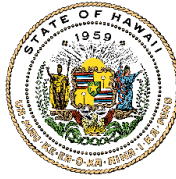


JOSH GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR | KE KIA'ĀINA

SYLVIA LUKE  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR | KA HOPE KIA'ĀINA



STATE OF HAWAII | 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  
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KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION  
LAND  
STATE PARKS

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 non-native 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.



**HR-86**

Submitted on: 3/25/2023 8:22:00 PM

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

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

Comments:

House of Representatives

Committee on Land & Water

Thursday, March 30, 2023

Conference Room 430

State Capitol

415 South Beretania Street

Testimony in Support of Resolution HR86

Recognizing August 8, 2023, as Hawaiian Honeycreepers Celebration Day

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and members of the Committee on Land & Water. We would like to express our support for Resolution HR86. This resolution is a critical step towards bringing awareness to create further protections for Hawaii's Honeycreepers. By passing this resolution, we will be taking proactive measures to bring community awareness to the plight of Hawaii's Honeycreepers and have a designated day to celebrate their environmental and cultural importance in Hawaii.

We believe that this resolution is necessary because Hawaii'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 Hawaii's Honeycreepers" in an effort to raise awareness and support for Hawaii'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 Hawaii Honeycreepers Advocacy Project: <https://youtu.be/nXVFBII17U> (4 minutes/11 seconds)

2nd Grade “Help for Hawaii’s Honeycreepers” Fundraiser: [https://youtu.be/UVxD\\_zwYdq0](https://youtu.be/UVxD_zwYdq0) (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

[2nd Grade "Help For Hawaii's Honeycreepers" Project](#)  
[LJA Kindergarten Hawaii Honeycreeper Advocacy Project](#)



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 HR86**

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 HR86** *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



COORDINATING GROUP ON  
ALIEN PEST SPECIES

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



*Bringing back the birds*

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, & International 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, 'olelo 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](mailto:cfarmer@abcbirds.org)  
Hawai'i Program Director  
808-987-1779

Lukanicole Zavas  
[lzavas@abcbirds.org](mailto: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 in there.

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 obligated).

**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.

**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**

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*Founders:* Samuel A. Cooke Herbert C. Cornuelle

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.

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*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.*

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The House of Representatives  
Committee on Water and Land  
March 21, 2023  
State Capitol

### **Testimony in Support of HR86**

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

I strongly support the resolution **HR86** 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.



Second, Future generations won't ever see or learn about the Hawaiian Honeycreepers. If or when the Honeycreepers die out future generations will ask about what the Hawaiian Honeycreepers are and no one will know what they are. There are not a lot of them and in fact there are only a few left and if they might die it can throw off the ecosystem. If people try to look up on Google or any website and search for Hawaiian Honeycreepers no one will have any information about them if they're gone.

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



The House of Representatives  
Committee on Water and Land  
March 21, 2023  
State Capitol

**Testimony in Support of HR86**

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

I strongly support the resolution **HR86** 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

The House of Representatives  
Committee on Water and Land  
March 21, 2023  
State Capitol

### **Testimony in Support of HR86**

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

I strongly support the resolution **HR86** 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  $\frac{1}{3}$  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.

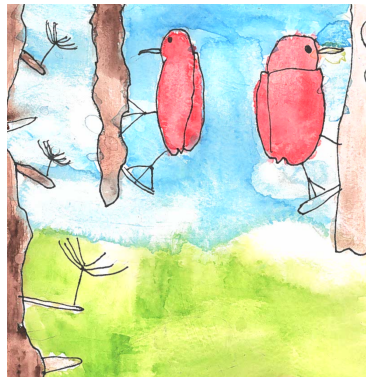
Finally, without them native ecosystems could collapse. Honeycreepers are important because of what they do to our environment. If we can increase the honeycreeper population we will be able to have these birds for much longer and help the ecosystem by pollinating. As you can tell, honeycreepers can 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

The House of Representatives  
Committee on Water and Land  
March 21, 2023  
State Capitol

### Testimony in Support of HR86

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



To begin with I strongly support the resolution **HR86** to 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

The House of Representatives  
Committee on Water and Land  
March 21, 2023  
State Capitol

### Testimony in Support of HR86

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



I strongly support the resolution **HR86** 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

The House of Representatives  
Committee on Water and Land  
March 21, 2023  
State Capitol

### Testimony in Support of HR86

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

I strongly agree with **HR86** 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  
The House of Representatives

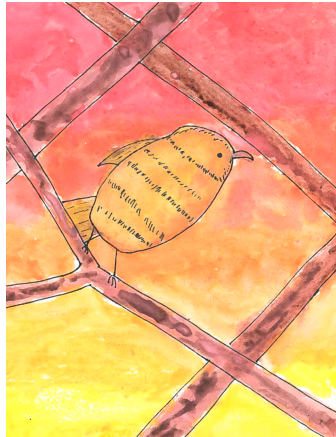


Committee on Water and Land  
March 21, 2023  
State Capitol

### Testimony in Support of HR86

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

I strongly support the resolution **HR86** 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 Kauai 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

The House of Representatives  
Committee on Water and Land  
March 21, 2023  
State Capitol

### Testimony in Support of HR86

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

I strongly support the resolution **HR86** 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,  
Eriele Ho  
Grade 5  
Mānoa Elementary School

