make them healthy. That's why you should make August 8 Hawaiian Honeycreeper day! These birds are very important to Hawaii so we should take care of them. The main water source is the Ohia tree because the flower fits perfectly in the beak and they drink the water on the flower. That's also why we need to prevent rapid Ohia death.

Levi Costa

# HCR81/HR86 MONALUA MIDDLE SCHOOL LIST OF TESTIFIERS

#### **TESTIFIER NAME**

Hao Qian C. Aiyi Z. Andy H. Bonnie L. Brady M. Asher S. Brandon C. Brendan K. Chloe K.C. Emily M. Kevin C. Kimiko E. Logan D. Luna T. Nina V. Taylor W. Yingtong L. Xavier K. Wyatt Y., Tara M. SiYu D. Reese B. Nathaniel H.M. Makayla K. Logan C. Liam H. Leila A. Keiara W. Kaylie K. Kaylah S. Kayla S. Kathryn I. Jonathan T. Jacob Kyle C. Ivan W. Cruze T. Aurora P. Aryan S. Andrei V. Amber T. Travis R. Timothy L. Ta'Niyah P. Tamia T. Sophie M.

Noha M.

# HCR81/HR86 MONALUA MIDDLE SCHOOL LIST OF TESTIFIERS

Nicolas H.
Logan D.
Lino Y.
Kenzo Y.
Karl V.
Jacqueline G.
Halaulani W-E.
Hailey T.
Ella D.
Dylen T.
•
Chloe D.
Cara M.
Andrew J.
Allysen Y.
•
Zina C.
Vanessa H.
Thomas N.
Skyler M.
Scarlett S.
Ryan K.
Robert O.
Renee C.
Rachel L.
Paige P.
Nicole V.
Makayla S.
Lily C.
Kendra A.
Keira F.
Joanna L.
Hailey G.
Eliana S.
Dana K.
Chancelor O.
Cassie N.
Bernard F.
A.J.
Allyson K.
Brayden K.
Derrick Y.
Dominyc
Eva A.
Ezra B.
Hailey I.
Jessica X.
Joseph K.
Kierin L.

# HCR81/HR86 MONALUA MIDDLE SCHOOL LIST OF TESTIFIERS

Landon L.
Levi T.
Lizelle T.
Marshawn W.
Olivia S.
Robert M.
Saige C.
Serenity F.S.
Susan N.
Yedzell D.

Danica N.

– Dariica

Dana

Emi

Sophie M.

Briana B.

Logan

Seika S.F.

Jack A.

Chloe D.

S Yu D.

## **Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

Hello, my name is Hao Qian .C am a 7th grade student of Moanalua middle school and I support the resolution of Hawaiian Honeycreepers.

The Hawaii Honeycreeper is one the most important native animals on this chain of islands. The Hawaiian Honeycreeper helps pollinate native plants which helps sustain a healthy rainforest. Another reason why Honeycreepers are important to Hawaii is biodiversity. The most diverse and unique species are only found on this island if we lose another unique animal our future generations will not be able to enjoy. One other reason why Honeycreepers are important to Hawaii is because of research. One of the most common Hawaiian Honeycreepers (the common amahiki) is being studied for its ability to combat avian malaria. This could help solve many other Hawaiian Honeycreeper species going extinct.

The Hawaiian Honeycreeper is important to me because there are only 17 species left, there used to be over 50. If we don't protect the rest, our future generations will not be able to enjoy them. Another reason why the Hawaiian Honeycreeper is important to me is because they are a huge part of Hawaiian History and Culture. One reason why Honeycreepers are important to Hawaiian culture is because of ceremonial and decorational purposes. Did you know that Hawaiian chiefs wore 'ahu'lua' which are cloaks made of Honeycreepers feathers. They usually symbol high importance or high position. All in all Honeycreepers are not only important to me but many other people as well.

Thank you for taking your time out of your busy schedule to read my testimony. I hope you have a good day.

Sincerely,

Hao Qian .C

### **Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

Aloha, my name is Aiyi Z, I am a 7th grader at Moanalua Middle school, and I am in support of the Resolution for the Hawaiian Honeycreeper.

Honeycreepers are important to me because Hawaiian honeycreepers have a very rich history. Including how Hawaiian honeycreepers all adapted to Hawaii in their own ways. Honeycreepers played a role in Hawaiian history; Hawaiians used their feathers to make beautiful pieces of clothing that still exist to this day. Honeycreepers also keep our forest and land flourishing, they also maintain the growth and health of wildlife, and help build our ecosystem. Altogether these are reasons why I think Honeycreepers are important to hawaii.

Hawaiian honeycreepers are important to me because they are rich in many things, such as history, beauty, and help our environment. Honeycreepers help keep our forest beautiful and healthy. Honeycreepers are also native to hawaii. If they go extinct now, there won't be any more honeycreepers left in the world. In conclusion, honeycreepers are not only important to Hawaii's history and environment, but they are also very important to me. Thank you for taking time out of your busy schedule to listen to my testimony.

Sincerely, Aiyi Z.

Aiyi Z., 7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School

### **Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

Aloha, my name is Andy; I am a 7th grade student at Moanalua Middle School and I am in support of the Honeycreepers.

The honeycreepers are important to Hawaii because they are the island's culture and they help us get visitors or tourists to come. Also, I found out that in Native Hawaiian culture, the birds were symbolized as spiritual guides for families and their feathers are symbols of power. But the most important thing is the birds help us take care of the growth and health of the native plants. So, technically they are one of the important pollinators. Some other people around the world can also like these birds because they are colorful and can sing a canary-like song.

Honeycreepers are important to me because the sound they make is lovely, they are pretty, and they are special from other wild birds because their feather colors are different. In my opinion, they are very cute and colorful and lots of people want to see special, colorful birds to make themselves happy and joyful. I usually picture the honeycreepers as human life, for example humans need safety and shelter, so do the birds. The birds can't help themselves because they don't have money to buy things like we do. The birds need us to help them!

Thank you for taking the time to hear my testimony for Hawaiian Honeycreepers. Sincerely,

Andy. H, 7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School

Aloha, my name is Bonnie L; I am a 7th grade student at Moanalua Middle School, and I am in support of the resolution for Hawaiian Honeycreepers.

These Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important to Hawaii because they exist in only our islands and if they all go extinct, Honeycreepers will be gone. With culture being an important part of Hawaii, our Honeycreepers are valued. Honeycreepers are known for their symbols of power from their feathers, and spiritual guides for families. Hawaii's best known King Kamehameha, used the 450,000 feathers from the "Mamo" for his yellow cape. The threat of losing them is important to Hawaii and its culture; and it also matters to me.

Our Honeycreepers are important for us as students and future kids to grow up with. Our Honeycreepers give us a good reason to share awareness and I want to teach others about them. We can give information on how or why our birds are slowly disappearing from our island and provide ways to help save them. The Hawaiian Honeycreepers are slowly fading from our island and it's our job to save them.

Thank you for taking the time to read my testimony on Hawaiian Honeycreepers.

Sincerely,

Bonnie L, 7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School

Aloha, my name is Brady; I am a seventh grade student from Moanalua middle school, I am in support of the resolution for Hawaiian honeycreepers.

The Hawaiian honeycreepers are important to Hawaii and its people. They have unique feather colors and patterns that were used to make Mahiole (helmets) and 'ahu 'ula (feather cloaks) for Hawaiian chiefs. If we lose honeycreepers, Hawaiians lose a part of their culture, they also play an important part in the environment to help pollinate rare native plants, and create an important balance in the ecosystem.

Honeycreepers are important to me because, I've been studying them for five years. I have always been fascinated with their unique traits and behaviors. Also, I'm part Hawaiian and I feel a deep connection with the birds and the islands. Many species that were unique to Hawaii that I love are going extinct. I think if we want to keep these birds in our islands we must do something to protect them so future generations can see and study them. Thank you for making the time to read my testimony for Hawaiian honeycreepers.

Sincerely,

Brady M, (7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School)

Aloha, my name is Asher S. I am a 7th grade student at Moanalua Middle School and I am in support of the Resolution for Hawaiian Honeycreepers.

The Hawaiian Honeycreeper is important to Hawaii because it is a cornerstone of the Hawaiian culture and environment. Its feathers were used in traditional lei necklaces. Its songs are featured in traditional Hawaiian hula dances. The Hawaiian Honeycreeper is irreplaceable to the environment, it pollinates certain plants and disperses specific seeds. Without the Hawaiian Honeycreepers, many species of plant would slowly die out. The Hawaiian Honeycreeper is not only important to Hawaii but it is also important to me.

The Hawaiian Honeycreeper means a lot to me because it contributes to Hawaii's natural beauty. It also helps to maintain the balance of the island's ecosystem while keeping high biodiversity. I find the Hawaiian Honeycreeper so amazing because it is a symbol of Hawaiian survival. These native birds continue to live on despite all the challenges they face. They have survived mosquito disease, pollution, excessive hunting, and much more. The Hawaiian Honeycreeper has taught me so much about endemic species in Hawaii and how they coexist with invasive species. I can share the knowledge I have learned with others to help make a bigger impact on the survival of our beloved honeycreeper.

Thank you for taking the time to read my testimony for the Hawaiian Honeycreepers. Sincerely,

Asher S., 7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School

Aloha, my name is Brandon C.I am in support of the Resolution for the Hawaiian Honeycreeper

The Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important to Hawaii's history The Hawaiian

Honeycreepers have been here longer than the Native Hawaiian's. If we kill the birds, we are
losing apart of our history. They are also our pollinators for our native plant; which are also apart
of our history. They are also apart of our history, so they would die out. We would lose another
piece of history so that is why they are important

To me,the Honeycreepers are important and valuable asset's to Hawaii. Without them,our island wouldn't thrive. Our capes and helmets for our ali'i also wouldn't have been made. Finally, they are a one of a kind bird and you can't find them anywhere else. This makes them even more special

Thank you for reading my testimony for the Hawaiian Honeycreepers. Sincerely,

Brandon C., 7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School

Aloha, name is Brendan K, I am a 7th grader at Moanalua Middle School and I am in support of the Resolution for the Hawaiian Honeycreeper.

The Hawaiian Honeycreeper is important because it is important to our environment because they have many important roles in our native forests. For example, certain Honeycreepers help pollinate our plants when they go flower to flower. Insect-eating honeycreepers help keep the population of insects down. Honeycreepers also are important to our island's culture.

The Hawaiian Honeycreepers are also important because they play a big role in our island's culture. Many honeycreepers' feathers were once used for featherwork; they made various things like capes, helmets, leis, and more. Honeycreepers were also known to be aumakua species, and are believed to be ancestors, taking on the form of various animals and objects.

The Hawaiian Honeycreeper is important to me because if we don't do anything about the Hawaiian Honeycreepers, then I may never see one in my lifetime and neither will future generations.

Thank you for taking time out of our day to read my testimony for Hawaiian Honeycreepers.

Sincerely,

Brendan K, 7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School

Aloha, my name is Chloe K.C, I am a 7th grader at Moanalua Middle School, and I am in support of the resolution for the Hawaiian Honeycreepers.

The Hawaiian Honeycreeper is important to the Hawaiian environment and culture. They help pollinate native hawaiian Hawaiian plants. Without the Hawaiian Honeycreeper pollinating these native plants, including the tree 'Ohia Lehua', their population would drop dramatically. Furthermore, the Hawaiian Honeycreeper is culturally and religiously important to the Hawaiian people. The Hawaiian Honeycreepers feathers were used to make head pieces, capes, and more; for high ranking Hawaiians. While the Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important to the native Hawaiians; it is equally important to me, as to anyone with their culture.

Growing up as Kanaka and having the ko'ko, is something I was taught to value. I do value being Kanaka and I value my culture and all its beautiful lessons and traditions. Being Hawaiian I was taught that you are a part of the Aina (Land), that everything in you first came from the land. You take care of the land you 'Aloha Aina' (Love/Take Care of the land) it, and one day it will love you and respect you back. This is what the Hawaiian HoneyCreepers mean to me.

Thank you for taking the time to read my testimony in support of the Hawaiian Honeycreeper.

Sincerely, Chloe K.C, 7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School

Aloha, my name is Emily M; I'm a 7th grader at Moanalua Middle School and i'm in support of the State Hawaiian Honeycreeper.

The State Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important to Hawaii because they are native to Hawaii. The State Hawaiian Honeycreepers feathers were used long ago to make a coat for chiefs and leis and helmets. Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important because they pollinate our flowers. This is why we need to save the Hawaiian Honeycreepers from dying out, and going extinct.

The Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important to me because they're special to me. They are important to me because it is said that their feathers represent power. They are also apart of Hawaii's history, which is where all the different species formed and grew. They have helped our plants to grow and thrive! If they all go extinct, they will all become a memory, and not a living Hawaiian Honeycreeper, this is why Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important to me. It's just like losing a part of Hawaii.

Thank you for taking time out of your day to read my Testimony! Sincerely,

Emily M, 7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School

Aloha, my name is Kevin.C, I am a 7th grade student at Moanalua Middle School, and I am in support of the resolution for Hawaii Honeycreepers

Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important to Hawaii, because they are only found here.

Long time ago, a type of bird came to Hawaii. That bird evolved to 50 types of different species due to the radiation in Hawaii. Now, less than 20 different types of Honeycreepers still exist. The Honeycreepers are part of Hawaiian culture. The Hawaiian used to weave cloaks out of Honeycreeper feathers. These are the reasons why the HoneyCreepers are important to Hawaii.

The Honeycreepers are important to me because they are becoming extinct.

Honeycreepers are a living species just like us. Once the Honeycreepers are extinct we will never be able to see them in the wild. We would only be able to see videos or recordings on the internet. The sad thing is some are almost extinct and critically endangered. The honeycreepers are also important to the native plants. We need the native plants so we can use them for food, medical purposes, and etc. We can benefit from that because we can eat the food that the Honeycreeper makes.

Thank you for reading my testimony for Hawaiian Honeycreepers. Sincerely,

Kevin C., 7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School

Hi my name is Kimiko E; I am a 7th grade student at Moanalua Middle School, and I'm in

support of the resolution for the Hawaiian Honeycreeper.

Honeycreepers are very important to us and the environment. First they help pollinate our native

plants, which we need to survive. Honeycreepers are also a big part of our past because they

have lived here even before the native Hawaiians came. Most significantly, Honeycreepers were

a large part in the Hawaiian culture because during the reign of Kamehameha their feathers were

used to create his cape which symbolizes the people of the island.

As a student, Hawaiian Honeycreepers are meaningful to me. My reason is because they are

apart of our past and we should try to preserve them as well as keep them safe. If not, future

generations will not know about the Hawaiian Honeycreepers or that they even existed. Lastly,

Honeycreepers help pollinate the native plants which in turn help our water supply, because the

native plants let the water go into the soil gently this helps with the groundwater process. If we

don't do something and allow Honeycreepers to go extinct, we would be losing a major part of

our history and possibly lose our native plants.

Thank you for your time, and for reading my testimony about the Hawaiian Honeycreepers.

Thank you for your time, and for reading my testimony about the Hawaiian Honeycreepers.

Sincerely,

Kimiko E, 7th grade Moanalua Middle School

Aloha, my name is Logan D; I am a 7th grade student at Moanalua Middle School and I am in support of the Resolution of the Hawaiian Honeycreeper.

The Hawaiian Honeycreeper is important to Hawaii because they are unique to here. If they go extinct, no one will be able to see them again. They are also important to Hawaiian culture, as their feathers were used in ancient Hawaiian featherwork. Losing the birds would be like losing another part of the culture of Hawaii. They are also helpful for the environment, because they work to balance the ecosystem and help native species thrive. While the Honeycreeper is important to everybody, it also holds personal value.

The Hawaiian Honeycreeper is personally important to me because they keep the insect population in check. I have never been a bug person myself, so I find this to be a helpful contribution from Hawaii's birds. I also think they are a central part of making Hawaii feel like a paradise. Hearing the birds chirping and watching them fly across the trees is an integral part of making us feel that we are in a tropical environment. The Hawaiian Honeycreeper needs to be protected so we can have these things.

Thank you for your time reading my testimony for the Hawaiian Honeycreeper.

Sincerely,

Logan D, 7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School

Aloha, my name is Luna.T; I am a 7th grader at Moanalua Middle School, and I am in support of the Resolution for the Hawaiian Honeycreeper.

Why is the Hawaiian Honeycreeper important? It is important to Hawaii because they are one of a kind birds that are native to Hawaii. In the Hawaiiann culture, they use the feathers of different Hawaiian Honeycreepers in feather work, Like King Kamehameha's cape. If the Hawaiian Honeycreeper where to go to extent a huge part of Hawaiian culture would break off. It would make a bigger impact than when the missionaries come and convert the Islands to Christananity. There used to be over 50 kinds of these birds; now about 15 species are left in the wild, some of them pollinating the native flowers and trees. That is my reason why the Hawaiian Honeycreeper is important to the Hawaiian Islands, and the culture.

The Hawaiian Honeycreeper is important to me because I want as many endangered and critically endangered animals to live, be happy, and to be healthy. Every animal has a right to live unless they are invasive to the area. I want the Hawaiian Honeycreeper for years to come to live. I want them to be alive so that the future generation can see and hear them and their songs. My hope is to see one in person. I have only seen them in photos. I love birds and animals in general. I find it very sad when animals go extinct.

Thank you for your time reading my testimony on the Hawaiian Honeycreeper. Sincerely,

Luna.T

Aloha, my name is Nina; I am a 7th grade student at Moanalua Middle School and I am in support of the Resolution for Hawaiian Honeycreepers.

The Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important to Hawaii's environment and its culture.

Many Honeycreepers are pollinators, and if they go extinct a lot of Hawaii's native plants will go extinct/struggle. Without these plants, the animals who feed on them will start to die. Basically if one animal goes extinct, the environment and food webs will crash. Honeycreepers are a big part of Hawaiian culture. King Kamehameha's feather cape was made out of 80,000 mano feathers

(Honeycreeper species). Besides Honeycreepers being important to Hawaii's environment and

culture, they are also important to me.

Honeycreepers are important to me because of their beauty, uniqueness, and what they symbolize. Honey creepers aren't just cute birds, they are beautiful birds with vibrant colors. In fact, their feathers are symbols of power. This makes them have a special place in the hearts of Hawaiians. Honestly, Honeycreepers make Hawaii more unique too, as they can only be found here in the Hawaiian islands. If we lose them, we lose culture, life, and beauty.

Thank you for taking the time to read my testimony!

Sincerely,

Nina V., 7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School

Aloha! My name is Taylor W.; I am a 7th grade student at Moanalua Middle school, and

I am in support of the Resolution for the Hawaiian Honeycreeper.

The Hawaiian Honeycreeper is important to the environment because many native plants

depend on honeycreepers. The reason is, most honeycreepers have a bond with the native plants.

This is because of the honeycreepers being one of the first birds to come to hawaii. Also, because

they are one of the main pollinators in Hawaii. The Hawaiiam honeycreepers pollinate literally

anything; one of the main things they pollinate is ferns. We need to have these ferns because

most tree are very smooth when the water slides down the tree it hits the ground too hard and

makes dirt and bad stuff into the ocean and killing fish and oral but with ferns the water can seep

into the water reservoirs also not moving dirt\mud around.

While the honeycreepers are important to the environment they are also important to me.

The honeycreepers are such a beautiful bird. I believe they are majestic because the way they

sound and look, they look so unreal. I love the fact that honeycreepers care for our forests and

pollinate. This makes me and many others happy. I really hope we can save the environment

through the effort of saving the honeycreepers!

Thank you for taking time out of your day to read my testimony for the resolution of

Hawaiian honeycreepers.

Sincerely,

Taylor W. 7th grade, Moanalua middle school

Aloha, my name is Yingtong; I attend 7th grade at Moanalua Middle School and I am in

support of the Resolution for Hawaiian Honeycreepers.

The Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important to Hawaii's environment and culture for

various reasons. First, Honeycreeper's feathers have been used to make many things such as

capes, lei, Mahioles staffs, and other traditional items. Honeycreepers also help us spread pollen

and fertilize plants! Some plants like the lobelia flowers wouldn't be here if it weren't for

Honeycreepers. Not only are these birds important a lot to Hawaii, they also mean a lot to me.

The Honeycreepers are important to me because these birds have been here longer than I

have, so I respect them. They do a lot for our land and they play a big role in the food chain! If

Honeycreepers ever become extinct, we would be in big trouble. This is why the Honeycreepers

are important to me and will always hold a place in my heart.

Thank you for reading my testimony on Hawaiian Honeycreepers; Mahalo for your time!

Sincerely,

Yingtong L, 7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School

Aloha, my name is Xavier K; I am a 7th grade student at Moanalua Middle School, and I

am in support of the Resolution for the Hawaiian Honeycreeper.

The Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important to Hawaii because they pollinate Hawaiian

Flowers and Plants. They eat nectar and pollinate flowers while eating. This process gives

benefits to both the plant and the Honeycreeper. They also wake up the forests with their singing.

The honeycreepers are the star in the Hawaiian forests. The Hawaiian Honeycreeper are

important to Hawai'i, but what are they to me?

The Hawaiian Honeycreeper is important to me because of its natural beauty to the

Hawaiian forests. One of the things I like about Hawaiian forests is its birds. I don't want my

favorite thing to go away. Also, the song they make lights up the night and make the forests

beautiful. These beautiful honeycreepers are the best and why I love them.

Thank you for taking the time to read my Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony, I

appreciate it!

Sincerely,

Xavier K., 7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School

Aloha, my name is Wyatt Y; I am a 7th grader at Moanalua Middle School, and I am in support of the Resolution for the Hawaiian Honeycreepers.

The Hawaiian Honeycreeper is important to Hawaii, its environment, and to our history. Ancient Hawaiians used to make clothing out of their feathers. Capes, for example, were important and worn by chiefs. Honeycreepers are also important because they pollinate our plants. If the Honeycreepers die, the native plants might, too. Finally, we need Honeycreepers to keep our environment intact. One invasive species that might ruin the ecosystem is the Strawberry Guava Tree; which has smooth bark. So, if it rains, the water comes down the tree, it falls so quickly that it flows down toward the ocean. When this happens it goes into the ocean with all of the dirt and viruses that might kill the ocean life.

Honeycreepers are important to me because they keep our environment clean. This keeps our natural forests safe. Also, it is one of our few endemic birds and and are only found in Hawaii, so we need to keep them safe as well. Finally they are a colorful part of the forest. Whenever I go hiking, we could hear them singing, see them flying, or just in the trees. Either way they are beautiful birds that belong on our islands.

Thank you for taking the time to hear my testimony on the Hawaiian Honeycreepers.

Sincerely,

Wyatt Y, 7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School

Aloha, my name is Tara.M, and I am a 7th grade student from Moanalua Middle school and in support of the Resolution for the Hawaiian Honeycreeper.

The Hawaiian Honeycreeper is important because they are good for the environment. Hawaiian Honeycreepers help pollinate plants which keeps them alive. If Hawaiian Honeycreepers went extinct many animals would be affected. One possible effect is native or endemic species could become endangered or even extinct. Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important to Hawaii, the environment, and the people who live there.

The Hawaiian Honeycreeper is important to me, because Hawaiian Honeycreepers cannot be found anywhere else in the world. If Hawaiian Honeycreepers disappeared from the islands, they would be gone forever. Also, since Hawaiian Honeycreepers have been here for a while, the environment might change and not in a good way. Another reason why Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important to me, is if they go extinct the scenery in forests and other places might change. The Hawaiian Honeycreeper is important to many people.

Thank you for taking the time to read my testimony for the Hawaiian Honeycreepers. Sincerely,

Tara M., 7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School

Aloha, my name is SiYu D. and I am a 7th grade student at Moanalua Middle School and I am in support of the Resolution for the Hawaiian Honeycreeper.

The Hawaiian Honeycreepers are very important to our community. My first reason for why the Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important to us is because they pollinate our plants. (For example, the Pua Kala) Hawaiian Honeycreepers are one of the most valuable pollinators on our island. Without pollinators, many plants would be unable to reproduce. My second reason is their importance throughout history. Many of the Hawaiian Honeycreepers feathers were used to create stunning capes and helmets for the chiefs. Although the Hawaiian Honeycreeper is important to Hawaii, I think it's also important to me.

The Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important to me because they are what makes the place I live in special. Since they are endemic to Hawaii, they can't be found anywhere else except here. Another reason is that they are my favorite species of birds. The way they evolved from one single Honeycreeper into over 50 different species is extremely fascinating to me. Now there are only about 17 species left, and most are on the brink of extinction. The Hawaiian Honeycreeper is important to both me and the community.

Thank you for taking the time to read my testimony for Hawaiian Honeycreepers.

Sincerely,

SiYu D., 7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School

#### **Hawaiian Honeycreepers**

Hi, My name is Reese and I am a 7th grade student at Moanalua middle school, and I am in support of the resolution for Hawaiian honeycreepers.

The honeycreepers are important to Hawaii because they save our environment and are an important part of our history. It helps pollinate which is the main source of how they benefit our environment and other animals/people in our environment. The honeycreeper's feathers have been used for high chief's capes throughout the years, causing these birds to be a part of our history. Another thing is without these birds certain plants and animals would go extinct because they won't have the birds to spread pollen anymore to help bring food sources for other animals. Overall these birds are very important birds to Hawaii.

To me, the honeycreepers are a sign of joy, life, and color. If you have ever seen a honeycreeper before you've probably noticed the colors of them. Honeycreepers are very colorful birds that make the most interesting sounds. Honeycreepers saving our environment bring all those factors to our ecosystem. That's why I want to put an end to their harm and help.

Thank you for listening to my presentation over the Hawaiian honeycreepers.

Reese B., Moanalua middle school

Hello, my name is Nathaniel Hans M; I am a 7th grade student at Moanalua middle school, and I am in support of the resolution for Hawaiian Honeycreepers.

The honeycreepers are important to Hawaii because they play a role in its environment. Honeycreepers facilitate the growth and health of native plants by fertilizing. Honeycreepers also keep insect populations in check.

Honeycreepers are important to me because they are sacred to Native Hawaiians.

In Native Hawaiian culture, the birds are considered spiritual guides for families; their feathers are symbols of power. Ecologists also find honeycreepers important. They find them as impressive examples of adaptive radiation. Honeycreepers really do get the job done!

Thank you for reading my Honeycreeper testimony

Sincerely,

Nathaniel Hans medina, 7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School

Hi, my name is Makayla, I am a 7th grader at MoanaLua Middle School.I am in support of the Resolution for the Hawaiian Honeycreeper..

The honeycreepers are important to Hawaii because they carry Hawaiian culture and stories in their dna. They carry this culture by their feathers and songs. Their feathers would be used to put on high chief capes. The birds would chirp and make plenty more noises while singing and you could hear them from about a mile away. That's why it is important to Hawaii. It's important to Hawaiian culture.

Honeycreepers are important to me because we need them for our ecosystems. When the 'I'iwi receives nectar from the flowers' pollen falls on their head. When it's on their head it lands on other plants or flowers, creating seeds. They create more plants by doing this. All of our honeycreepers play a role that our ecosystems need to stay healthy. These birds are only found in Hawaii which makes them special, so let's keep them alive and special. Let's keep their special roles and stories alive.

Thank you for reading my testimony for the Hawaiian Honeycreepers. Sincerely,

Makayla K., 7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School

Aloha, my name is Logan C. I am a 7th grade student at Moanalua Middle School. I am in support of the Resolution for the Hawaiian Honeycreeper.

The Honeycreepers are important to all of us because they are the symbol of hawaii. They are the symbol because they are native to hawaii. They are important because there are only a few left in Hawaii, we need to stop them from going extinct. There are important to us humans because they are part of a cycle that allows us to drink water. Let me elaborate on this cycle, first they pollinate the flower, then than plant releases oxygen or us to breathe. The honeycreepers are a species too, we need to protect them like how we protect other animals.

Even though honeycreepers are important to Hawaii, they are also important to me. They do so much and contribute so much to Hawaii, like providing oxygen, pollinating plants, providing water, if we lose them that would be really bad. These honeycreepers also provide us water too! First they pollinate the plant, then when it rains it goes through the plants and the plants filter the water. Once that happens the water goes to an underground water storage center that provides us drinking water. The honeycreepers provide so much for all of us humans and we need to do our best to protect them.

Sincerely,

Logan C, 7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School

Aloha, my name is Liam; I am a 7th grade student at Moanalua Middle and I am in support of the Resolution for the Hawaiian Honeycreeper

The Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important to Hawai'i because they are indigenous to Hawai'i. They have been around for 7.2 million years and there were over 50 species of honeycreepers, but now there are only 17 species. They pollinate the flowers, and if they go extinct, we will have less plants on O'ahu. We should save them to keep our forests lively. The Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important to Hawaii, but why are they important to me?

The Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important to me because I find nature beautiful, a part of nature's beauty will fade away. There will be less plants sprouting, making the forests feel dead. I also love the sound of nature; the sound of leaves rustling and birds chirping. If they go extinct, the forests will sound empty forever.

Thank you for listening to my testimony on Hawaiian Honeycreepers.

Sincerely,

Liam H, 7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School

Aloha, my name is Leila A; I am a 7th grade student at Moanalua Middle School, and I am in support of the Resolution for the Hawaiian Honeycreepers.

The Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important to Hawaii's environment and culture. They provide very good nectar to our flowers. Another fact is that they constantly keep insect populations in check. They are also a big part of Hawaiian culture. Their unique feathers symbolize them as the element of many cultural Hawaiian garments and crafts.

(finchnetwork.org) The amazing birds are considered spiritual guides for families. Hawaiian Honeycreepers ease the growth and health of many native plants. (islandconservation.org) But, why is it important to me?

The Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important to me because I want my environment to be safer for my future. Having a safe and healthy world is what I wish for. Helping the Honeycreepers come back will positively impact the forests. Flowers will be healthier, there would be less mosquitoes, and a reduced number of invasive species. Hawaiian Honeycreepers are so dearly sacred, and that is why we need to use all our resources to help them.

Sincerely,

Thank you for taking the time to hear my testimony for the Hawaiian Honeycreepers.

Leila A, 7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School

Hello, my name is Keiara W; I am a 7th grade student at Moanalua Middle School, and I am in support of the Resolution for the Hawaiian Honeycreeper.

Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important to the environment of Hawaii, they also have a

special place in the heart of Hawaiians and ecologists. They facilitate the growth and health of

Native plants. People use these plants for food, but also decorations. In native Hawaiian culture,

they are considered spiritual guides for families; their feathers are symbols of power.

Undoubtedly, Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important to the environment.

The Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important to me for their beautiful songs, that are heard

from the forest. However, only a few can be seen on the Hawaiian Islands. They are also very

beautiful to look at. But also, their roles as pollinators benefit us. Most plants they pollinate we

use for food or medicine. If they disappear, the results could be drastic.

Thank you for taking your time to read my testimony for the Hawaiian Honeycreepers.

Sincerely,

Keiara W, 7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School

Aloha my name is Kaylie K; I am a 7th grade student at Moanalua Middle School, and I am in support of the Resolution for Hawaiian Honeycreepers.

Honeycreepers are important to Hawaii because many of them are going extinct.

Hawaiian Honeycreepers only exist in Hawaii and if they become extinct, there is no way to bring them back. Without Hawaiian Honeycreepers, Hawaiian culture wouldn't be complete.

Hawaiian Honeycreepers feathers would serve as capes, helmets, and leis. There aren't many Hawaiian Honeycreepers left in Hawaii. The Hawaiian honeycreepers are important to Hawaii and they are also important to me.

What they mean to me is, without Hawaiian Honeycreepers, Hawaiian culture wouldn't be complete. I wouldn't know they're endangered and if I didn't know, it wouldn't make me wanna help the Hawaiian Honeycreepers more. The Hawaiian Honeycreepers makes me want to learn more about Hawaiian culture. They are important to others, as the symbols on their feathers could mean something to them. Maybe to others they could be spiritual guides, for their family. Overall Hawaiian Honeycreepers are very important to me and many others.

Thank you for reading my testimony about the Hawaiian Honeycreepers. Sincerely,

Kaylie K, 7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School

Hi,my name is Kaylah.S; I am a 7th grade student at Moanalua Middle school and I am in support of the Resolution for the Hawaiian Honeycreeper

The Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important to Hawaii's Environment and culture. They help pollinate the flowers, trees, and other plants. The Hawaiian Honeycreepers help pollinate flowers and trees because it produces more trees and flowers to keep the island healthy. They are also important to Hawaiian culture because they used their feathers as capes. This is why the Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important to Hawaii and me.

The Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important to me because they pollinate trees and flowers which make oxygen so we can breathe. If we don't have oxygen,we are going to die.

Also the feathers are a symbol of power for Hawaiian culture. If the birds die out,there would be an increase of bugs and I don't like bugs. If honeycreepers died we would have more non-native plants. This is why honeycreepers are important to me.

Thank you again for reading my testimony for the Hawaiian Honeycreepers.

Sincerely,

Kaylah.S, 7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School

Aloha, my name is Kayla. S; I am a 7th grade student at Moanalua Middle School, and I am in support of the resolution for Hawaiian Honeycreepers.

The Hawaiian Honeycreeper is important to Hawaii's uniqueness and culture. If they go extinct, we will not be able to get them back. They are also very important to Hawaiian culture. The Hawaiians used to make capes, leis, helmets, and Kahili staffs with their feathers. Their feathers are symbols of power and in native Hawaiian culture they are considered spiritual guides for families. Not only are they important to Hawaii, they are also important to me.

The Hawaiian Honeycreeper is important to me because they help Hawaii's ecosystem. They help people by pollinating and fertilizing local flora. They also help reduce the insect population. They are native to Hawaii, so Honeycreepers had a particular place in the hearts of both Hawaiians and ecologists. Millions of years ago, a single finch species made its way to the Hawaiian Islands. Then they evolved into 50 or 60 species with a variety of bill colors and shapes. Which is why the Hawaiian Honeycreeper is important to me.

Thank you for taking the time to read my testimony for Hawaiian Honeycreepers.

Sincerely,

Kayla. S, 7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School

Hello, my name is Kathryn I., I am a 7th grader at Moanalua Middle School and I am in support of the Resolution for the Hawaiian Honeycreeper.

The honeycreeper is important to Hawaii because it affects Hawaii's environment. The honeycreepers help pollinate flowers and plant seeds around hawaii. The honeycreepers also help new plants grow, refreshing our environment for Hawaii. Honeycreepers are also part of the food chain, they don't only affect us but predators who eat honeycreepers are in danger too . A food chain is where a living organism gets consumed by a bigger organism, this chain of consuming goes on and on. When a link gets destroyed the chain starts to fall apart until all the pieces have fallen. That's what would happen if the honeycreeper died, the animals who consume the honeycreeper would starve and would soon die too.

The honeycreepers are important not only to Hawaii but also to me. Honeycreepers are one of the native species to Hawaii ,that not many people care about. Honeycreepers have evolved with many beautiful patterns and colors. People should recognize this native bird and care a little more about them. Honeycreepers are helping to keep our environment thriving with beautiful plants. Now it's our chance to help these endangered birds.

Thank you for taking your time to read my testimony for the Hawaiian honeycreepers.

Sincerely,

Kathryn I., 7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School

Hello! My Name is Jonathan T. and I am in support of the Resolution for the Hawaiian Honeycreeper.

The Hawaiian Honeycreepers are very important. They help pollinate the land for more biodiversity. For example, nectar sipping birds like the I'iwi.

The I'iwi is now scarce, meaning they are rare, but if we help save birds like the I'iwi, it will also help the eviroment. Hawaii is very important as well. Although the I'iwi makes the islands suitable for living for us, the I'iwi also helps the enviroment suitable for living for all organisms such as animals. It starts a chain reaction that will benefit all of us, and that is why the Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important.

Thank you for reading my testimony for the Honeycreepers.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Tackett, 7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School

Aloha, my name is Jacob, I am a 7th grade student at Moanalua Middle School, and I am in support of the Resolution for the Hawaiian Honeycreeper.

Honeycreepers are important to the people of Hawaii and are a part of the culture. Native Hawaiians used the feathers of the Honeycreepers, and it represented symbols of power. They're also found only in the state of Hawaii, nowhere else. The main reason is that there's not much left. This tells people why Honeycreepers are important and why we need to start making a difference. The Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important to Hawaii and to me.

Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important to me because they are very unique to the people of Hawaii, and only exist in Hawaii. This means, if we lose them, we will never get them back. But that's not the only reason, it's also because they are part of the history and culture of Hawaii. Most importantly, these birds (Honeycreepers) play a big role in our forests, which means, they keep our environment together. Everything I just mentioned is why Honeycreepers are important to me, and why we should start caring to save them from extinction.

Thank you for taking the time to read my testimony for Hawaiian Honeycreepers. Sincerely,

Jacob Kyle C.

Hello my name is Ivan W; I am a 7th grade student at Moanalua Middle School, and I am in support of the Resolution for Hawaiian Honeycreepers.

Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important to Hawaii's ecosystem. They pollinate the forests, flowers, and plants of Hawaii. Therefore, fruits and other plants can be grown for animals. Plants also provide everyone with oxygen to breathe in. Honeycreepers monitor the forests and keep everything even. This makes the ecosystem stable for the environment. Although honeycreepers are important, they are important in many ways.

Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important, but they are also important to me. The Hawaiian Honeycreepers have a strong connection to native Hawaiian culture. People consider them as a spiritual guide for families. The colorful feathers of the honeycreepers symbolizes power. Examples of using the feathers were for traditions, leis, cloaks, and helmets. All of these signifies nobility in Hawaiian culture. These are the many reasons why these birds are so important.

Sincerely,

Ivan W., 7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School

Aloha, my name is Cruze; I am a 7th grade student at Moanalua Middle and I am in

support of the Resolution for the Hawaiian Honeycreeper.

I believe that the Hawaiian Honeycreepers are vital to our island ecosystem, but also to

the culture. To start, #1 pollinator in Hawaii. Without them we would be left with a desert for our

Aina. Secondly, the culture of Honeycreepers goes back to hanabada days, where their feathers

were used to clothe King and Alii Nui. Their importance is to our Aina and to myself for our

futures. First, as I've stated previously, "The Hawaiian Honeycreeper are the number one

pollinators in Hawaii." That means if the Honeycreepers go extinct I might never see my home's

native plants in the near future unless the Honeycreepers are preserved. Second, it is said that

Honeycreepers are the spirit of our ancestors and watch over us as these birds. If these birds go

extinct, I may never know my roots on this island or the culture that comes with the

Honeycreepers.

Mahalos and malama pono!

Sincerely,

Cruze T., 7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School

Hello, my name is Aurora P. and I'm a 7th grader at Moanalua Middle School. I would like to advocate for the Hawaiian Honeycreeper resolution.

The Hawaiian Honeycreepers are majorly important to the environment. First, without the Hawaiian Honeycreepers, there would most likely be a decrease in some of the plants they pollinate. Plants like the Cyanea and the 'Ohi'a lehua would suffer a downfall. Hawaiian Honeycreepers also keep the insect population at an accepting level, but without them insect populations would go extremely high and threaten even more animals with the risk of Avian Flu. The Honeycreepers are vitally important to the environment of Hawaii. However, I also think they are important to me personally

Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important to me because of the culture it provides to Hawaii. Their feathers were used for some of King Kamehameha's clothing and symbolized his superiority. The Hawaiian Honeycreepers were also considered sacred to ancient native Hawaiians because they believed, if one member of the ecosystem had gone extinct the whole ecosystem would become "strained" and not function the same. Finally some Native Hawaiian families would believe the Hawaiian Honeycreeper was somewhat of a spirit animal to the whole family. Because the Honeycreeper means so much to the culture, the Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important to me. In conclusion, the Hawaiian Honeycreepers are very important to Hawaii, and without them would threaten the Island's wellbeing and its legacy.

Thank you for taking the time to read this and I hope you will consider working to save the Honeycreepers.

Sincerely,

Aurora P., 7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School

Aloha,my name is Aryan S. I am a 7th grade student at Moanalua Middle School. I am in support of Hawaii's State Legislature and Advocacy for Hawaiian Honeycreepers.

The Honeycreeper is important to Hawaii because it does three main things: pest control, pollination, and is a part of Hawaiian history (its feathers were used to make the ali'is capes). It pollinates and keeps plants alive such as the Hawaii state endemic plant; the ohi'a. They eat the invasive insects as well.

Not only are the Honeycreepers important to Hawaii, but are also important to me. I love their intricate and colorful feathers, as well as their beautiful chirps and songs. Finally, I love the Honeycreepers because of their different types of beaks, and their different abilities and uses. Thank you for taking your time to listen to my Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony. My name is Aryan S, and I am a proud 7th grade student of Moanalua Middle school.

Sincerely,

Aryan S, 7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School

Hello, my name is Andrei V. I am a 7th grader at Moanalua Middle, and I am in support of the Resolution for Hawaiian Honeycreepers.

The Hawaiian Honeycreeper is vital to Hawai'i's beauty, ecosystem, and history. Hawaiian Honeycreepers have been around since our ancestors first got to Hawaii. We've been observing the Honeycreepers for thousands of years. We are still trying to observe them to find links to our past. Additionally, a major part of Hawaii's beauty comes from the birds. They give the skies color and bring music to our forests. Another thing they bring is support to the ecosystem; some species of Hawaiian Honeycreepers, like the I'iwi, spread pollen amongst the plant life. This is part of the reason plants can survive in Hawaii. Although these things make it extremely important in Hawaii, the Hawaiian Honeycreepers are also extremely important to me!

Some things that make Hawaiian Honeycreepers so important to me are hikes, the variety they bring, and photographical subjects. The birds of Hawaii have beautiful singing voices, which can be heard all throughout our hikes. Without them, hikes would be much more blunt. Furthermore, they make up the majority of the diversity in Hawaii. Personally, I enjoy Hawaii's massive diversity! This includes both people and animals. There are people from all around the world, and more than 15 species of birds found on this island. If all but one goes extinct,I'd easily lose interest. Finally, the endemic Hawaiian birds are colorful, great photo subjects, unreplaceable, one may say, and help me with my hobby of photography. Many current photos I have wouldn't exist with the valuable birds we have today.

Thank you for taking the time to read my testimony for the Hawaiian Honeycreepers. Sincerely,

Andrei V, 7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School

Hi, my name is Amber T, I am a 7th grader at Moanalua Middle School and I am in support of the Resolution for the Hawaiian Honeycreeper.

The honeycreepers are important to Hawaii. In Hawaiian culture, these birds are considered spiritual guides for some families; imagine what would happen if they died out. These birds are also a symbol of power. King Kamehameha wore a cloak with Iiwi feathers. Finally, Honeycreepers help pollinate the Ohia Lehua flower, which is important to this island too because it is a source for food for some animals. So overall, these birds are important to the Hawaiian islands and they are important to me.

Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important to me because I know they are important to the ecosystem. It is sad to see animals go extinct and I really dont want that to happen to these birds. It's humanities fault for global warming and the increased the amount of misquotes; which is one of the main reasons Honeycreepers are dying. If I can help save these birds from extinction, that would make me so happy.

Thank you for your time to listen to my voice in support of the Hawaiian Honeycreepers.

Sincerely,

Amber T, 7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School

Aloha, my name is Travis R. I'm a 7th grader at Moanalua Middle School. I am in support of the resolution for Hawaiian Honeycreepers.

Honeycreepers are very important for the environment. They help by spreading seeds, pollinating, and help to populate the forests of Hawaii. They help to pollinate when they drink the nectar from the flowers; they get pollen on their beaks and it comes off and spreads when they fly to other flowers. They also help spread seeds that get stuck to them and drop while they fly around. They're very important to me and my family, in fact even my classmates appreciate them and think they're very important.

The Honeycreepers are so special to me and my family because of many reasons. My family and I all love birds and it saddens us to see so many types of birds go extinct and become endangered. The Honeycreepers of Hawaii are important to me because they help my family as well as lots of other families in Hawaii. I think personally that Honeycreepers are probably one of the best looking birds too. They are very important to the environment we currently live in, the Honeycreepers are pollinators, plant spreaders, and forest populators. If we didn't have these great creatures and they went extinct without the help of the government that was built upon this land, all the people and animals would suffer severely, as well as the Hawaiian Honeycreeper.

Thank you for reading my testimony for the Hawaiian Honeycreepers.

Sincerely,

Travis R, 7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School

Aloha, my name is Timothy L, I am a 7th grade student at Moanalua Middle School and I am in support of the Resolution for the Hawaiian Honeycreeper.

The Hawaiian Honeycreeper is important to Hawaii, the environment, and to the culture. They are important to Hawaii because they are part of the history because the feathers were once used for crafts. They are important to the environment because they help pollinate plants. Lastly, they are important to Hawaiian culture because honeycreepers are considered to be spiritual guides. The Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important to Hawaii, it is also important to me.

The Hawaiian Honeycreeper is important to me because they are only found in Hawaii and they came from a singular ancestor. There were over 50 species of honeycreepers, now only 17 remain. It surprised me when I learned that they came from a singular ancestor. The honeycreepers today came from that ancestor that came to Hawaii. Those are the reasons why the Hawaiian Honeycreeper is important to me.

Thank you for taking the time to hear my testimony for the Hawaiian Honeycreepers.

Sincerely,

Timothy L, 7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School

Aloha, my name is Ta'Niyah P.; I am a 7th grader at Moanalua Middle School;, and I am in support of the Resolution for the Hawaiian Honeycreeper.

Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important to my community because they are needed in our ecosystem. Some of the many tasks they carry out are: seed spreading, pollination and fertilizing. Hawaii is isolated, so there is no nearby bird population to replace the Honeycreepers. Our food chain & web would also slowly fall. Honeycreepers are important, our ecosystem wouldn't stay stable. They are also important to Hawaiian culture. They are considered spiritual guides for families and their feathers are symbols of power. Honeycreepers are important to our community. The Honeycreepers are not only important to Hawai'i, they are important to me.

Honeycreepers also have a purpose in my life. As a military child, I want to make an impact on every community I visit. Everyone here has been so welcoming; helping them is a way I can show my appreciation. Honeycreepers were once amazing and thriving animals. It would be unimaginable to bring the Honeycreepers back to their original ,thriving population at my age.

Thank you for being considerate and reading my testimony for the Hawaiian Honeycreeper.

V/R

Ta'Niyah P., 7th grade, Moanalua Middle School

Aloha, my name is Tamia T; I am a 7th grader at Moanalua Middle School, and I support the Resolution for the Hawaiian Honeycreeper.

The Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important to the environment because they pollinate the plants that feed many of the animals living in the ecosystem. Along with that they also help prevent rain from washing the minerals out of the soil by spreading trees to cover the forest grounds. Without all of this, the ecosystem will fall apart. That is why the Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important to me. But, it should be important to us as well.

The Hawaiian honeycreepers are important to me because the bird holds Hawaiian history. Their feathers were used to create capes, helmets, and many other precious items.

As somebody who loves to learn about culture, it makes me sad to see something important to the Hawaiians go extinct, as it will erase many cultural things that were created many years ago. It's also important because I live in Hawaii and should help prevent major problems from happening on the island. That's why Hawaiian honeycreepers are important to me.

Thank you for reading my testimony for the Hawaiian Honeycreepers. Sincerely,

Tamia T., 7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School

Aloha, my name is Sophie M., I am a 7th grade student at Moanalua Middle School and I am in support of the Resolution for the Hawaiian Honeycreepers.

The Hawaiian Honeycreeper is important to Hawaii because they keep the native plants alive. In other words, the Honeycreeper keeps the environment balanced, they pollinate the native plants and keep them thriving. Without the Honeycreeper the environment would be unbalanced, as there are no other pollinators for the native plants. The Honeycreepers are also part of ancient Hawaiian culture. Hawaiians would use the birds' colorful feathers to make capes and helmets for the ali'i. If the Honeycreepers go extinct we lose the connection to ancient Hawaiian culture. That's why the Honeycreepers are important to Hawaii. Although the Honeycreepers are important to Hawaii, they're also important to me.

The Hawaiian Honeycreeper is important to me because they are only found in Hawaii.

Once the birds go extinct they're gone forever. Humans have already caused many species to go extinct, so it's important for us to help while we still can. I also feel it's crucial to preserve Hawaii's natural beauty, and Honeycreepers are a big part of that. Overall, Hawaiian Honeycreepers are very important to me.

Thank you for taking the time to hear my testimony for Hawaiian Honeycreepers. Sincerely,

Sophie M., 7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School

Aloha, my name is Noah M; I am a student at Moanalua Middle School and I am in support of the Resolution for the Hawaiian Honeycreeper.

The Hawaiian Honeycreeper is only found in hawaii. This means that it is super rare.

The Hawaiian Honeycreeper transfers nectar to other plants to make the other plants grow. The transfer of Pollen is caused by the Honeycreeper getting nectar for food and getting the Pollen on their forehead.

Why is the Honeycreeper important to me? The Honeycreeper spreads Pollen to the other plants to help them grow like for example the Ohi'a Lehua. You can only find it in Hawaii, which means other people have to pay just to see it. That is why the Hawaiian Honeycreeper is important to me.

Thanks for taking the time to read this testimony for the Hawaiian Honeycreepers.

Sincerely,

Noah M, 7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School

Hello,My name is Nicholas H.' I am a 7th grade student here at Moanalua Middle school, and I am in support of the Resolution for the Hawaiian Honeycreepers.

The Hawaiian Honeycreeper is very important to Hawaii's culture. First, they are only found here, as soon as they are gone, they are gone forever. Also, their feathers were used for many crafts, utilities, symbols, and spiritual guides to ancient hawaiians which shows the importance of these birds. There are a few more reasons why the Hawaiian honeycreeper is important today.

First, the hawaiian honeycreeper is a species unique and rare, and is only found here; We should preserve this species. I cannot talk for Hawaii, but I know that they appreciate this beautiful bird. It will be heartbreaking to see this species go, so I ask you to help in this Resolution and help save and support these birds. And because you cared enough to read this I will have to thank you.

So, Thank You for reading my testimony for the Hawaiian Honeycreeper on why we need to support its struggles the more invasive species get to them etc. it means alot so thank you!

Sincerely,

Nicholas H. 7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School

Hello, My name is Logan, I am in support of the Resolution for the Hawaiian Honeycreepers.

The hawaiian honeycreepers are important to the hawaiian island because they are native to us. Sadly, the honeycreepers are dying out. The reason they are dying out is because of mosquitos. Another reason they are dying out is because there is not enough food. Another reason they are important to the island is because they are so lovely.

While the honeycreepers are important to Hawaii, it is also important to me. The reason they are important to me is because they are dying. They are cool and the colors are nice to look at; I like how they are all so different. They are also important to the island (The reason they are important to me is because they are nice and funny). I love how they look and how they sound. Finally they are dying out and we need more people to support the birds

Sincerely,

Logan D, 7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School

Aloha, my name is Lino Y; I am a 7th grader in Moanalua Middle School and I am in

support of the Resolution for the Hawaiian Honeycreeper.

The Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important to Hawai'i because, they help the forests.

Honeycreepers help in the forests by doing various tasks to help the forests live. They help with

tasks such as spreading seeds, nectar feeding, and pollination which is vital to the forests. The

Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important to Hawai'i because they also are part of the culture. The

Honeycreepers are symbols of power and the birds were considered spiritual guides for families.

The Honeycreepers are important to the people of Hawai'i, Honeycreepers are also important to

me.

The Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important to me because I want Hawaii to have clean,

fresh water. Honeycreepers help Hawai'i get clean water. The Hawaiian Honeycreepers soak the

water into the soil so later we can pump it out to get clean water. Another Reason are important

to me is because, I want our forests to be steady. They hold our food and other resources we need

which will be hard to live without. Honeycreepers are vital to Hawai'i as it is vital to the culture,

environment, and water.

Thank you for taking the time to listen to my testimony about the Hawaiian

Honeycreepers! Mahalo!

Sincerely,

Lino Y., 7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School

Aloha, my name is Kenzo; I am a 7th grade student at Moanalua Middle School and I am in support of the Resolution for the Hawaiian Honeycreeper.

The Hawaiian Honeycreeper is important to Hawaii and Hawaiian history. The Hawaiian Honeycreepers are native to the Hawaiian islands and have been around for a long time. The Honeycreepers also are important to Hawaiian culture because the feathers are used to make capes, leis, and hats; They wore them in performances or rituals in Ancient Hawaii.

The Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important to me because I've lived in Hawaii my whole life. Also, the culture and history of Hawaii is very important to me because I find it interesting what life was like in ancient Hawaii. Making sure native birds or plants still exist on the islands is important to me.

Thank you for taking the time to hear my testimony for the Hawaiian Honeycreepers. Sincerely, Kenzo Y.

7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School

Aloha, my name is Karl V; I am a 7th grade student at Moanalua Middle School and I am in support of the Resolution for the Hawaiian Honeycreeper.

Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important to Hawaii's culture and environment. The honeycreepers' feathers were used in ancient Hawaiian capes, helmets, etc. They also pollinate our native plants, which has a great impact on the environment. This is why Hawaiian Honeycreepers play a big role in Hawaiian culture and environment. Hawaiian Honeycreepers not only matter to the environment, but they matter to me too.

Hawaiian Honeycreepers matter to me because of their colors and how they make Hawaii better. These birds are colorful, vibrant, and make Hawaii a much more beautiful place by enhancing the overall aesthetic of Hawaii. Hawaiian Honeycreepers are also adorable in general, and seeing them die out is not very appealing. In simpler terms, it's gut-wrenching to see these birds slowly get driven into extinction.

Thank you for reading my testimony for the Hawaiian Honeycreeper, Mahalo.

Sincerely,

Karl V, 7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School

Aloha, my name is Jacqueline G.; I am a student at Moanalua Middle School, and I am in support of the Resolution for the Hawaiian Honeycreeper.

I think the Hawaiian Honeycreepers in Hawaii are vital to Hawaii's culture. The meles (songs) that the Hawaiians created represented the bird's connection with the forest. The Hawaiians created capes out of the bird's feathers to represent the chief's connection with the Hawaiian Honeycreepers. Finally, the Hawaiians made hula to represent the birds themselves. However much the birds are vital to Hawaiian culture, they also are vital to me.

The Hawaiian Honeycreeper is important to me for a lot of reasons, but mainly these three. First, I believe the forests would sound silent without them. Second, the Hawaiian Honeycreepers varieties of oranges and reds feathers, and compliments the native flowers. Third, all Hawaiian Honeycreepers all come from the Asian Finch. If this resolution doesn't get passed, the Hawaiian Honeycreepers have a tremendous risk of extinction

Thank you for taking the time to hear this testimony on the Hawaiian Honeycreepers.

Sincerely,

Jacqueline G., 7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School.

Aloha, my name is Halaulani W-E; I am a 7th grade student at Moanalua Middle School, and I am in , "I am in support of the Resolution for the Hawaiian Honeycreeper"

The Hawaiian HoneyCreeper is important to me because we need them to keep our Native plants alive. If it weren't for honeycreepers we wouldn't be able to have the special plants we have today. Another reason why we need honeycreepers is because they help the ecosystem. The Honeycreepers help the plants grow healthier and easier. Another reason why the Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important is because in Hawaii Honeycreepers are spiritual guides for families. Even though the Honeycreepers are important to Hawaii, it's also important to me.

The Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important to me because without the Honeycreepers we wouldn't be able to talk about the Honeycreepers and how important they are to Hawaii. Another reason why I think Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important to me is because we wouldn't be able to see the beautiful colors of their feathers and watch them fly around so beautifully. The last reason why I think that the Honeycreepers are important to me is because I want our ecosystem to be in a better place and to do so we need our honeycreepers to stay alive.

Thank you for taking the time to read my testimony for the Hawaiian Honeycreeper. Sincerely,

Halaulani W-E., 7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School

Aloha, I am Hailey T. I am a seventh grade student at Moanalua middle school and I am in support of the resolution for the Hawaiian Honeycreepers.

The Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important to our community in Hawaii for many reasons. One being they keep our insect population in check. They also prevent flooding by keeping these special plants alive that slow down the rainfall. The Honeycreepers also are vital to our ecosystem keeping invasive insects out of dying plant species.

The honeycreepers are also important to me. They are dying off and without them there will be a decrease in other vital species of both animals and plants. As well as an override in some bugs and invasive animals. In conclusion, it is important to me and our community here in Hawaii that we do all that we can to protect these natural beauties and fight for their existence. We can't do this alone and we need your help. Thank you for your time and for reading my testimony for the Hawaiian Honeycreepers.

Sincerely,

Hailey T., 7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School

Aloha, my name is Ella D.; I am a 7th grade student at Moanalua Middle School, and I am in support of the Resolution for the Hawaiian Honeycreepers.

The Hawaiian Honeycreeper is important because once they go extinct, we will never get them back. They are found only on the Hawaiian Islands and are a part of Hawaiian culture. The Native Hawaiians used the Hawaiian Honeycreepers' colorful feathers to make capes for the Ali'i (chiefs) since their feathers are symbols of power. Also, in Native Hawaiian culture, the Hawaiian Honeycreeper are thought of as spiritual. Although the Hawaiian honeycreeper are important to Native Hawaiians, they are also very important to people alive in the present, such as me.

The Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important to me because I was born in Honolulu, Hawaii. I feel that the Hawaiian Honeycreepers are connected to me, since it is a part of Hawaiian Culture. I feel that if I do not do anything, I would be disrespecting Native Hawaiians. I also really love animals, so it would be very depressing if Hawaiian Honeycreepers turn extinct. If Hawaiian Honeycreepers turn extinct, I would be devastated since they are such majestic birds to look at.

Thank you for taking the time to hear my testimony for Hawaiian Honeycreepers!

Sincerely,

Ella D., 7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School

Aloha, my name is Dylen .T; I am a 7th grade student at Moanalua Middle School, and I

am in support of the Resolution for the Hawaiian Honeycreepers.

The Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important to Hawaii because they have been here

before humans. Their feathers were used for clothing such as King Kamahamahas cape. They are

also important to their environments and their food chain. If the Hawaiian Honeycreepers were

to go extinct, the food chain would be messed up because, the Hawaiian Honeycreepers

predators would not get the same amount of food as they did before. While the Hawaiian

Honeycreepers are important to Hawaii, they are also important to me.

The Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important to me because they have been on the island I

was born on, for a long time. I also love animals and when animals go endangered, I feel very

sad. They are beautiful to look at. And there are so many different kinds like, blue, yellow, red,

and many different types of beaks.

Thank you for taking the time to read my testimony for the Hawaiian Honeycreepers

Sincerely,

Dylen.T, Moanalua Middle School

Hello, my name is Chloe D; I am a student at Moanalua Middle School and I am in support of the Resolution for the Hawaiian Honeycreepers. Honeycreepers are very important to the environment of the island.

Honeycreepers are important pollinators to the island and benefit tons of endemic species. They're also a very unique species and their different breeds are helpful to research on birds. But I think the most important contribution is their relationship with the endemic plants. The endemic plants rely on Honeycreepers, and their rapid decline is not only hurting themselves but also the endemic plants they pollinate.

Hawai'i has an important ecological relationship with Honeycreepers that is worth protecting. They do a better job at pollination than the Western Honeybee. I'm not saying bees can't get the job done, but Honeycreepers can do so without harming other pollinators. Western Honeybees are known to steal nectar from flowers, which leaves less food for other pollinators, and they transmit diseases to other pollinators. Honeycreepers also pollinate the beautiful flowers on the islands.

I really do want the Honeycreepers to continue thriving. We've done so much damage to their home and I think it's time to step up and do something instead of whining about it but not doing anything. Thank you for taking the time to read my testimony for the Hawaiian Honeycreeper

Sincerely,

Chloe D, 7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School

Hello my name is Cara M, I am in 7th grade at Moanalua Middle School, I am in support of the Resolution for the Hawaiian Honeycreeper. Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important to Hawaii and its environment. If Honeycreepers become extinct, the plants and animals would be affected in a negative way. I know this because Honeycreepers could be helping some animals or plants, so if Honeycreepers become extinct it could affect the plant or animal that was receiving help and cause it to become extinct. This could cause other species to become extinct too. Also losing Honeycreepers could also affect Hawaiian culture because they are an important part of its culture.

The next sentences are about why Honeycreepers are important to me. Honeycreepers are important to me because if they become extinct it could cause trouble and make other species extinct. I also think they are important because it might make people sad if they go extinct. Hawaiian Honeycreepers are very important because if they were extinct it will be bad for both animals, plants, and humans. Thank you for reading this.

Sincerely,

Cara M. 7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School

I am in support of the Resolution for the Hawaiian HoneycreeperHello my name is Andrew J; I am a 7th grade student at Moanalua middle school and I am in support of the resolution for Hawaiian Honeycreepers. The Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important because they are native birds and a part of our Agriculture and history. The Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important to Hawaii, the environment, etc. They use pollination to spread seeds around and help us (people in the Hawaiian islands) with the insects. The Hawaiian Honeycreepers mean to me is that there are endangered species that need help and there are beautiful birds. The Hawaiian Honeycreepers they're cool, colorful and very helpful. That's why we need to protect them and fix what's happening to them.

Thank you so much for hearing my testimony about Hawaiian Honeycreepers.

Sincerely,

Andrew.J 7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School

Aloha, my name is Allysen Y; I am a 7th grade student at Moanalua Middle School, and I am in support of the resolution for Hawaiian Honeycreepers.

The Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important to Hawaii and the environment. They are endemic species to Hawaii, and they are going extinct so we can't get them back. The Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important to the environment because they all play different roles to help our environment. For example, they help our native plants and they are pollinators. They also keep insects in control. Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important to Hawaii and our environment, but they are also important to me.

The Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important to me because they are a part of Hawaiian culture. They would use their feathers for capes, and hats. They also are a natural beauty and are very vibrant in color. There are only 17 species remaining of the Hawaiian Honeycreeper, and I don't want to lose a native species of Hawaii. If we don't do anything to help the honeycreepers, you may never see them again.

Thank you for taking the time to read my testimony for the Hawaiian Honeycreepers. Sincerely,

Allysen Y., 7th grade, Moanalua Middle School

Aloha, my name is Zina C; I am a 7th grade student at Moanalua Middle School and I am

in support of the Resolution for the Hawaiian Honeycreeper.

The Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important to Hawaii because they level the biodiversity,

and are native to here. The Honeycreepers level the biodiversity by keeping insect populations in

check and pollinating our flowers. The I'iwi, one of the Honeycreeper species, pollinates our

flowers. The Honeycreepers were native to Hawaii for centuries, their feathers were used for our

kings' capes. When these are the points for the importance of Honeycreepers to Hawaii, these are

the points why the Honeycreepers are important to me.

The Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important to me because they represent Hawaii, and

they hold Hawaii as a special place. The Hawaiian Honeycreepers are one of a kind (pretty), just

like Hawaii. Hawaiian Honeycreepers are like the glue that holds Hawaii as a special place.

Honeycreepers play important roles in Hawaii. They make our forests thrive and look beautiful.

Thank you for reading my testimony for Hawaiian Honeycreepers.

Sincerely,

Zina C, 7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School

Aloha, my name is Vanessa H and I am in support of the Resolution for the Hawaiian Honeycreeper.

The Hawaiian Honeycreeper is important to Hawaii because the Hawaiian Honeycreeper plays a vital role in the culture and environment of Hawaiians. The Hawaiian Honeycreeper kept native plants alive and kept the history of Hawaii alive. The Hawaiian Honeycreeper was considered a spiritual guide for families in Hawaiian culture, and their feathers represent symbols of power. Honeycreepers have been around for a long time and play an important role in Hawaii. This is why Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important to Hawaii and they are important to me.

The Hawaiian Honeycreeper is important to me because it helps keep unique native plants alive by pollinating them and keeps the insect population under control. Hawaiian Honeycreepers also have unique feathers, and calls. Finally, the Hawaiian Honeycreeper is apart of Hawaiian history. If Hawaiian Honeycreepers went extinct, who would pollinate our plants?

Thank you for taking the time to read my testimony for the Hawaiian Honeycreeper.

Sincerely,

Vanessa H, 7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School

Aloha, My name is Thomas N, and I am currently residing in Moanalua Middle School, and I am in support of The Resolution for the Hawaiian Honeycreeper.

I believe that the Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important to Hawaiians and their culture. Without the honeycreepers, a big part of the Hawaiian culture is erased. The reason why they are an important asset of the Hawaiian culture is because in the old days, they did a multitude of things, such as singing songs to the native Hawaiians and their feathers being used for accessories such as capes and helmets for higher-up chiefs and kings. These birds also aided in the growth of plants. Finally, we should also take into account the number of species remaining. There used to be more than 100 species of honeycreepers thriving, but now only less than 17 species exist because of how vulnerable they are to death, because they can possibly die from one mosquito bite due to how bad their immune system is.

While on the discussion of the importance of the Hawaiian Honeycreepers towards Hawaii's culture, this species resonates with me. To me, these honeycreepers are important to me for several reasons. One of the reasons are the variety of colors they can come in, such as green, red, orange, and many other colors, and the fact that they aid in the growth of plants makes it even more important Another reason why the Hawaiian Honeycreeper resonates with me is because of their importance to Hawaiian culture. I am determined to help the creation of making the Hawaiian Honeycreeper our state bird.

Thank you for taking the time to read this testimony for the Hawaiian Honeycreeper. Sincerely,

Thomas N. 7th Grade Moanalua Middle School

Aloha, my name is Skyler M. I am a 7th grader currently attending Moanalua Middle School, and I am in support of the Resolution for the Hawaiian Honeycreeper.

Honeycreepers are essential for us residents. Hawaiians, and to the environment and culture of Hawaii. WIthout them, Hawaii's beautiful wildlife would be critically in danger, and the plants could possibly—most likely—go extinct as well. They're also important to the culture of Hawaii. The absence of honeycreepers is; like missing a puzzle piece; they make Hawaii feel like Hawaii. Did you know that a 100 years ago, there used to be over 50 species of honeycreepers; however, in 2023, we only have less than one-third of it. If we keep harming them, we might drive them into extinction and lose the beauty that they have in Hawaii which I hope never happens. On the discussion of how it can be essential to others, I also believe that they affect me as well.

I feel that the Honeycreeper is important to me because I would feel really bad for the native Hawaiians. I grew up here in Hawaii and I've always admired how much they care for their islands and culture. To themselves, the Honeycreeper is like family; a spiritual guide. Their feathers were used to make capes and helmets for chiefs, and sang songs to them which absolutely fascinate me. They also regulate and keep the insect population in check, and I'm thankful for them because insects are gross! I remember seeing a Honeycreeper while hiking and they were so beautiful.

Thank you for taking the time to read my testimony about Hawaiian Honeycreepers. Sincerely,

Skyler M. 7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School

Hello, my name is Scarlett; I am a student from Moanalua Middle School and I am in

support of the Resolution for the Hawaiian Honeycreeper.

The Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important because they are a major part of Hawaii's

ecosystems and culture. An example of this is, how they help the pollination process in our

environment; spreading pollen when collecting nectar. Honeycreepers also keep the insect

population in control by eating the bugs. Lastly, they are a part of Hawaii and our nature. They

are important to us and deserve the attention needed to help them survive. These birds are not

only important to Hawaii, but also to people like me who care about nature.

The Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important to me because I admire and love all nature.

They have many different and beautiful forms. Seeing their populations decrease due to things

like, diseases from mosquitoes and climate change, is disheartening. Preserving these birds

should be a goal for us. Especially considering how important they are to our ecosystems. The

Hawaiian Honeycreepers have been a part of Hawaii for so long that it would be a shame if we

failed to protect them.

Thank you for reading my testament for the Hawaiian Honeycreeper.

Sincerely,

Scarlett S., 7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School

Aloha, my name is Ryan K; I am a 7th grader at Moanalua Middle School, and I am in support of the Resolution for the Hawaiian Honeycreeper,

Hawaiian Honeycreepers have a variety of impacts including culture and pollination. Hawaiian Honeycreepers are an important element of our Hawiian culture. They reflect on spiritual tradition and serve as a guide for our family's lifestyle. Honeycreepers help plants grow by pollinating them. This is a necessity because it spreads out plant seeds without the need to compete with other seeds. Even though Hawaiian Honeycreepers are key to Hawaii, they are also relevant to me.

Hawaiian Honeycreepers matter to me because they are pollinators. This is important because, when Honeycreepers visit flowers and plants they deliver pollin to that plant. This is crucial because pollen helps plants reproduce. Honeycreepers also eat insects; which dresses the number of pests. This is why Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important and why we should protect them.

Thank you for reading my testimony on Hawaiian Honeycreepers.

Sincerely,

Ryan K, 7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School

Hello my name is Robert O; I am a 7th grader attending Moanalua Middle School, and I support the Resolution for the Hawaiian Honeycreeper.

The Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important as a relic of ancient Hawaiian culture. The Honeycreepers feathers were used to make high chiefs and kings helmets or capes. These are also an endangered species, some of them are extinct already! We want them to stick around because, once they're gone; they're gone for good. Finally, Hawaiian Honeycreepers keep Hawaii's environment in balance. That's why I think the Hawaiian Honeycreepers should be saved.

I like the Honeycreepers, but do you know what they mean to me? They're starting to become a big deal in Hawaii, as they're trying to make it the state bird. But, I personally respect all the grit Hawaii is going through to save them. Hawaii's determination to save this bird is honorable, and that's what moves me. I hope everything works out for us and the Honeycreepers, and I hope this shows how much the Hawaiian Honeycreeper means to me.

Thank you for reading my testimony for the Hawaiian Honeycreepers.

Sincerely,

Robert O., 7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School

Hi, my name is Renee C; I am a Moanalua 7th-grade middle schooler, and I am in support of the Resolution for the Hawaiian Honeycreeper.

Hawaiian Honeycreepers play an important role in Hawaii's environment and history.

Honeycreepers contain a lot of history, ancient Hawaiian leaders wore capes made of their feathers. Environment, honeycreepers pollinate endemic plants and spread their seeds. Lastly, our Hawaiian Honeycreepers can only be found on our islands so it makes it more important than ever to save these birds. Hawaiian honeycreepers are very important to Hawaii, as well as to me.

The Hawaiian Honeycreepers means a lot to me. They help our land spread its endemic plants and they make our forests and mountains lively. Because these birds are disappearing, I know that lots of endemic plants are also disappearing as well. Hawaii's plants are very special; it's very important Honeycreepers continue to pollinate these plants because they can only be found here. Now almost every species of Hawaiian Honeycreepers are endangered. Ultimately, Honeycreepers means a lot to me, and saving them also means saving Hawaii's endemic plants.

Thanks for reading my Hawaiian Honeycreepers testimony. I hope you will consider it.

Sincerely,

Renee C., 7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School

Aloha, my name is Rachel L; I am a 7th grader at Moanalua Middle School, and I am in support of the Resolution for the Hawaiian Honeycreeper.

The hawaiian honeycreeper are important to the island because they are native, they help pollinate, and they eat bugs. If the honeycreeper went extinct, there won't be as many birds to pollinate the flowers. There will also be more bugs, because the honeycreepers won't be there to eat them. The honeycreepers are native, and some species of honeycreepers are already extinct. When people first started coming to Hawaii,they brought diseases and mosquitoes, that's killing the honeycreepers. If we don't act quick and spread awareness, they can all go extinct. This is why Hawaiian honeycreepers are important to the island, but they are also important to me.

Hawaiian honeycreepers are important to me because they pollinate, help the environment, and they are part of history. The hawaiian honeycreepers pollinates the flowers and plants on this island. The honeycreepers also live in the forest so if they went extinct, the forest would be really quiet. The history of Hawaiian Honeycreepers go way back 7.2 million years ago where 1 species of honeycreeper turned into 50.

Thank you for taking the time to read my testimony for Hawaiian honeycreepers. Sincerely,

Rachel L., 7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School

Aloha, my name is Paige P; I am a 7th grade student at Moanalua Middle School, and I am in support of the Resolution for Hawaiian Honeycreepers.

The Hawaiian Honeycreeper is important to Hawaii because they can pollinate our native plants and help our ecosystems flourish. The Honeycreepers also play crucial parts in our culture and history. They are only native to Hawaii, and their feathers were used to make capes for the Ali'i. Lastly, I think our island would just feel different without the Honeycreepers. While the Hawaiian Honeycreepers play roles in our lives on the island, they can also play roles in people's lives.

Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important to our island and also important to me. Growing up, I always found birds fascinating. I would take pictures of them and pet them. I only recently learned of the Honeycreepers, but I feel concerned for them. I personally feel like, if we don't do anything to help, things will only get worse. Our Honeycreepers and our islands need our help, and there's so many things we can do for them.

Mahalo for reading my testimony for Hawaiian Honeycreepers.

Sincerely,

Paige P, 7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School

Aloha my name is Nicole .V; I am a 7th grade student at Moanalua Middle school, and I am in support of the Resolution for the Hawaiian Honeycreeper.

The Hawaiian Honeycreeper is a very crucial part of Hawaii's environment and culture. Without them, local plants and forests would die out. Without local forests, rain water will go straight into the ground causing erosion. Also, part of our cultural connection to ancient Hawaii will be lost. Honeycreepers were very important and were used in Hawaiian feather work. However, they aren't just important to Hawaii, they are also important to me.

Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important to me for multiple reasons. Hawaiian Honeycreepers are endemic to Hawaii so once they are lost, we can't get them back. How they evolved and got to Hawaii in the first place is so interesting. I am very fond of wildlife and would hate to see the Hawaiian Honeycreeper go. They are so beautiful and so are the plants they help keep alive. Don't let the Hawaiian Honeycreeper die out, Hawaii would never be the same without them.

Thank you for taking the time to read my testimony for the Hawaiian Honeycreeper.

Sincerely,

Nicole V., 7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School

Aloha, my name is Makayla S; I am a 7th grade student at Moanalua Middle School, and I am in support of the Resolution for the Hawaiian Honeycreepers.

The Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important to Hawaiian culture, environment, and history. They are very helpful with the environment by pollinating plants. They're very loved animals, who have been a part of the locals' lives. The Hawaiian Honeycreepers contain lots of history throughout the years. Their feathers are a symbol of power which gives the Hawaiian culture and beliefs the power from their feathers. As a result, they are very important to the environment and people.

Although, the Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important to me because, I was born and raised in Hawaii. They are a part of where I live and I want the best for them, as they are loved and helpful to the environment. They are very beautiful animals essential to our environment. Hawaiian Honeycreepers are only found in Hawaii, they are loved by the locals. If they go extinct, we would not have these very unique birds a part of the Hawaiian community. All of these years of building relations with everything, being able to save the Honeycreepers are helpful for us and them.

Thank you for listening to testimony about the importance of Hawaiian Honeycreepers. Sincerely,

Makayla S, 7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School

Hello I am Lily C. a student at Moanalua middle school and I am in support of the

Resolution for the Hawaiian Honeycreeper. The Hawaiian honeycreeper is critical to the

Hawaiian islands not only because the species being important to the food chain and the balance

of nature but; also playing a really significant role in the ecosystem with them keeping the bug

population in check and helping our native Hawaiian plants thrive by pollination. They are also

important to many people who appreciate Hawaiian history as the Hawaiian Honeycreepers

feathers were used to make the capes of Hawaiian chiefs and seen as a symbol of spiritual power

and if we were to lose them we would also be losing precious history. The Hawaiian

Honeycreeper is important to me personally because I've grown to love this state and more of its

native plants along with disliking bugs and if it weren't for the Honeycreepers my favorite plants

wouldn't be thriving and the bugs would. Honeycreepers and like many other species (unlike

mosquitos ) are very important to our ecosystem and environment and it's our responsibility to

help and protect them. Thank you for reading this testimony on Hawaiian Honeycreepers.

Sincerely,

Lily C., 7th Grade, Moanalua Middle school

Aloha, my name is Kendra A.; I am a 7th grade student at Moanalua Middle School, and

"I am in support of the Resolution for the Hawaiian Honeycreeper.

The Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important to Hawaii because for one thay are native

because they are only found on Hawaiian Islands. Secondly, they give us water to drink or

simply to cook food with, the process of this is the honeycreeper pollinates flowers, when it

rains, water flows down the trees and onto the ground. It takes 25 years for water to get

underground. Then we go through the water cycle. Finally, we have fresh water to utilize. In

conclusion, the Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important to Hawaii because they give us fresh

water to drink.

The Hawaiian Honeycreeper is Important to me because without them we would be dead

because we need water and food, to survive. Without the Hawaiian Honeycreeper, we wouldn't

have the furry animals we have today. I can't imagine the feeling without my family or my pets

either. I will always love the Hawaiian Honeycreepers.

Sincerely,

Kendra A., 7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School

Aloha,my name is Keira F; I am in support of the Resolution for the Hawaiian Honeycreeper

The Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important to Hawaii ecosystem. They help keep the native Hawaiian plants flourish and spread. The Hawaiian Honeycreepers are native to Hawaii and once they are extinct, they will be gone forever. Some native plants might also go extinct with the loss of Honeycreepers. The feathers were used to make lei's and many other important things and are important to Hawaiian culture.

While the Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important to Hawaii it is also important to me because the Hawaiian Honeycreepers are such beautiful birds. If the Hawaiian Honeycreepers go extinct, then some of the beautiful native plants would also go extinct. Honeycreepers help pollinate plants. The Hawaiian Honeycreepers are really important to Hawaii and to me and they need to be saved from extinction. Thank you for taking the time to read my testimony for the Hawaiian Honeycreepers.

Sincerely,

Keira F, 7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School

Aloha, my name is Joanna; I am a 7th grader at Moanalua Middle School and I am in support of the Resolution for the Hawaiian Honeycreeper.

The Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important to the culture of Hawaii. Firstly, Hawaiian Honeycreepers only exist in Hawaii and they have a special place in the hearts of the Hawaiians. The Honeycreepers are like a unique gift to both Hawaii and Hawaiians. Hawaiians are known to have lots of history with the Honeycreepers ever since they arrived in Hawaii. To some families, the birds are considered spiritual guides, and their feathers are symbols of power. The Honeycreepers aren't just important to Hawaiians but to me too.

The Hawaiian Honeycreeper is important to me because they are extinct very quickly. There are dying from diseased from mosquitos, climate changes, invasive species, and carelessness, etc. Honeycreepers can keep the insect population in check; they can also help the growth and health of native plants. Only 17 of the 50 species remain. The Hawaiian Honeycreepers are unique. To sum it up, the Hawaiian Honeycreepers are so important to me, and saving them can also save our environment.

Thank you for reading my testimony about the Hawaiian Honeycreepers. Sincerely,

Joanna Li, 7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School

Hello my name is Hailey G., and I am in support of the Resolution for the Hawaiian Honeycreeper.

The Resolution for the Hawaiian Honeycreepers is extremely important to Hawaii. If the honeycreepers were gone, we would lose native plants that the honeycreepers pollinate and lose plants that help stabilize erosion. If that happens, other plants that influence erosion will take over and cause mass erosion. Then, dirt and rocks will fall into our reefs, killing our fish, and limiting our drinking water. Our honeycreepers are important to hawaii. Now, I can give you some reasons why they are important to me.

The biggest reason I find the honeycreepers important to me is because of the cultural and historical impact of our honeycreepers. I think that culture is one thing that is very important. Our honeycreepers are seen as spiritual guides to families. This makes me want to protect them all - the - more. The honeycreepers arrived on earth 7.2 million years ago. All of their history, their evolution, gone. And in my generation too? Extinction is not something I take lightly. Our honeycreepers are important to so many people; i hope to protect our honeycreepers, and i would like to have you to help complete this goal

Thank you for your time, and consideration for my testimony about the hawaiian honeycreeper; have a lovely day.

Sincerely,

Hailey G., 7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School

Aloha, my name is Eliana S; I am a 7th grade student at Moanalua Middle School, and I

am in support of the Resolution for the Hawaiian Honeycreeper.

The Hawaiian Honeycreeper is important to Hawaii's culture. King Kamehameha wore

the feathers of the mamo bird on his cape, but the mamo bird has gone extinct. I don't know

about you, but I don't want to hear people saying that about the Honeycreepers that are alive

right now in our future.

Culture is very important to not only Hawaii, but me as well. The Honeycreepers are

important to me because they are a part of our culture. Honeycreepers are a beautiful species that

has lived here for so long. They are unique to us, and deserve to be protected and to live on.

Thank you for taking the time to hear my testimony for Hawaiian Honeycreepers.

Sincerely,

Eliana S, 7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School

Aloha, my name is Dana K; I am a 7th grader at Moanalua Middle School, and I am in

support of the Resolution for Hawaiian Honeycreepers. I am in support of the Resolution for the

Hawaiian Honeycreeper.

The Hawaiian Honeycreeper is important to Hawaii's environment. First, the Hawaiian

Honeycreepers help pollinate native plants. Our native forests in Hawaii are slowly dying off, due

to the endangerment of the Hawaiian Honeycreepers. Second, the Hawaiian Honeycreepers have

lived in Hawaii for a long time and they are no other species of Hawaiian Honeycreepers, in any

other place than Hawaii. However, the Hawaiian Honeycreepers are also special to me

The Hawaiian Honeycreeper is important to me because I find it very beautiful. The

Hawaiian Honeycreepers' colors are very vibrant, causing them to stand out more. If the

Hawaiian Honeycreepers go extinct, there will be no more birds that are just as beautiful as

Hawaii's Honeycreepers. The Hawaiian Honeycreepers are unique from their looks to their

sounds, it would be bad if these special birds disappeared from existence.

Sincerely,

Dana K, 7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School

Aloha my name is Chancelor O. I am a 7th grade student currently attending Moanalua Intermediate School and I am in support of the Resolution of the Hawaiian Honeycreeper. I have been concerned about the population of the Hawaiian Honeycreeper. Due to an invasive type of mosquito bite it could cause Avian Malaria, which is devastating to the Hawaiian Honeycreeper population. It is devastating because the honeycreepers dont have the proper immune system to fight the malaria. It is important that we make a move to save the honeycreepers because they are a big part of Hawaiian Culture. They are also important because they can benefit native plants by spreading pollen to one and another.

The Hawaiian honeycreepers are important to me because they are one of the most important things to Hawaiian culture, they were considered spiritual, and they served as spiritual guides for families. Also they help facilitate and grow our native plants and keep them healthy. Finally, their beautiful feathers are symbols of power, and were used to make capes and helmets for native Hawaiians.

If we make a move to save the Hawaiian honeycreeper population there would now be 50+ species like how it was before when their population was thriving.

Mahalo, for taking your time to read my testimony for the Hawaiian Honeycreeper. Sincerely,

Chancelor O., 7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School

Hello, my name is Cassie N; I am a 7th grader at Moanalua Middle School and I am in support of the Resolution for the Hawaiian Honeycreepers.

The Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important because they are essential to Hawaii's ecosystem and Hawaiian history. The Honeycreeper pollinates our plants and helps our ecosystem. The Hawaiian Natives would use the feathers of the 'I'iwi and Mamo's and make attire for chiefs. Finally, they are crucial because they are endemic birds. Hawaiian Honeycreepers are crucial to Hawaii itself, they are also important to me.

The Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important to me because they are such beautiful birds. There are so many species that we have to consider, such as the 'I'iwi and 'Akikiki. They are also important to others on the island, like hikers. There is a chance that they could hear a Honeycreeper chirping. Since they are dying out, the hikers might not experience that. Finally, they also have an important place in my heart as well as others because of how extraordinary they are. This is why they are so crucial to everyone's lives.

Thank you for your time and for reading my testimony for the Hawaiian Honeycreepers Sincerely,

Cassie N, 7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School

Aloha, my name is Bernard F.; I'm a 7th grader from Moanalua Middle School, and I am

in support of the Resolution for Hawaiian honeycreepers.

The Hawaiian honeycreepers are important because Hawaii depends on biodiversity.

They also pollinate the native plants and nature of Hawaii. Additionally, once the species are

extinct, there is no bringing the beautiful native birds back again. The native, endemic species is

very important to Hawaii, but it is also very important to me.

The reason why the birds are important to me is because once the species are extinct, we

can't see the birds ever again. Also they are interesting and fascinating creatures. The reason for

this is because, everytime I hear a fact about the honeycreepers it makes me go wow. An

interesting fact about the honeycreepers is that their beaks are indicators on what they eat.

Thank you for taking the time to read my testimony for the Hawaiian honeycreepers.

Sincerely,

Bernard F., 7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School

Aloha, my name is AJ; I am a 7th grade student at Moanalua Middle School, And I am in support of the Resolution for the Hawaiian Honeycreepers

Hawaiian honeycreepers are important for the environment. First, it's bad for the Honeycreeper to go extinct because, if they go extinct the native trees will die. If the trees die, the forest will flood and dirty water will get into the aquifers. Then, we will have no clean water to drink.

The Hawaiian Honeycreeper is important to me. First, the Honeycreepers help ensure we still have the native trees and good drinking water. Second, we will be losing one of our only native birds. Finally, if they go extinct, some Hawaiian history will be gone because, the ali'i would use this kape made of a lot of their feathers, which was represented his people.

Thank you for your time reading my testimony for the hawaii honeycreepers.

Hello, my name is Allyson K; I am in 7th grade at Moanalua Middle School, and I am in support of the Resolution for the Hawaiian Honeycreeper.

The Honeycreeper is important because it is a part of Hawaii's history, there are also other various reasons like, they help the environment stay healthy. The Honeycreepers all have different beak types; the honeycreepers that have longer, skinnier beaks pollinate. Many flowers in Hawaii need to be pollinated to stay alive. Without the Honeycreepers, those plants and flowers will die. Honeycreepers have been in Hawaii ever since the Hawaiians came, and included them in their stories, songs, and clothing. The Ali'i would have capes and helmets with the bird's feathers. The Honeycreepers aren't only special to Hawaii, but also to me.

The Honeycreepers are important to me because they are a part of our ecosystem. I want to keep our ecosystem alive, healthy, and beautiful. I also feel that living in Hawaii is a special privilege as a military family, and since Honeycreepers are a part of Hawaii, we shouldn't harm anything that was here before us. I think we should help the Honeycreepers because they help Hawaii.

Thank you for taking the time to hear my testimony for the Hawaiian Honeycreepers. Sincerely,

Allyson K, 7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School

Aloha, my name is Brayden, I am a 7th grader at Moanalua middle school, and I am support of the Hawaiian Honeycreepers

Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important to the environment. They are important how well first of all they keep plants intact. They give nectar to the plants and keep them alive. Honeycreepers here are one of a kind, because of the fact Hawaii is an enclosed area. So without them here, there are no plants. This is why they are important to the environment. Now you are wondering what else they do except help the environment, well I'm going to cover it next.

Honeycreepers are important to me, not just the environment. They are important because, without them we wouldn't have oxygen, due to the nectar they give to plants. They also pollinate the plants. Since they pollinate the plants we can have fresh water. This is why honeycreepers are important to me and they should also be important to all of Hawaii, this beautiful island.

Thank you for taking your time and reading my testimony for the Hawaiian Honeycreepers.

Sincerely,

Brayden K, 7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School

Aloha, my name is Derrick Yoshizumi, I'm a 7th grader student at Moanalua Middle School and

I'm in support of the Resolution for Hawaiian Honeycreepers.

The Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important because they are our native native birds. The

Hawaiian Honeycreepers is only found in Hawaii, and nowhere else in the world. Once we lose

them we can't get it back. Also, the Hawaiian Honeycreeper facilitates the growth in height and

improves the health of native plants. Finally, they keep the insect population in check. Since, the

Hawaiian Islands are isolated; there are no nearby bird populations that could replace the

Honeycreepers, if they were all to completely disappear.

The Hawaiian Honeycreeper is important to me as a bird that has great significance.

Honeycreepers help the growth and health of native plants. Also, they are a special bird to me

because they are a native bird to Hawaii. Once we lose the Hawaiian Honeycreeper, we can't get

them back. Finally, the bird is very colorful, and its color varies. As a result, I think the Hawaiian

Honeycreeper is beautiful because it's different/variety of colors make it look stunning. That's

why I support the Hawaiian Honeycreeper.

Thankyou for taking the time to read my testimony about the Hawaiian Honeycreepers.

Sincerely,

Derrick.Y, (Sheila S.), 7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School

Aloha, my name is Dominyc, I am a 7th grade student at Moanalua MIddle School and I am in support of the Resolution for the Hawaiian Honeycreeper.

The Hawaiian Honeycreeper is important to Hawaii because of the environment and Hawaiian culture. Only 1 of 3 Hawaiian Honeycreepers in hawaii. Once they go extinct, it can't return to life. Also, the Hawaiian Honeycreepers are only found in Hawaii and nowhere else.

They are even important to Hawaiian culture because they used the feathers to make capes, helmets, lei, and kahili staff. Therefore, it is important that the Hawaiian Honeycreepers stay in the wild.

The Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important to me in many ways. They are first found bronly in Hawaii and would be bad if they are gone as they do play roles in the forest. Also, they are unique and beautiful with their unique features that helped Hawaiian culture. Hawaiian Honeycreepers help with the environment like flowers by pollution.

Thank You for reading my testimony for Hawaiian Honeycreepers.

Aloha, My name is Eva A, I am a 7th grade student at Moanalua Middle School and I am in support of protecting the Hawaiian Honeycreepers.

Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important to Hawaii, because they help pollinate our plants. A Honeycreeper will take the nectar from a plant and some pollen will get on its forehead. Then, when the Honeycreeper moves to another plant, the pollen will rub onto that plant therefore re-pollinating it. These birds were also a part of Hawaiian history. Their feathers were used to make things like capes. Hawaiians would put a sticky substance like sap on branches. When a Honeycreeper would get on the branch, Hawaiians would pluck a few feathers then let the birds free.

That is why the Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important to Hawaii. Here's why Honeycreepers are important to me. These birds are a source for Hawaii's water. They pollinate the trees which give us the water we can drink. Honeycreepers would mean that I wouldn't see pidgins all the time, because I would focus more on the Honeycreepers. This is because they are more appealing to look at. If the Honeycreeper population went up, then it would give me hope that other endangered animals can be saved too.

Thank you for reading my testimony for the Hawaiian Honeycreepers.

Thank You,

Eva A.

Aloha, my name is Ezra; I am a 7th grader from Moanalua Middle school, and I am in support of the resolution for Hawaiian Honeycreepers.

The honeycreeper is important to Hawaii because they are native to Hawaii. They can not be found anywhere else in the world except our islands. This means we should be extra careful and prevent them from going extinct. They are also very good for our environment, as they help our native plants grow healthy. Without these birds, most of our native plants would already be extinct.

The honeycreeper are important to me because in my eyes, these birds are crucial to our island. For example, they pollinate our plants to keep them healthy, and those native plants give us oxygen. It is a whole cycle! Honeycreepers are also important to me because of the deep connection I have with them. I love the honeycreepers because of how majestical they are. I mean, there are 50 unique species of honeycreepers and it's amazing to see all their unique traits. These are all the reasons why I am in support of the resolution for Hawaiian Honeycreepers.

Sincerely,

Ezra B, 7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School

Hello, my name is Hailey I.; I'm a 7th grader at Moanalua Middle School, and I am in support of the Resolution for the Hawaiian Honeycreeper.

The Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important to Hawai'i because they help pollinate native plants/flowers. If the Hawaiian Honeycreepers were to go extinct, our native plants would die, and rainwater would rush down Hawai'i's invasive plants and send dirt into our streams and ocean. Without this process, our water aquifers will not receive and collect water and Hawai'i won't have much of a water source anymore. That is why Hawaiian Honeycreepers are vital to Hawai'i's ecosystem.

The Hawaiian Honeycreeper is important to me because I want my little sister to see a Hawaiian Honeycreeper. The Hawaiian Honeycreepers are a part of my sister's culture, and I want her to know what they do for her culture. I want to help the Hawaiian Honeycreepers because they can't help themselves. Writing this testimony means a lot to me, as I am a role-model for my siblings. I know I helped make a difference in helping these important birds.

Thank you for taking the time to hear my testimony for the Hawaiian Honeycreepers. Sincerely,

Hailey I., 7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School

Aloha,my name is Jessica.X; I am a 7th grader at Moanalua Middle School and I am in support of the Resolution for the Hawaiian Honeycreeper.

The Hawaiian Honeycreeper is important to Hawai'i because The Honeycreepers pollinate the endangered flowers that are about to be extinct. The Honeycreepers have and will always have a special place in the hearts of the Hawaiians and the native Hawaiians. The Hawaiians thought that the Hawaiian Honeycreepers were considered spiritual guides for families. Their feathers were also used for making native Hawaiian's cloaks for the high chiefs, they made helmets, leis and hair pieces or helmets which were symbols of power. While the Honeycreeper is important to Hawai'i, it is also important to me.

The reason why the Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important to me is because I would like to see the Honeycreepers in person, not on a phone or computer screen. I would love to go outside and see more of them in forests and in the sky. I would love to see them thrive without the invasive species harming them and I want to see more of this bird because they are only found here in Hawai'i. I will do my part to help support the Hawaiian Honeycreeper and I want to help protect the species of the Hawaiian Honeycreeper.

Thank you for taking the time to read my Testimony for the Hawaiian Honeycreeper.

Mahalo.

Sincerely,

Jessica .X, 7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School

"Aloha, my name is Joseph.K; I am a 7th grader at Moanalua Middle School, and I am in support of the Resolution for the Hawaiian Honeycreeper.

Honeycreepers are important to Hawaii's environment and culture. It pollinates many endangered species of flowers. Also, Honeycreepers also helps by making more flowers for different bird or insects. The Hawaiian Honeycreeper is important because it pollinates trees which makes more plants and slows water flow from rainfall. Many Hawaiians use its feathers to make clothes for chiefs. It's really important to Hawaii, but it is also important to me.

.The Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important because the birds look very colorful.

Another reason it is important to me is because it makes clean water by stopping water flow from rushing too fast. It is also important to me because it makes flowers for my favorite animal, the bee. Next reason it is important for me is because it is an endemic bird to Hawaii. My last reason is important to me because they have many uses in Hawaii like making endangered flowers flourish. This is all the reason that we are in support of the Resolution for the Hawaiian Honeycreeper.

. Thankyou for taking the time to read my testimony for the Hawaiian Honeycreeper

Sincerely, Joseph.K, 7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School

Hello, my name is Kierin L. I am a 7th grader from Moanalua Middle School. I am in full support of the resolution for Hawaiian Honeycreepers.

Why the Hawaiian Honeycreeper is important. The Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important because they are native to Hawaii. Hawaiian Honeycreepers can only be found in Hawaii, and Hawaiian Honeycreepers are losing their numbers and may go extinct. For example there are only \(\frac{1}{3}\) of the Hawaiian Honeycreepers there used to be today. Another example is their History and culture in Hawaii. Hawaiian Honeycreepers are a part of Hawaii's culture because of the clothing Hawaiians used to make using Hawaiian Honeycreeper feathers. Finally, with the loss of a species or Hawaiian Honeycreepers a ecosystem loses its diversity or in simple terms health. Why Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important to me. First, the Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important to me because of their symbolism of Hawaiian History and culture. Hawaiian Honeycreepers have been a part of Hawaii's history for millions of years. Another reason they are important to me is because of their scarcity. The reason their scarcity is important to me is because rare animals have higher chances of going extinct, and I think that the extinction of Hawaiian Honeycreepers would affect Hawaii's history, culture, lifestyle and ecosystem.

I would like to thank you for reading my testament for Hawaiian Honeycreepers. I hope you have a wonderful day.

Sincerely, Kierin L a 7th grade student at Moanalua Middle School.

Aloha, my name is Landon; I am a 7th grader at Moanalua middle school

And "I am in support of the Resolution for the Hawaiian Honeycreeper", The Hawaiian Honeycreeper is important to Hawaii because they are a part of the culture.

They are beautiful birds and they all have different personalities. The Hawaiian Honeycreepers have different jobs, like the I'iwi It is a pollinator and the other Honeycreepers too. There are other jobs like the exterminator it cleans the kills unwanted bugs, the cleaner that clears the trees of bugs, and the sweepers that clean the forest floor.

The Honeycreeper is important to me because they are a beautiful bird; they have a wide variety of colors. They are super cool, and with how they move and how they act; they move tree to tree and they make noises and chirp and move very swiftly around the trees. They are also important to me because they are fascinating in so many ways. That is why i support the Honeycreeper of Hawaii.

Thankyou for your time to reed my testimony for the Hawaiian Honeycreeper, Sincerely, Landon.

Landon. L 7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School.

Aloha, my name is Levi T.; I am a 7th grader at Moanalua Middle School and I am in support of the Resolution for the Hawaiian Honeycreeper.

Honeycreepers are one of our first species to live in Hawaii. If we help them they can forever stay on these islands! In the Native Hawaiian culture, the birds are considered spiritual guides for families. Their feathers are the symbol of power. Honeycreepers help the growth and health of native plants. Without Honeycreepers, some of our native plants would go extinct. What do you think?

The Honeycreepers are important to me in a couple of ways. I lived in Hawaii my whole life, so I have a lot of love for our island. Like I mentioned earlier, Honeycreepers are spiritual guides for families. This means a lot to people! Honeycreepers help our water to be drinkable and help the growth and health of our native plants. That's the most important thing to me because it gives us food and resources.

Thank you for taking the time to listen to my testimony, mahalo. Sincerely,

Levi T., 7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School

Aloha, my name is Lizelle T. I am a 7th grade student at Moanalua Middle School, I am

in support of the Resolution for the Hawaiian Honeycreeper.

The Honeycreeper is important to Hawaii because they're native birds and they're

important in Hawaiian culture. In Hawaiian culture, the birds are considered 'aumakua (spiritual

guides) for families. Their feathers are symbols of power and are used for adornment. We can not

let these native birds go into extinction. While the honeycreepers are the native birds of Hawaii,

they are also important for other reasons.

The Hawaiian Honeycreeper means a lot to me because they help the environment. The

Honeycreepers play an important role in the environment. They pollinate native plants and keep

the insect population under control. There will not be more birds to replace them in the

environment if they completely disappear. If we lose these birds we are losing part of Hawaii.

Thank you for taking the time to hear my testimony for Hawaiian Honeycreepers.

Sincerely,

Lizelle T., 7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School

Aloha, my name is Marshawn.W; I am a 7th grade student at Moanalua Middle school,

and I am in support of the resolution for Hawaiian Honeycreepers.

Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important to Hawaii's environment, culture, and ecosystem.

Hawaii Honeycreepers are important to their ecosystem because they provide healthy growth to

Hawaii's native plants. Hawaii's environment is very big and beautiful, Hawaiian honeycreepers

help keep it this way because they pollinate native plants and eat invasive bugs. Hawaiian

Honeycreepers played a small role in Hawaii's culture; they represented symbols, and their

feathers were used to make cloaks and other things like Hawaiian helmets. Though Hawaiian

Honeycreepers are important to Hawaii, They are also important to me.

Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important to me because they are beautiful birds. Seeing

less of them means seeing less of their beauty. Hawaiian Honeycreepers are disappearing, and

some are going extinct. I don't want to be a part of, or at fault for, the Hawaiian honeycreepers

going extinct. Hawaiian Honeycreepers can only be found in Hawaii, I don't want them to go

extinct because they are so unique. I love all species and knowing that I can help the Hawaiian

Honeycreepers makes me feel good. Hawaiian Honeycreepers are beautiful animals and if we

don't do anything to help them they may go extinct. Will you do something about it?

Thank you, for reading my testimony for the Hawaiian Honeycreepers.

Sincerely,

Marshawn.W

7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School

Hello! My name is Olivia S., I am a 7th grader at Moanalua Middle School, and I am in support of the Resolution for the Hawaiian Honeycreeper.

The Hawaiian Honeycreeper is an important aspect to Hawaii's culture and environment. The Honeycreepers help keep our environment healthy, by helping to pollinate and keep our Native Hawaiian species alive. They also keep Hawaii unique to other places. For example, Hawaii's Honeycreepers are endemic so they can't be found anywhere else then here in Hawaii. Therefore, without the Honeycreepers, Hawaii would never be the same.

To me, the Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important because they are a part of Hawaii's history. The Native Hawaiians used these bird's feathers to make mahiole and capes for the royals, which was vital to the people of old Hawaii. Imagine what the Native Hawaiians would have done without these birds. Keeping the Hawaiian Honeycreepers would be very special to Hawaii's culture.

Thank you so much for taking your time to read my testimony for the Hawaiian Honeycreeper.

Sincerely,

Olivia S, 7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School

Aloha, my name is Robert M. I'm a 7th grade student at Moanalua Middle School ,and i support the Hawaiian Honey Creeper.

The honey creeper is important to Hawaii because it's part of the state and this is one of the reasons people come to Hawaii. It's also because it can show one of Hawaii's greatest things because it's unique because, it can only be found in Hawaii. So it can also be important to Hawaii because they want to keep their birds alive and Healthy.

So the reasons why Hawaiian Honey Creeper is important to me is because the the lifestyle of Hawaii and not seeing their native birds when they think of Hawaii and its nature is sad. Also if native birds all went extinct they wasted a lot of money and resources to try and save it.

And finally it's important to me because (A little thing you don't know me is i like bird watching sometimes) so if bird watchers come to hawaii to see their native birds their going disappointed when they find out they all went extinct.

So that is going to conclude my teshima for Hawaiian HoneyCreeper thankyou for reading and will see you next time

Sincerely Robert M

Aloha, my name is Saige C, I am in support of the Resolution for the Hawaiian Honeycreepers.

The Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important to Hawaii because of the impact they have on the environment and culture of Hawaii. Honeycreepers help to keep the insect population in control. A way these unique birds are important to Hawaiian culture is by being birds of great significance. Hawaiian Honeycreepers are also important because long ago Hawaiians used the feathers of these birds to make cloaks for the Ali'i. This is why these birds are important to Hawaii.

Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important to me because they are beautiful and unique birds. I enjoy learning about Honeycreepers and being able to see these birds. It would be sad if the Honeycreepers went extinct. Everyone deserves to see these beautiful birds.

Thank you for taking the time to read my testimony for the Hawaiian Honeycreepers.

Sincerely,

Saige C., 7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School

Hello, my name is Serenity F.S.; I am a 7th grade student from Moanalua Middle School, and I support the Resolution for the Hawaiian Honeycreepers.

The Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important to the environment, and others of Hawaii. The native birds also help the growth and health of the native plants. Their feathers were used to make capes, helmets, leis, and kahili staff. The Honeycreepers were even made into mete, oli, hula, and mo'olelo. Some of the birds were known to be as 'aumakua species. An interesting fact, that makes the Honeycreepers important, is that the Hawaiian Honeycreepers are only found on Hawaii, so once we lose them, we can't get them back. While the Honeycreeper is important to Hawaii, it is also important to me.

Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important to me because, I believe, that Hawaiian Honeycreepers are unique birds. They also don't do any harm to the environment. I wouldn't want to feel guilty about not helping and not supporting them; knowing they're harmless and that we're basically killing them for no reason. I find the Honeycreepers very interesting, since their feathers were used to the Hawaiian's objects. They are very cute and much better looking than the birds we see on a daily basis. I realized that the honeycreepers are a very important existence and that they deserve to be alive.

Thank you for taking the time to read my testimony, regarding the Hawaiian Honeycreepers.

Sincerely,

Serenity F.S., 7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School

Aloha, my name is Susan N.; I am a 7th grade at Moanalua Middle School, and I am in support of the Resolution for the Hawaiian Honeycreeper.

The Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important to Hawaii because they are only found in Hawaii. Honeycreepers help grow native plants, without the Honeycreepers, our island would have less native plants. Without them, humans and animals will have no fresh water, and if the ocean is polluted; the ocean animals will die. Lastly, they are part of the Native Hawaiian culture because the feathers were used to make capes and are seen as powerful; we can't ruin the culture of Hawaii. While the Honeycreepers are important to Hawaii, it also means to me a lot.

The Honeycreepers mean a lot to me because they represent family and beauty. Family is important; they help each other and care for each other and Honeycreepers do the same with the ecosystem. Honeycreepers also have beautiful looks and voices, and are used for songs, poems, music, art, etc. The remaining Honeycreepers are in serious danger, and are facing extinction. We should work together to solve these problems.

Thank you for taking the time to hear my testimony for the Hawaiian Honeycreepers. Sincerely,

Susan N., 7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School

Aloha, my name is Yedzell D.; I am a 7th grade student at Moanalua Middle school, and I am in support of the Resolution for the Hawaiian Honeycreeper.

The Hawaiian Honeycreeper is important to the Hawaiian environment because they are native to Hawaii. Once we lose the Honeycreepers, we can not get them back. Honeycreepers help facilitate health and growth for the native Hawaiian plants. Therefore, without the Honeycreepers Hawaii will lose more, native nature.

The Hawaiian Honeycreeper is important to me because Hawaii is my home. Even though I'm not Hawaiian by blood, I still respect the Hawaiian culture as my own. In Hawaiian culture, Honeycreepers are appraised as spiritual guides for families; their feathers are also a symbol of power. Without the honeycreepers the native plants will become extinct.

Mahalo for your time, I hope you take my testimony for the Hawaiian Honeycreeper into consideration.

Sincerely,

Yedzell D, 7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School









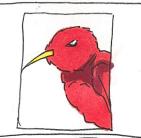




Im doing a testimony on the Hawaiian native honey-creeper teaustheyare critically end angered.

testimony is a formal itten spoken statement at is usually given in a court of law.















not only the noneycreepers are helping our ecosystem out they are a control of the food chain, if they cie, then other animals will be at risk



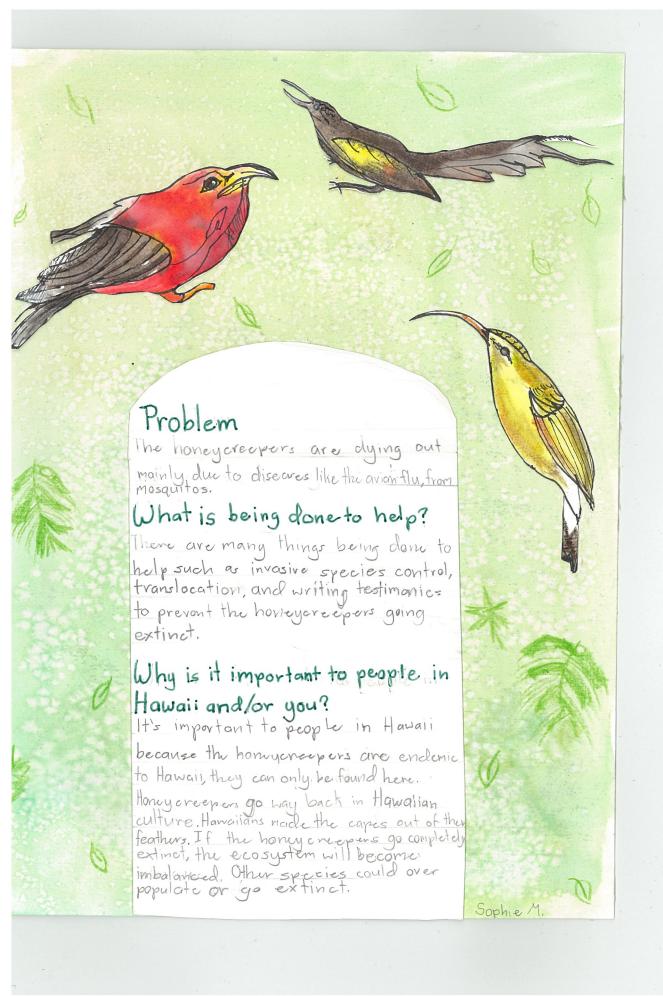
Wow Gege? You're so smart?











what is the problem? our problem is that we are Slowing going extinct due to people cutting down our nabitats. We live in 0 Horests and without our homes it is very dangerous because we

have no where to stay.

what is the impasion of animals and porablems insects are narming us honeycreepers These Species include misquitoes, rats, and so much move unat are in change of the extinction of noneyoreepers.

did this problem occur?

nis problem accured because peake in skil sm trout seek unde this they cut down our nomes, some ive in specific matural forest national superior to the startion of adviculture but heneyorepers oven-PRINCIPALED THENE AND THEN 10026 "

## 134 NOT MPS n

top cutting down trees. Animals are lasting wheir homes for our needs.

Haldtat Restaration is an organization lat gets animals/nonevoleters a new ome to return too.

- Have a fundraiser or talk

about it with your friends

y 15 it a problem to Hawaii and you?

is habitat loss is important to s and our island because our meyoreepers are native to just ir island. It people keep

my cholophy down trop 95 well that work be good for none-treepers and other animals, Lastly, they will have no other nome.

How did this proplem occurs

that occurs with misquinces are a #1 Inreat. Mosquitoes are the main reason they are extinct. Mosquitoes are so had beaduse they have wian Maiana that is spread from them. This creates death for our blyds.

HOW CON YOU WEND?

-scientists have thought of an idea to relase a certain type of male mbquitoes (because males don't bite) that do not bite honeycreepers. -Invasive species courtouveduce sobulations of some matter special to protect and enhance -kesearch mays to help and learn.

why is it a problem to havali and take

toosing our birds to misquitoes is our problem too because we also get bit by maguitoes, but its much more serious tobirds. Loosing our birds can lead to many said ansenguences in Hawaii

Mistory, and loctly mountoes will increase and binds will decrease.

THE WOOD WITH THE problem is honeycreepers Hing spread with diseases, include Anemia which to do with blood cells amian malania again, inion is from masquitoes.



did this prodem occur? ie diseases occurred when whoes bile honeytreepers they get a dispase called in Malaria. The disease wia, is not good because make animals sad or o present confind them to 0 0 0 0 0 6 . . .

an wou help?

again scientists are using male masquitoes to help bitting emal. asive species control and An control for maquitoes ns the visit of none-creepers icting. o our binds be stress free.

is a problem to Hawaii) t myself because that ms we are loosing our lture and island of life. diseases might also spread exper animals causing mem to go extinct as well.

what is the problem?

The problem is climate schange. while growing sup our native birds have learned to live in forests but now that the weathor has changed mosquitoes nowe found a way to bite move honey overber

How did this problem occur?

while the weather may be slowly getting hoter and numid misquibes have found a way to come to the Grests. The move dimote change me more masquitoes. the forests that were once tree from misquitoes are now filled with them Hungry and 18004

Howcan you help?

- Captive breeding helps keep animals in a safe blace amon from extinican.

Thursive species control helps protect motive animals/honeverespor Adm predators - conholing / use fence s / trapping

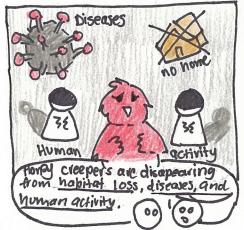
it a problem to namail and you may is that problem to thawait and you?

Problem to Hawaii and us because climate change 15 not good for anyone and an harm all ef us. In conclusion our naver cheepers extinct will not be good for culture and

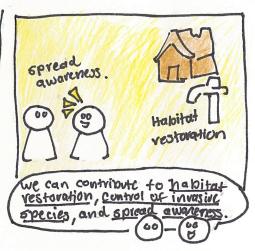
Scholycomi stipume

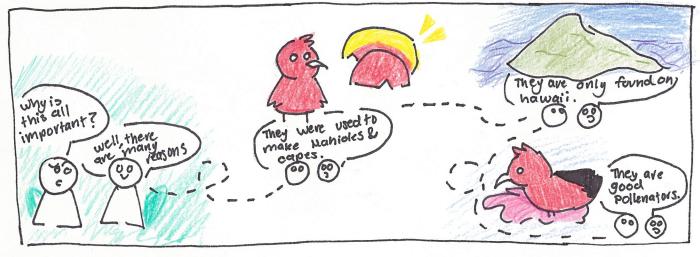










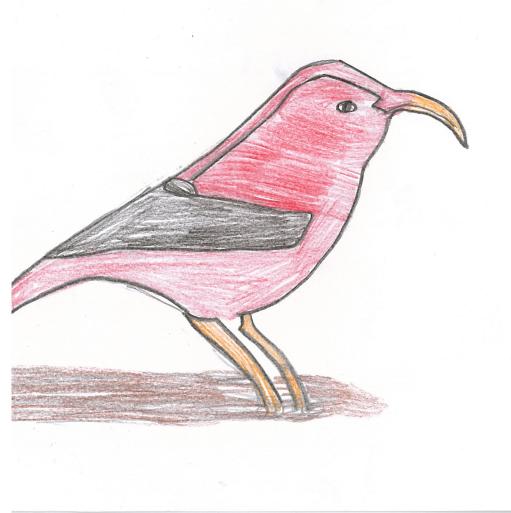






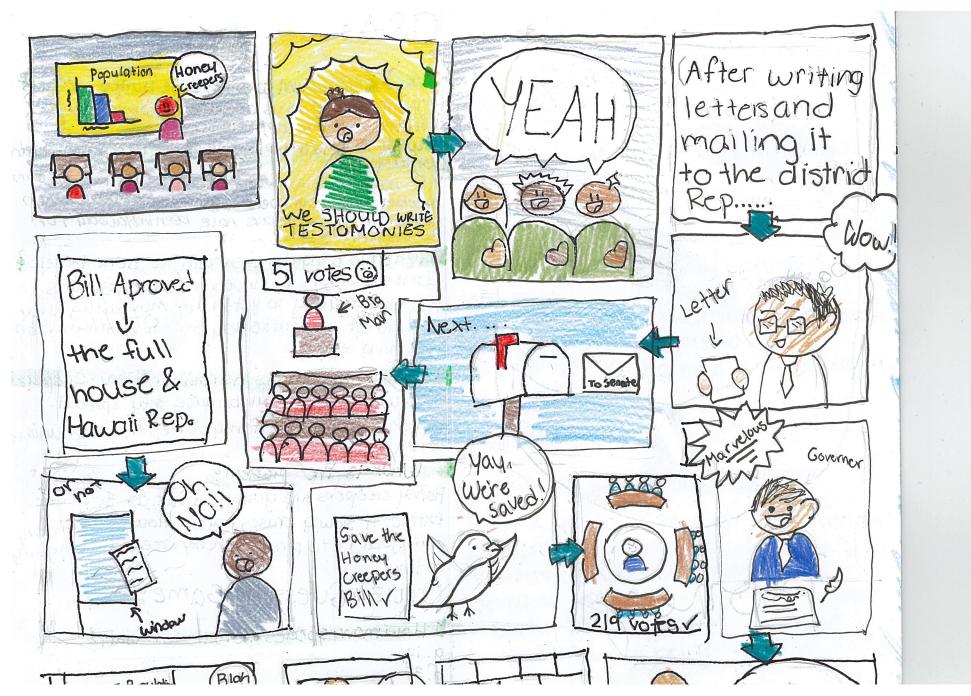
re Howaiion Honeycreepers are endangered and close to extinction. The problem is the notive trees are getting mixed with non-rive trees. The Hawaiian honeycreepers have to move up but the sequitors are moving up with them and some are olying. So ientist are coming up with a virus called wolbachia which es in male mosquitors. Also after you hike you can make sure, seeds are on your shoes. You can make sure there is still water because that when mosquitors lay eggs. In howaiian honeycreepers are important because it is waiian culture. The hawaiians also used its feathers is a symbol of power. Also the birds are considered piritual guids for families.

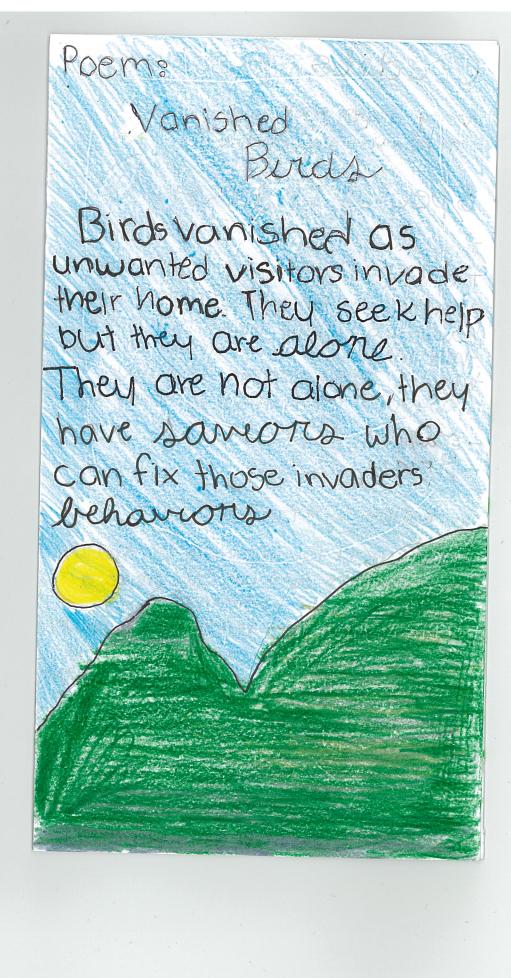
Kaylah S. Pols





Answers: 1:0 2:b d florido C. Marwall viso . a a, austria 2. What country state / contenint had they come 521.b 09 0 98.0 hi b silinamen of svitin sna estage finam wall. I sawos buissang/zimo extinct it slowly erases part of Hawaiian history our goal is to prevent hang creepers from going Honey exepers are going extinct, as they go 2 Waland mt si tomu to overcome avian flu which Honey creepers use unable Mosquitus and hourman becouse they spread 4. How are mosquitos harmly for Honey. Creepers? ratching eggs. more mont put by put som from to bin top hant is of impedmental of print by glan Conservation services, these programsn 3. What is being done or can be done to help? peranses Money cheepers are open of Hawaiian ton peranses in bounding to howaiian tones His important to people in our Hawaii and Community this lunuumon I will is this Important to people in our Chewoulans differences me assumitted H is important to us become euc con make a Why is it important to us of some transport





#### Credits:

Honey Creeper photo inspiration https://www.istockphoto.com/

### Special Thanks:



To Luka Zabas

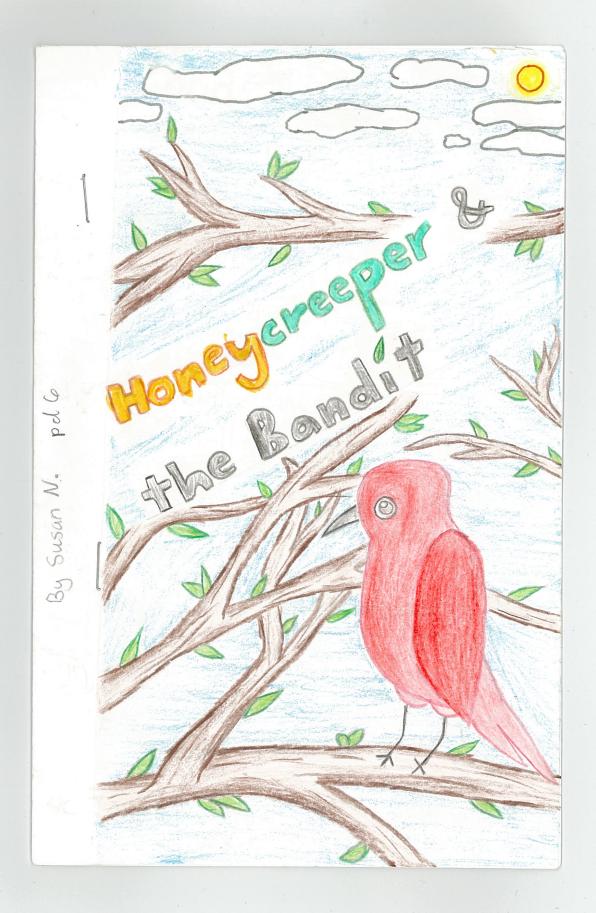
Thank you for teaching us the importants of namaition honey creepers we karried so many things such as their importance their nistory in tambinatures of honey creepers and how mosquitos are narmful to Honey creepers

- Tainwah P - Bruana B

To kailee Lefebvre

Thank you for teaching us thatour voice matters and we can make a difference inour community. We appreciate you for teaching us about resolution know we can nelp our environment, while being apart of history.

-Brianas -Januar





I we can try to decrease I am sorry the mosquito's population, but why? As what I was saying, we can send the IN testimony to our senator. We can meet A with our senator in zoom meet or in person. Mosquitoes can spread a type of disease You can write a letter that says you support the honey creepers. They carry a virus called 'aviarflus. If a mosquito bite the bird and suchs its blood, it Wart where did you get )
that paper from? would transfer to the bird. It would make the Question. honey creeper more tired, lazy, and lose its (Want to hear something) um. sure: ] ? appetite. After that, it would die. (4) So It would be better X lif we decrease the mosquito's population um.) 3611 you can support it in any Well actually age! Even it you are a kinder 2 things. So how do we decrease People are putting garder. the mosquitos Wolbachia in the (population? What?! No I didn't male mosquito. wow. So I an a So when the male is mean it like that! TEool! What else contrall.) [Kindergarder?] land female mate, we do? it will prevent the temale from year that wasn't Haha. I was giving both. famy. Butok, I just joking You [2. We could support and speak for our honey-] Will continue. can continue. Creepers by writing a testimony, and more! Honeur more rannot speak for the account and holding his



A hunter killed the honey creeper to get its feathers. He was about to kill more until a man stopped him.

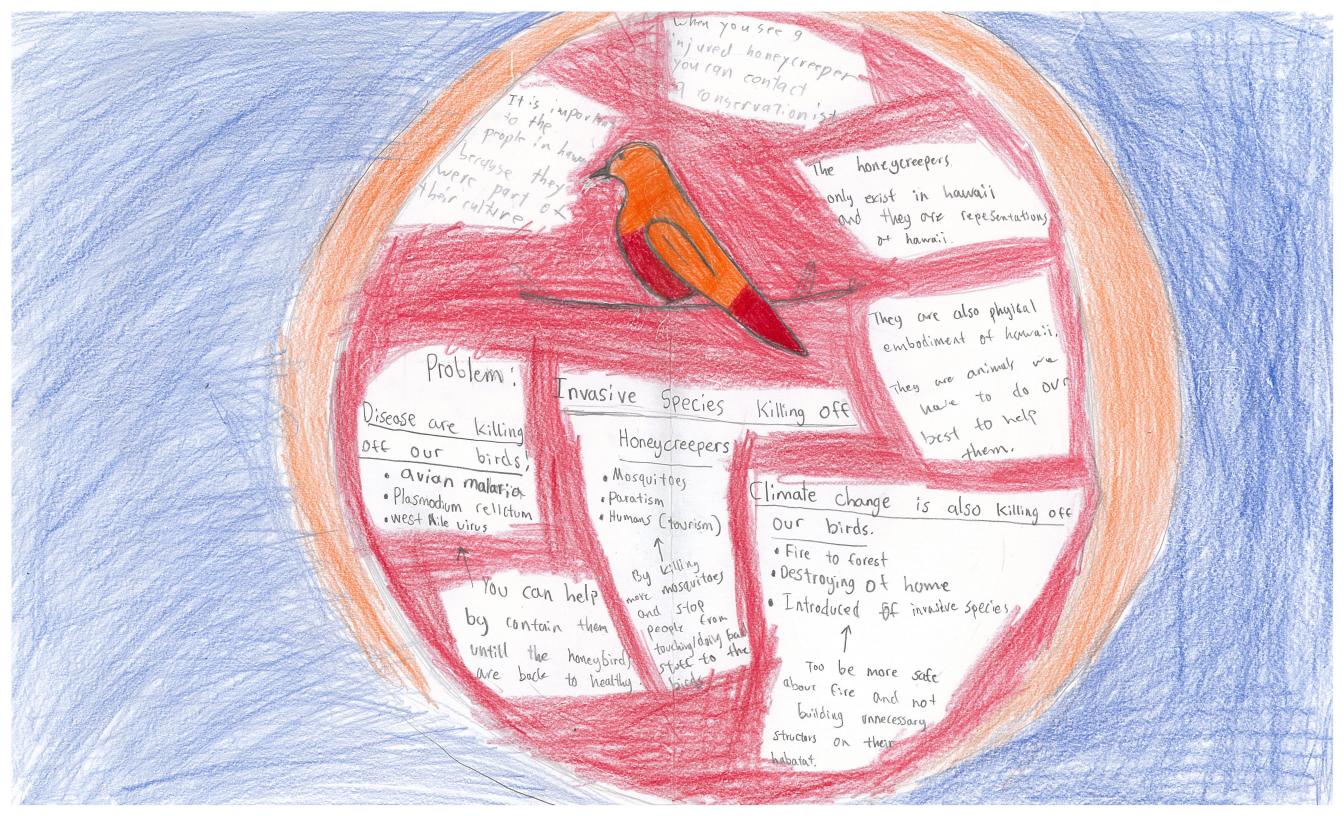
Read more to find out what's next.

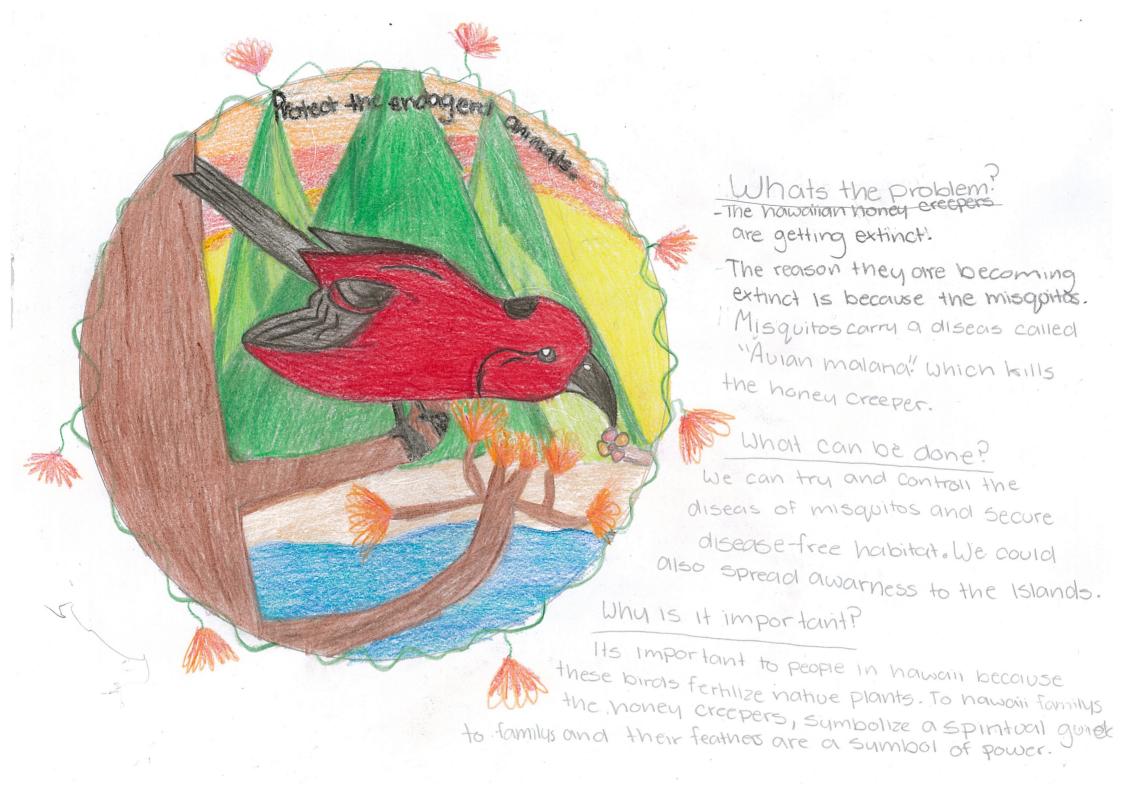












to help combat align bild discuses the what can scientists will introduce a new type of what can be done to mult musquitor the wolls achie mult musquitor be done to help? Although Their are What is the many diffrent types of honeyproblem? How this will Work: When a make Wolfacia Musqu'ita mutes with a creepes on the Hawaiian islands. Species that hand IL A not the invasive Female that closs not have wollbacia, the eggs

Will not hatch, therefore decreasing muggento Species that hert them. One main threat are the mosigtoes that can Kill ahoneyereeper with one bites and a cirus called the aviantly virus that sprads jeopulations and saving bird population. among the bird species, If this does not stop then Hawaiian Cuty is this important to people in Hawaiii This should be important to people in Hawai'i because Howaian honey are notive loirds and without them we would problems with the ecosystem that their in, also we would never see a Hawaiian Honey eresper ever again! Hawaiian honey creepers are apart of the

Hawaiian Cluture.



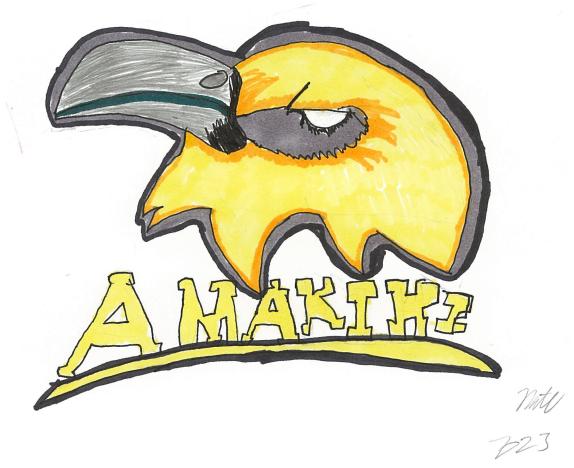




Mote 2023



MW -023



# HUREKELS

it interest to the feeth of Hawii!

Twaiian Honey Creepers are light to People of hawaii because are indmic animals. If the idea honey creepers digarrer we can get them back again. Also because help Pollynate Other Endemic flowers Plants like the Metrosideros opha.



is it important to us

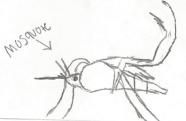
nawaiiah honeycreepers are tant to US because If they extinct we can hever get them We think that the hawaiiah icreepers are a extinct beautiful we would be said If they extinct. Also because they an endemic species to hawail.



What is the Problem?
The Problem is midulates bite the honey CreePers infecting them with disease. The diease from the miguotes are killing of the endemic honey creepers. Making them endangered.

What being and what can be don What is being is they are Puting Wolbachia In male

Puting Wolbachia In male Mosquito 30 that when the mosquitos mate they cant on this Plan so they haven't released the male mosqueles.



"As Extinction Loum, Conservationiss Race to Source Vamishing

Howaiian Homeycreepers" Oborbirds.org | news| race to - Source Howaiian - Homeycreepers
2022 |, Angust 5, 2022

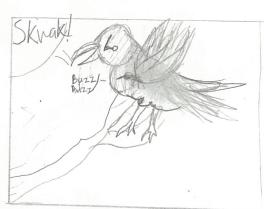
Bibliography

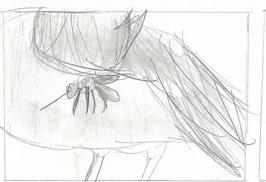
Amber . T Danica . N The Keeper of the honey creeper. By Brandon, C and Jussica.X

for Mrs. Lika3 part 2 for Mrs. Kailte



















## To Be Continued!



to be consinued -



previous!



Desended from one.
There was once a ton.
But something came and now they are done.
Keeping the Horey craepers
We will face many challenges.
They are the final scavenges
Diseased from others.
Most don't recover.
The Mosquitoes.
Many have been vetoed.
In vasive creatures harm.
But don't be alarmed.

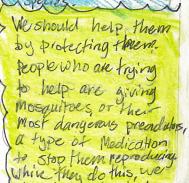
We can help save them.





Honeycreepers need Protection, not only from masseurtoes by also from other invasive species.

Their homes are taken. They also have to fight for their conditions from master. We should help them by protecting there.







Problems

[Many of the problems are coming from the Natural Disaster, Global warming, Environmental damage, hunting, and other animals. Mosquito's are giving the Honeycreeper diseases like the avian slo-virus because the birds don't have resistance to the diseases that the Mosquito's are giving don't have How they Help

They are helping by giving male mosquito's wolbackin so the female can't lay eggs, They are also helping by taking the birds to there facilities / labs. They are also helping by repopulating them.

It is important to Hawaii because they are our endemic birds. It is also important to Hawaii culture because of the Honey creeper feathers.

Last reasons why they are important is because they are a big past

Jack

Iwhat is the problem?

They're going extinct because of a virus Known as avian fly Carried by female, mosquito.

2 What is being done Facts
help?

help's We're trying to 'Akepas Cat Spides and Other inmedian Island give male mosquito Wolbachia They live in the Hawaiian Island Sochwhen the male mosquito There is 14,000 'Akepa birs left meets the female mosquito the eggs wort hatch.

3 Why is it important to people in Hawaii and or to you? Because we would lose the birts that make beatiful capes and the water supplies Would tecrese cause the birts get poller Which would make the water safe to drinko on En

Their habitants are being destroyed by us humans, and they are being attacked by avian mataria due to aimente change

Stop Poaching Honeycreepers!

Protect their habitats

Control mosquito Populations

making their habitents more comfortable to mosquitos who transmite that disease

They are important natural Pollenators

They have a lot of connections with Hawaiian

Native collected by their declina

Chloe D. Thank you



cove the Honey Creepersers. Landovi 1/19123.

¥

creepers are a big deal in nowaii because they are all paint of thiffrent cultures and different beliefer and traditions beliefer and traditions they are important to the people!

breeding musquitos that are mate and puting This is important in the so when the tome because I live here and it is apart of the culture in Hawaii breed with the females with diffient personalitistiple can be featatized outenates can , also the have Jobs like auto lave ansione. Polination, pestcontrol, huts, and if we cant Help them what elst are Myority to do about their other evolungered because the masquitos are biting the birds, and, with on hite the bird's will die that why there breeding

## Honey creeper facts

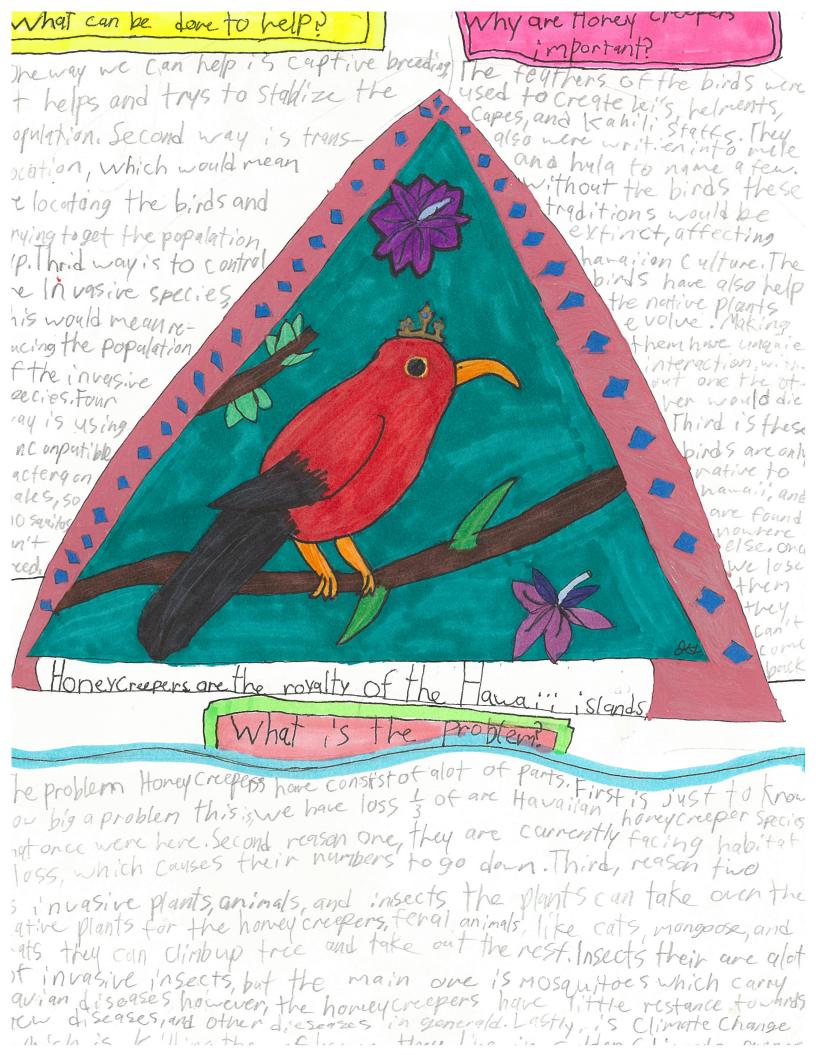
1. One species of finch evolbed into 50 different species of howaiian Honey-creepers.

2. There are 1) Honey creepers that are going extinct.

3. The Group of Alien, pest, and species.
Is going to try to make Holiday that you can learn and Help the Honey creepers.







Why is it important.
Birds help most
of bur ecosystem.
They are very
precious and cute
so sou dont nant
to sectum go

extincti



Problem. The problem is then they are going extinct and their places are getting teared down, several birds are going extinct because they have barely and notural resources. A warmer climate has allubed mosquitos that have diseases to transfer the disease to haudiian honey creeper raiding their habitat.

What's being done? Natural resource managers helping to implement. I think what

What's being done? Natural resource managers helping to implement. I think what could be done conversation Strategies. I think what could be done it they canget little bird haves and spray it with bug spray.

**HCR-81** 

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 11:15:19 PM

Testimony for CAI on 3/30/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization Testifier Position		Testify
Maegan Abanes	Wai'anae Mountains Watershed Partnership	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Representative Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Chair

**Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs** 

Chairs, vice chairs, and members of the Culture, and International Affairs (CAI) committee and Water & Land (WAL) committees

Tuesday, March 28, 2023

In support of S.B. No. HCR81, S.D. HR86. Identifying August 8, 2023, as Hawai'i Honeycreepers Celebration Day

Aloha to whom may it concern,

My name is Maegan Abanes. I am a current Junior enrolled at Mililani High School. I am advocating for S.B. No. HCR81 and S.D. HR86 to set and acknowledge a day for Hawaiian Honeycreepers as they heavily benefit our aloha 'aina; despite this, humans continue to destroy it for their ideals.

In Mililani High School-- we treat our environment consistently, as we have a dedicated club for this motive. While in our earthly-based courses, we have field trips where we take time out of school hours to help fight against dangers, collabing with other organizations in malama 'aina—especially with the Wai'anae Mountains Watershed Partnership. We have worked together to remove invasive species to plant natives and fix areas naturally throughout the Wai'anae Mountains. Furthermore, when WMWP came back to Mililani to

speak with us, we as students acknowledged the close-to-extinction of native Hawaiian Honeycreepers due to broad circumstances; This specific type of bird holds a very crucial role in our 'ohanas and 'aina as they maintain our forests and act as a leading spiritual animal for families. As Hawai'i citizens, our responsibility to prevent their extinction is because it is also our fault that they are facing this problem. Without them, this can negatively affect our natural system, leading to a domino effect towards destruction.

On our behalf, I trust you to consider handing S.B. No. HCR81 and S.D. HR86. We need to keep everyone knowledgeable about these natives, even if it's only the surface information-this will help us gain support to protect them for future generations. I believe our descendants should experience the same sightings in the Hawaiian Islands that we went through throughout our lifetimes. Mahalo Nui Loa for this chance of awareness.

Me Ke Aloha Pumehana,

**Maegan Abanes** 

Wai'anae Mountains Watershed Partnership

(808) 777-7020

House of Representatives

Committee on Culture Arts and International Affairs

Representative Adrian Tam

Representative Rose Martinez

Committee on Water and Land

Representative Linda Ichiyama

Representative Mahina Poepoe

March 30, 2023

9:30 am Conference Room #430

State capital

Testimony in Support of HCR81 and HR86

Aloha Chair Tam and Chair Martinez, Chair Ichiyma and Chair Poepoe, and members of the committees of Culture Arts and International Affairs, and the Committee on Water and Land.

It is with great pleasure that students and teachers of Highlands Intermediate School have engaged in the legislative process, to submit testimony in support of HCR81 and HR86. As part of our investigation of Hawai'i's natural ecosystems, students have developed a deeper understanding and connection to the 'aina that surrounds them. Their examination of endemic species and the importance to the stability of Hawai'i's environments has helped catalyze a profound sense of purpose for these stewards of Hawaii's future. After huge success with the designation of the 'Ohia Lehu'a as Hawaii's state endemic tree in 2022, these students are following in the footsteps of their peers to once again use their voice to help facilitate environmental progress and awareness of the plight of the Honeycreepers. Listen to their voices by considering the attached testimonies. Mahalo for your consideration and committed action.

Aloha,

Ryan Karwiel

Highlands Intermediate School

Science Department

We are writing to tell you our support for HCR81 and HR86. We are all students in Mr. Karwiel's & Mrs. Chan's Science classes at Highlands Intermediate School. We want to individually share with you why we feel we should support the bill to make August 8 the Honeycreeper celebration day. Here are our testimony:

#### From Chazten Alvarado:

Testimony in support of HCR81 regarding the resolution to make August 8 (8/08) the Hawaiian Honeycreeper Celebration Day. I, Chazten Alvarado, am writing to support SB2059. I support this bill because the community needs to be aware of how mosquitoes are affecting our beautiful islands. With 66% of our endemic honeycreepers already gone and only 17 of those special species left believe it is necessary to help spread awareness about how we can save these majestic animals before it becomes too late.

### From Raiden Berbano:

Testimony in support of HCR81 regarding the resolution to make August 8th (8/08) the Hawaiian Honeycreeper Celebration Day. I Raiden Berbano am writing this to support SB2059. I support this bill because as a student and citizen of Hawaii, us children will be given first in duty to keep our ohana stable, saving native wildlife and practices. Our Ohana means a lot to all of us, it's what makes us different states. The Honeycreepers mean a lot to Hawaii and its culture, they are decreasing fast and no one is doing anything about it. In less than 10 years Honeycreepers will be extinct due to the uncontrolled mosquito population. These animals will be a core part of our culture for our future generations from forgetting what Hawaii and its culture is about. With no honeycreepers the whole ecosystem will be dragged with it.

#### From Leana Buza:

I am writing to you in support of resolution SCR 114 and SR107 regarding declaring 8/08 Hawaiian Honeycreepers Celebration Day. I am requesting that you schedule these resolutions for a hearing. I support this resolution because I plan on working with the environment, and I believe in helping the environment grow, because as if today it's getting destroyed. Climate changes means warmer areas, birds having less and less range and mosquitoes more range. Honeycreepers also have many threats including: loss of feeding and nesting habitat, loss of habitat to invasive plants and insects, predation by invasive rats, cats, mongoose, mosquito carrying avian malaria, and competition with non native birds. Thank you for your consideration.

## From Ethan Bumanglag:

Testimony in support of HCR81 regarding the resolution to make August 8th 8/08 the Hawaiian Honeycreeper Celebration Day. I Ethan am writing to support SB2509. I support this bill because Honeycreepers are estimated to be extinct in 10 years if mosquito populations are controlled. Honeycreepers are an integral part of the state's ecosystem and culture and if honeycreepers were to go extinct the ecosystem would fall.

## From Elijah Echavaria:

Testimony in support of HCR81 regarding the resolution to make August 8th the Hawaiian Honeycreeper Celebration Day. I Elijah Echavaria am writing to support SB2059. I support this bill because these birds have been used throughout our history like when they made 'ahu'ula for the ali'i and without them our island's history and culture disappear. Honeycreepers are also an integral part of our ecosystem and our pilina between communities and birds. That is why we should raise awareness to protect these animals. Thank you for your time and consideration.

## From Mikayla England:

I am writing to you in support of resolution HCR 81 and HR86 regarding declaring 8/08 Hawaiian Honeycreepers Celebration Day. I am requesting that you schedule these resolutions for a hearing. I support this resolution because Climate Change means warmer areas, birds having less range, and mosquitos more range. Honeycreepers are an integral part of the state's ecosystems and culture, and our pilina between communities and birds is diminishing as they disappear.

## From Kili Enos-Tamanaha:

Testimony in support of HCR81 regarding the resolution to make august 8th (8/08) the Hawaiian Honeycreeper Celebration Day. I Kanakilinakapohiwanui M Enos- Tamanaha am writing to support SB2059. I support this bill because as a native hawaiian I believe it's important to protect the native hawaiian honeycreepers as they are found in our cultures mole'lo, no'eau, olelo, ka'ao, and mele. It's incredibly important that honeycreepers stay for generations to come as they help preserve native Hawaiian cultural practices and ecosystems.

#### From Maddox Garcia:

Testimony in support of HCR81 regarding the resolution to make August 8th (8/08) the Hawaiian Honeycreeper Celebration Day. I Maddox Garcia is writing to support SB2059. I support this bill because as an outdoors person, honeycreepers are an integral part of the state's ecosystems and culture, and our pilina between communities and birds is diminishing as they disappear. In addition it is estimated honeycreepers will be extinct in 10 years if mosquito populations are not controlled. It is important because if we don't do this, our future generations will never have the chance to see our beautiful honeycreepers.

## From Elijah Gatdula:

Testimony in support of resolution HCR 81 and HR86 regarding declaring 8/08 Hawaiian Honeycreepers Celebration Day. I am requesting that you schedule these resolutions for a hearing. I support this resolution because as an avid fisherman and outdoorsman, the need to conserve our wildlife is evident. Honeycreepers are an integral part of the state's ecosystems and culture, and our pilina between the communities and birds are diminishing as they disappear.

#### From Dante Kamniske:

I support this resolution because as someone who appreciates the biodiversity of Hawaii, I believe protecting our ecosystem is integral. Extinction is irreversible, but we can prevent it.

Less than half of our honeycreeper species remain. So please hear my plea and protect our fragile environment.

#### From Dallin Kilton:

Testimony in support of HCR81 regarding the resolution to make August 8th (8/08) the Hawaiian Honeycreeper Celebration Day. I, Dallin Kilton, am writing to support SB2059. I support this bill because Honeycreepers are extremely important to our state's ecosystem and culture, but our Pilina between ourselves and birds is diminishing as these birds get very close to extinction. To be exact, 17 of the more than 50 Honeycreeper species remain with 12 listed as critically endangered. Thank you for your time and consideration.

#### From Lucas Kishimori

Testimony in support of HCR81 regarding the resolution to make august 8th (8/08) the Hawaiian Honeycreeper Celebration Day. I am Lucas Kishimori writing this to support SB2059. I support this bill because as a student learning about the honeycreeper I know that the honeycreeper is an important part of the ecosystem. I also know that the honeycreeper is in serious danger, less than fifty endemic birds still remain out of one-hundred and forty two species.

## From Katelyn Nguyen:

I support this bill because many honeycreepers have been getting extinct a lot. More than 50 species and only 17 are left due to facing critical threats such as loss of habitat, feeding, nesting habitat, loss of habitat due to plants and insects, etc. Avian Malaria is causing birds' home range to decrease due to cooler slopes of each island. Climate change has a big effect on this as well, the warmer the place, less birds, more mosquitos. Thank you for taking the time to read this testimony.

#### From Travis Osaki:

Testimony in support of HCR81 regarding the resolution to make August 8th (8/08) the Hawaiian Honeycreeper Celebration Day. Travis Osaki, am writing to support SB2059. I support this bill because I am a science student at Highlands Intermediate who is interested in advocating for the honeycreepers. With the climate change crisis affecting our world now, mosquitos have more range of the area they can be in, so the birds have a higher probability of getting bit and dying. Avian malaria is one of the major causes to their decline but some other contributors are habitat loss to invasive species, predation, and competition with other birds. As of right now 95 of 142 manu are extinct while the rest 42 of them are threatened. As a Science Olympiad student, I know that we need biodiversity for this ecosystem to survive and these birds are a crucial part of it. Without them we will have a higher chance of ecosystem collapse making this place less stable. I also know that many diseases like avian malaria have a high transmission and infectivity rate which makes it an emerging infectious disease that we need to prevent. We need to take action knowing that this might be the last generation to ever see or hear the birds. To malama the birds, we need your support along with the rest of the community. Make August 8 the Hawaiian Honeycreeper Celebration Day. Thank you for taking the time to read this.

### From Luke Schiller:

Testimony in support of HCR81 regarding the resolution to make August 8th (8/08) the Hawaiian Honeycreeper Celebration Day. I, Luke Schiller, am writing to support SB2059. I support this bill because I feel it's important to keep the native honeycreeper species alive and in healthy populations for future generations to enjoy, without help from the government the dwindling populations of honeycreepers are likely to fall to zero in ten years time. Thank you for your consideration of this bill.

### From Jodi Takara:

Testimony in support of HCR81 regarding the resolution to make August 8th (8/08) the Hawaiian Honeycreeper Celebration Day. I Jodi Takara am writing to support SB2059. I support this bill because Avian Malaria is causing birds' home range to decrease to the cooler slope of each island. Meaning humans/people like us will not be able to see them without them dying. Personally I am not a big bird fan but I feel that we cannot let these birds die because they are essential to the success of the actions of the malama. Thank you for your time.

#### From Athena Tiqui-Teleni:

Testimony in support of HCR81 regarding the resolution to make August 8th (8/08) the Hawaiian Honeycreeper Celebration Day. I Athena Tiqui-Teleni am writing to you in support SB20959 of resolution HCR 81 and HR86 regarding declaring 8/08 Hawaiian Honeycreepers Celebration Day. I am requesting that you schedule these resolutions for a hearing. I support this resolution because Honeycreepers can be useful to us like eating invasive insects that can harm their habitat without them to eat it, it can harm a whole forest. With Aloha.

## From Kevin Ujimori:

Testimony in support of HCR81 regarding the resolution to make August 8th (8/08) the Hawaiian Honeycreeper Celebration Day. I, Kevin Ujimori, am writing to support SB2059. I support this bill because as a person who enjoys being outdoors, I know how vital it is to maintain a healthy ecosystem. Honeycreepers are an integral part of the state's ecosystem & without them, who knows what could happen. Honeycreepers are known for pollinating native plants as well as keeping our insect population under control. It is extremely concerning to me that their population is rapidly diminishing. Something needs to change. Thank you for your time & consideration.

#### From Travis Yamada:

Testimony in support of HCR81 regarding the resolution to make August 8th (8/08) the Hawaiian Honeycreeper Celebration Day. I Travis Yamada am writing to support SB2059. I support this bill because as someone from Highlands Intermediate who appreciates the fascinating nature of Hawaii. I truly believe that it's best to have a day dedicated towards helping awareness of endangered hawaiian honeycreepers since these species are essential to keeping our ecosystem stable.

## From Kristen Corpuz:

I am writing to support SB2059. I support this bill because of the >50 species of Honeycreepers only 17 remain, 12 listed as critically endangered. Community awareness and support are essential to the success of the actions to Malama (take care of) Hawaii's manu (birds)

#### From Melody Dagan:

I support this bill because community awareness and support are essential to the success of the actions to mālama (take care of) Hawaii's manu (birds). I support this bill also because Honeycreepers are an integral part of the state's ecosystems and culture, and our pilina (relationship and connection) between communities and birds is diminishing as they disappear.

### From Jacob Dumlao:

I, Jacob Dumlao, stand in support of the resolution to designate 8/08 as Hawaiian Honeycreeper Celebration Day. I support this bill because there is currently a bird extinction crisis; 95/142 endemic Hawaiian birds have become extinct, and 47 are now facing critical threats. This extinction of honeycreepers are extremely detrimental and damaging to Hawaii's culture and ecosystem, and without them, our pilina and 'aina will diminish and crumble.

#### From Kaleo Fuimaono: Q

I support this bill because the estimated number of Honeycreepers that are alive today will most likely end up going extinct within the span of 10 years if the Mosquito population doesn't decrease and we don't have full control of their right and wrong doing. Community awareness and their support are very essential and important to the success of the actions to the malama Hawaii's manu.

#### From Francis Joel:

I support this bill because it has been estimated that the Honeycreepers will be extinct in 10 years if mosquito populations are not controlled & Honeycreepers are found in our culture knowledge in our mo'olelo, olelo. No'eau, ka'ao and mele. Are you willing to accept this?

#### From Leland Kabua:

I support this bill because Honeycreepers are found in our cultural knowledge in our stories, proverbs, legends, and songs.

#### From Rylee McManus:

I support this bill because there is currently a bird extinction crisis; 95/142 endemic Hawaiian birds have become extinct, and 47 are now facing critical threats. This is extremely detrimental and damaging to Hawaii's culture and ecosystem, and without the honeycreepers, our pilina and 'aina will diminish and crumble.

### From Nofo Moeone:

Testimony in support of HCR81 regarding the resolution to make August 8th (8/08) the Hawaiian Honeycreeper Celebration Day. I support this bill because Honeycreepers are an integral part of the state's ecosystem and culture, and our pilina (relationship & connection) between communities and birds is diminishing as they disappear. The estimated honeycreepers population will be extinct in 10 years if mosquito populations are not controlled

### From Kolten Nishitomi:

I support this bill because the avian malaria that comes from the mosquitos is causing birds' home range to decrease to cooler slopes of each island. It is estimated the honeycreepers will be extinct in 10 years if mosquito populations are not controlled.

## From Damaris Okagawa:

I, Damaris Okagawa, am writing to support this resolution to make August 8th, Hawaii Honeycreeper Celebration Day. I support it because the feathers of Honeycreepers played an integral role in ancient Hawaiian culture. It was used in an artform of global excellence to be worn by the ali'i as a symbol of their power & authority. They were also found elsewhere in our cultural knowledge, such as in our mo'olelo, 'ōlelo no'eau, ka'ao, & mele. In conclusion, I hope you take to heart what I've said & make the right choice.

## From Jayden Bryce:

I, Jayden Orodio-Bello, am writing to support the resolution to designate 8/08 as Hawaiian Honeycreeper Celebration Day. I support this bill because Of the >50 species of honeycreepers only 17 are left, 12 listed as critically endangered. It is estimated that honeycreepers will be extinct in 10 years if mosquito populations are not controlled.

#### From Mia OSullivan:

I, Mia Belle O'Sullivan, am writing to support the designation of August 8th,(8/08) as Hawaiian Honeycreeper Celebration day. I support this bill because the estimated honeycreepers will be extinct in 10 years if mosquito populations are not controlled. Also, the community awareness and support are essential to the success of the actions to mālama Hawaii's manu.

### From Rica Marie Ragasa:

I, Rica Marie Ragasa, am writing to support this bill, making August 8th, (8/08) Hawaii Honeycreeper Celebration Day. I support this because our Honeycreepers are an integral part of the state's ecosystems and culture, and our pilina (relationship and connection) between communities and birds are diminiQshing as they disappear. Of the 50 species of Honeycreepers we once had, only 17 remain. 12 are listed as critically endangered. These Honeycreepers are important to our state and that is why we should make August 8th, (8/08), Hawaii Honeycreeper Celebration Day.

#### From Sophia Santos:

I, Sophia Santos, am writing to support the resolution to designate 8/08 as Hawaiian Honeycreeper Celebration day. I support this bill because this ongoing bird extinction crisis has

95/142 endemic birds extinct with 47 more facing critical threats. Not only this but the one sanctuary that the birds have is slowly diminishing due to climate change. Hawaii's uniqueness is disappearing with these birds. So, I support the preservation of Hawaii, the question is do you?

#### From Blaine Sato:

Testimony in support of HCR81 regarding resolution to make August 8th (8/08) the Hawaiian Honeycreeper Celebration Day. I Blaine Sato am writing to support SB2059. I support this bill because of the Bird extinction crisis: 95/142 endemic manu (birds) are extinct, 47 facing critical threats. Community awareness and support are essential to the success of the actions to malama (take care of) Hawaii's Manu (bird)

#### From Moses Silva Pasion:

Testimony in support of HCR 81 regarding the resolution to make August 8th (8/08) the Hawaiian Honeycreeper Celebration Day. I support this bill because Honeycreepers are found in our cultural knowledge in our mo'olelo, 'olelo no'eau, ka'ao and mele. Also the feathers of honeycreepers played an integral role in ancient Hawaii culture used in an artform of global excellence to be worn in ali'i as a symbol of their power and authority.

## From Lily Stewart:

Testimony in support of HCR81 regarding the resolution to make August 8th (8/08) the Hawaiian Honeycreeper Celebration Day.I support this bill because HoneyCreeper threats include loss of feeding and nesting habitat, loss of habitat to invasive plants and insects, predation by invasive rats, cats, mongoose, mosquito carried avian malaria, and competition with non native birds species. The bird extinction crises: 95/142 endemic manu are extinct, and 47 are facing critical threats.

#### From Jonas Thorne:

I support this bill because first of all, community awareness and support are essential to the success of the actions to take care of Hawaii's birds. Secondly, Avian malaria is causing birds' home range to decrease to cooler slopes of each island and it could kill the beloved birds that nest here, in Hawaii.

### From Hayden Ball:

I support this resolution because of the >50 species of honeycreepers that are known currently only 17 remain and 12 listed as critically endangered. Honeycreepers have to survive many threats like loss of feeding and nesting habitat. Loss of Habitat to invasive plants and insects, predation by invasive rats, cats, mongoose, mosquito which host avian malaria, and much competition with non native bird species. This means Honeycreepers are estimated to be extinct in 10 years if the mosquito population is not managed!

### From Izaac Bermudez:

I support this resolution because the estimated will be extinct in 10 years if mosquito populations are not controlled. Honeycreepers are found in our cultural knowledge in our mo'olelo (stories) 'olelo no'eau (proverbs)

## From Reagan Chang:

I am writing to you in support of resolution HCR 81 and HR86 regarding declaring 8/08 Hawaiian Honeycreepers Celebration Day. I am requesting that you schedule these resolutions for a hearing. I support this resolution because community awareness and support are essential to help Hawaii's birds recover, and they need help fast. It is estimated that honeycreepers will be extinct in 10 years if mosquito populations are not controlled.

## From Anakin Daquip:

I support this resolution because of the >50 honeycreepers only 17 remain, 12 listed as critically endangered. Estimated honeycreepers will be extinct in 10 years if mosquitos populations are not controlled.

#### From Trinidad Gonzalez Salazar:

I support this resolution because of the 50 species of Honeycreepers only 17 remain, and 12 are listed as critically endangered. Honeycreepers are an integral part of the state's ecosystems and culture, and our pilina (relationship and connection) so it is important to keep the honeycreeper species of birds alive, thriving and healthy.

#### From Keven Ichita:

I am writing to you in support of resolution HCR 81 and HR86 regarding declaring 8/08 Hawaiian Honeycreepers Celebration Day. I am requesting that you schedule these resolutions for a hearing. I support this resolution because Honeycreepers are found in our cultural knowledge in our mo'olelo (stories), olelo no'eau (proverbs), ka'ao (legends) and mele (songs).

### From Shyzen Nii:

I support this resolution because the estimated years till the honeycreepers will be extinct is 10 if the mosquito population does not lower. Honeycreepers play a huge part in the state's ecosystem and culture, pilina between communities and birds are falling apart as they disappear, also feathers of the honeycreeper was used in ancient Hawaiian culture for Ahu'ula (Cape) that was worn to show their power and authority.

## From Kreyven Price:

#### From Rayden Roman-Mahelona:

I am writing to you in support of resolution HCR 81 and HR86 regarding declaring 8/08 Hawaiian Honeycreepers Celebration Day. I am requesting that you schedule these resolutions

for a hearing. I support this resolution because it is estimated that honeycreepers will be extinct in 10 years if mosquito populations are not controlled. Additionally, Honeycreepers are found based on our cultural knowledge in our mo'olelo, 'olelo no'eau, ka'ao and mele.

## From Perefoti Sipili:

I support this resolution because honeycreepers are an essential part of the state's ecosystems and culture, and out pilina between communities and birds is diminishing as they disappear. Honeycreepers are found in our culture knowledge in our mo'olelo, 'olelo no'eau, ka'ao and mele.

#### From Kaili Watanabe:

I am writing to you in support of resolution HCR 81 and HR86 regarding declaring 8/08 Hawaiian Honeycreepers Celebration Day. I am requesting that you schedule these resolutions for a hearing. I support this resolution because it is estimated that honeycreepers will be extinct in 10 years if mosquito populations are not controlled and of the 50 species of honeycreepers in ancient Hawaii only 17 of them remain, 12 listed as critically.

### From Kelcie Yamasaki:

I support this resolution because the birds are important to Hawaiian culture. This day can be used to honor an important part of history and culture. It's also a day to draw awareness to the near extinction of these honeycreepers. I believe we should also use this day to remind people to pay attention to the mosquito population as they can negatively affect the Honeycreepers with the avian malaria they carry.

#### From Chris Oshiro:

I support this resolution because community awareness and support are essential to the success of the actions to the malama Hawaii manu. Additionally, honeycreepers are found in our cultural knowledge in our mo'olelo,olelo,no'eau, ka'ao and mele.

## From Jordan Cheung:

I support this resolution because In 10 years if the mosquito populations aren't controlled then the honeycreeper will be extinct forever.

## From Allyza Visaya:

I support this resolution because honeycreepers will be extinct by the last 10 years because of the mosquito populations that are not being controlled and the threats of the honeycreepers are losing habitats like feeding and even invasive plants and insects.

From Hazon Vierra: Honeycreepers might be extinct in 10 years so we should save them also Honeycreepers are found only in hawaii which means they are almost extinct that mean poachers how shoot them should be find but they can't if ther not cot.

## From Zoey Knobel:

I support this resolution because honeycreepers are an important part of Hawaii's ecosystem. This resolution would help make our community aware of these birds and the actions needed to save them.

## From Douglas Seei:

I support this resolution because I believe that we should make a celebration day of Hawaiian honeycreepers to make people aware of our native decline in population.

### From Jacob Andreas:

I've researched honeycreepers and they are very pretty and interesting birds that are special to hawaii. We should keep these birds so other generations can see these beautiful birds. I researched mostly about the Maui' Alauahio which is a very pretty yellow bird, keeping them would be great because of the impact they have on Hawaii's environment. Please bring this resolution to the hearing.

### From Maricela DeLeo:

I, Maricela DeLeo, support this bill for a multitude of reasons. Some of them include: only 17 out of the initial 50 species of honeycreepers remain, and if that isn't bad enough, 12 of them are listed as critically endangered. In addition, honeycreepers are an integral part of the state's ecosystems & culture, and our pilina (relationship & connection) between communities and our birds is diminishing as they disappear. I've been studying a certain species of honeycreepers (the 'Akikiki), and I'm not pleased to say that around 45 'Akikiki' are left as of 2021. Furthermore, the United States Geological Survey says that without a rapid conservation response, there is a high probability that the 'Akikiki, 'Akeke'e, Kiwikiu, and 'Ākohekohe will go extinct in the coming decade. Please bring this resolution for hearing, as the honeycreepers depend on it.

#### From Dallas Dimon

I, Dallas Dimon, support this bill because these birds are an integral part of the states ecosystems and culture, and our relationship and connection between communities and birds is diminishing as they disappear. Without these birds in our ecosystem there will be a large decrease in our island's wildlife. I believe that everyone should have a chance to see and hear the beauty of the honeycreepers. Please bring this resolution to the hearing.

#### From Robert Jacobo

I support this resolution because Honeycreepers are known as part of our culture. Because of recent events: climate change, invasive species, mosquitoes importing avian marla into honeycreepers, and habitat loss. Within ten years if the events weren't stopped in time. All of the honeycreepers would be extinct. This means the kids in the next generation won't be able to see or hear their native honeycreepers.

#### From Makoa Tao

I support this resolution because I have been researching the Hawaii akepa and it's endangered because of avian malaria, loss of habitat, mongoose, and getting eggs eaten by bigger predators. Climate change makes the birds have less range to hide from the mosquitos that

have malaria and the mosquito have more range to get the birds and affect the birds. The birds feathers played an integral role in the hawaiian culture used in an art form of global excellence to be worn by the ali'i (chiefs) as a symbol of their power and authority. This bird is amazing because the lower mandible is curved to one side. Please schedule this for hearing. To celebrate honeycreepers.

#### From Mason Kaleikini

I support this resolution because honeycreepers should be more known to Hawaii's people. Many of them could go extinct in the next couple of years, and an example of this is the honeycreeper I have studied, the Maui ParrotBill or better known as the Kiwikiu. The Kiwikiu is in danger of high rates of mosquitoes and low rates of egg hatching which causes it to stay at such a small population of birds and making a day towards them may spread awareness to more people about these birds. Please bring this resolution to a hearing.

## From Kyra Kobuke

I support this resolution because Honeycreepers are a very important part of Hawaiian culture. They're also important to many ecologists and people just like you and me. Throughout the years of the existence of honeycreepers, they are known as spiritual guides for families. Their feathers are symbols of power. There are many other things that honeycreepers represent that are of cultural significance to Hawaiians. This is why there should be a day recognizing the honeycreepers, especially since many are on the brink of extinction. Please consider this resolution for discussion.

#### From Kaylei Lau Kong

I support this resolution because I don't want to be one of the last generations to be able to hear the Honeycreepers in the forest and in person. Honeycreepers are found in our cultural knowledge in our Mo'olelo (stories), 'Ōlelo no'eau (proverbs), Ka'ao (legends) and Mele (songs). The Honeycreepers threats include: loss of habitat to invasive plants and insects, predation by invasive rats, cats, mongoose, mosquito carried avian malaria, and competition with non native species. Climate change also contributes to the threats of the Honeycreepers. Climate change means warmer areas, birds having less range, and mosquitos have more range on the mountains. Please bring this resolution to a hearing.

## From Camryn Maile Lee Kobashigawa:

I support this resolution because I've been researching honeycreepers and found that they might go extinct due to certain threats. We wouldn't want these birds to go extinct. Honeycreepers biggest threat is mosquitos which cause the spread of avian malaria. More mosquitos are caused by climate change. Climate change is causing warm weather which is what mosquitos like but which is what we don't want. Please schedule this resolution for a hearing so we can celebrate a day for the honeycreepers.

### From Zhixuan Lin

I support this resolution because I have been researching about the Po'ouli, a honeycreeper that has already been extinct. The Po'ouli was a very unique honeycreeper and was known for its large black face mask. But recently, it was said to be extinct. By today, 95/142 endemic manu (birds) are extinct and 47 are facing critical threats. Before the Po'ouli was extinct, it was affected by habitat loss, predation by invasive rats, cats, mongooses, and also competition with other non-native bird species. The threats that the Po'ouli faced, other honeycreepers could also be facing these and in 10 years, most honeycreepers will be extinct. Please schedule these resolutions for a hearing.

## From Keanu-Ryan Myers

I support this resolution because I am writing to support the honeycreeper resolution. I support this resolution because I studied the Hawaii 'Amakihi. Due to mosquito populations increasing and global warming they are going to be extinct if we do not do something about it. I also don't want to be the last generation to hear these birds in our rainforest. That is why I think we should have a day for the honeycreepers. So please bring it into consideration when you guys have your next meeting.

From Landin Poopaa: I support this resolution because I studied the Anianiau and that its population is slowly going down. I feel really sad because I studied about a honeycreeper and it's a really interesting tiny bird. The population is going down because of the loss of feeding, nesting habitat, loss of habitat to invasive plants and insects. As well as predation by invasive rats, cats, mongooses, and mosquitoes which carry the dangerous disease avian malaria. Even climate change means warmer areas, birds having less range, and mosquitos more range. I request that you schedule the day of the honeycreeper.

From Jaylin Shirafuji: I support this resolution because Hawaiian Honeycreepers are in danger. I've been researching about these honeycreepers in school, specifically the Kauai 'Amakihi. The threats of this bird include loss of habitat from invasive plants, predation from rats, cats, and mongoose, as well as disease, like avian malaria. These honeycreepers are special to Hawaiian culture, found in Hawaiian stories, proverbs, legends, and songs. Without any community awareness or support, this might be the last generation that witnesses these amazing birds.

From Joseph Souza: I support this resolution because I researched about a honeycreeper, and the bird I researched seems really amazing. Though it's sad to hear that the honeycreepers are endangered. I hope that 8/08 will make a majority of people aware of the honeycreeper situation, and hopefully in the end we won't be the last generation to have the honeycreepers.

## From Brayden Sumaoang

Honeycreepers are a staple in Hawaiian culture. Based on my research, the bird's feathers are in many of the stories, legends and most importantly the clothing made for and worn by the powerful Ali'i. Also, there were 50 honeycreeper species, but there are about only 17 species that remain out of the 50, and 12 species are listed as critically endangered. At this

rate my generation would be the last generation to see and hear these amazing honeycreepers because it is projected that in 10 years all of the honeycreepers will become extinct. Please schedule this resolution about the Day of the Honeycreepers for a hearing. Thank you.

From Makoa Tao Jefferies

From Lawson White

From Kaniala Gionson: I support this resolution because the native birds like the A'apane are important to our culture. To begin, our birds have songs that mean so much to people. The songs are sweet but now sad as they are going extinct, from Avian malaria from getting bitten in the eyes. Also many of our mo'olelo, 'Olelo, no'eau, ka'ao and mele are from our honeycreepers. Next climate change is a major threat to them because it is making the mountains warmer and the birds are running out of room to run from the mosquitos which are rapidly spreading. Lastly to add, the honeycreepers are losing their habitat, loss of feeding due to pigs stomping on it and many of the nests are being eaten from rats and mongoose,etc. To conclude why I support this is because many of our honeycreepers are beautiful and sweet birds that have beautiful songs that are only in Hawaii. Please schedule this resolution for a hearing.

From Kairi Rosado: I support this resolution because of the bird extinction crisis happening, the relationship between our ecosystem and the birds are diminishing. it's important to take care of Hawaii's manu. With the bird extinction crisis 95/142 manu are extinct, then the last 47 are facing harsh threats. Hawaii's manu are an integral part of the state's culture, and the relationship and connection between communities and birds are decreasing. Lastly, community awareness and support are essential to the success of the actions to take care of Hawaii's birds. Please bring this resolution to your attention.

## From Analycia Gurule

I support this resolution because out of 50 species of honeycreepers only 17 remain and 12 listed as critically endangered. For some people honeycreepers are annoying but for others they are very interesting and very beautiful. Without honeycreepers people may lose interest in going outside and interacting with Hawaiian culture. Please bring this to your attention and help celebrate the birds and keep them living happy, healthy and safe.

From Rheign Angeli Verdadero: Poster



House of Representatives Cultural, Arts, and International Affairs Committee March 29, 2023

Testimony in Support of HCR 81

Dear Chair and committee members,

I, Crystal Kalauawa, am in support of HCR 81, relating to the resolution on Hawaiian Honeycreepers.

I am a STEM teacher at Kalaheo Elementary School and have been teaching my students about the plight of native forest birds in Hawai'i. Learning about the numbers of birds on the decline we are hoping the resolutions will bring awareness to others about these beautiful birds in hope of celebrating and saving them. On behalf of my students we hope that you pass this resolution.

Sincerely, Crystal Kalauawa Kalaheo Elementary School STEM



## **HCR-81**

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 9:31:33 AM

Testimony for CAI on 3/30/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Lorrie M Ito	Highlands Intermediate	Support	Written Testimony Only

#### Comments:

**House of Representatives** 

**Committee on Culture Arts and International Affairs** 

**Representative Adrian Tam** 

**Representative Rose Martinez** 

**Committee on Water and Lan** 

Representative Linda Ichiyama

Representative Mahina Poepoe

March 30, 2023

9:30 am Conference Room #430

**State Capitol** 

Testimony in Support of HCR81 and HR86

Aloha Chair Tam and Chair Martinez, Chair Ichiyma and Chair Poepoe, and members of the committees of Culture Arts and International Affairs, and the Committee on Water and Land.

We are writing to tell you our support for HCR81 and HR86. We are all students in Mrs. Ito's Period 5 Science class at Highlands Intermediate School. We want to individually share with you why we feel we should support the bill to make August 8 the Honeycreeper celebration day. Here are our testimony:

I am writing to you in support of resolution HCR81 and HR86 regarding declaring 8/08 Hawaiian Honeycreepers Celebration Day. How do you feel knowing you could be the last

generation to be able to see and hear the birds? I support this resolution because I want future generations to know and enjoy the Honeycreepers. Please help the Honeycreepers. With Aloha, **Kingston Geron** 8th grade student **Highlands Intermediate School** 1460 Ho'olaulea Street Pearl City, HI 96782 (808) 307-5000 I am writing to you in support of resolution HCR81 and HR86 regarding declaring 8/08 Hawaiian Honeycreepers Celebration Day. I support this resolution because I don't want the Honeycreepers to become extinct. I want others to enjoy the Honeycreepers. With Aloha, MaileLizama 8th grade student **Highlands Intermediate School** 

I am writing to you in support of resolution HCR81 and HR86 regarding declaring 8/08 Hawaiian Honeycreepers Celebration Day. I support this resolution because Honeycreepers threats include: loss of feeding and nesting habitat, loss of habitat to invasive plants and insects, predation by invasive rats, cats, mongoose, mosquito carried avian malaria, and competition with non native bird species. Honeycreepers need our protection.

With Aloha,

Julian-John Pascua

8th grade student

## **Highlands Intermediate School**

I am writing to you in support of resolution HCR81 and HR86 regarding declaring 8/08 Hawaiian Honeycreepers Celebration Day. I support this resolution because the honeycreepers are gonna be extinct soon, Bird extinction crisis: 95/142 endemic manu (birds) are extinct, 47 facing critical threats.

With Aloha,

**Analu Samson Gagarin** 

8th grade student

**Highlands Intermediate School** 

I am writing to you in support of resolution HCR81 and HR86 regarding declaring 8/08 Hawaiian Honeycreepers Celebration Day. I support this resolution because our goal is to apply this knowledge of Honeycreepers to provide service and support to the Hawaiian community, as well as extending this knowledge outward from the academy and it needs to stay.

With Aloha, Johanna Niko Taitaiau-Rivas

8th grade student

**Highlands Intermediate School** 

I am writing to you in support of resolution HCR81 and HR86 regarding declaring 8/08 Hawaiian Honeycreepers Celebration Day. I support this resolution because I researched about the bird extinction crisis: 95/142 endemic manu (birds) are extinct, 47 facing critical threats. These birds need our help to survive.

With Aloha,

Vanessa Ulangca

8th grade student

I support this resolution because the Hawaiian area code "808" represents Hawaii and the Honeycreepers represent Hawaii. If the date 8/08 should be Hawaiian Honeycreepers Celebration Day it could spread awareness of the endangered species and might even have inspired some local companies to contribute with helping in this project to help the Honeycreepers. These Hawaiian Honeycreepers are sacred to Hawaii and they should be celebrated.

With Aloha,

Gino-Elyas Lauleke Rikio Aparis-Kalima

8th grade student

**Highlands Intermediate School** 

I am writing to you in support of resolution HCR81 and HR86 regarding declaring 8/08 Hawaiian Honeycreepers Celebration Day. I support this resolution because Honeycreepers threats include: loss of feeding and nesting habitat, loss of habitat to invasive plants and insects, predation by invasive rats, cats, mongoose, mosquito carried avian malaria, and competition with non native bird species. The Honeyvreepers need our help.

With Aloha,

Jazmin Angel ulep

8th grade student

**Highlands Intermediate School** 

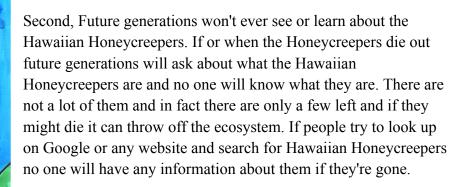


## **Testimony in Support of HCR81**

Dear Chair Ichiyama, Vice Chair Poepoe and Members of the Committee,

I strongly support the resolution **HCR81** to make August the 8th, 2023 Hawaiian day. First of all, They were important to Hawaiian culture and were used for the kings and queens. Their feathers were made for the Hawaiian lei that women would wear. Their feathers were made

to make helmets for Hawaiian culture, and lastly their feathers were used for capes that the men would wear.



Lastly, Without them the ecosystem would collapse. The famous Ohia tree would die because if the Hawaiian Honeycreeper are gone the ohia tree will have no animal to pollinate it. Their home is also the Ohia tree and if there are no Ohia trees then the beloved Hawaiian Honeycreepers will be in danger. Then also if the Hawaiian Honeycreepers die then the animals that depend on it like the bugs will overpopulate and that would be very bad.

In conclusion Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important because they help others remember they are a part of Hawaiian culture and they also help keep the ecosystem in place like pollinating the Ohia trees. The Hawaiian Honeycreepers are very important to the people and to the ecosystem so we would like a day about the Hawaiian Honeycreepers.

Sincerely,
Daysha Angeles
Grade 5
Mānoa Elementary School

# **Testimony in Support of HCR81**

Dear Chair Ichiyama, Vice Chair Poepoe and Members of the Committee,



I strongly support the resolution **HCR81** to make August 8, 2023 Hawaiian Honeycreeper Day.

To begin with I support this because without them our ecosystems could collapse which means there could be no plants for animals to eat and that could lead to loss of animals and loss of fruits and or food.

In addition, future generations would not be able to see or learn about them if our generation doesn't take care of them which means we wouldn't know about them and we couldn't learn about them in the future. The future also wouldn't know from our mistakes, plus there would be more non-native animals.

Finally, the Honeycreepers helped with native plant growth and those plants are key to watershed health which means there would be loss of forests, overflowing of water, and loss of native flora.

Therefore, all of this could be avoided if we take care and treat the Hawaiian Honeycreepers right and give them the respect they deserve.

Sincerely, Amelia Barnett Grade 5 Mānoa Elementary School

# **Testimony in Support of HCR81**

Dear Chair Ichiyama, Vice Chair Poepoe and Members of the Committee,

I strongly support the resolution **HCR81** to make August 8, 2023 Hawaiian Honeycreeper day. Firstly, Honeycreepers help with the native plant growth and those plants are



key to the watershed's health. Honeycreepers help us pollinate Ohia which are one of the native plants that are good for the watershed's health. If we can stop threats to the honeycreepers like mosquitos we can save native plant growth and watershed health.

In addition, future generations will never see them or get to learn about them if they aren't cared for. There are now less than ½ of the honeycreepers that once lived. Honeycreepers are endemic which means they only live in certain places like Hawaii. It's sad if they go extinct because honeycreepers are symbols and are very important to Hawaiian culture. Honeycreeper feathers are a symbol of power. Honeycreepers used to be caught for their

feathers and used for capes and helmets.

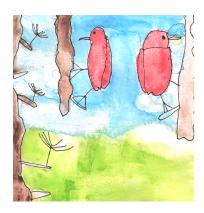
Finally, without them native ecosystems could collapse. Honeycreepers are important because of what they do to our environment. If we can increase the honeycreeper population we will be able to have these birds for much longer and help the ecosystem by pollinating. As you can tell, honeycreepers can help us with native plant growth, making the native ecosystem stronger, and help us so future generations can see and learn about it.

Sincerely, Cody Burigsay Grade 5 Mānoa Elementary School

# **Testimony in Support of HCR81**

Dear Chair Ichiyama, Vice Chair Poepoe and Members of the Committee,

To begin with I strongly support the resolution HCR81to make this summer August 8



2023 Hawaiian Honeycreeper Day. Firstly, future generations may not be able to see the birds that we have, so we have to protect the Hawaiian honeycreeper. The Hawaiian honeycreeper is important for history and ancestors. In addition the Hawaiian honeycreeper is endemic and only found in Hawaii so that means there are barely any of them left because they are only found in Hawaii and not other places.

If we raise awareness then the community can help support the Hawaiian honeycreeper by doing captive breeding. We can do that by gathering money from the community to help support the

captive breeding for the Hawaiian Honeycreeper and save them from the mosquitos. It is important to do captive breeding because we can breed them and make more and then send them out to native forests. We as a community should support Hawaiian honeycreepers because future generations won't be able to see what we see in the present.

Next, the native birds are important to the diversity; without them the collapse of native forest ecosystems could happen. The native birds are important to the endemic Ohia tree because the Hawaiian honeycreeper pollinates the Ohia tree. When a hawaiian honeycreeper pollinates a ohia tree it takes its pollen it gives the pollen to another tree and the tree that receives it makes more ohia trees. Without the native forest there will be fewer habitats for the populations that are left. Furthermore, the Ohia trees are helpful to the environment because they help collect water in our watersheds which also means they have a connection to the water that we use to drink today.

As you can see, we should all help protect native birds because without them lots of bad things happen, future generations won't be able to see them, native forests could collapse, and the trees that help the watershed could suffer.

Sincerely, Austin Chun Grade 5 Mānoa Elementary School

## **HCR-81**

Submitted on: 3/24/2023 1:19:27 PM

Testimony for CAI on 3/30/2023 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Julia Diegmann	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

#### Comments:

Aloha Chairs, Vice chairs, and Members of the Culture, and International Affairs (CAI) committee and Water & Land (WAL) committees,

I am submitting testimony in STRONG SUPPORT for resolutions number HCR81 and HR86.

Our native Honeycreepers are foundational to the culture, forests, and ecosystems of Hawai'i and they are disappearing at an alarming rate. On the island of Kaua'i, we have already lost dozens of forest bird species due to avian diseases transmitted by non-native mosquitoes, among them iconic species like the Kaua'i 'ō'ō, featured in mahiole and 'ahu 'ula, and the spectacular Kaua'i 'akialoa, a pollinator of 'ōhi'a lehua and insect eater. We are grieving the loss of their song, the loss of their beauty and the loss of their presence.

Today, more voices in our forests are vanishing: of the six remaining Honeycreepers species on Kaua'i, two are critically endangered. The 'akikiki is going extinct in the wild as you are reading these lines and the 'akeke'e is predicted to go extinct in the wild within the next couple years.

A statewide Hawaiian Honeycreepers Celebration Day would provide an opportunity to give these species a voice. It would help to raise awareness about the ongoing extinction crisis with residents and visitors, strengthen our relationship with our native forest birds and highlight the tremendous work our conservation community is doing statewide to fight not only the imminent extinction of these species, but also to fight the misinformation being spread about proposed conservation efforts.

Please support these resolutions.

Mahalo.

Dr. Julia Diegmann

Kalāheo, Kaua'i

House of Representatives Committees on Water and Land / Culture, Arts, and International Affairs March 21, 2023 State Capitol

## **Testimony in Support of HCR81 and HR86**

Dear Chairs Tam and Ichiyama, Vice Chairs Martinez and Poepoe, and Members of the Committees



I strongly support the resolution **HCR81** to make August 8, 2023 Hawaiian Honeycreeper day. Honeycreepers are important because they help grow plants that help the watershed. They're important to ecosystems, and important to Hawaiian culture. To start with, Hawaiian Honeycreepers help grow plants that help the watershed. They help pollinate Ōhi'a lehua which helps collect fresh groundwater for our watershed.. Furthermore, they are important to the ecosystem because if they die out a huge part of our natural ecosystem and culture will too. Out of 50 species, only 17 species are left. Last but not least They are important to Hawaiian culture because their feathers were used to make capes for ali'i, and were seen as spiritual guides or *aumakua*. In conclusion, why I think we should have a state Hawaiian honeycreeper day is because they need to be

recognized. They do so much for the environment like helping grow plants that help the watershed, and they deserve to be cared for.

Sincerely, Michael Fujimoto Grade 5 Mānoa Elementary School House of Representatives Committees on Water and Land / Culture, Arts, and International Affairs March 21, 2023 State Capitol

# Testimony in Support of HCR81 and HR86

Dear Chairs Tam and Ichiyama, Vice Chairs Martinez and Poepoe, and Members of the Committees

I strongly agree with **HCR81** that we should make August 8, 2023 Hawaiian Honeycreeper Day because if not, future generations won't see or learn about the honeycreepers,



the native ecosystems will collapse, and we must remember that these birds are important to the biodiversity of our forests.

To start, future generations may never see or learn about these birds because these birds are native to here and they are endemic. These species are also endangered meaning that the population of these birds are very low. If these birds are gone, the future generations wouldn't know that these birds existed.

Furthermore, these birds also help our native ecosystems and they keep it alive. There might be native plants and animals to the ecosystems too and might not be found anywhere else. If these birds are gone, the native plants might go extinct, then the animals that eat those plants will go extinct, then the habitat/ecosystem might not be a good place to live in for the animals and thus the habitat/ecosystem will collapse.

Finally, The biodiversity of our forests is what makes our forests unique. Several plants depend on these honeycreepers and some of these plants might be endemic to Hawai'i. Since some of these plants or animals might be endangered, they might depend on honeycreepers to try and keep them alive. If the honeycreepers are gone, those plants and animals that depend on the birds might go extinct and researchers won't have evidence that the species existed. Therefore, we should take care of the Hawaiian Honeycreepers and protect them so that they won't go extinct and thus making August 8 Hawaiian Honeycreeper Day.

Sincerely, Kylie Fukunaga Grade 5 Mānoa Elementary School House of Representatives Committees on Water and Land / Culture, Arts, and International Affairs March 21, 2023 State Capitol

## **Testimony in Support of HCR81 and HR86**

Dear Chairs Tam and Ichiyama, Vice Chairs Martinez and Poepoe, and Members of the Committees.

I strongly support the resolution **HCR81** to make August 8th, 2023, Hawaiian Honeycreeper Day.



Firstly, I support this idea because they are extremely important to the biodiversity of our native forests. They evolved from the Asian Rose Finch into over fifty different types of honeycreepers. Now there are only seventeen out of fifty types left. They are found in Uka, the mountains, Ula, the lower part of the valley, and Kai, the ocean. And, fun fact, the honeycreepers actually evolved to mimic the shapes of the native flowers used by the honeycreepers to live and survive if not off of bugs.

In addition, without them, the huge parts of our native ecosystems will collapse. We will lose our native forests that are slowly thriving beautifully, we will have too much water and less of a smooth watershed. One of the worst parts of this is we will have less biodiversity. The reason why it is so

important is because some of the forests are popular tourist sights and it has almost every color in the rainbow which makes the mountains so majestic.

Moreover, these amazing birds are *very* important to Hawaiian culture. Cultural clothing made with the feathers of honeycreepers were meant to represent them. The birds would be a signal of messages or sometimes the *aumakua*, or guardian angels of people. Since the birds would help to pollinate our native flowers, the people of Hawaii would make fragrant flower lei with the bird's help.

Therefore, without the help of us humans and the special qualities of the honeycreepers, we will lose our biodiversity, the importance to Hawaiian culture, the understanding of the birds, and worst of all, our wonderful home the ecosystem has given to us.

Sincerely, Erielle Ho Grade 5 Mānoa Elementary School

## **HCR-81**

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 8:08:36 PM

Testimony for CAI on 3/30/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Jaylin Shirafuji	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

### Comments:

I, Jaylin Shirafuji, support this resolution because Hawaiian Honeycreepers are in danger. I've been researching about these honeycreepers in school, specifically the Kauai 'Amakihi. The threats of this bird include loss of habitat from invasive plants, predation from rats, cats, and mongoose, as well as disease, like avian malaria. These honeycreepers are special to Hawaiian culture, found in Hawaiian stories, proverbs, legends, and songs. Without any community awareness or support, this might be the last generation to witness these amazing birds.

House of Representatives
Committee on Culture Arts and International Affairs
Representative Adrian Tam
Representative Rose Martinez
Committee on Water and Land
Representative Linda Ichiyama
Representative Mahina Poepoe

March 30, 2023 9:30 am Conference Room #430 State Capitol

Testimony in Support of HCR81 and HR86

Aloha Chair Tam and Chair Martinez, Chair Ichiyma and Chair Poepoe, and members of the committees of Culture Arts and International Affairs, and the Committee on Water and Land,

I am writing in **strong support** of resolutions HCR81 and HR86, regarding the declaration of August 8th as Hawaiian Honeycreepers Celebration Day.

I support this resolution because Hawaii is well-known for its rich history and tradition. Historically, Honeycreeper birds played a vital role in ancient Hawaiian culture. They are found in our cultural knowledge such as, in *mo'olelo* (stories), *'ōlelo no'eau* (proverbs), *ka'ao* (legends), and *mele* (songs). Their feathers were worn by *ali'i* (chiefs) as a symbol of power and have been a part of ancient Hawaiian culture for years. Today, the Honeycreeper is crucial to Hawaii's ecosystem and culture, and as they disappear, so does our *pilina* (relationship and connection) between communities and birds. I write this testimony today to provide community awareness and support to take care of Hawaii's birds, through the declaration of Hawaiian Honeycreeper Celebration Day on August 8, in the State of Hawaii. Honeycreepers face many threats such as avian malaria and competition with non-native species and are estimated to be extinct in 10 years. It is time to recognize and spread awareness about our endemic Hawaii Honeycreepers through the Hawaiian Honeycreeper Celebration Day.

With Aloha,

Maria Nicole Pineda 8th-grade student Highlands Intermediate School 1460 Ho'olaulea Street Pearl City, HI 96782 (808) 307-5000

## **HCR-81**

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 8:55:40 PM

Testimony for CAI on 3/30/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Dallin Kilton	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

#### Comments:

I support this resolution because Honeycreepers are extremely important to our state's ecosystem and culture, but our Pilina between ourselves and birds is diminishing as these birds get very close to extinction. To be exact, 17 of the more than 50 Honeycreeper species remain with 12 listed as critically endangered. This effects all of us in different ways, some more than others. I, for example, am very appreciative of nature and all it does for it. I learn new things about it every day and I can't emphasize more how much the extinction of even one small species can have on our planet. The beauty all around that I, and everyone else, have the opportunity to experience all the time is more precious than any possession anyone could ever have, and to think how much it has already diminished and how much it will keep diminishing if we do not act. Though designating 8/08 as Hawaiian Honeycreeper Day is just a small act, it can have tremendous effects as it will raise awareness which will in turn cause people to take action which will have their own effects. This would be a huge help to Hawai'i's ecosystem. Thank you for your time and consideration.

## **HCR-81**

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 9:23:10 PM

Testimony for CAI on 3/30/2023 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Samantha Galeria	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Dear Senator or Congressman

Testimony in support of HCR81 regarding the resolution to make August 8th (8/08) the Hawaiian Honeycreeper Celebration Day. I, Samantha Galeria, am writing to support HCR81. I support this bill because the honeycreeper species has dwindled from 50 species to 17, with 12 of them being critically endangered. An example of this is the Hawaii Akepa which is endangered due to the decline in area and the quality of their habitat. Rapid ohia death is killing their habitats. Since the Hawaii Akepa is endemic to only that one island, their range in habitats is getting diminished as time goes on. Honeycreepers are also susceptible to mosquito borne diseases. If the mosquito population isn't controlled, then it is estimated that honeycreepers will be extinct in 10 years. The honeycreepers need to be protected because they play such an important role in Hawaii culture as their feathers were used to be worn by the ali'i before and the stories about them that have been passed on from generation to generation. Imagine if the next generation of people who live on these islands will never live to see such a cultural significance and hear their chirps in the forests. Knowing this, the honeycreepers need to be recognized so that they can live to see another generation of Hawaii.

Thank you for considering my testimony,

Samantha Galeria

Highlands Intermediate School

# HCR-81

Submitted on: 3/24/2023 6:29:59 PM

Testimony for CAI on 3/30/2023 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Candice Sakuda	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

# Comments:

Aloha kākou,

I fully support HCR81, as it would help to raise awareness and appreciation for our honeycreepers. They are not only critical to our ecosystems; they are also culturally important. We have a responsibility to protect Hawai'i's native birds facing human-induced threats.

Mahalo nui for your consideration.

C. Sakuda

Date: March 27, 2023

To: The Honorable Rep. Adrian Tam, Chair

The Honorable Rep. Rose Martinez, Vice Chair

Members of the House Committee on Culture, Arts & International Affairs

To: The Honorable Rep. Linda Ichiyama, Chair

The Honorable Rep. Mahina Poepoe, Vice Chair Members of the House Committee on Water & Land

From: Tiffany, 'Iolani school

Re: Strong Support for HCR 81 and HR 86

Hearing: March 30, 2023

# Dear Legislators,

I am Tiffany, a student at Iolani School, and I was born and raised in Hawaii and was taught some Hawaiian at my elementary school. Therefore, its culture and the conservation of it still means a great deal to me. Also, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support for HCR 81 and HR 86, which will grant special status to the honeycreepers in Hawaii.

First of all, I would like to state the cultural significance of the Hawaiian Honeycreepers. The great impact the birds have on the Hawaiians is shown through the mo'olelo, 'ōlelo no'eau, ka'ao, and mele. Because of this, the endangerment of the Hawaiian Honeycreepers is not a situation that should be ignored and put aside, especially since Hawaii is our home. This means that we are responsible for protecting its culture by taking action in saving the birds that are mentioned in many forms of Hawaiian culture. If the Honeycreepers are not saved in time, stories, poems, and songs that emphasize the birds' cultural impact would most likely be forgotten. And may I remind you that these native birds are not only a part of Hawaiian culture, but also a part of Hawaiians' identities, therefore this issue should be taken more seriously.

Not only should this bill be passed due to the Hawaiian Honeycreepers' significance in Hawaiian culture, but also because of the extremely harmful effect avian malaria, climate change, and other causes of extinction has on the birds. For background information, avian malaria, carried by mosquitoes, is a highly infectious disease to birds. And because of the warming climate, the remaining disease-free refuges of higher elevations, which are the Honeycreepers' habitats, are becoming more suitable for these dangerous mosquitoes, killing off the Honeycreeper population. To support this, since the early 1900s, the Honeycreeper population reduced from fifty species to only seventeen species, twelve of them listed as endangered, which is only forty percent of the original number of species. In addition, there is currently no treatment for the disease, which would result in the birds' population to continue declining at an very alarming rate. If we do not take action, sooner or later, all of the Hawaiian Honeycreepers species will go extinct.

Lastly, the Hawaiian Honeycreepers should receive more protection and support because they play an important role in stabilizing Hawaii's ecosystem. Hawaiian honeycreepers serve many purposes, including as pollinators, nutrient cyclers, seed dispersers, and pest managers. Two of these purposes are functioning as pollinators and seed dispersers. This stabilizes the Hawaiian ecosystem because, during the process of seed dispersal and pollination of transporting plant seeds for germination and transferring pollen for fertilization, they are facilitating the growth and health of native plants.

In conclusion, Hawaiian Honeycreepers' cultural significance, exposure to extreme danger, and role in stabilizing Hawaii's ecosystem are reasons why I strongly support HCR 81 and HR 86. It is for these reasons that I urge your support for this bill to protect the Hawaiian Honeycreepers. Thank you.

Mahalo, Tiffany, 14 'Iolani School Honolulu Date: March 27, 2023

To: The Honorable Rep. Adrian Tam, Chair

The Honorable Rep. Rose Martinez, Vice Chair

Members of the House Committee on Culture, Arts & International Affairs

To: The Honorable Rep. Linda Ichiyama, Chair

The Honorable Rep. Mahina Poepoe, Vice Chair

Members of the House Committee on Water & Land

From: Robyn, 'Iolani School

Re: Strong Support for HCR 81 and HR 86

Hearing: March 30, 2023

Dear Legislators,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in SUPPORT of HCR 81 and HR 86 which will provide a day to honor the honeycreepers.

This is important to me because in Biology class, we have been learning about the honeycreepers and how they are becoming endangered and extinct. This information has led me to realize how much danger the honeycreepers are in right now and that more people should become aware of this. The honeycreepers are keystone species in certain ecosystems which means that they are key in keeping an ecosystem stable. For example, the 'I'iwi bird drinks the nectar from the 'ohi'a and the lobelia flowers with its curved beak. This also pollinates the flowers so that the plants can reproduce.

The honeycreepers are a group of birds that are important to the native islands. They help to not only keep the ecosystem stable, but are also a representation of the past Hawaiian culture. If this is approved, this can bring awareness to the people that these honeycreepers are important, and that we should try and put more effort into saving them.

Mahalo, Robyn, 14 'Iolani School Honolulu, HI Date: March 27, 2023

To: The Honorable Rep. Adrian Tam, Chair

The Honorable Rep. Rose Martinez, Vice Chair

Members of the House Committee on Culture, Arts & International Affairs

To: The Honorable Rep. Linda Ichiyama, Chair

The Honorable Rep. Mahina Poepoe, Vice Chair Members of the House Committee on Water & Land

From: Jules, 'Iolani School

Re: Strong Support for HCR 81 and HR 86

Hearing: March 30, 2023

Dear Legislators,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in **SUPPORT** of HCR 81 and HR 86 which will help protect and preserve Honeycreepers.

I strongly support HCR  $81\,$  and HR  $86\,$  because of the ecological and cultural importance honeycreepers have in Hawaii.

As someone who cares very much for the health of these honeycreepers and the effects that might be brought on their extinction, I am writing this to you in hopes of bringing this very devastating problem to your attention in order to fix it. This is crucial as, if it is not fixed fast, there will be harsh effects, such as losing an important part of Hawai'i's culture and a collapsing ecosystem on our hands. The honeycreepers have been a part of Hawai'i's culture for a very long time and having those relationships taken away can take a lot away from our relationship with the history of this island. Honeycreepers can also not be replaced, making it so that its niches can no longer be carried out (leading to the fall of Hawai'i's ecosystem).

Native Hawaiians have a deep connection with Hawaiian birds and honor, refer, and deify them as family, guardians, spirit, ancestors, and gods. Hawaiians have had these connections for centuries and it would be calamitous for those relationships to be taken away. Honeycreepers have a unique place in Hawaiians' hearts playing a big role in their culture. Their feathers were used in various items such as leis, cloaks, capes, helmets, and kahili being used as a symbol for power, rank, status, and wisdom, being worn by the high chiefs (who were considered to be descended from the gods). I am not Hawaiian myself, but being born and raised in Hawai'i has made me really care for Hawaiian culture. Overall, my point is that we have had a close relationship with these honeycreepers for a really, really long time. To lose this relationship that we have kept with them for so long would be heartbreaking and would change Hawaiian culture's relationship with nature as a whole.

The protection and the preservation of the honeycreepers are also vital in ensuring the spread of and growth of Hawai'i's native plants. Honeycreeper's seed dispersal and pollination ensure the native plant has a stable population. Honeycreepers also keep the bug population down even though they don't control the mosquito population enough to survive their disease dispersal. The honeycreepers are a very important species and no other species on the island can replace its job in the ecosystem. Species from the mainland might have been able to replace the honeycreepers, but introducing more invasive species to Hawai'i could just create even more problems and complications on the island.

Already, more than 33 species of honeycreepers have gone extinct with only a few species having less than 200. These honeycreepers have been going extinct because of multiple reasons such as habitat loss, climate change, increasing the mosquito elevation line, and introduced predators, but still have their biggest threat: Avian malaria. Avian malaria is a mosquito-carried disease caused by Plasmodium that can cause these birds to die from just one bite. We need to stop these types of problems from occurring by either figuring a way to decrease the mosquito population, or creating some sort of vaccine to make it so they are able to or are at least more likely in fighting off the virus that was brought upon them.

Honeycreepers clearly have a cultural and ecological importance and there are also many other reasons why they should be preserved and looked over. Honeycreepers also have thousands of people if not more that care about their population. As a teenager, I know you probably think I am too young and might not know enough on this topic, but I at least realize how big of a problem this actually is. The choices you make now could have a huge effect on the future of Hawai'i and will turn out positive or negative depending on if you make the right choice. So please, make the right decision so you don't regret it later and help me in supporting these elegant and essential creatures.

Mahalo,

Jules, 15 'Iolani School Honolulu, HI

# SAVE THE HONEYCREEPER

Aleana - Freshman at 'Iolani School



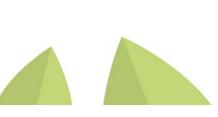
The native manu of
Hawaii have a cultural
significance to the
Kanaka Maoli as they
were a vital part of
ancient life.



"Every year, the honeycreeper species suffers from a significant population decline. This is due to the severity of many threats being posed toward them. As they are at risk of becoming extinct, it is very necessary that we take action to save them from being gone forever."















# SAVE THE HAWAIIAN HONEYCREEPERS





 Honeycreepers are endemic to the Hawaiian Islands. Over 30 species have already gone extinct! We MUST protect these honeycreepers for our future generations.

https://picryl.com/media/akiaplaau-hemignathus-monroi-or-hawaiian-honeycreeper-hawaii-volcanoes-national-307c32

 Non-native species, habitat loss, and introduced diseases are the biggest threats to honeycreepers. If we do nothing to control these invasive species, the honeycreepers will go completely extinct!



https://garystockbridge617.getarchive.net/amp/media/protect-against-mosquito-borne-diseases-7af7c2



https://www.flickr.com/photos/wallyg/4827161644

 Feathers of the honeycreepers were used as a symbol of power in ancient Hawai'i. and certain chants were created based off of the birds. If they go extinct. Hawai'i will lose a crucial part of their culture and history.



The many beloved and unique honeycreeper species of Hawai'i are on the brink of extinction with only 17 of more than 50 honeycreeper species left on Hawai'i. Of those 17, 12 are critically endangered or threatened.

Save the special Hawaiian birds who help to pollinate our native plants and maintain pest control in Hawai'i that'll balance our ecosystem . . .

Help the people of Hawai'i preserve their culture and land through saving our endemic and spiritual honeycreepers.

Fiona - 'Iolani Schoon



https://snl.no/orienteparula

# PROTECT THE HAWAII HONEYCREEPERS

95 out of 142
endemic manu
species are
extinct while
remaining 47 are
in critical
condition

KERYS- FRESHMAN AT 'IOLANI SCHOOL



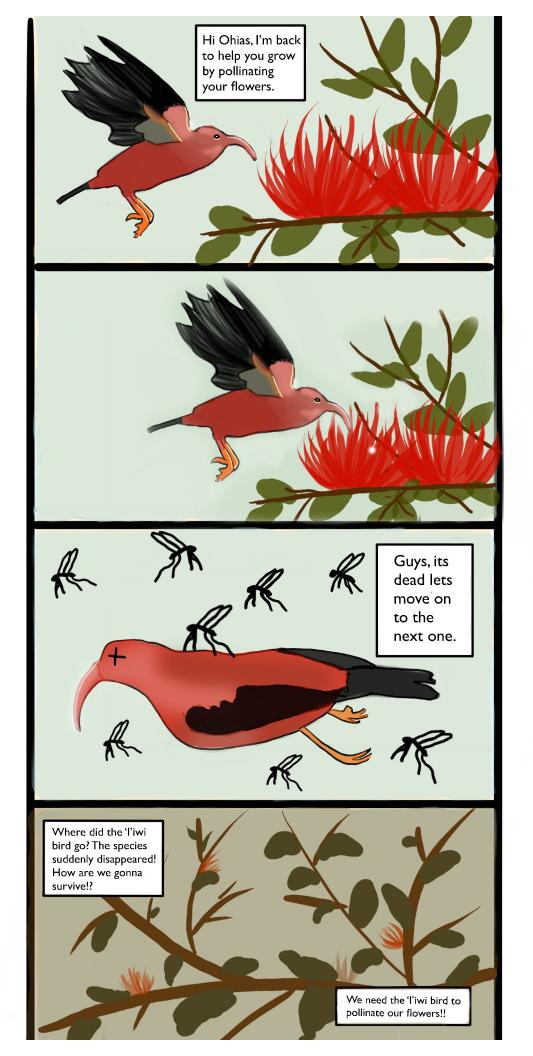


Endangered by invasive species-rats, cats, mongoose, avian malaria

Don't you want the future generations to see these beautiful birds?

If nothing is done to stop the mosquitos population from expanding, the honeycreepers will go extinct in ten years!

Manu's
are
endemic
to Hawaii
and are a
keystone
species



# A LIFE WITHOUT HONEY CREEPERS

Honeycreepers are one of many native species going extinct in Hawaii. Some of the causes of this is, an avian disease called Plasmodium relictum which is spreaded by mosquitos. Honeycreepers also suffer from the lack of food and habitat due to rapid 'ohi'a death.



Honeycreepers are extremely important to
Hawaiian culture and if they go extinct, so does
a part of Hawaiian history and culture.
Hawaiian traditions are slowly disappearing
and if key aspects like honeycreepers vanish it
will be gone forever, and these consequences
cannot be fixed.



# Listen to these recorded testimonies from our Haumana.





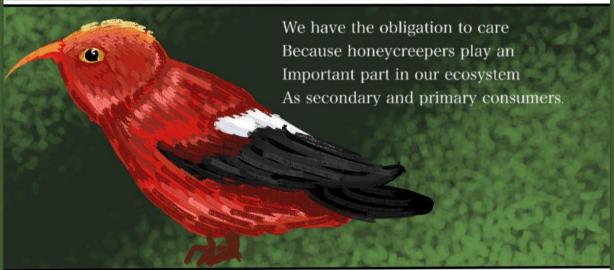
Joey and Noa





**Griffin and Jacob** 







of the more than 50 species of honeycreepers endemic to Hawai'i, only 17 species remain and 12 of those are designated as critically endangered or threatened by the federal or State government.

# Please save us!

# Tweet or Vote YES

For The Resolution on recognizing August 8th, 2023 as Hawai'i Honeycreeper Celebration Day!

# Ploaso liston to our young people\_

This year, 'Iolani school ninth graders spent the better part of a month learning about the uniqueness of our Hawaiian honeycreepers and the role they play in our state - both biologically and culturally. The topics were diverse and included the concept of an organism's niche in the habitat, nutrient and energy flow in an ecosystem, and ecosystem resilience.

Through it all, each student researched one specific honeycreeper in depth - learning about its lifestyle, needs, and ecological interactions. From watching kahiko dances about the extinct O'o to thinking about the different organisms that the birds need to survive, the students immersed themselves in our rainforest ecosystems.

A hundred of our biology students turned in various styles of testimony in support of Hawai'i Honeycreeper Celebration Day. We picked a sample of the best of the letters and posters to represent the group's opinions.

Passing the resolution would give our honeycreepers needed recognition and help pave the way for more ambitious conservation efforts.

Mahalo nui loa in advance for voting for our resolution!

Lara K. Lee, PhD

Sara Allan, MA Ed

'Iolani School Science Department

They are our future!



The honey creepers need your help. Please support our resolution for the honeycreepers and vote in favor of the Hawaiian Honeycreeper Celebration Day. They are a key part of our Hawaiian culture and ecosystems and we can't afford to lose them.

### Dear Legislature of Hawaii,

I am a current 'Iolani school student and I am writing to you about the Hawaiian Honeycreepers which are either already endangered, or they are at extremely high risks of extinction, and we need to save them and spread awareness about this. The Hawaiian Honeycreepers have been declining and are already endangered. There have been around 50 species and now, only 17 species and many of them have less than 200 individuals remaining causing them to be on the verge of extinction. Unless we do something now about it, they will become extinct and a big part of not only the ecosystems in Hawaii will be affected because they are keystone species since they are important in pollination and the dispersion of seeds, but a big part of Hawaiian culture will be gone.

Often mistaken as finches, Hawaiian Honeycreepers are small to medium sized birds with their plumage of various colors and with beaks of variation of sizes and shapes. They evolved from a single species of finch that arrived to the Hawaiian Islands millions of years ago which evolved into 50 to 60 species of honeycreepers. They are endemic to Hawaii and in Native Hawaiian culture, the Native Hawaiians have a deep connection with them and honor and revere them. They also regard them as spirits, gods, family, and ancestors, and are considered spiritual guides. Their feathers are seen as symbols of power and early Hawaiians have been known to pluck their feathers for many different cultural purposes including for creating leis, cloaks and helmets for those of nobility.

The Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important to their ecosystem in many ways. They are important pollinators to native plants including the Ohia, they disperse seeds around, and they are important for keeping the insect population under control. No other population of birds could replace what the honeycreepers are doing to the ecosystem, if they were to go extinct, since the Hawaiian Islands are so isolated

The first thing we need to know in order to save the Hawaiian Honeycreepers, is to find out what is causing the problem, and from there, we can find solutions. The biggest problem causing the honeycreeper populations to decline is the increasing presence of mosquitoes carrying avian malaria in their habitat and global warming which correlate together. Honeycreepers live in altitudes over 3000 feet where the climate is cooler so mosquitoes cannot inhabit there and spread the deadly avian malaria to them. However, now with global warming occurring, the altitudes where the honeycreepers previously inhabited have become warmer so it is now inhabitable by mosquitoes. This causes the honeycreepers to move to higher altitudes where it is cooler in an attempt to flee them and the avian malaria they carry. Some other problems include loss of habitat, and predation by invasive species brought over by foreigners.

To save the honeycreepers, we need to put effort into preventing global warming, establishing laws preventing deforestation that causes loss of habitat to the honeycreepers, and finally, controlling the populations of invasive species.

We need to take action now to help repopulate the critically endangered honeycreepers. By doing this, we can save Hawaiian culture, help the ecosystems to thrive, and also save native Hawaiian plants. Honeycreepers have always been a big part of ancient Hawaiian culture, which we need to sustain. Also, they are also keystone species, meaning they are important parts of the ecosystem and they pollinate plants including many native Hawaiian endangered plants. They also are important for seed dispersion. By saving them, we can preserve the unique Hawaiian ecosystem which is full of biodiversity. We can save them from extinction if we make efforts to prevent global warming, control invasive species' populations, and prevent deforestation. We need to spread awareness and Hawaii should make August, 8, 2023, as Hawai'i Honeycreepers celebration day.

### Sincerely,

A Concerned Hawaiian Citizen

### References

CENGAGE. (n.d.). Hawaiian Honeycreepers: Drepanididae. Retrieved February 16, 2023, from https://www.encyclopedia.com/science/encyclopedias-almanacs-transcripts-and-maps/hawaiian-honeycreepers-drepanididae

Derouin, S. (2016, November 18). The beloved Hawaiian honeycreeper birds are at risk of extinction from avian malaria. Retrieved February 16, 2023, from

https://news.mongabay.com/2016/11/the-beloved-hawaiian-honeycreeper-birds-are-at-risk-of-extinction-from-avian-malaria/

Kaiser, S. (2016, September 21). Birds at the Edge: The Plight of the Hawaiian Honeycreepers. Retrieved February 16, 2023, from

https://www.islandconservation.org/plight-of-the-hawaiian-honeycreepers/#:~:text=Through%20seed%20dispersal%20and %20pollination,were%20all%20to%20completely%20disappear.

McClymont, R., & Paxton, E. H. (2022, May 25). A Climate Change Canary in the Coal Mine - The Endangered Hawaiian Honeycreepers. Retrieved February 16, 2023, from

https://www.usgs.gov/news/featured-story/climate-change-canary-coal-mine-endangeredhawaiian-honeycreepers

# RECOGNIZING AUGUST 8, 2023 AS lawyii floneycreepers celebration Bay

why should this matter?

# culturally...

- Part of Hawai'i's history, beliefs
- Feathers were "sacred"
  - Clothing made with honored feathers
  - Only ali'i could wear cloaks, clothing and headpieces made of honeycreeper feathers
  - Shows the honor, remembrance, and respect native Hawaiians hold for honeycreepers
- Vital to keep Hawai'i's fading culture alive, thriving and true to itself









# in flavaiis ecozystem

- Vital part of the ecosystem:
  - -Acts as main pollinators in Hawai'i
- -Pollinates native plant species such as the 'ohi'a lehua, keeping this native plant species alive and thriving
- -Without honeycreepers, parts of the food chain could fail
  - -Other native species that feed on native plants pollinated, such as the ohi'a lehua

HAWAII HONEYCREEPER CELEBRATION DAY WOULD RAISE AWARENESS FOR ENDANGERED HONEYCREEPERS!

# Dear Legislators of Hawaii,

I am a 9th grader at 'Iolani School. I firmly believe that it is of utmost importance to save the Hawaiian Honeycreepers as extinction looms closer and closer for these birds. These honeycreepers, which are found nowhere else in the world but on the Hawaiian Islands, are on the brink of extinction, which is why we must rectify this crisis by taking action. There are many reasons for the decline in Hawaiian Honeycreeper species, some of which include habitat degradation, human activity, invasive species,

introduced invasive species, introduced competitors, diseases, and more.

1 The conservation of Hawaiian Honeycreepers is of significance as they play a major role here in the Hawaiian islands, both from a cultural and biological aspect. Honeycreepers are of great significance in native Hawaiian culture, some of which are believed to be the physical embodiments and representations of ancient deities, such as the 'Apapane and the Kiwikiu. An attestation to this significance is the Honeycreepers impact on their respective ecosystems as a keystone species as it facilitates the stability and growth of the ecosystems here on the islands. They assist with biodiversity conservation, which aids with the upkeep of biological functions in ecosystems such as nurturing recycling, pest and disease regulation, pollination, etc. and are vital in the ecosystem's inertia and resilience. Ecosystems with higher biodiversities tend to be more productive and stable as they are correlated with the amount of biodiversity an ecosystem has. Predators and other threats such as avian malaria jeopardize the Honeycreeper species by habitat degradation and disease dispersal. The warming of the climate caused by global warming and climate change are enabling mosquitoes to move into higher elevations, pushing Hawaiian Honeycreepers to live in high-elevation areas such as the Alaka'i Plateau on Kauai and Haleakalā on Maui. These mosquitoes carry the protozoan parasite, P. Relictum, which causes avian malaria, which can kill these Hawaiian Honeycreeperspecies. For example, the 'Alauahio and the l'iwi had a mortality rate that exceeded 75% after being exposed to single mosquito bites.

2 The extinction of the Hawaiian honeycreepers would eventually impact us from a biological perspective. Due to the fact that their biological niche includes seed dispersal and the pollination of many different plants in their ecosystem, some of which are endemic to Hawaii. This allows for an increase in the biodiversity of the ecosystem, but also allows for the increase of oxygen in the atmosphere, which would then assist with respiration. The biological niche of the Hawaiian Honeycreepers also includes the predation on insects, which help with pest control, which would in turn benefit humans as insects with an exponential growth without a limiting factor would negatively affect the quality of life for many. As expressed, it would be of interest to take action and conserve the Hawaiian Honeycreepers due to their significance and important roles that they play in Hawaiian ecosystems and in Hawaiian culture. They play an integral role in culture as symbols of deities and are a keystone species in ecosystems through their biological niche which consists of pollination, seed dispersal, insect regulation and control, and more. The success of our actions to save the Hawaiian Honeycreepers heavily relies on the awareness of the community and their support.

I support the action of taking a reasonable approach to tackle this issue by recognizing August 8, 2023, as a celebratory day of awareness for the Hawaiian Honeycreepers.

### Mahalo!

2 Atkinson, C. T., Lease, J. K., Drake, B. M., & Shema, N. P. (2001). Pathogenicity, serological responses, and diagnosis of experimental and natural malarial infections in native hawaiian thrushes. The Condor, 103(2), 209-218. https://doi.org/10.1093/condor/103.2.209

1 Atkinson, C. T., & Lapointe, D. A. (2009). Introduced avian diseases, climate change, and the future of hawaiian honeycreepers. Journal of Avian Medicine and Surgery, 23(1), 53-63. https://doi.org/10.1647/2008-059.18 Honolulu





**FEBRUARY 15, 2023** 

Hawaii State Legislation Government Official Hawaii, United States

Dear Hawaii State Legislator,

I am a current student of 'Iolani School. A few weeks ago, my classmates and I were given an assignment, regarding different types of Hawaiian Honeycreepers. We were given the task to research and get to know our bird. Some of us got to research about the amazing birds that live on the Hawaiian islands, but others weren't as fortunate becasue the birds they researched had already become extinct. Extinction of these majestic creatures is a problem that has continued to grow at an alarming rate. As a student, citizen of Hawaii, and person who cares about these spectacular creatures, I am asking you to please consider voting for our resolution, in an attempt to save the Hawaiian Honeycreepers.

The Hawaiian Honeycreepers are a species of birds that are native to the Hawaiian islands. In the past, there were more than 50 species of honeycreepers spread across Hawaii—today, only 17 species remain (McClymot, n.d.). The population decline of native forest birds has continued to increase in the past 2 decades. There are many contributing factors to this, including disease, climate change, loss of habitats, and predation. If these problem are not dealt with accordingly, the native species that make our islands so unique will cease to exist.

These islands are just as much of our homes, as it is the homes of the wildlife of Hawaii. Therefore, we should take the time to care for these birds and our Hawaiian islands. We need to take charge of this situation and save our honeycreepers. Please take all of this into consideration when choosing whether or not to vote in support of our resolution.

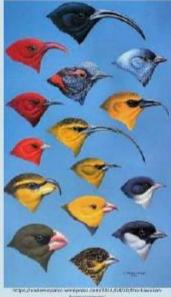
# Vote "Yes!" To Recognize Our Honeycreepers



# Why I Care:

I am a 9th grader at 'Iolani school who is taking the biology course currently. I want to preserve Hawai'i's history. I care about the continuation of the lives of today's Hawaiian honeycreepers. Please say, "yes" to the Hawai'i honeycreeper resolution and appreciate these important species which benefit our island.





# Threats:

Mosquitoes are a great threat to Hawaiian honeycreepers. Avian malaria is detrimental to the honeycreepers' health and one bite leads to death. Scientists believe that if nothing is done to limit the number of mosquitoes that the honeycreepers will go extinct. Climate change also affects this. With rising temperatures, mosquitoes can go to higher elevations without dying. If this continues and they are able to survive higher elevations where the honeycreepers live, it will be difficult for the honeycreepers to not get infected.



https://kauaiforestbirds.org/anianiau/



# **Ecological Importance:**

Hawaiian honeycreepers are important pollinators of native plants. The 'l'iwi and they help pollinate the 'Ohi'a trees, an endangered plant. These birds maintain balance in the ecosystem by supporting native plant species. Deforestation of this tree due to Rapid 'Ohi'a Death, lessens food for many honeycreepers including the 'l'iwis and 'anianiaus.



/www.privatetourshawali.com/blog/the-liwi-bird-hawalian-honeycreeper

# Cultural significance:

The 'I'iwi have cultural significance. This bird's scarlet feathers have been seen in the capes made for the royalty. Each feather was handpicked just for the cape. Feathers were used to show the status of someone back. The Hawaiian honeycreepers have lived alongside natives and it would be a shame not to appreciate them. By acknowledging these Hawaiian honeycreepers, we are protecting its history.

# Dear Legislators,

I am K ----- from 'Iolani School. After being assigned a honeycreeper in biology class, we researched about them, learning many new things. I was assigned the o'u and shocked to find out that they have not been seen since 1992 and could potentially be extinct. During my research, I only found 2 sites with information about the o'u. To me, this meant they were either great hiders or no one cared enough to find more information on them. I may not be a professional, but the fact is that honeycreepers have long been around, treasured by ancient Hawaiians, yet we do not continue that legacy today. As such, I request your support for the honeycreeper bill.

Many species of honeycreepers have gone extinct in a short period of time, with only 17 out of 50 species alive. With avian malaria and other mosquito-borne diseases, habitat and food resource loss, and predation, the decline in population is continuous. Avian malaria is the worst out of all these death causes. An 'i'wi can be killed by a single bite from a mosquito infected with avian malaria. With the climate warming, mosquitos move up into the honeycreeper's last refuge. We should take care of the problem we have caused. The honeycreepers were here during ancient Hawaiian times and had far less predators then. When settlers began to arrive, rats and mosquitoes did too. Rats fed on the honeycreepers and their eggs and the birds could do nothing as they had never had such predators before. Mosquitoes carried diseases which the honeycreepers had no immunity to. If the honeycreepers go extinct, our Hawai'i ecosystem will collapse as they act as pollinators for native plants, saving their population, and even control the insect populations. If nothing is done to help, in the next 10 years, all the honeycreepers will be extinct.

Even though we can do little, conservationists do their best to help the honeycreepers. They aretrying a captive breeding program and working on controlling the rat population. Currently, ways to control the mosquitoes and warming temperatures are being thought of. The key to continue the protection of honeycreepers is by generating awareness. To do this, a coast-to-coast trail is in the process of being built. Hawai'i is very isolated and so no bird population can replace the honeycreepers when they go extinct. These unique birds should be recognized for their significance in history, culture, and the ecosystem. There are so many factors that can cause the extinction of honeycreepers that even taking care of them will help the population. The populations we brought to Hawai'i ourselves are killing the native animals that lived here for years, yet we get no help from the government who would be able to help the most.

So again, I request your support for the honeycreeper bill.

# Please Vote in Favor of: Hawaiian Honeycreepers Celebration Day





August 8, 2023 as Hawaiian Honeycreepers Celebration Day

I am a 9th grade student taking biology at 'Iolani School and I am asking for your help in supporting this Resolution. Even though they are crucial to the ecosystem, Hawaiian Honeycreepers are becoming rarer every year. Passing this resolution would raise awareness and assist the Honeycreepers in their struggle of survival.

In the next 10 years, many more Hawaiian honeycreepers will be pushed to the brink of extinction by avian malaria.

Only 17/50 species of Honeycreepers remain today.

Dear Legislators of the State of Hawaii,

I am a student at 'lolani school, and I am writing to ask for your support in the passing of the proposed bill that will grant honeycreepers in Hawai'i with special status. These birds used to be protected by the cool climates of higher altitudes, however the results of global warming have left this species vulnerable to avian diseases. In fact, the honeycreeper population has declined by 94% in the past fifteen years. This means that only 17 species remain to this day. If ecologists don't interfere and try to save the birds, then they could go extinct within ten to thirty years. After conducting research on specific honeycreepers for nearly a month, I've come to the conclusion that honeycreepers deserve more recognition for everything they do for Hawaii's ecosystem as well as the cultural impact they make.

The honeycreeper population had begun declining in the 1800's with the arrival of Captain Cook and other European colonizers. Alongside the explorers came foreign species such as rats and mosquitoes that immediately made an impact on the islands upon their arrival. Rats would raid the honeycreepers' nests in search of eggs or young, small adults. Since this was the first time that honeycreepers were faced with predatory threats, they had no ways of protecting themselves. In addition to rats, other mammals such as cats, boars, and mongoose were released into the wild, which contributed to the rapid decline of the honeycreepers but in much more violent and severe ways (Kaiser). As a result, these honeycreepers had to move and adjust to different areas of the island in order to remain safe.

Another harmful factor that led to the reduction of the honeycreepers includes mosquitoes and the avian diseases they transmit. Mosquitos would bite the birds, which injects plasmodium protozoan parasites that cause a loss of red blood cells in the bird (Derouin). This led to the birds moving to higher areas of elevation, for the mosquitoes do not like cooler climates. While this strategy worked for the honeycreepers, it is slowly starting to fail due to climate change. With the planet's temperature increasing at a relatively rapid rate, the areas of Hawaii that were once a cool sanctuary for the honeycreepers are slowly becoming taken over by the mosquitoes, who can now manage the conditions of the area. This means that we must help the honeycreepers, who have nowhere else to seek refuge or flee to.

Honeycreepers have a vital role in Hawaii because they are endemic keystone species. Due to adaptive radiation, they have evolved from a type of finch to an endemic species that is a component in the flourishing ecosystem. Over time, their beaks have adapted to being better at acquiring the nectar from different native flowers. For instance, the honeycreepers primarily feed on nectar from the ohia. The honeycreepers are the only birds who have a beak that can actually retrieve the nectar from the ohia filaments. As they feed off the flowers, they also facilitate the growth and distribution of native plants through seed dispersal and pollination. Not only that, but they manage and control the population numbers of varying insects. Without the honeycreepers, there will be a decline of native plants and an unbalanced number of insects that will throw off Hawaii's ecosystem.

In addition to playing a significant role in Hawaii's ecosystem, the honeycreepers have also made a cultural impact. A majority of the education provided at 'lolani is based around Hawaii's culture and ancient history, also known as 'ike ku'una. As a result, honeycreepers have been brought up on numerous occasions. Historically, honeycreepers were valued for their beautiful feathers that were used for cloaks, helmets, and leis for the Hawaiian chiefs, or the ali'i (Names). This is because honeycreepers, such as the 'i'iwi, symbolize power and prestige. Only the highest ranked men could wear the feathered cloaks, and only on special occasions. The birds were patiently tracked down, then had their feathers meticulously picked in order to not hurt or damage the bird. Other than their feathers, the honeycreepers themselves were valued as aumakua, which Hawaiians believe are their family god in a physical form. Another example of how they were respected includes hula and Kumulipo, which are dances and chants. Stories of the honeycreepers were passed down from ancestors to remind the younger generations of the importance and value of the birds.

Honeycreepers have been uncredited for so long, so we should repay them by trying to salvage the remaining species we have. There are some conservationists who have initiated projects to help replenish the honeycreeper population. One solution they have started are captive breeding programs that allow honeycreepers to reproduce in a peaceful sanctuary before being released back into the wild. In addition, further measures can be taken, such as predator/pest control and disease management. However, smaller steps can be taken in order to meet these other goals. We can start by educating and involving local communities and schools in order to raise awareness. The people of Hawaii should be aware of the things that are happening to an irreplaceable species and things they can do to save them. Not only that, but the detrimental factors that are killing the birds also negatively impact other species and even the human race. To conclude, we must take urgent measures to save this beloved species from extinction. Thank you for taking the time to take this urgent matter into consideration.

Sincerely, A concerned Iolani student

### References

A climate change canary in the coal mine- the endangered Hawaiian honeycreepers. (2022, May 25). USGS. Retrieved February 16, 2023, from <a href="https://www.usgs.gov/news/featured-story/climate-change-canary-coal-min">https://www.usgs.gov/news/featured-story/climate-change-canary-coal-min</a> e-endangered-hawaiian-honeycreepers

Derouin, S. (2016, November 18). The beloved Hawaiian honeycreeper birds are at risk of extinction from avian malaria. Mongabay. Retrieved February 16, 2023, from https://news.mongabay.com/2016/11/the-beloved-hawaiian-honeycreeperbirds-are-at-risk-of-extinction-from-avian-malaria/

Kaiser, S. (2016, September 21). Birds at the edge: The plight of the Hawaiian honeycreepers. Island Conservation. Retrieved February 16, 2023, from https://www.islandconservation.org/plight-of-the-hawaiian-honeycreepers/

Names, D. G. (n.d.). Hawaiian Honeycreeper. Finch Research Network. Retrieved February 16, 2023, from https://finchnetwork.org/species/honeycreepers

E mālama i kā mākou holoholona hihiu

# SAVE THE HAWAIIAN HAWAIIAN HONEYOREEPERS



Fewer than 2,000 Hawaiian Honeycreepers are left in Hawaii. This majestic species is slowly disappearing but with your help, we can save them from permanent loss. I am a member of 'Iolani School and I am asking for your help to save these beautiful birds before it is too late!

MAKES THE DIFFERENCE

# Dear Legislators,

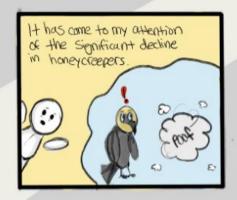
I am writing to support the Resolution recognizing August 8, 2023, as Hawai'i Honeycreepers Celebration Day. I firmly believe that this Resolution is essential to help protect the native manu of Hawai'i and to foster the deepening of pilina with the native manu.

Hawai'i is experiencing a bird extinction crisis, with 95 of its 142 endemic manu (bird) species have become extinct and the remaining 47 species facing critical threats. Of the more than 50 species of honeycreepers endemic to Hawai'i, only 17 remain, and 12 are currently designated as critically endangered or threatened. The threats to the remaining manu species, particularly honeycreepers, include loss of their feeding and nesting habitat, degradation of that habitat by invasive plants, insects, and even diseases such as Rapid' Ōhi'a Death, direct predation by invasive rats, cats, and mongoose, and deadly diseases spread by mosquitoes, particularly avian malaria. Since the introduction of mosquitoes in 1826 and the mosquito-spread diseases such as avian malaria and pox in the 1900s, the range of Hawaiian honeycreepers has shrunk mainly to the high-elevation cool forests. The warming climate enables mosquitoes to move into the remaining disease-free refuges at higher elevations. For most honeycreepers, one bite from a mosquito carrying avian malaria can result in death. We have estimated that many Hawaiian honeycreepers will go extinct within the next ten years if we don't control mosquito populations, don't manage predators better, and stop ongoing conservation efforts.

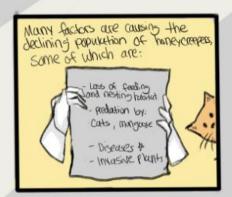
The Hawaiian honeycreepers, like all native manu species, are integral to the State's ecosystems and culture. The once intimate pilina (relationships and connections) between communities and manu have diminished due to their disappearance from the landscape. Community awareness and support are essential to the success of actions needed to mālama our native manu, particularly honeycreepers.

In conclusion, the Hawaiian honeycreepers, like all the manu species, function as pollinators, nutrient cyclers, seed cycles dispersers, and pest managers, keeping the forests of Hawai'i healthy and ensuring that the woods can function like a sponge to draw in, filter, and retain wai (water). Kanaka Maoli fosters reciprocal relationships with the native manu of Hawai'i and respects them as messengers between the akua (gods, elements in nature) and kanaka. I firmly believe that the Resolution recognizing August 8, 2023, as Hawaiian Honeycreepers Celebration Day is necessary to help protect the native manu of Hawai'i and to foster the deepening of pilina with the native manu. Therefore, I ask for your support for this Resolution.





















If we don't do anything about this, the honeycreepers will go extinct and this will significantly affect our ecosystem. We need to act fast!



# THE HONEYCREEPERS NEED OUR HELP

VOTE YES RECOGNIZING AUGUST 8 AS HAWAI'I HONEYCREEPERS CELEBRATION DAY





THE SECOND STATE OF THE SE

# OHIA TREE



Languar of Free Contract of States on Contract of States and Contract of States on Contract on Contract on Contract of States on Contract on C

ALL HONEYCREEPERS ARE CRUCIAL TO HAWAI'I ECOSYSTEMS AND CULTURE. THEY KEEP INSECT POPULATIONS LOW AND POLLINATE THE NATIVE PLANTS LIKE THE 'OHIA TREE.

# MOSQUITO



MOSQUITOS MOVE HIGHER
INTO THE MOUNTAINS,
SPREADING AVAIN
MALARIA AMONG THE
BIRDS, KILLING THEM.
WITHOUT THEM,
ECOSYSTEMS OF HAWAI'I
WILL COLLASPE.

# Dear Legislators,

Hawaiian honeycreepers have been in Hawaii for millions of years. They are the representatives of Hawaii. These beautiful birds were once thriving but since humans started inhabiting the island, the population has been slowly decreasing. In the current world, there are many factors that are causing these species to go extinct. Global warming and deforestation are causing these birds to lose their habitats. By dealing with global warming, saving these birds is another positive effect of Global warming. Honeycreepers are great pollinators and many plants would be losing a great pollinator. Since they have been around for a very long time they also have cultural importance and they brighten up Hawaii. The US government has described Honeycreepers as the "canary down the coal mine" to describe their role in highlighting the dangers of climate change. As the populations of Honeycreepers are sensitive to the changes caused by global warming, their populations are collapsing rapidly. For a long time, these birds have been troubled by mosquitoes. By staying near mosquitoes the birds were prone to contracting Avian Malaria. This drove these birds to go to higher altitudes to avoid the mosquitoes because mosquitoes couldn't go to areas with cold temperatures. As a consequence of global warming, these protected areas vanished and caused the birds to contract Avian Malaria again. By legislating the protection of honeycreepers, the government would be raising awareness of the consequences of global warming, and the honeycreeper could become a symbol of the fight against global warming and its consequences.

Honeycreepers evolved to pollinate the native plants of Hawaii, and it has been found that they show a preference for native Hawaiian plants, often ignoring introduced species such as food crops: they "tend to prefer the native flora, and...display strong morphological and behavioral adaptations to native plant species" (Kohala Center). By protecting the Honeycreepers with legislation, the government will also be protecting the native flora of Hawaii, preserving the beauty and unique characteristics of Hawaiian nature. If the honeycreepers, as a native pollinator, are replaced by non-native species, it is likely that the non-native species will show a preference for non native species of flora, which will then dominate the Hawaiian ecosystem. In other words, both Honeycreepers and the native flora that rely on them for pollination would be lost.

By legislating to protect Honeycreepers, the government will be legislating to protect a unique and priceless source of Hawaiian culture. The Honeycreeper's colorful appearance and distinct singing voice has shaped Hawaiian mythology and tradition. The reduction in numbers of the bird threatens the natural link between the Hawaiian ecosystem and the culture of the Hawaiian people. For example, Hawaiian featherwork, which is the weaving of feathers into intricate and delicate cloaks and other wearable pieces such as helmets, has played a significant role in Hawaiian culture for thousands of years. The feathers used to create these beautiful pieces are the Honeycreepers (Forest Bird Recovery Project). Furthermore, the Honeycreepers' voice has shaped Hawaiian mythology and folklore. For example, Laieikawai who lives on the wings of supernatural Honeycreepers, and in the Hawaiian creation chant, the Kumulipo. The retelling of these stories would feel hollow and hypocritical if the Honeycreepers' voice could no longer be heard in the forests and around the homes of the Hawaiian people. It would be shameful to claim to care about Hawaiian culture and spread such stories at the same time as allowing the inspiration for those stories to go extinct (Forest Bird Recovery Project).

Hawaiian Honeycreepers are in critical conditions. Already many species of these birds have gone extinct and there are more to follow if no actions are taken. Millions of years ago there were a surplus number of them and today, people would be lucky to even see one. By dealing and regulating global warming will help birds stay safe from Avian Malaria and if these birds go completely extinct, Hawaiian plants would be losing an important pollinator. Finally, these birds have lots of cultural importance because they have been around for a very long time.

Please considering saving the Hawaiian Honeycreepers Legislators and thank you.

Sincerely, a 9th grade student from Iolani.

### Sources

A Climate Change Canary in the Coal Mine - The Endangered Hawaiian Honeycreepers | U.S. Geological Survey. (n.d.). Www.usgs.gov.

https://www.usgs.gov/news/featured-story/climate-change-canary-coal-mine-endangered-hawaii an-honeycreepers

Cultural Significance. (2018, February 22). Maui Forest Bird Recovery Project.

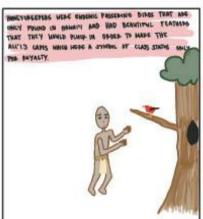
https://www.mauiforestbirds.org/cultural-significance/

Pollinators in Hawaii. (n.d.). https://kohalacenter.org/docs/resources/hpsi/PollinatorsInHawaii.pdf



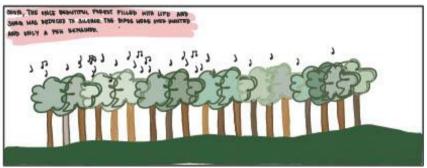




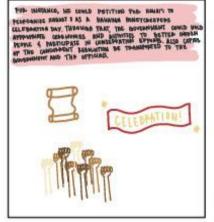




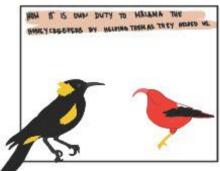












## Dear Legislators,

As a young native Hawaiian and current 9th grade student at Iolani, I am writing to urge your support for the resolution which aims to protect the honeycreepers in Hawai'i. The honeycreepers hold a special place in my heart as a native Hawaiian, and as someone who has a deep connection to the land and its history. I am reaching out to you to emphasize the urgency of this situation and to ask for your help to protect these species from going extinct.

The evidence regarding the state of honeycreepers in Hawaii is alarming. According to recent studies, there are more than 50 species of honeycreepers endemic to Hawaiii, but only 17 species remain, and 12 of those are designated as critically endangered or threatened by the federal or state government. This means that the majority of these birds, which are unique to Hawaiii, are on the brink of extinction. If we do not take immediate action, the honeycreepers will be lost forever.

The decline of honeycreepers is a complex issue that has been driven by factors such as habitat loss, invasive species, and climate change. The resolution you are considering is a crucial step towards protecting these birds and their habitats. If this resolution is created, we can put coordinated conservation efforts, which will help to increase the population of honeycreepers, create new habitats, and protect existing ones. It is crucial that we act now to protect this important species, not only for their intrinsic value, but also for their role in maintaining the balance of Hawaii's unique ecosystem.

In conclusion, I hope you support the resolution and take action to protect the honeycreepers in Hawaii. The decline of these birds is a problem that affects us all and it is up to us to take action to protect them. I urge you to pass this resolution and support the preservation of the honeycreepers and their habitats. Thank you for considering my request, and for taking the time to read this critical issue.

Mahalo,

Submitted on: 3/27/2023 2:41:41 PM

Testimony for CAI on 3/30/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Christina Chan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**House of Representatives** 

**Committee on Culture Arts and International Affairs** 

Representative Adrian Tam

**Representative Rose Martinez** 

**Committee on Water and Lan** 

Representative Linda Ichiyama

Representative Mahina Poepoe

March 27, 2023

9:30 am Conference Room #430

**State Capitol** 

Testimony in Support of HCR81 and HR86

Aloha Chair Tam and Chair Martinez, Chair Ichiyma and Chair Poepoe, and members of the committees of Culture Arts and International Affairs, and the Committee on Water and Land I, Christina Chan, am in support of HCR 81 and HR86 regarding the celebration of our beloved honeycreepers. Did you know that when you hike the popular trail of Aiea loop that there is a bench affectionately called Honeycreeper corner? If you are lucky and quiet and patient you can spot the Oahu 'amakihi and the Ohau 'elepaio. It is my honor to be in the presence of these tiny amazing birds, that seem to be the ambassadors of our forests. I realize not many folks know about our special endemic birds of the forest. I would love to bring attention to them so folks can learn about and celebrate the manu (birds) of our forest. They are as unique to our islands as Darwin's finches were to the Galapagos. If effective measures are not taken, many of our forest birds could become extinct. Can you imagine going into the forest and only seeing doves? Our forest birds are an auditory delight, and it would be sad to not hear their songs. fThey are part of our pilina (connection to) the 'āina (land) and it would be fitting to recognize them on our unique numbered day: 8-08. Please consider passing this resolution.

**Sincerely** 

**Christina Chan** 

Bird lover and avid hiker

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 9:27:32 AM

Testimony for CAI on 3/30/2023 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Casey Newlin	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I am writing in support of the resolution to recognize August 08th, 2023 as Hawaiian Honeycreepers Celebration Day. The Hawaiian Honeycreepers are a beautiful and vital part of the precious Hawaiian ecosystem, and they are in grave danger of extinction. Recognizing August 08th as Honeycreepers Celebration Day is an important step to help spread awareness of these special birds (and the challenges they face), and celebrate a key member of the native Hawaiian ohana of creatures.

Mahalo,

Casey

Donovan Dela Cruz, District Representative/Senate Vice Chair

February 21, 2023 Hawaii State Capitol, Room 208

Support for HCR81, HR86, Recognizing August 8, 2023 as Hawaii Honeycreepers Celebration Day

Aloha, Chairs, Vice Chairs, and members of the Committee,

My name is Mia Furuya and I am a senior at Mililani High School. I am in support of HCR81 and HR86, Recognizing August 8, 2023 as Hawaii Honeycreepers Celebration Day which would recognize and designate a day of celebration for these birds.

In school, we have been educated on the importance and relevance of the Hawaiian Honeycreepers. They play an important role in our ecosystem and culture. These birds are starting to go extinct because of the many threats they have such as global warming (eg. temperature/climate change), loss of habitat, diseases from mosquitoes, predation of introduced mammals, and so much more. It is important that we keep the Honeycreepers safe and prevent them from extinction. By creating a day to celebrate these birds could help spread more awareness and would furthermore prevent the extinction of these birds.

I hope you consider passing HRC81 and HR86 in order to spread more awareness to protect Honeycreepers from extinction. Thank you for your time and taking this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely, Mia Furuya Mililani High School 2401100156@k12.hi.us

# SELF SCORE YOUR LETTER ACCORDING TO THE CHECKLIST BELOW:

Assignment Criteria	Points Possible	Student Self-Assessment
Letter includes a claim taking a stance on the legislative action. In one sentence (should NOT start with yes or no):		
Answer the claim	2	
Evidence State what was observed/researched:  • Cite specific and appropriate data that support your recommendations (data collected or sources of information like websites/video)  • At least 3, qualitative and/or quantitative	3	
Reasoning Ties together the claim and evidence:  • Justify why evidence supports the claim  • State the connection to a given scientific concept (i.e. genetics, plate tectonics)	3	
Other     Includes explanation on why this is important to our school, the Mililani Community, and the island of Oahu and State of Hawaii as a whole (sense of Aloha)	2	
Total Points	10	
Comments (justify your score):		

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 10:07:08 AM

Testimony for CAI on 3/30/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
David Dade Kikila- Debibar	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Representative/Senate Chair

Representative/Senate Vice Chair

Committee of culture, and international Affairs (CAI) Committee and water and land (WAL)

Support for HCR81, HR86, Recognizing August 8, 2023 as Hawaii Honeycreepers Celebration Day (THIS NAME MAY CHANGE ON THE BILL DRAFT) (for now can leave as Designation of a Honeycreeper Day - specific name of the bill may change)

Aloha, Chair, Vice Chairs, and Members of the House/Senate Committee of culture, and international Affairs (CAI) Committee and water and land (WAL) Committees,

My name is David Dade Kikila-Debibar and I am a Junior at Mililani High School. I am in support of HCR81 and HR86, Recognizing August 8, 2023 as Hawaii Honeycreepers Celebration Day which would recognize and designate a day of celebration for these birds.

In School, we learn and help the environment by volunteering in helping watersheds and farms. We also help our school agriculture by uprooting plants and sending them back into the wild to regrow their numbers. I was recently informed that honeycreepers are a wonder of helping our forest thrive, but are in danger of extinction. They face threats like the carrying of diseases by mosquitoes, deforestation, and much more problems that cause them to be in danger. It is our job to take action so we can stop these beautiful and helpful birds from being extinct from this disastrous problem.

Sincerely,

David Dade Kikila-Debibar

Mililani High School

2121200985@k12.hi.us

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 10:07:31 AM

Testimony for CAI on 3/30/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Evotia Maino	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

### Comments:

Representative Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Chair Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs

Hawaii State Capitol

Support for S.B. No. HCR81, S.D. HR86, Recognizing August 8, 2023 as Hawaii Honeycreepers Celebration Day (THIS NAME MAY CHANGE ON THE BILL DRAFT) (for now can leave as Designation of a Honeycreeper Day - specific name of the bill may change)

Aloha, Chair Shimabukuro and Members of the Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs,

My name is Evotia Maino and I am a 12th grader at Mililani High School. I am in support of S.B. No. HCR81, Recognizing August 8, 2023 as Hawaii Honeycreepers Celebration Day which would recognize and designate a day of celebration for these birds.

In school, we take an active role in mālama 'āina with our field trips. We removed invasive species, we planted native plants, we made way for native life by pulling weeds, ect. I have learned about the important role our native Hawaiian Honeycreeper species play in our forests and culture, their plight against numerous threats such as climate change, mosquitos, avian malaria, loss of habitat and alien predators. It is our kuleana to prevent these honeycreepers from extinction. I hope you will consider passing S.B. No. HCR81 as it will raise awareness and support for protecting the last remaining feathered messengers of our akua. Mahalo Nui Loa for the opportunity to testify.

Me Ke Aloha Pumehana

Evotia Maino Mililani High School evotia\_maino@icloud.com

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 11:06:55 AM

Testimony for CAI on 3/30/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Rachel Kingsley	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

### Comments:

Hawaiian honeycreepers are a unique family of birds found here in Hawai'i and nowhere else in the world. They have evolved over time to fulfill unique and critical roles within our native forest ecosystems. These birds provide services such as helping pollinate plants, disperse seeds, and keeping insect populations in check. Beyond that, these birds are interwoven into the culture, language, and beliefs of this place. The Hawaiian honeycreepers are truly a part of Hawai'i. For years the landscape here in Hawai'i has been changing. Through the introduction of non-native and invasive species and the destruction and fragmentation of native forests, the landscape has been heavily altered leaving some species to survive merely on the edge of extinction. The unfortunate but true moniker "the extinction capital of the world" has been given to this place that once was one of the greatest examples of adaptive radiation in the world. Our native species are disappearing. The forests are going quiet. We have lost our connection to the forests that once stretched from the mountaintops to the ocean. But, there is hope. Decades of ongoing conservation efforts have helped to protect these species and their environments. We now need to rebuild the connections that over time have been lost. I am writing in support of HCR81, Recognizing Aug. 8th, 2023 as a day to celebrate the Hawaiian honeycreepers, in hopes that this effort will help to rebuild some of those connections that have been lost. The voices of the Hawaiian honeycreepers were some of the first that our islands knew. Many have been silenced. Please help us in celebrating those that we have left before it is too late.

<u>HCR-81</u> Submitted on: 3/28/2023 11:07:33 AM

Testimony for CAI on 3/30/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Amy Cook	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this proposal.

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 11:30:40 AM

Testimony for CAI on 3/30/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Blake Becker	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The House of Representatives

Committee on Culture, Arts, and international affairs

March 30th, 2023

9:30am, Conference room 224

State Capital

Testimony in support of HCR 81

Aloha Chair Tam, Vice Chair Martinez, and Members of the Committee,

I, Blake Becker, am in support of the Hawaiian Honeycreepers, which would protect them from harm, and make a Hawaiian Honeycreeper day.

Throughout this school year of 2022-2023 I learned that the native Hawaiian birds are very important to the ecosystem and Ohia which allows us to live here in Hawaii. The most common reason the birds are dying is because of the mosquitoes and the disease they carry called avian malaria. Without the birds the Ohi'a will die, and without Ohi'a Hawaii will not get enough water, because the watersheds would collapse. That would be bad for the animals, environment, and us in Hawaii, so please consider this bill. These birds deserve a holiday of their own because they are so important to Hawaii.

Sincerely, Blake Becker

grade 7

HTA (Hawaii Technology Academy)

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 11:31:42 AM

Testimony for CAI on 3/30/2023 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Kyle Johnson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The House of Representatives

Committee on Culture, Arts, and international affairs

March 30th, 2023

9:30am, Conference room 224

**State Capital** 

**Testimony in support of HCR 81** 

Aloha Chair Tam, Vice Chair Martinez, and Members of the Committee,

I, Kyle Johnson am in support to make a day dedicated to the Hawwian Honeycreepers

I have learned that Hawwian honeycreepers are rapidly dying out and they are super important to the amount of water we have on kauai. Without them the Ohia would slower disappear and so would our water source. Well why I am in full support of this, it is because the Honeycreepers help us live so why should we not help them. For all the things they do for us we can dedicate 1 day out of a year to help catch mosquitoes or help get rid of rats that eat the eggs.

Sencerly,

**Kyle Johnson** 

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 11:32:38 AM

Testimony for CAI on 3/30/2023 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
lola bresnahan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The House of Representatives

Committee on Culture, Arts, and international affairs

March 30th, 2023

9:30am, Conference room 224

State Capital

Testimony in support of HCR 81/HR 86

Aloha Chair Tam, Vice Chair Martinez, and Members of the Committee, I lola bresnahan, am in favor of HCR 81/HR 86

. I think this is important because our honeycreepers are dying out and I think the more we need to raise awareness. Making one day, honeycreeper day might even intrigue tourists not if they do not know about it and hopefully Intrigue the locals to learn more about Hawaiian Honeycreepers and rapidie ohia bath along with the mistos and rats that are killing them off. Did you know the 12 po'ouli this bill will help inform people about honeycreepers and the threats that they face? We ask for your help passing this Bill.

Mahalo for your time,

Lola

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 11:34:27 AM

Testimony for CAI on 3/30/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Ashlyn Greer	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

### Comments:

The House of Representatives

Committee on Culture, Arts, and international affairs

March 30th, 2023

9:30am, Conference room 224

**State Capital** 

# **Testimony in support of HCR 81**

Aloha Chair Tam, Vice Chair Martinez, and Members of the Committee,

We should make August 8 Hawai'i Honeycreepers Celebration day because there might be people that don't know about Hawai'i Honeycreepers. Hawai'i Honeycreepers is a birds that all function as pollinators, nutrient cyclers, seed dispersers, and pest managers, keeping the forests of Hawai'i healthy is without the forests of Hawai'i will not be clean.

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 11:35:11 AM

Testimony for CAI on 3/30/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Amelia Robbins	Hawaii Technology Academy	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The House of Representatives

Committee on Culture, Arts, and international affairs

March 30th, 2023

9:30am, Conference room 224

**State Capital** 

# Testimony in support of HCR 81

Aloha Chair Tam, Vice Chair Martinez, and Members of the Committee,

I, Amelia Robbins am in support of , which would designate August 8th as Hawaiian Honeycreeper day.

I have learned that the endemic Honeycreepers are facing extinction, with only 17 of the previously 50 species remaining. They are facing threats of habitat loss due to Rapid 'Ohi'a Death and deforestation, invasive predators, and mosquitos carrying avian malaria, which is forcing honeycreepers farther and farther up into the mountains. The Honeycreepers main food source is the 'Ohi'a Lehua nectar, and the birds play a huge role in pollinating these trees. The 'Ohi'a are vital to draw in and filter rainwater, but can't survive without the Honeycreepers.

Sincerely,

**Amelia Robbins** 

HTA, 7th grade

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 11:42:18 AM

Testimony for CAI on 3/30/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Taedence (titi) sugimura	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The house of representativese

Committee on water and land

Mar 24,2023

State capitol

aloha chair Tarmas, vice chair Pihana Branco, and members of the committee,

I titi sugimura am a supporter of SB98 SD2 and HB 123. I am helping get a honeycreeper day on august 8th. I think we should get a honeycreeper day because we could learn more about them and we could try and help get more honeycreepers on kauai. There is only a little honeycreepers left.

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 11:36:39 AM

Testimony for CAI on 3/30/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Josiah Martin	H.T.A	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The House of Representatives

Committee on Culture, Arts, and international affairs

March 30th, 2023

9:30 am, Conference room 224

State Capital

# Testimony in support of HCR 81

Aloha Chair Tam, Vice Chair Martinez, and Members of the Committee, I, Josiah Martin am in support of HCR 81, relating to Hawaiian Honeycreeper day which would make august 8th Hawaiian Honeycreeper day.

I have recently learned that of the more than 50 species of honeycreepers endemic to Hawai'i, only 17 species remain and 12 of those are designated as critically endangered because of the loss of their feeding and nesting habitat, which is being destroyed by invasive plants, insects, and diseases such as Rapid 'Ōhi'a Death. The Hawaiian Honeycreepers are also dying because they're being killed by invasive rats, cats, and mongoose, and deadly diseases spread by mosquitoes, particularly avian malaria. One bite from a mosquito carrying avian malaria can result in death and it is estimated that many Hawaiian honeycreepers will go extinct within the next 10 years if mosquito populations are not controlled, predators are not managed better, and ongoing conservation efforts are not continued. Hawaiian Honeycreepers are also very important to Hawaii's ecosystems and culture. I hope you will consider making august 8th Hawaiian Honeycreeper day to try to help spread awareness for Hawaiian Honeycreepers.

Sincerely,

Josiah Martin

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 11:43:40 AM

Testimony for CAI on 3/30/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Moses Adams	HTA school	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The House of Representatives

Committee on Culture, Arts, and international affairs

March 30th, 2023

9:30am, Conference room 224

**State Capital** 

**Testimony in support of HCR 81** 

Aloha Chair Tam, Vice Chair Martinez, and Members of the Committee,

I moses adams am a supporter of HCR 81 relating to the State Endemic Tree and wildlife endangered species which is the 'Ohi'a Lehua tree and honeycreeper species. The 'Ohi'a Lehua' tree is important to us for two main reasons. It is a main water replenisher for our state aquifers. Without This tree, no one would be able to live on the Hawaiian islands anymore. We also need the 'Ohi'a Lehua tree for the honeycreepers. The Honey Creepers once used to have 50 species now only 17 remain. Without the 'Ohi'a tree many honeycreepers species could possibly disappear which is why I think we should make a Hawaiian honeycreeper day on august 8th. Not only does this day raise awareness for honeycreepers but also for the 'Ohi'a Lehua tree which is both important to people in hawaii.

Sincerely,

moses adams

# HTA 7th Grade.

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 11:44:15 AM

Testimony for CAI on 3/30/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
malakai demetrio tapia	НТА	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The House of Representatives

Committee on Culture, Arts, and international affairs

March 30th, 2023

9:30am, Conference room 224

**State Capital** 

# **Testimony in support of HCR 81**

Aloha Chair Tam, Vice Chair Martinez, and Members of the Committee,

I think that the hawaiian honeycreeper should be preserved because there used to be a time where the honeycreeper was see a lot but now you would be one of the luckiest people in hawaii to see one and that is why i think that they deserve a day to remind people that they are still here and still hanging on.

# Malakai tapia

I think that the hawaiian honeycreeper should be preserved because there used to be a time where the honeycreeper was see a lot but now you would be one of the luckiest people in hawaii to see one and that is why i think that they deserve a day to remind people that they are still here and still hanging on.

# Malakai tapia

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 12:08:32 PM

Testimony for CAI on 3/30/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Anuhea Jaramillo	НТА	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The House of Representatives

Committee on Culture, Arts, and international affairs

March 30th, 2023

9:30am, Conference room 224

**State Capital** 

**Testimony in support of HCR 81** 

Aloha Chair Tam, Vice Chair Martinez, and Members of the Committee,

I, Anuhea Jaramillo, am in support of HCR81, relating to making August 8th as Hawaiian Honeycreeper Day! We should be more aware of how mosquitoes are killing Honeycreepers. HoneyCreepers are really important to our Hawaii Forest. They are really important. I think making August 8th Hawaiian HoneyCreeper day it's just to remind everyone that they're dying off from mosquitoes and that they should be remembered. Our forest will not be as healthy if we don't have HoneyCreepers pollinating and moving seeds around. Our forest would sound quiet and nobody would hear how beautiful the honeycreepers and all the other birds sound.

SIncerely,

Anuhea Jaramillo

# **HTA** student

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 12:12:13 PM

Testimony for CAI on 3/30/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Joanna Maney	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

### Comments:

Aloha,

I am writing in support of August 8th becoming Hawaiian Honeycreeper Celebration Day. Since the beginning of human history birds have captured our imagination, inspiring stories, art, melding into our traditions, religions, and philosophies. As our understanding of the role of birds in the workings of our planet has increased we have begun to realize just how integral they are to the health of the environmental systems that sustain us all, including their natural ability to disperse seeds, keeping the forests healthy and thereby the watersheds healthy, systems that are vital to our own survival here in the islands.

When the popular series, The White Lotus, aired in 2021, the opening credits featured artwork that prominently showcased the beautiful 'i'iwi. This honeycreeper, like the other remaining 16, represents Hawai'i to the rest of the world. They are unique, stunning, and only found here.

In the past several years, I have witnessed interest in native birds surge among the community as evidenced by social media posts, participation and volunteerism in ecosystem restorations, environmental cleanups, and the creation of beautiful works of art. Social media groups that focus exclusively on Hawaiian birds have a global following of over 60,000 people across multiple social media platforms. These people dream of seeing native birds flourishing in healthy native forests. A day of recognition would help bring awareness to their importance and to the struggles facing them.

This is a chance to celebrate these beautiful creatures that are so valuable to Hawai'i's ecosystem, Hawaiian culture, Hawaiian history, and Hawaiian identity. Please make this day of recognition official for these treasures of the Hawaiian forest.

Mahalo for your time and consideration,

Joanna Maney

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 1:33:17 PM

Testimony for CAI on 3/30/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Colbren Fujimoto	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Representative Adrian K. Tam, Chair

Committee on Culture, Arts & International Affairs, and Committee on Water & Land

**Hawaii State Capitol** 

Monday, February 6, 2023

Support for HR86 and HCR81, Recognizing August 8, 2023 as Hawaii Honeycreepers Celebration Day

Aloha Members of the Committee on Culture, Arts & International Affairs, and Committee on Water & Land,

My name is Colbren Fujimoto and I am a senior at Mililani High School. I am in support of HR86 and HCR81, Recognizing August 8, 2023 as Hawaii Honeycreepers Celebration Day which would recognize and designate a day of celebration for these birds.

As an AP Environmental Science student at Mililani High School, I have learned about the importance of native plants and animals to Hawaii's unique ecosystem. My class has been working with the WMWP and Wai'anae kai in the shade house to up pot more native plants like 'A'ali'i in an effort of conservation. After watching the BBC's "Saving Hawaii's Birds from Avian Malaria" video, I gained interest in helping preserve and recognize

honeycreepers as their population has been on a decline because they have nowhere to escape from mosquitoes due to climate change which infects them with malaria. By recognizing and designating a day, it will bring awareness to the public and I believe it will lead to an increased effort to combat issues that face the honeycreeper population in Hawaii. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

**Colbren Fujimoto** 

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 2:30:32 PM

Testimony for CAI on 3/30/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Finley Johnston	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

### Comments:

Dear Chair Tam, Vice Chair Martinez, Chair Ichiyama, Vice Chair Poepoe, members of the Culture, and International Affairs (CAI) committee and Water & Land committees,

Aloha kākou. I am Finley Johnston, a senior at 'Iolani School in Honolulu, Hawai'i, giving my testimony to recognize August 8, 2023 as Hawai'i Honeycreeper Celebration Day.

Honeycreepers endemic to Hawai'i are rapidly becoming extinct. Of the 50 species, only 17 remain, with 12 species recognized by the US Government as critically endangered or threatened. As Hawai'ian Honeycreepers march towards extinction, it is essential for the people of Hawai'i to understand this issue and support actions needed to help preserve these species.

I, Finley Johnston, am in support of recognizing August 8, 2023 as Hawai'i Honeycreeper Celebration Day. Personally speaking, the beauty and uniqueness of our home, Hawai'i, has been something that I have always held close to my heart. We, as a state, must come together and recognize the importance of preserving not only endemic Hawai'ian Honeycreepers, but other Hawai'ian threatened species as well. I will testify to not only preserve what little we have left of original Hawai'ian biodiversity in the ecosystems, but also to preserve and respect Native Hawai'ian culture.

Evidence has proven Hawai'i was once inhabited by over 100 endemic species of birds. However, due to the arrival of humans and, subsequently, diseases and habitat loss, 48 of these species are officially listed as extinct; although, with more becoming extinct at rapid rates. (Bennington, 2002) Because of their role in the Hawai'ian ecosystem, Honeycreepers are important in preserving biodiversity. Because of their evolutionary adaptations, such as the long, curved beaks of the I'iwi to feed on native Hawai'ian flower nectar, they play an important role in facilitating the pollination and dispersal of native Hawaiian plants. (Lerner, 1987) Sixty percent of the Hawai'ian lobelias species, which are flowering plants, are solely pollinated and dispersed through birds such as the Hawai'ian Honeycreepers. Due to their role in the Hawai'ian ecosystem, the extinction of more Hawai'ian Honeycreepers will lead to the depletion of native Hawai'ian plants. This will continue to contribute to the loss of the once abundant, essential, and beautiful biodiversity of Hawai'i.

The Hawai'ian Honeycreeper is culturally significant to Native Hawai'ians. As such, the preservation of the Hawai'ian Honeycreeper is essential to the respect due Native Hawai'ian culture. The I'iwi honeycreepers were painted by Maui himself, according to ancient Hawai'ian

legend. The beautiful, red feathers of the I'iwi are used in Hawai'ian tradition to create items of nobility such as the 'Ahu'ula, a feather cloak, and the mahiole, a feather helmet. These items are sacred symbols of respect and reverence in native Hawai'ian culture. They were worn at ceremonies and during battle as these items are said to provide spiritual protection. Furthermore, many legends and stories have been told about gods and sacred spirits taking form in specific honeycreepers such as the 'Apapane. It is important to preserve these honeycreepers to allow for continuation native Hawai'ian cultural traditions, such as the feather cloaks and helmets. If these honeycreepers continue to become extinct, it will impact the ability for native Hawai'ians to fully express their cultural traditions. (Westergaard, 2022)

While there may be people who say that this issue is not important enough to be recognized, due to my previously stated points, you can see that it is a very pressing issue that must be recognized. Dedicating one day to Hawai'ian honeycreepers will show the state of Hawai'is support towards the ecosystem and Native Hawai'ian culture.

I am in full support of the State of Hawai'i recognizing August 8, 2023 as Hawai'i Honeycreeper Celebration Day. Due to the honeycreepers becoming extinct at a fast rate, this issue is pressing and needs to be understood by the citizens of Hawai'i. We must keep the Hawai'ian Honeycreepers alive to preserve the beautiful native ecosystem and to respect the Native Hawai'ian culture. Thank you for your time.

Westergaard, G. (2022). Hidden Stories of Extinction: Hawai'ian 'Ahu'ula Feather Capes as Biocultural Artifacts. Museum and Society, 20(1), 104-117.

Lerner, H. R., Meyer, M., James, H. F., Hofreiter, M., & Fleischer, R. C. (2011). Multilocus resolution of phylogeny and timescale in the extant adaptive radiation of Hawai'ian honeycreepers. Current Biology, 21(21), 1838-1844.

Paxton, E. H., Laut, M., Vetter, J. P., & Kendall, S. J. (2018). Research and management priorities for Hawai'ian forest birds. The Condor: Ornithological Applications, 120(3), 557-565.e

Dear Chair Tam, Vice Chair Martinez, Chair Ichiyama, Vice Chair Poepoe, members of the Culture, and International Affairs (CAI) committee and Water & Land committees,

As a native Hawaiian resident, local student, and future caretaker of this 'Aina, recognizing August 8, 2023 as Hawai'i Honeycreepers Celebration Day is crucial to the survival of our native manu and Hawaiian culture as a whole. By celebrating the native birds, attention can be brought to the issues that threaten their survival and positive change can be made.

One major issue that these birds face is climate change and global warming.

According to Carter R. Atkinson and Dennis A. LaPointe, as global temperatures rise, demographic low-risk infection zones will continue to shrink, allowing for diseases like avian pox and malaria to more easily spread amongst native birds. As issues like climate change increase, it is crucial to raise awareness about its effects and impacts on our native/endemic species.

As a Hawaii resident, I feel that another major issue contributing to the decline in numbers of our native animals stems from a lack of awareness among locals and visitors alike. Personally, I didn't know the status of our state's demographic among natives until recently. By researching and learning more about these issues I have become more aware of how I can help our native manu and I feel that by recognizing August 8, 2023 as the Hawai'i Honeycreepers Celebration Day it will help many more to understand and help this cause.

Dear Dear Chair Tam, Vice Chair Martinez, Chair Ichiyama, Vice Chair Poepoe, members of the Culture, and International Affairs (CAI) committee and Water & Land committees, COMMITTEE ON CULTURE, ARTS & INTERNATIONAL AFFAIR,

# IN SUPPORT AND SUBMIT FOR BOTH MEASURES (HCR81 and HR86)

Recognizing 8/08 as Hawai'i Honeycreepers Celebration Day is vital in order to increase awareness and take the next steps to protecting our Native manu (bird) species. I am a senior at 'Iolani School studying conservation genetics and I believe forward progress needs to be made on this issue. Hawai'i is known as the extinction capital of the world due to our island chain's great isolation and recent imbalance of the ecosystem. Our people need to take action. "Of 41 species and subspecies of honeycreepers known since historic times, 17 are thought to be extinct and 14 are federally listed as endangered" (Atkinson, 2009). There are many factors causing great decline such as "habitat loss, invasive plants, non-native predators, and introduced diseases" (Paxton, 2018). However, the largest contributor to manu deaths is the mosquito which carries avian malaria that can kill a honeycreeper with just one bite. Now, there are experiments being conducted in Maui that will hopefully control the population of mosquitos which will protect the sacred manu. But the public needs to be more aware of the dire situation at hand. If these manu are gone, not only will we lose a scientific masterpiece, we will also lose a piece of our culture. The feathers of the honeycreepers were collected to adorn our Ali'i in, sinceit was believed to enrich them with mana. There are also hundreds of mele written about the manu who soared through the sky unlike any human could. In addition, most mo'olelo about the history of Hawai'i is told through descriptions of the land and its creatures. Therefore, the honeycreepers deserve their own day in order to raise awareness so we can reverse the damage caused to their populations to keep a symbol of our culture and a marvelous animal.

Sincerely,

'Iolani Student, class of 2023

# References

- Atkinson, C. T., & Lapointe, D. A. (2009). Introduced Avian Diseases, Climate Change, and the Future of Hawaiian Honeycreepers. *Journal of Avian Medicine and Surgery*, *23*(1), 53-63. JSTOR. http://www.jstor.org/stable/27670709
- Paxton, E. H., Laut, M., Better, J. P., & Steve J. Kendall. (2018). Research and management priorities for Hawaiian forest birds. *The Condor*, *120*(3), 557-565. https://doi.org/10.1650/CONDOR-18-25.1

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 2:33:07 PM

Testimony for CAI on 3/30/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Jake Mariani	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

### Comments:

Dear Chair Tam, Vice Chair Martinez, Chair Ichiyama, Vice Chair Poepoe, members of the Culture, and International Affairs (CAI) committee and Water & Land committees,

# COMMITTEE ON CULTURE, ARTS & INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

My name is Jake Mariani, and I am a student at 'Iolani School. The Hawaiian honeycreeper population is facing an imminent threat of extinction due to a range of factors, including habitat loss, disease, and predation. This endemic bird has one of the highest rates of extinction in the world (Atkinson, 2009). The honeycreeper is a unique bird that is an important part of the Hawaiian ecosystem, and its loss would be devastating for both the environment and the local community. Therefore, it is imperative that we take steps to preserve this population and prevent its extinction. Scientific research has shown that preserving the Hawaiian honeycreeper population is not only essential for the environment, but also for human health and economic benefits. Having said all of this, a good first step is to make people aware of the problem and having a Honeycreeper Celebration Day in Hawaii can help with this.

Firstly, the Hawaiian honeycreeper plays a critical role in maintaining the ecological balance of Hawaii's forests. As an important pollinator, it facilitates the reproduction of numerous plant species, which in turn supports a diverse array of other animals. Additionally, the honeycreeper population serves as an indicator species, reflecting the overall health of the ecosystem. Its decline can signal the emergence of other ecological problems and issues that may have significant consequences for the environment (Paxonetal, 2018).

Secondly, preserving the Hawaiian honeycreeper population has direct implications for human health. Studies have shown that the decline in honeycreeper populations has led to an increase in mosquito-borne diseases, such as dengue fever and malaria, in Hawaii. The honeycreeper population plays an important role in keeping mosquito populations in check, as the birds feed on the insects and their larvae. The loss of honeycreepers would mean an increase in mosquito populations and thus an increased risk of disease transmission to humans (Paxonetal, 2018).

Given the scientific evidence supporting the importance of preserving the Hawaiian honeycreeper population, it is clear that we must take immediate action to protect this species. We can achieve this by implementing a range of measures, such as protecting and restoring its habitat, preventing the introduction of invasive species, and monitoring and treating honeycreeper diseases. Moreover, public education and outreach programs can increase

awareness of the importance of the honeycreeper and the role that individuals can play in its preservation. Having a day to celebrate the honeycreeper will be a great start to the preservation of one of Hawaii's most unique and precious species.

Mahalo,

Jake Mariani

References

Atkinson, C. T. (2009, March). Introduce Avian Diseases, Climate Change, and the Future of Hawaiian Honeycreepers.

Paxton, E. H. (2018, June 27). Research and management priorities for Hawaiian forest birds. https://doi.org/10.1650/CONDOR-18-25.1

Dear Chair Tam, Vice Chair Martinez, Chair Ichiyama, Vice Chair Poepoe, members of the Culture, and International Affairs (CAI) committee and Water & Land committees,

I support declaring August 8th as Hawai'i Honeycreepers Celebration day. Honeycreepers, as well as many other bird species in the state, are experiencing an extinction crisis. It's important that we bring awareness to this so as a nation and world we can do something to stop or slow the extinction. Creating a celebration day would bring to light this beautiful bird species and ways we can help save them. It would also promote solutions to their everyday threats.

The biggest threat to honeycreepers is mosquitoes which carry avian malaria. The human malaria vaccine has been developed over the last few decades but there still isn't a preventative vaccine against avian malaria. According to a study done by scientists in 2022, avian malaria transmitted from birds is the main cause of extinction for the endemic honeycreeper species. The changing of their habitats and the introduction of invasive species also plays a role but it's not as prominent (Ferreira et al. (2022)). Studies have also shown that avian malaria is particularly prominent in low elevation forests which is why most Hawiian honeycreepers live in high-elevation forests, further down-sizing the population. High elevation areas have higher temperatures that lower the transmission rate because mosquitos cannot withstand high altitudes but with increasing temperatures due to climate change, living in high-elevation forests isn't a permanent solution (Atkinson et al. (2013)).

A permanent solution to the mosquito threat would be to inject male mosquitos with a strain of Wolbachia that is either grown in a lab or a strain that is not in the area they are releasing them. When the male mosquitoes mate with a female that either has a different strain of Wolbachia or no Wolbachia at all, the eggs will not hatch. This will slowly diminish the mosquito population in Hawaii or around the world because this would be used on all mosquitoes. The current mosquitos that are a threat to Hawiian honeycreepers are Culex quinquefasciatus. One might ask how this will help because it would just be releasing more mosquitoes. However, male mosquitoes do not feed on blood so they would not be transmitting any diseases to the honeycreepers. Wolbachia is also not harmful to humans or birds.

I take a particular interest in this topic because I love to see all the different types of birds in Hawaii and around the world. I've lived in many parts of the world and each area has unique birds, however, Hawai'i has the most unique birds and the honeycreepers are some of the most beautiful birds I've ever seen. Honeycreepers are also a big part of Hawaiian culture as they are considered spiritual guides for families and can be seen as symbols of power. Honeycreepers also pollinate native plants and keep most insect populations under control. The solution of Wolbachia could be used on mosquitos around the world to combat West Nile Virus, Dengue, Chikungunya virus, and other mosquito transmitted viruses. Specifically West Nile and Chikungunya viruses as they do not have vaccines and are harmful to the human population.

Honeycreepers should be given a day of celebration as they play an important role in Hawaiian culture and our ecosystems. There are only 17 species of honeycreepers left all of

which are endemic to Hawai'i. The mosquitos are also harming other endemic bird species but honeycreepers are the greatest threat to going extinct. This day would also bring awareness to the deadly threats these birds face everyday as just a single bite from a mosquito can be deadly. Raising awareness could increase the support for the Wolbachia solution, which can also be used elsewhere and on different diseases, and further other research efforts to different solutions. Giving them a day of celebration would allow us to celebrate this beautiful bird species which has been on the islands of Hawai'i longer than humans.

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 2:34:51 PM

Testimony for CAI on 3/30/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Caden Kaneshiro	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

#### Comments:

Dear Chair Tam, Vice Chair Martinez, Chair Ichiyama, Vice Chair Poepoe, members of the Culture, and International Affairs (CAI) committee and Water & Land committees,

I am a current senior at 'Iolani School and I am writing to you, the legislative body, to thank you for taking your time to consider a bill to support August 8, 2023 as a state celebration of our endemic Hawaiian honeycreepers. I am advocating for the passing of this bill, in hopes that August 8th will help to educate and raise awareness to both locals and visitors of the rapid decline of our native manu (birds).

I personally believe that Hawaiian honeycreepers are crucial to our native ecosystem, as they are one of the primary pollinators and seed dispersers for other native plants like our beautiful 'ohia lehua trees. Kaua'i's 'Akeke'e (Loxops caeruleirostris) is an example of one of the ten critically endangered birds that keep our native forests functioning. Found mainly in the Alaka'i forest reserve, this manu's job is to control the anthropoid (insect) population on the 'ohia trees which in turn shelters the bird from the elements. Another important fact about the "akeke'e is the elevation that it can be found in; ranging from 1,950 feet to 3,600 feet (Division of Forestry and Wildlife, n.d) These facts about the 'akeke'e are important to its survival, and are also why this species is becoming critically endangered. As recently as 2016, there have been estimates that the population size of this bird has declined to a range of 460 to 1,547 individuals left in the wild (Eben et al., 2018, p. 558). One of the biggest threats to all native birds, like the "akeke'e, is mosquitos; more specifically the southern house mosquitos (Culex quinquefasciatus) which is a carrier of avian malaria. Many native birds who catch avian malaria do not have a tolerance to this disease and will die within days. The passing of this bill will give many conservation organizations a chance to share this information to the public and educate them on simple steps to control the mosquito population, such as draining standing water around homes or funding research to control the birth rate of mosquitoes. These organizations will also help to convey the correlation between global warming and the decrease in native bird populations like the 'akeke'e. Because mosquitos need a warm climate to thrive in, they mainly populate the lower elevations of islands, leaving many of the surviving 'akeke'e to populate in elevations of 3,500 feet or above. However, if the islands warm by about two degrees celcius, it could mean an increase in mosquito migration of about 1,000 feet higher, resulting in a higher risk of avian malaria infections (Benning et al., 2002,).

Hawai'i is rightfully praised for being one of the places with an abundance of amazing endemic species. However, this place is also known as the endangered capital of the world. Passing this bill will help many people in our community to understand an act upon a solution to preserve our lovely native birds.



'Iolani school, Honolulu

#### References

Benning, T. L., LaPointe, D., Atkinson, C. T., & Vitousek, P. M. (2002). Interactions of climate change with biological invasions and land use in the Hawaiian Islands: Modeling the fate of endemic birds using a geographic information system. Benning Et Al., 99(22).

Division of Forestry and Wildlife. (n.d.). 'Akeke'e. Dlnr.hawaii.gov. Retrieved March 2, 2023, from https://dlnr.hawaii.gov/wildlife/birds/akekee/

Eben, P. H., Laut, M., Vetter, J. P., & Kendall, S. J. (2018). Research and management priorities for Hawaiian forest birds. BioOne Complete, 120. https://doi.org/10.1650/CONDOR-18-25.1

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 5:54:32 PM

Testimony for CAI on 3/30/2023 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Lorraine Waianuhea	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

#### Comments:

Aloha kākou,

I strongly support HCR81 which would recognize August 8th as a day to celebrate Hawaiian honeycreepers. Establishing an official day to celebrate honeycreepers would help honor these birds that are extremely important to Hawaiian culture and the ecology of Hawai'i, as well as bring about greater awareness of honeycreepers and honeycreeper conservation within Hawai'i's communities.

Mahalo nui for the opportunity to provide testimony,

Lorraine Waianuhea

Representative Linda Ichiyama, Chair House Committee on Water and Land

Representative Adrian K. Tam, Chair House Committee on Culture, Arts, and International Affairs

March 30, 2023 9:30 a.m., Conference Room 430 Hawaii State Capitol

Support for H.R. No. HCR81, H.R. HR86, Recognizing August 8, 2023 as Hawaii Honeycreepers
Celebration Day

Hello Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Culture, and International Affairs (CAI) Committee and Water & Land (WAL) Committees,

My name is Michael Endres and I am a Senior at Mililani High School. I am in support of H.R. No. HCR81 and H.R. HR86, Recognizing August 8, 2023 as Hawaii Honeycreepers Celebration Day which would recognize and designate a day of celebration for these birds.

In school, we take an active role in learning about the environment, especially about Hawaii's environment. In class, we have worked in a shade house to grow native Hawaiian plants, working on layering compost and cardboard to make the soil around the shadehouse rich enough to grow trees and other plants in, and go on many field trips to help with projects working to improve Hawaii's environment and learn more about nature. I may have just moved to Hawaii this year, due to my status as a child with a father in the military, but I have learned so much about the variety of plant and animal life in Hawaii. I'm amazed by how diverse the ecosystem is and how much beauty there is with all of the mountains, hiking trails, and other natural landscapes. The birds are especially beautiful, with all of the chirping and bright colors they should be spreading in the forest. The forest feels so dead on the few hikes I have gone on during my time here due to the lack of birds singing in the trees. Once I learned that these birds are being killed off by mosquitos, I immediately wanted to do whatever I could to help protect whatever few native birds remain on Oahu and how to ensure they do not go extinct. I hope the Senate passes this bill to recognize this issue so concrete steps can be taken to help save the birds. If not, I fear future generations will be unable to see the beauty of Hawaii without the birds that help it flourish.

I hope you consider passing H.R. No. HCR81 and H.R. HR86, as it will be a necessary step in the incremental process of saving the native birds of Hawaii by providing people with funding and other actions to save these birds. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

# Michael Endres

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 9:20:03 PM

Testimony for CAI on 3/30/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Heart Prestosa	Mililani High School	Support	Written Testimony Only

#### Comments:

Representative Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Chair

Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs

March 30, 2023

9:30 A.M., 430 VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE

Hawaii State Capitol

Support for S.B. No. HCR81 and HR86, Recognizing August 8, 2023 as Hawaii Honeycreepers Celebration Day.

Aloha, Chair Shimabukuro, Members of the Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs, Chairs, Vice Chairs, Members of the Culture, International Affairs (CAI) Committee and Water & Land (WAL) Committees

My name is Heart M. Prestosa, and I am a senior at Mililani High School, and I take great endorsement for S.B. No. HCR81 and HR86., designating August 8, 2023 as Hawaii Honeycreepers Celebration Day, which recognizes and designates a day of celebration for these species.

Such inspiration to enact change stemmed from our participation as students at school in malama aina through the Waianae Mountains Watershed Partnership. In such a partnership, we students remove invasive species, establish our own native trees and shrubs such as the a'ali'i, garnering lifetime experiences and knowledge, and reforesting priority locations around the Waianae Mountains that we commonly take field trips to help gentrify in collaboration with WMWP. Through such a crucial partnership within our school, I've learned about the vital role our native Hawaiian Honeycreeper species play in our forests and culture through one of the speaker visits from the WMWP, as well as their predicament in the face of multiple dangers such as climate change, mosquitos, avian malaria, habitat loss, and foreign predators. After engaging in a dynamic quiz portion on the current state of our environment as well as legislation facts, I recognized that despite having such strong opinions in such matters, I haven't taken much action, whether it be to educate myself or take further efforts such as this. Thus, from the session, I

concluded that it is our kuleana to keep these honeycreepers from becoming extinct, and that no matter how small our voice may seem at the surface, it may truly prove monumental.

I hope you will consider passing S.B. No. HCR81 and HR86., which will increase awareness and support for the protection of our akua's only remaining feathery messengers. Thank you for the chance to testify, Nui Loa.

Me Ke Aloha Pumehana,

Heart M. Prestosa

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 9:35:13 PM

Testimony for CAI on 3/30/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Sophia Pascarelli	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

#### Comments:

Representative Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Chair Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs

February 9, 2023

2:00 p.m., Conference Room 309

Hawaii State Capitol

Support for S.B. No. HCR8, Recognizing August 8, 2023 as Hawaii Honeycreepers Celebration Day (THIS NAME MAY CHANGE ON THE BILL DRAFT)

Aloha, Chair Shimabukuro and members of the Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs,

My name is Sophia Pascarelli and I am a junior at Mililani High School. I am in support of S.B. No. HCR81, Recognizing August 8, 2023 as Hawaii Honeycreepers Celebration Day which would recognize and designate a day of celebration for these birds.

As a part of my AP environmental Science class, we actively participate in addressing Hawaii's environmental crisis by working with organizations, like the Wai'anae Mountain Watershed Partnership, to remove invasive species and repopulate native species. Through field trips and classroom instructionals, I have learned the importance of Hawaiian Honeycreeper species to Hawaii's ecosystem and culture. In an effort to combat extinction, the community must take action to protect this species from threats such as climate change, mosquitoes, invasive species, and diseases.

I greatly appreciate your consideration for S.B. No.	HCR81 to support the protection of the
Hawaiian Honeycreeper and recognize our Kuleana	in preserving Hawaii's treasures.

Sincerely,

Sophia Pascarelli

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 9:44:43 PM

Testimony for CAI on 3/30/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Camrron Oki	Mililani High School	Support	Written Testimony Only

#### Comments:

Chairs, vice chairs, and members of the Culture, and International Affairs (CAI) committee and Water & Land (WAL) committees

**February 1, 2023** 

2:00 p.m., Conference Room 309

**Hawaii State Capitol** 

Support for S.B. No. HCR81, S.D.HR86, Recognizing August 8, 2023 as Hawaii Honeycreepers Celebration Day (THIS NAME MAY CHANGE ON THE BILL DRAFT)

Aloha, Chair Shimabukuro and Members of the Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs,

My name is Camrron Oki and I am a Junior at Mililani High School. I am in support of S.B. No. HCR81, Recognizing August 8, 2023 as Hawaii. Honeycreepers Celebration Day which would recognize and designate a day of celebration for these birds.

In AP Environmental Science we have learned about the importance of the Honeycreeper to Hawaii's ecosystems and culture. These Honeycreepers are an important part of the ancestry here in Hawaii. And it saddens me to know that these wonderful creatures are endangered. These Honeycreepers keep equilibrium in our native ecosystems. But we are losing more and more of these species, due to avian malaria, climate change, and introduced predators. It is our duty to protect these species from our doing.

I hope you will consider passing S.B. No. HCR81 as it will raise awareness and support for protecting the last remaining feathered messengers of our akua. Mahalo Nui Loa for the opportunity to testify.

Me Ke Aloha Pumehana, Camrron Oki

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 9:47:53 PM

Testimony for CAI on 3/30/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Allison Iida	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

#### Comments:

**Committee on Culture, Arts & International Affairs** 

Rep. Adrian K. Tam, Chair

Rep. Rose Martinez, Vice Chair

Committee on Water & Land

Rep. Linda Ichiyama, Chair

Rep. Mahin Poepoe, Vice Chair

**Resolution numbers- HCR81 and HR86** 

Thursday, March 30, 2023

9:30 AM; VIA Video Conference- Conference Room 430, State Capitol, 415 South

**Beretania Street** 

Support for the Hawaiian Honeycreepers.

I am Allison Iida, a student at Mililani High School. I am testifying in support of the Honeycreepers.

I am astonished that Hawai'i is the Endangered Species Capital of the World. It is almost shameful to be living somewhere where people are actively labeling an area the Endangered Species Capital of the World. I hope for a world where people won't have to worry about the environment falling apart. I hope for a world that there would be solutions

to environmental issues. I would want my grandchildren and future generations to be able to grow up in a world where they don't think "My grandparents could have acted sooner. They should have thought of the environmental consequences for me." Thankfully, it is not too late, we could still help our ecosystems now.

These birds are absolutely beautiful. In fact, these birds are so unique and vital for the support of Hawai'i's ecosystems. Hawai'i Honeycreepers are vital for the biodiversity of native Hawaiian plants. Honeycreepers disperse and pollinate native plants allowing for there to be greater amounts of native plants. Also they keep the insect population down to prevent overgrowth on native plants. If there are too many insects then it could possibly kill the plant.

I am so sad that I have never seen a single one of these birds before, especially since there were so many during the time of the Hawaiians. Native Hawaiians were able to use the bird's feathers to make capes, helmets, leis, and other things. If we don't support the Honey Creepers then we might as well say goodbye to all of the native species on Hawai'i. This is an amazing opportunity to be able to do something now. An opportunity that we might never have again. So please support the Honeycreepers.



Sinceriously,

Allison Iida

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 11:04:07 PM

Testimony for CAI on 3/30/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Chelsey Takayama	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Representative Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Chair

Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs

**February 1, 2023** 

2:00 p.m., Conference Room 309

**Hawaii State Capitol** 

Support for S.B. No. HCR81, S.D. HR86, Recognizing August 8, 2023 as Hawaii Honeycreepers Celebration Day

Aloha, Chair Shimabukuro and Members of the Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs and Chairs, vice chairs, and members of the Culture, and International Affairs (CAI) committee and Water & Land (WAL) committees, My name is Chelsey Takayama and I am an 11th grader at Mililani High School. I am in support of S.B. No. HCR81 and S.D. HR86, recognizing August 8, 2023 as Hawaii Honeycreepers Celebration Day. This day would serve a role in recognizing and designating a day of celebration for these endangered species of birds. As a student at Mililani High School, we take an active role in learning about the environment. In my AP environmental class, we learn about ecological processes, human impacts on the earth, and how to resolve or prevent natural and human induced environmental problems. We even get important hands-on experience through mālama 'āina with the Wai'anae Mountains Watershed Partnership. Together with WMWP we go on field trips to remove invasive plants and replant native species in priority areas at the Waianae mountains. We also grow our own native trees and shrubs in our school shadehouse, and reforest priority areas across the Wai'anae Mountains. Through this class, I have also learned about the important role our native Hawaiian Honeycreeper species play in our forests and culture, and it is absolutely disheartening to watch them

endure numerous threats such as climate change, mosquitos, diseases, loss of habitat and invasive predators. We need life in the forests for balance and equity in our ecosystems, and most importantly we need to protect our native species. As a new generation, it is essential that we raise awareness for these Honeycreepers before it is too late.

I hope that you will consider passing S.B. No. HCR81 and S.D. HR86, as it will allow others to recognize the importance of saving these birds. Mahalo Nui Loa for the opportunity to testify.

Me Ke Aloha Pumehana,

**Chelsey Takayama** 

## **COMMITTEE ON CULTURE, ARTS & INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS**

Rep. Adrian K. Tam, Chair Rep. Rose Martinez, Vice Chair Rep. Andrew Takuya Garrett Rep. Jackson D. Sayama Rep. Jeanne Kapela Rep. David Alcos III Rep. Scott Z. Matayoshi

#### **COMMITTEE ON WATER & LAND**

Rep. Linda Ichiyama, Chair Rep. Mahina Poepoe, Vice Chair Rep. Cory M. Chun Rep. Dee Morikawa Rep. Sonny Ganaden Rep. Gregg Takayama Rep. Mark J. Hashem Rep. Kanani Souza

Representative Malie S.L. Shimabukuro, Chair Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs

February 07, 2023 3:00 PM, Conference Room 309 Hawaii State Capitol

Aloha, Chair Shimabukuro and Members of the Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs,

My name is Tommy Pham and I'm a Senior at Mililani High School. I'm writing to support the S.B. No. HCR81. Recognizing HCR81, 2023 as Hawaii HoneyCreepers Celebration Day which would recognize and designate a day to celebrate for these birds.

I'm currently in AP Environmental Science at my school. In this class we have many chances to interact with real life experiences with the environment. We usually have our field trips 2 to 3 times per quarter to gain a bigger connection and also a heart full of love for our environment. We learned about a lot of the native plants, we helped the growth of our native plants by

removing the other plants that will harm the native plants. We also have chances to plan our own native plants. At school, even though our chances are a little less than field trips, it didn't stop us from showing ALOHA to our nature. We worked with the Waianae mountains Watershed, we removed a lot of plants that have diseases then grew our own native trees at our own school. Throughout these experiences, I learned about the importance of the native species in our Hawaiian culture. The Hawaiian Honeycreeper species play an important role in our forests and culture but they are currently dealing with many threats such as habitat loss, climate change, alien predators, and so much more that would kill their species completely. As an Ohana, we should together save our native species, the Hawaiian Honeycreeper from extinction.

I really strive for the movement when the S.B. No. HCR81 being passed as it will help save the Hawaiian Honeycreeper as well as our culture. Mahalo for reading my testimony.

Sincerely,

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 12:46:13 AM

Testimony for CAI on 3/30/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Evelyn Carrillo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Representative Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Chair

**Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs** 

**February 8, 2023** 

2:00 p.m., Conference Room 309

**Hawaii State Capitol** 

Support for S.B. No. HCR81, S.D. HR86, Recognizing August 8, 2023 as Hawaii Honeycreepers Celebration Day

Aloha, Chairs, vice chairs, and members of the Culture, and International Affairs (CAI) committee and Water & Land (WAL) committees,

My name is Evelyn Carrillo Cobian, I am a senior at Mililani High School. I am in support of S.B. No. HCR81 and HR86, Recognizing August 8, 2023 as Hawaii Honeycreepers Celebration Day which would recognize and designate a day of celebration for these birds.

Growing up in Hawaii I was given the opportunity to appreciate the beauty of the Hawaiian Honeycreeper, and their importance to our ecosystem. Their lack of natural immunity has caused a large drop in population, and the loss of a species can be detrimental to the cycle of nutrients and resources. Looking at this issue in the long run, if

our forests are not healthy and can't continue to regulate the constant rain that is coming onto the mountain tops, we will lose our water management, and be left to face catastrophic flooding, no filtration, and so much more. Birds are critical to the flow and function of the Hawaiian islands. Taking the AP Environmental Science class has opened my eyes to how invaluable species are, and their crucial roles in the ecosystem. Not only that, but as we lose species, we lose some of the beauty in our Earth. Losing the Hawaiian Honeycreepers would leave our trees bare of those beautiful crismon colored wings, gorgeous yellow hues. We cannot afford to lose the Hawaiian Honeycreepers.

I hope you will consider passing S.B. No. HCR81 and HR86 as it will raise awareness and support for protecting the last remaining feathered messengers of our akua. Mahalo Nui Loa for the opportunity to testify.

Me Ke Aloha Pumehana,

**Evelyn Carrillo Cobian** 

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 8:11:40 AM

Testimony for CAI on 3/30/2023 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Wendy Kuntz Hood	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

# Comments:

I encourage you to support RECOGNIZING AUGUST 8, 2023, AS HAWAIIAN HONEYCREEPERS CELEBRATION DAY.

This initiative has engaged students and educators around the state in the study and conservation of our endemic species.

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 8:32:01 AM

Testimony for CAI on 3/30/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Adrian Lee	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Representative/Senate Chair

Representative/Senate Vice Chair

**Committee name (TBD)** 

Support for S.B. No. HCR81, S.D. HR86, Recognizing August 8, 2023 as Hawaii Honeycreepers Celebration Day (THIS NAME MAY CHANGE ON THE BILL DRAFT) (for now can leave as Designation of a Honeycreeper Day - specific name of the bill may change)

Aloha, Chair, Vice chairs and Members of the House/Senate Committees,

My name is Adrian Lee and I am an 11th grader at Mililani High School. I am in support of S.B. No. HCR81, Recognizing August 8, 2023 as Hawaii Honeycreepers Celebration Day which would recognize and designate a day of celebration for these birds.

We should designate this day as a Honeycreeper celebration day because this is one thing that isn't talked about enough in hawaii. There are many honeycreepers that are on the brink of extinction right now due to diseases, climate change, habitat loss, etc. For example, According to US Fish and Wildlife, "Avian malaria, a disease transmitted by invasive mosquitoes, is driving their extinction and for some species a single bite by an infected mosquito can kill." Showing how dangerous diseases are to the honeycreepers. Also, honey creepers such as the 'Akikiki are in danger because of invasive plants. This should be important to our school, our town, and to our state because in Hawaii, more than

90% of our flora is found nowhere else in the world. So we should do our best to prese the flora on our islands.		
Sincerely,		
Adrian Lee		
Mililani High School		
2341200591@k12.hi.us		

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 8:33:02 AM

Testimony for CAI on 3/30/2023 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Kamakoa	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

#### Comments:

Brian Schatz, Chair Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs

February 21, 2023 9:00 a.m., Conference Room 309 Hawaii State Capitol

Support for S.B. No. HCR81, S.D. HR86, Recognizing August 8, 2023 as Hawaii Honeycreepers Celebration Day

Aloha, Chair Schatz and Members of the House/Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs

My name is Kamakoa Taitague-Laforga and I am a senior at Mililani High School. I am in support of S.B. No. \_\_\_\_\_\_, Recognizing August 8, 2023 as Hawaii Honeycreepers Celebration Day which would recognize and designate a day of celebration for these birds.

Being a resident of Oahu means that myself and everybody else should care and respect the aina. Yet invasive plants/species are growing rapidly and are outpopulating our own native trees. In my environmental science class I have been enlightened about the important role our native Hawaiian Honeycreeper species. They do not just play a part in being a native bird but also providing us with pest control, pollination, seed dispersal etc. They benefit so much for us and what we do in return. Climate change, habitat loss, degradation and a whole bunch of other threats which are leading these native birds to extinction.

Thank you for your time and I hope you will pass the S.B. No. \_\_\_\_\_ as it will raise awareness and support to the whole community.

Sincerely, Kamakoa Taitague-Laforga Mililani High School 2401101097@k12.hi.us

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 8:39:47 AM

Testimony for CAI on 3/30/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Selena Andrade	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

## Comments:

International Affairs (CAI) committee and Water & Land (WAL) committees

Support for S.B. No. HCR81, S.D. HR86, Recognizing August 8, 2023 as Hawaii Honeycreepers Celebration Day

Aloha, Chairs, vice chairs, and members of the Culture, and International Affairs (CAI) committee and Water & Land (WAL) committees

My name is Selena Andrade and I am a 10th grader at Mililani High School. I am in support of S.B. No. HCR81, Recognizing August 8, 2023 as Hawaii Honeycreepers Celebration Day which would recognize and designate a day of celebration for these birds.

Hawaiian honeycreepers come in different species, before 50 species, today only 17 are left. These birds are native to Hawaii and are very important to the environment and the people. The Kiwikiu bird has a long parrot-like beak that helps to get its food, insect larva. The male of this species is a bright yellow color, and this bird helps with pest control. This bird lives in high elevations on native plant branches. The Akepa bird has a conical beak to break seeds, like koa seeds. This bird species is either yellow or a reddish brown color, and this bird helps with seed dispersal of native plants. This species also lives in high elevations on older and larger trees. The Hawaiian honeycreepers can only be found in Hawaii with these certain adaptations and colors. These birds are very important for our environment but over 30 species of Hawaiian honeycreepers have gone extinct. This is important to our school because these birds are suffering from being hunted by invasive animals, and from habitat loss from logging. These birds need the most help they can get, we only have 17 of these species left in the world, we need to protect them.

To the Chairs, vice chairs, and members of the Culture, and International Affairs (CAI) committee and Water & Land (WAL) committees

Selena Andrade

Mililani High School

2421301390@k12.hi.us

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 8:50:04 AM

Testimony for CAI on 3/30/2023 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Sy Kolo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

#### Comments:

The House of Representatives

Committee on Water and Land and

**Committee on Culture, Arts, and International Affairs** 

Thursday, March 30, 2023

9:30 AM, Conference Room 430

**State Capitol** 

415 South Beretania Street

Honolulu, Hawai'i

Testimony in support of HCR 81 and HR 86

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Sy Kolo. I think this is important legislation because they are birds that are really special to our Hawaiian nation and they are going extinct.

Mahalo,

Sy Kolo

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 8:52:58 AM

Testimony for CAI on 3/30/2023 9:30:00 AM

Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The House of Representatives

Committee on Water and Land and

**Committee on Culture, Arts, and International Affairs** 

Thursday, March 30, 2023

9:30 AM, Conference Room 430

**State Capitol** 

415 South Beretania Street

Honolulu, Hawai'i

Testimony in support of HCR 81 and HR 86

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Kaleihaliaokawahinekilomana Justice Sirvak Danner Jones. I think this is important legislation because the native birds are slowly going extinct one by one. The O'o is already extinct along with the Hawaiian Crow. We have to save the birds please. I don't want to lose the 'Elepaio' so just consider it.

Thank you,

Kaleihaliaokawahinekilomana Justice Sirvak Danner Jones

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 8:55:24 AM

Testimony for CAI on 3/30/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Owen Zimmerman	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The House of Representatives

Committee on Water and Land and

**Committee on Culture, Arts, and International Affairs** 

Thursday, March 30, 2023

9:30 AM, Conference Room 430

**State Capitol** 

415 South Beretania Street

Honolulu, Hawai'i

Testimony in support of HCR 81 and HR 86

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

**Testimony in Strong Support of HCR81** 

My name is Owen Zimmerman. I think this is important legislation because the Hawaiian Honeycreepers help make the forest grow and eat bugs because if there were no Birds there would be millions of bugs everywhere.

Thank you,

Owen

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 8:59:20 AM

Testimony for CAI on 3/30/2023 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Naviah Ornellas Troop	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

#### Comments:

The House of Representatives

Committee on Water and Land and

**Committee on Culture, Arts, and International Affairs** 

Thursday, March 30, 2023

9:30 AM, Conference Room 430

**State Capitol** 

415 South Beretania Street

Honolulu, Hawai'i

Testimony in support of HCR 81 and HR 86

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Naviah Ornellas Troop. I think this is important because without the native birds we would not have pollinators to pollinate the ohia lehua tree. If we do not have the native birds we would not have the ohia lehua tree. Thank you for listening to my speech.

Mahalo,

# Naviah Ornellas Troop

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 8:59:24 AM

Testimony for CAI on 3/30/2023 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Emma Stierhoff	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear committee members,

My name is Emma Stierhoff and I am writing to express my SUPPORT for HCR81 to designate August 8th as Hawaiian Honeycreepers celebration day. This is an excellent opportunity to cultivate the relationships between kanaka and native birds, and to raise awareness about the actions that can be taken to protect these amazing species. These biologically and culturally significant birds deserve to be celebrated! Therefore, I urge you to PASS HCR81.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify,

Emma Stierhoff

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 9:00:28 AM

Testimony for CAI on 3/30/2023 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Le?a Ka?aha?aina	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

My name is Le'a Ka'aha'aina and I am submitting written testimony in strong support of HCR81. I grew up on O'ahu, but I did not get to see my first honeycreeper until I was 20 years old. It was an incredible experience. Seeing the 'i'iwi with its stunning scarlet feathers, hearing the 'apapane sing, watching the 'alawī work its way down a koa trunk looking for insects to eat; meeting these manu changed my life. I have been working to share my aloha and love for our native manu with the people of Hawai'i ever since.

Community awareness is critical to the successful protection of our native honeycreepers. Since these manu are restricted to high elevation forests, most community members do not get to interact with or see these birds for themselves. Designating August 8, 2023 as Hawaiian Honeycreeper Celebration Day will help raise awareness of these irreplaceable treasures of Hawai'i across the pae 'āina.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify,

Le'a Ka'aha'aina

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 9:05:52 AM

Testimony for CAI on 3/30/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Dante Jaime	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The House of Representatives

Committee on Water and Land and

**Committee on Culture, Arts, and International Affairs** 

Thursday, March 30, 2023

9:30 AM, Conference Room 430

**State Capitol** 

415 South Beretania Street

Honolulu, Hawai'i

Testimony in support of HCR 81 and HR 86

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Dante Jamie. I think this is important legislation because the native birds are going extinct on the Hawaiian islands; some birds are already extinct like the hawaiian crow on kauai. The akeke'e is important to the ohia lehua. The akeke'e eats the bugs out of the ohia lehua so the tree can die happily. The o'o is extinct with the hawaiian crow. If we don't do something all of the native hawaiian birds will go extinct.

Mahalo nui.

**Dante Yoenis Jaime** 

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 9:10:57 AM

Testimony for CAI on 3/30/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Armando Jaime	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

#### Comments:

The House of Representatives

Committee on Water and Land and

Committee on Culture, Arts, and International Affairs

Thursday, March 30, 2023

9:30 AM, Conference Room 430

**State Capitol** 

415 South Beretania Street

Honolulu, Hawai'i

Testimony in support of HCR 81 and HR 86

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Armando Jaime. I think is important legislation because

I want the native birds to stay because they sing beautifully.

They look beautiful. The elepaio eats insects

from old koa trees. They help the forest.

Mahalo nui loa,

Armando

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 9:18:47 AM

Testimony for CAI on 3/30/2023 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Meleana Powell Leger	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The House of Representatives

Committee on Water and Land and

**Committee on Culture, Arts, and International Affairs** 

Thursday, March 30, 2023

9:30 AM, Conference Room 430

**State Capitol** 

415 South Beretania Street

Honolulu, Hawai'i

Testimony in support of HCR 81 and HR 86

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Meleana Powell Leger.I think this is important legislation because the native birds keep the forest alive and us alive. They have beautiful songs. It is important for them to stay alive because their important for our environment. They eat the bugs that kill the trees. They're pretty to look at, too.

Mahalo,

# Meleana

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 9:23:07 AM

Testimony for CAI on 3/30/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Lehua Yamamoto	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

#### Comments:

The House of Representatives

Committee on Water and Land and

**Committee on Culture, Arts, and International Affairs** 

Thursday, March 30, 2023

9:30 AM, Conference Room 430

**State Capitol** 

415 South Beretania Street

Honolulu, Hawai'i

Testimony in support of HCR 81 and HR 86

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

My name Lehua Yamamoto, I think this is important legislation because the birds are important to the forest and without the birds the forest would practically die. That's why we need the birds in the

forest or else they die:(

Thank you for listening!!

Sincerely,

Lehua Yamamoto

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 9:28:26 AM

Testimony for CAI on 3/30/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Violet Medeiros	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

#### Comments:

The House of Representatives

Committee on Water and Land and

**Committee on Culture, Arts, and International Affairs** 

Thursday, March 30, 2023

9:30 AM, Conference Room 430

**State Capitol** 

415 South Beretania Street

Honolulu, Hawai'i

Testimony in support of HCR 81 and HR 86

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Violet Medeiros. I think this is important legislation because

the native birds of Hawai'i are so special. Without them visitors would not be able

to see the beautiful birds. Another reason is because without the birds we would not have the beautiful forests.

Sincerely, Violet.M

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 9:32:17 AM

Testimony for CAI on 3/30/2023 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Solomon Andrade	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

#### Comments:

The House of Representatives

Committee on Water and Land and

Committee on Culture, Arts, and International Affairs

Thursday, March 30, 2023

9:30 AM, Conference Room 430

**State Capitol** 

415 South Beretania Street

Honolulu, Hawai'i

Testimony in support of HCR 81 and HR 86

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Solomon Andrade. I think this is important legislation because our native birds are going extinct. Without the special birds,the rainforests of Hawaii will be full of insects that the birds would usually eat, So we really don't want these birds to die.

Mahalo nui loa,

# Solomon

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 9:35:23 AM

Testimony for CAI on 3/30/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
saaral muthu	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

#### Comments:

The House of Representatives

Committee on Water and Land and

Committee on Culture, Arts, and International Affairs

Thursday, March 30, 2023

9:30 AM, Conference Room 430g98

**State Capitol** 

415 South Beretania Street

Honolulu, Hawai'i

Testimony in support of HCR 81 and HR 86

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Saaral Muthu. I think this is important because without the honeycreepers we will not be able to live the same as everything that lives on the Hawaiian islands. so without the hawaiian honeycreepers the hawaiian islands we know will never be the same as it is now. Nothing will survive on the islands.

Sincerely,

# Saaral

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 9:43:24 AM

Testimony for CAI on 3/30/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Anastasia Delseymay Charles	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The House of Representatives

Committee on Water and Land and

Committee on Culture, Arts, and International Affairs

Thursday, March 30, 2023

9:30 AM, Conference Room 430

**State Capitol** 

415 South Beretania Street

Honolulu, Hawai'i

Testimony in support of HCR 81 and HR 86

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Anastasia delseymay

Charles. I think this important legislation because the native birds eat the bugs that kill the trees. Their songs are pretty, too. The birds help to keep the forest alive. And if they die, our forest dies, and then we lose our water and food systems. The birds pollinate the flowers and and make them smell

good and healthy:3

# Sincerely,

# Anastasia



Chairs, vice chairs, and members of the Culture, and International Affairs (CAI) committee and Water & Land (WAL) committees
Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs

March 29, 2023 9:30 a.m., via Video Conference Hawaii State Capitol

<u>In Support for S.B. No. HCR81, S.D. HR86, Recognizing August 8, 2023 as Hawaii Honeycreepers Celebration Day</u>

Aloha, Chair Shimabukuro and Members of the Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs,

My name is Jason Winters and I am a Senior at Mililani High School. I am in support of S.B. No. HCR81, Recognizing August 8, 2023 as Hawaii Honeycreepers Celebration Day which would recognize and designate a day of celebration for these birds.

At school, we take part in helping local organizations to protect the islands against invasive species. I have recently learned about the native Hawaiian Honeycreepers who have to deal with the threat of non-native mosquito diseases killing them. These Honeycreepers hold cultural significance and play a big role in avian ecosystem services on Hawaii's islands. Therefore it is our duty to protect these vulnerable species from extinction.

I hope you will consider passing S.B. No. HCR81 and S.D. HR86 as it will raise awareness and support for protecting the last remaining feathered messengers of our akua. Mahalo Nui Loa for the opportunity to testify.

Very Respectfully,



Submitted on: 3/29/2023 10:56:15 AM Testimony for CAI on 3/30/2023 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Jenna	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Culture,

**International Affairs and Water & Land Committees** 

March 29, 2023

Support for S.B. No. HCR81, S.D. HR86, Recognizing August 8, 2023 as Hawaii Honeycreepers Celebration Day

Aloha, CAI and WAL Committees,

My name is Jenna Dumas and I am a senior at Mililani High School. I am in support of S.B No HCR81 and S.D HR86, recognizing August 8, 2023 as Hawaii Honeycreepers Celebration Day which would establish awareness of a sacred native species that is crucial to our home.

Since seventh grade, I have worked with the Waianae Mountains Watershed team to remove invasive species; replacing them with native plants, to restore our watershed. Our work has saved hundreds of gallons of water that invasive plants soak up, and we continue to work and advocate for a better change. I am fortunate enough to work with WMWP, as they have taught me the importance of preserving our 'aina for current and future generations. Moving forwards, Hawaiian Honeycreepers are essential animals in our ecosystem. Although they are tiny, the honeycreepers make a huge impact on threats. Some of these threats include climate change, mosquitoes, avian malaria, loss of habitats and the

onset of invasive species. Working to protect the Hawaiian Honeycreepers from extinction is a small thing that will prevent future losses.
I hope you will consider passing S.B. No. HCR81 and S.D. HR86 as it will raise awareness and support for protecting the last remaining feathered messengers of our akua. Mahalo Nui Loa for the opportunity to testify.
Sincerely,
Jenna Dumas

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 2:56:29 PM

Testimony for CAI on 3/30/2023 9:30:00 AM



<b>Submitted By</b>	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Samantha Alvarado	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committees,

I am writing in support of HCR81 and would ask for your support for this measure.

As an environmental educator who has served across the pae 'āina (across many of our islands), I still remember what it felt like the first time I saw our native Hawaiian honeycreepers. Growing up on O'ahu, this privilege was not easily accessible for me, and the opportunity sadly grows more rare for our keiki (children). Experiences such as these inspired me to aloha 'āina, pursue higher education, and become a teacher. Nature is capable of creating life changing opportunities for our young people.

The implementation of a Hawaiian Honeycreeper Day would bring so much awareness into our schools and communities. With the majority of our native honeycreepers extinct or critically endangered they need our help, and the next generations help more now than ever before.

The celebration of our native Hawaiian honeycreepers will be able to contribute to our education system, our students lives, ecosystem health, and the survival of endemic species.

Thank you for your consideration and for your support.

Aloha,

Samantha Alvarado

PhD Student Tropical Plant and Soil Science

**Grow With Us Mentorship Program Coordinator** 

**College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources** 

University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 7:04:12 PM

Testimony for CAI on 3/30/2023 9:30:00 AM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kelsey Ishihara	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Rep. Adrian K. Tam, Chair

Rep. Rose Martinez, Vice Chair

Committee on Culture, Arts & International Affairs

Rep. Linda Ichiyama, Chair

Rep. Mahina Poepoe, Vice Chair

Committee on Water & Land

Thursday, March 30, 2023

9:30 AM., Conference Room 430

Hawaii State Capitol

Support for S.B. No. HCR81, S.D. HR86, Recognizing August 8, 2023 as Hawaii Honeycreepers Celebration Day

Aloha, Chair Adrian K. Tam, Chair Linda Ichiyama, Vice Chair Rose Martinez, Vice Chair Mahina Poepoe, Members of the Committee on Culture, Arts & International Affairs, and Members of the Committee on Water & Land

Writing to you is Kelsey Ishihara, a senior at Mililani High School. I am writing to you today regarding my support of S.B. No. HCR81, recognizing August 8, 2023 as Hawaii Honeycreepers Celebration Day, a designated day for us people of Hawaii to recognize and celebrate these amazing birds.

I am currently enrolled in Mililani High School's AP Environmental Science (APES) class where we learn a lot about caring for our native land and species along with the importance of it. One aspect of the class is working with the Waianae Mountains Watershed Partnership in nursing native plant species on campus. We also go on numerous field trips where we all come together as a class to malama aina. It is because of all this that I am aware of the severity of losing our native species or in this case, the Honey Creepers. These native species do so much for our island; not only do they fertilize native plant species, but they also keep insect population (especially insects that feed off of our native plants) under control. Without these birds, not only will a mass amount of our native species be affected, but so will our environment in general. Over the years, 17 out of 41 Honeycreeper species have gone extinct, and there are some species that have less than 200 birds remaining. It is our kuleana as people of Hawaii to prevent these birds from going extinct completely.

I hope you will consider passing S.B. No. HCR81, as it will not only raise awareness, but also support to save these feathered friends that do so much for our islands. Mahalo Nui Loa for the opportunity to testify.

Me Ke Aloha Pumehana,

Kelsey Y. Ishihara

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 7:11:14 PM

Testimony for CAI on 3/30/2023 9:30:00 AM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Penelope Kahiapo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Rep. Adrian K. Tam, Chair and Rep. Rose Martinez, Vice Chair

**Committee on Culture, Arts & International Affairs** 

Rep. Linda Ichiyama, Chair and Rep. Mahina Poepoe, Vice Chair

**Committee on Water & Land** 

March 30, 2023

9:30 a.m., Conference Room 430

**Hawaii State Capitol** 

Support for S.B. No. HCR81, S.D. HR86, Recognizing August 8, 2023 as Hawaii Honeycreepers Celebration Day

Aloha, Chairs, vice chairs, and members of the Culture, and International Affairs (CAI) committee and Water & Land (WAL) committees,

My name is Penelope Kahiapo and I am a Senior at Mililani High School. I am testifying in support of S.B. No. HCR81, Recognizing August 8, 2023 as Hawaii Honeycreepers Celebration Day which would acknowledge and appoint a day of celebration and honor for these native birds. In school, we take an active role in supporting and caring for our land with the Wai'anae Mountains Watershed Partnership. With the many times we've

partnered together with WMWP we've done so much to help the land. We've spent time removing invasive plants, planting and potting our own native trees and shrubs, and reforest priority areas across the Wai'anae Mountains. The time spent doing these things have opened my eyes into the world of the wonderful species that live on our beautiful island, inspiring me to further my knowledge on the nature of the place we call home. I have learned about the important role our native Hawaiian Honeycreeper species play in our forest ecosystem as well as our culture, their ability to fight against numerous threats such as climate change, mosquitos, avian malaria, loss of habitat and alien predators. It's such sad and heartbreaking news that the numbers of these precious native birds have dwindled to just a few left. As a native Hawaiian myself, I believe it is our job to help out and save these honeycreepers from complete extinction.

I hope you will consider passing S.B. No. HCR81 as it will raise awareness and support to
protect the last remaining Hawaii Honeycreepers. Thank you for the opportunity to testify

Sincerely,

Penelope Kahiapo

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 8:24:36 PM

Testimony for CAI on 3/30/2023 9:30:00 AM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Isabella Lee	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

# **Testimony in Support of Native Hawaiian Honeycreepers**

Dear Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

I, Isabella Lee am in full support of HCR81, in relation to the well-being of native forest birds.

As of right now, native Hawaiian birds are in a critical state of becoming extinct, due to the fact that mosquitoes are transporting malaria to the forests where our native honeycreepers are. With Hawai'i's conditions, mosquitoes are able to spread to forest areas never reached before. It is our duty as the people of Hawai'i, to protect these native birds. Releasing this antidote will act as "mosquito birth control" to maintain the population of native birds. It is crucial to preserve the culture of Hawai'i. I hope you consider our proposal for the well-being of the native Hawaiian birds. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Isabella Lee

Member of Grow with Us - University of Mānoa

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 9:23:08 PM

Testimony for CAI on 3/30/2023 9:30:00 AM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Alexander Godsey	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

#### Comments:

Dear Chairs, Vice Chairs, members of the Committee on Culture, Arts & International Affairs, and members of the Committee on Water and Land.

Hi, I'm Alex Godsey, a 7th-grade student at Punahou.

Hawaiian Honeycreepers Celebration Day is one day a year, August 8th, dedicated to celebrating and raising awareness about Hawaii's birds and their importance to our ecosystem. Hawaii is known for its unique and diverse bird populations, some of which are found nowhere else in the world. Unfortunately, many of these birds are endangered or threatened due to habitat loss, predation by introduced species, and other human activities.

Growing up, I always went on nature walks, bird watching, and habitat cleanups with my mom. This has caused me to appreciate the Hawaiian bird population. These beautiful critters are slowly disappearing and without visibility from the general public, it will continue to happen. This must stop, or else future generations will not be able to enjoy the same beauty that we are now.

By officially recognizing Hawaiian Honeycreepers Celebration Day, the state can raise awareness about the importance of protecting and conserving these one-of-a-kind species. It can also provide an opportunity to educate the public, especially children like me, about the vital role birds play in maintaining the equilibrium of nature and the benefits they provide to human society.

Furthermore, the celebration of Hawaiian Honeycreepers Celebration Day can also serve as a platform to highlight and appreciate the efforts of conservation organizations and researchers who work tirelessly to protect and restore Hawaii's bird populations. This would also help to mobilize public support and foster a sense of community engagement in these conservation efforts.

Overall, Hawaii making Hawaiian Honeycreepers Celebration Day a reality can have significant benefits for the environment and society. It can help to raise awareness, educate the public, and promote conservation efforts, ultimately contributing to the long-term health and sustainability of Hawaii's unique and precious ecosystem.

LATE \*Testimony submitted late may not be considered by the Committee for decision making purposes.

Aloha,

Chairs, vice chairs, and members of the Culture, and International Affairs (CAI) committee and Water & Land (WAL) committees,

My name is Denali DeAlmeida and I am a Senior at Mililani High School. I am in support of S.B. No. HCR81 and HR 86, Recognizing August 8, 2023 as Hawaii Honeycreepers Celebration Day which would recognize and designate a day of celebration for these birds.

Like most people, I was unaware of the beauty that the native species of Hawai'i truly hold. That was true until I was able to be educated by my brother about them. My brother is someone who is extremely passionate about the plant and wildlife of Hawai'i, and has taught me so much about our native species. He has also taught me about the struggles that they go through because of invasive species, and the countless native species that have gone extinct because of harmful species. He himself has had the opportunity to observe, photograph, and even care for some of these native birds. His photography and videography has been able to shed light on these amazing animals, and help not only me, but also many others, learn more about them and grow to care about them. I have since come to learn to appreciate the plants and wildlife that we have in Hawai'i, because they are extremely special, and we cannot take them for granted.

I hope that you will consider passing S.B. No. HCR81 and HR86 as it will raise awareness and support for protecting the last remaining feathered messengers of our akua. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Denali DeAlmeida Student of Mililani High School

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 10:01:14 PM Testimony for CAI on 3/30/2023 9:30:00 AM



Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Zoey	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Representative Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Chair

**Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs** 

March 29, 2023

2:00 p.m., Conference Room 309

**Hawaii State Capitol** 

Support for S.B. No. HCR81 and HR86, Recognizing August 8, 2023 as Hawaii Honeycreepers Celebration Day

Aloha, chairs, vice chairs, and members of the Culture, and International Affairs (CAI) committee and Water & Land (WAL) committees. My name is Zoey Dangleman and I am a senior at Mililani High School. I am in support of S.B. No. HCR81 and HR86, Recognizing August 8, 2023 as Hawaii Honeycreepers Celebration Day, giving these birds recognition and celebrating their significance.

I have been granted the opportunity to work firsthand with native species through my AP Environmental course as we've worked with organizations like the Wai'anae Mountains Watershed Partnership to protect and reforest the Wai'anae Mountains. I have been educated about the vital role that Hawaiian Honeycreeper species have within our native forest ecosystems, as well as our culture, and their endangerment compromises these things. We must prevent these honeycreepers from becoming instinct, not only out of respect for the species but out of necessity in order to protect our islands.

I hope you will consider passing S.B. No. HCR81 and HR86 as it will raise awareness about the plight of the Hawaiian Honeycreeper species and gather support for their protection.
Mahalo Nui Loa for the opportunity to testify.
Sincerely,
Zoey Dangleman



Submitted on: 3/29/2023 10:06:27 PM

Testimony for CAI on 3/30/2023 9:30:00 AM



<b>Submitted By</b>	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
bobbie becker	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

#### Comments:

I am writing in support of 81 HCR RECOGNIZING AUGUST 8, 2023, AS HAWAIIAN HONEYCREEPERS CELEBRATION DAY. It is time for us all to celebrate the unique forest birds of Hawaii. The fact that so many varieties of Honeycreeper were able to develop in the absence of humans, cats, rats, mongooses and avian malaria is incredible proof of evolution. Unfortunately we have lost many of the 47 subspecies, and extiction really is forever. NOW really is the time to celebrate the remaining nine by raising public awareness and undstanding of the many threats they face.



Submitted on: 3/29/2023 11:02:06 PM Testimony for CAI on 3/30/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Shay Ann	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

#### Comments:

Aloha, vice chairs, and members of the Culture, and International Affairs (CAI) committee and Water & Land (WAL) committees,

#### HCR81 and HR86

My name is Shay Ann Ramirez and I am a senior at Mililani High School. I am in support of Hawaii HoneyCreepers Celebration Day which will recognize and designate a day of celebration for these birds.

When I was younger I remember going on hikes with my auntie because she was in love with the adventure we would go on and the reward we received at the end of the hike, which was the beautiful views that were waiting for us. I remember vividly as we went on these hikes I would see these colorful, majestic, and unique birds chirping. Which I now acknowledge were the honeycreepers. Recently I went on a hike with my auntie after almost a decade and now all I hear is silence throughout the forest. No singing birds, or colorful flying beings, and I also noticed the forest started to deteriorate without these birds. Before I remember seeing these bright green trees that were flourishing but not turning brown with leaves falling off it's stems one by one rapidly. It is sad to see the forest that we once knew no longer the same just because we did not put in enough effort to take care of these honeycreepers that help our forests stay alive. Although there are some still out there they are very much in danger of extinction. It is our kulena to prevent these honeycreepers from extinction.

I hope you consider passing HCR81 and HR86 as we raise awareness and support for protecting the last remaining feathered messengers of our akua. Mahalo Nui Loa for the opportunity to testify.

Me Ke Aloha Pumehana,

Shay Ann Ramirez

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 11:39:45 PM

Testimony for CAI on 3/30/2023 9:30:00 AM



Testimony for CAI on 3/30/2023 9.30.00 Alvi					
<b>Submitted By</b>	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify		
Corina Yi	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only		
Comments:					
Chair Representative Adrian K. Tam					
Vice Chair Representative Rose Martinez					
Chair Representative Linda	Chair Representative Linda Ichiyama				
Vice Chair Representative N	Vice Chair Representative Mahina Poepoe				
House Committee on Culture, Arts, & International Affairs					
House Committee on Water & Land					

Wednesday, March 29, 2023

Support for HCR81 and HR86, Hawaii Honeycreepers Celebration Day.

Aloha representatives,

My name is Corina Yi and I am a senior at Mililani High School. I am in strong support of HCR81 and HR68, *Recognizing August 8*, 2023, as Hawaii Honeycreepers Celebration Day which would recognize and designate a day of celebration for these birds.

In my AP Environmental Science class at Mililani High School, we learned the importance of supporting native species to maintain biodiversity. By going on school field trips and gaining insight into unique species like Hawaii Honeycreepers, we as students have a responsibility to

voice our concerns. At one point, over 50 Honeycreepers existed in Hawaii. Currently, only 17 species remain—and often in low numbers. Honeycreepers are vital to Hawaii's forest ecosystems. These endemic birds not only serve ecological purposes such as pollinating native plants and maintaining order in food webs but they are symbolically tied to Hawaiian culture as 'aumauka (guardian spirits). Without supporting legislation, our birds are at risk of extinction—and thus our ecosystems.

To expand awareness of Hawaiian Honeycreepers and their critically endangered condition, I hope you will consider passing HCR81 and HR86. Thank you for considering my testimony.

Sincerely,

Corina Yi

Submitted on: 3/30/2023 3:12:51 AM

Testimony for CAI on 3/30/2023 9:30:00 AM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dylan P. Armstrong	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

## Comments:

I write in proud support of our honeycreepers who are rapidly disapapearing from most of their habitat.

And, in my trademark brutal honesty, I need to level with you.

The state of our Hawaiian forest is far more dire than is stated. In the past two decades, the lobeliod population of East Honolulu has dramatically collapsed, because it has no I'iwi left to pollinate them., and introduced honeybees seem to employ robbing strategies on species like Clermontia kakeana and Cyanea sop.

The individual lobeliods that are left on East Oahu are largely artificially propagated by individuals like myself and other conservationists. Similar stories echo to degree across the state.

Trail-side individuals that were easily visible on Ko'olau refugia Ka'au Crater, and on Awa'awaloa, have vanished. Even on the highest summit of Konahuanui, the trematolobelias are far fewer, and invasive weeds replace them.

The Department of Land and Natural Resources mostly employs forest-level researchers who focus on the status of indicators like the surviving 'ōhi'a, which are often centuries old. The next generation of forest life, and the understory species which I'iwi pollinate, are in a much more dynamic, disturbing, and imperiled trajectory.

Because humans are terrible generally at understanding complex ecosystems, and because bureaucrats must sell hopium to obtain funding, this ominous global capital of biological-extinction, Hawai'i, understates its own conservation status.

The interaction of rapid ohia death, the failure to recruit surviving young koa, the near extermination of native land snails, avian malaria (mosquitos), invasive weeds, rats, cats, pigs, and feral and loose dogs, is a dangerous interaction that we have not even come close to addressing with current funding and Human Resources.

By the time it's obvious to most how much has been lost from a forest species, historically, it's been too late. Take, for instance, the endangered species act listing of 41 species of O'ahu tree snail in 1980s: 90% were already extinct, and even more rare species like Laminella spp.

were not listed. The ESA provided valuable protections and resources for survivors, but as is typical for Hawai'i it came too late.

For three years, I caretook the last Achatinella apexfulva in the world, a stunted, acid-corroded little lab-grown snail, named George, but in reality a hermaphrodite with no mate. So I would know of which I tell you.

Awareness and a repriorization of the earth and its rarest endemic species is needed rapidly for Hawaiian forest to survive more than in name or as more than an exhibit, or a living ghost.

Celebrating the I'iwi is a necessary step towards an earth-centered society and social identity. It helps move a democratic society towards literacy of one's place. To survive this century, we need true hope, and we must aspire to more than the cruel subjugation of the earth and each other. As such, I support the measure.

Thank you,

**DP** Armstrong

Submitted on: 3/30/2023 8:12:18 AM

Testimony for CAI on 3/30/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Kailee Barrett	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

### Comments:

Representative Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Chair

Senate committee on Hawaiian Affairs

March 30, 2023

9:30 a.m., Conference Room 430

Hawaii State Capitol

Support for S.B. No. HCR81 , S.D. HR86 , Recognizing August 8, 2023 as Hawaii Honeycreepers Celebration Day

Aloha, Chair Shimabukuro and Members of the Senate committee on Hawaiian Affairs,

My name is Kailee Barrett and I am a sophomore at Papahana 'O Kaiona program. I am in support of S.B. No., Recognizing August 8, 2023 as Hawaii Honeycreepers Celebration Day which would recognize and designate a day of celebration for these birds.

Papahana 'O Kaiona is an alternative learning program. We do weekly huaka'i out in our community to help malama our aina. Some organizations we have worked with are Waianae Mountain Watershed Partnership, Malama Learning Center, and other organizations. Some

things we do with these organizations is we help grow more native plants, removing invasive species, and to also try and understand the importance of our watershed. These things have taught me the importance of a healthy watershed because if we only had invasive plants in our forest our plants wouldnt collect water as well and they wouldn't grow. On March 9, 2023 Aunty Yumi Miyata from Waianae Mountain Watershed Shared with us about the Honeycreeper. The Honeycreeper plays an important role in our Native forest. They pollinate, protecting the trees from insects and also spreading our native seeds. Without the honeycreeper our forest will begin to die.

I hope you will consider passing S.B. No. HCR91 as it will raise awareness and support for protecting the Honeycreeper. Mahalo nui loa.

Submitted on: 3/30/2023 8:17:21 AM

Testimony for CAI on 3/30/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
precious vilmaire keola noble	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Representative Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Chair

**Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs** 

**February 1, 2023** 

**Hawaii State Capitol** 

Support for HCR81. No. , HR86. , Recognizing March 30, 2023 as Hawaii Honeycreepers Celebration Day (THIS NAME MAY CHANGE ON THE BILL DRAFT)

Aloha, Chair Shimabukuro and Members of the Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs,

My name is Precious vilmaire keola and I am a junior at papahana o'kaionai am in support of HCR86 recognizing August 8 2023 as Hawaii Honeycreeper celebration day which would recognise and designate a day of celebration for these birds

Papahana O' Kaiona is an alternative learning program based on the west side of Oahu. We are partnered with local organizations such as Ka'ala Farms, Waianae Mountain Watershed, and Malama Learning Center. Where we take part in malama aina twice a

week. With the help of these organizations we are able to learn more about our aina ,our native plants and animals. We are also able to plant more natives and remove the invasives to see our native plants grow and our aina thrive. These experiences have shown us the importance of why we should take care of our aina. On March 9th 2023 Aunty Yumi Miyata from wmwp shared with us the importance the Honeycreeper has on our aina by pollinating our native forest, protecting the trees from insects and spreading the seeds from our native plants around. Without the Honeycreeper our native forest will die and our aquifer will not be able to regenerate itself. These Honeycreepers are dying off fast and it's caused by climate change. It's a big role because these birds find shelter in the forest with this fact causing them to continuously move to where it fits them.

I hope you will consider passing HCR81 as it will raise for honeyycreepers and the importance they have on our aina. Mahalo for your time

•

Precious vilmaire keola

Submitted on: 3/30/2023 8:18:36 AM

Testimony for CAI on 3/30/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Brianna Joshua	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Representative Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Chiar

**Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs** 

Mar 30, 2023

9:30am, Conference Room 430

**Hawaii State Capitol** 

Support for HCR81,HR86 Recognizing Aug 8, 2023 as Hawaii Honeycreepers and Celebration Day

Aloha Chair Shimabukuro and Members of the Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs,

My name is Brianna Joshua and I am a student at Papahana O Kaiona School.I am in Support for HCR81,HR86 Recognizing Aug 8, 2023 as Hawaii Honeycreepers and Celebration Day which would recognize and designate a day of celebration for these birds.

At Papahana O Kaiona,we participate in weekly conservation huakai where we partner with organizations such as Waianae Mountain Watershed Partnership,Malama Learning Center and much more.During this past year of working with all these organizations we had the opportunity to go and explore our native forests during these

huakai we was able to see how important it is to preserve our first. And the forest starts with these birds why because of these birds they help our forest with pollination, balancing our insect life and the fruits that grow so they aren't over growing in the forest, not only are they balancing life in the forest but they are also protecting our forest and keeping it intact. Now the problem is with climate change it is affecting the habitat for the honeycreepers because it allows mosquitoes to travel to a higher elevation and kill off the honeycreepers or even chase them away from there home so I support this bill because the honeycreepers deserve to be protected and more people should be awared.

Submitted on: 3/30/2023 8:43:27 AM

Testimony for CAI on 3/30/2023 9:30:00 AM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
shelby dittle	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

# Comments:

 $\underline{https://docs.google.com/document/d/1UiYfQORaV0KJVMYd23MEjiMDTU1J6Kk\_zEEq2c3wz}\\ \underline{60/edit}$ 



Submitted on: 3/30/2023 9:47:03 AM

Testimony for CAI on 3/30/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Rylie	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

#### Comments:

Aloha,

Representative Adrian K. Tam, Chair

Representative Rose Martinez, Vice Chair

Members of the Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs Representative Linda, Ichiyama, Chair Representative Mahina Poepoe, Vice Chair

Committee on Water and Land

My name is Rylie Wakumoto and I am a Senior at Mililani High School. I support and submit in both measures S.B No. HCR81 and HR86.

In my Environmental Class, we place a huge emphasis on giving back to the land and to spread Aloha to our 'āina. Throughout the school year, we have learned tremendously how important native species are to Hawai'i and the negative effects of invasive species. We have not only learned but partake in the action to remove said invasive species such as weeds at our shade house or removing species like catfish from streams. That is why I want to specifically talk about the Hawaiian Honeycreepers today. It is disheartening to learn that these birds are slowly becoming extinct and we are seeing less and less of this species in our forests. I have learned how important these birds are to maintain the trees and if they are dying out, what will happen to our forests? As it seems highly likely they are to also whither if the Honeycreepers are no longer there to control pests. In their fight against mosquito borne diseases and climate change caused by us humans, there should be a solution to save the population of these endangered animals. I hope there is a possibility for you to consider passing No. HCR81 and HR86as it will bring to light the actions we need to take for our Hawaiian Honeycreepers. Mahalo Nui Loa for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Rylie Wakumoto.

Student of Mililani High School.

contact information:

email- wakumoto.rylie@gmail.com number- (808)286-8885

Submitted on: 3/30/2023 10:26:43 AM Testimony for CAI on 3/30/2023 9:30:00 AM



Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Kaleo Della Sala	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

### Comments:

Rep. Adrian K. Tam, Rep. Rose Martinez, Rep. Andrew Takuya Garrett, Rep. Jackson D. Sayama, Rep. Jeanne Kapela, Rep. David Alcos III, Rep. Scot Z. Matayoshi, Rep. Linda Ichiyama, Rep. Mahina Poepoe, Rep. Cory M. Chun, Rep. Dee Morikawa, Rep. Sonny Ganaden, Rep. Gregg Takayama, Rep. Mark J. Hashem, Rep. Kanani Souza

Committee on Culture, Arts and International Affairs, Committee on Water and Land

Thursday, March 30, 2023

9:30 AM

**Conference Room 430** 

**State Capitol** 

415 South Beretania Street

Support for S.B. No. HCR81, S.D. HR86, Recognizing August 8, 2023 as Hawai'i Honeycreepers Celebration Day

Aloha Chair and Members of the Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs,

My name is Kaleo Della Sala and I am a Senior at Mililani High School. I am in support of S.B. No., Recognizing August 8, 2023 as Hawai'i Honeycreepers Celebration Day which would recognize and designate a day of celebration for these birds.

As a child born and raised in Hawai'i, I've grown up learning about our birds of Hawai'i. When I was a child, I always wanted to see a honeycreeper in person. My frequent visits to the Bishop Museum and Volcano National Park strengthened my desire to meet and hear these birds that I saw in the glass cabinets. At the time, I never knew that not only were most of them endangered, but most of them would be extinct before I knew it. It's been over ten years and I still have not seen a native bird in person. I, and many others, are hoping that by passing this bill we can bring awareness to the now few species of native honeycreepers and encourage more people to help save these birds and repopulate Hawai'i with the birds that live here and nowhere else before we lose them entirely. These honeycreepers are a part of us and our home, so losing these birds is also losing a part of us and our home.

I hope you will consider passing S.B. No. HCR81, as it will raise awareness and support for protecting the last remaining feathered messengers of our akua. Mahalo Nui Loa for the opportunity to testify.

Me Ke Aloha Pumehana,

Kaleo Della Sala