The House of Representatives  
Committee on Water and Land  
March 21, 2023  
State Capitol

### Testimony in Support of HR86

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



I strongly support the resolution **HR86** to make August 8, 2023, Hawaiian Honeycreeper day. I 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

The House of Representatives



Committee of Culture Arts and International Affairs  
March 21, 2023  
State Capitol

### Testimony in Support of HR86

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



I believe we should support the resolution **HR86** 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

The House of Representatives  
Committee of Culture Arts and International Affairs  
March 21, 2023  
State Capitol

**Testimony in Support of HR86**

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

I strongly support **HR86** 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

The House of Representatives  
Committee of Culture Arts and International Affairs  
March 21, 2023  
State Capitol

### Testimony in Support of HR86

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

I strongly support the resolution **HR86** 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

The House of Representatives  
Committee of Culture Arts and International Affairs  
March 21, 2023  
State Capitol

### **Testimony in Support of HR86**

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

I strongly support the resolution **HR86** 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

The House of Representatives  
Committee of Culture Arts and International Affairs  
March 21, 2023  
State Capitol

### Testimony in Support of HR86

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

I strongly support the resolution **HR86** 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  
The House of Representatives  
Committee of Culture Arts and International Affairs  
March 21, 2023  
State Capitol

### **Testimony in Support of HR86**

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

I strongly support the resolution **HR86** 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

The House of Representatives  
Committee of Culture Arts and International Affairs  
March 21, 2023  
State Capitol

### Testimony in Support of HR86

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

I strongly support resolution **HR86** 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

The House of Representatives  
Committee of Culture Arts and International Affairs  
March 21, 2023  
State Capitol

### Testimony in Support of HR86

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

I strongly support resolution **HR86** 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.

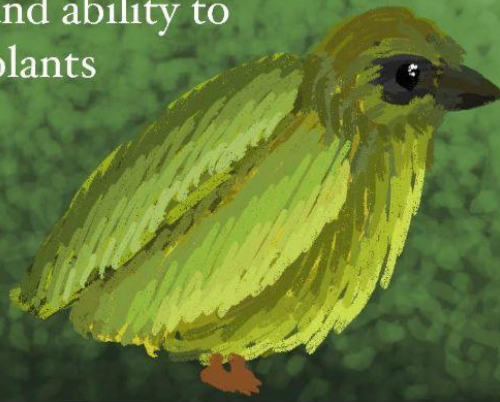
Last but not least, Hawaiian Honeycreepers are very important to Hawaiian culture because they were used to create ali'i staff, capes, clothing, and more. But if we don't have any of the Hawaiian Honeycreepers anymore, people from all over will not know what or where all of it came from, because there 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



Honeycreepers are a keystone species because of their adaption and ability to pollinate the other native plants



We have the obligation to care  
Because honeycreepers play an  
Important part in our ecosystem  
As secondary and primary consumers.

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!***

# ***Please listen 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!***



I am a 9th grade student taking biology at 'Iolani School, and I've been learning and studying honeycreepers.

Aloha!

'Anianiau

I'iwi

Avian Malaria



Yeah, those invasive rats are decreasing my population too.

Don't forget about those mosquitoes spreading that disease!

How are you?  
I've been struggling.  
It's been terrible  
for us on Kauai!

We haven't been doing  
well on Big Island either.  
Less of my buddies are  
around these days.

I think everyone  
forgets about us, yet  
we do so much.

Has anything  
been done to  
help us endemic  
honeycreepers?

We need to do something  
about this but I think...

**WE NEED YOUR HELP!**

Our feathers are symbols of  
power and used for the Ali'i  
cap. We are really important  
to our Hawaiian culture!



Na Hulu Ali'i

Pollinator

The ecosystem depends on us!  
We spread the seeds, control  
pests, and are pollinators. We  
reach those high elevations  
the bees can't.

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

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RECOGNIZING AUGUST 8, 2023 AS

# Hawai'i Honeycreepers Celebration Day

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 Hawai'i's ecosystem

- 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 ohia 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 Honeycreeper species. 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





**VOTE YES**

*For recognizing August 8, 2023 as  
Hawai'i Honeycreepers Celebration Day*

# Notice

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 because 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 problems 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.  
Sincerely,



# 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.



[http://www.pohia.org/pohia/central/gallery/hawaiian-honeycreepers/hawaiian-honeycreepers\\_Plate1.html](http://www.pohia.org/pohia/central/gallery/hawaiian-honeycreepers/hawaiian-honeycreepers_Plate1.html)



<http://www.hawaiiwildlife.com/2014/04/10/the-hawaiian-honeycreepers/>

## 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://kavaiaforestbirds.org/anianiau/>



[https://www.pohia.org/pohia/central/gallery/hawaiian-honeycreepers/hawaiian-honeycreepers\\_Plate1.html](https://www.pohia.org/pohia/central/gallery/hawaiian-honeycreepers/hawaiian-honeycreepers_Plate1.html)



<https://grahamsisland.com/2020/03/08/ohia-lehua-flower/>

## Ecological Importance:

Hawaiian honeycreepers are important pollinators of native plants. The 'I'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 'Iiwis and 'anianiaus.



<https://www.privatecourseshawaii.com/blog/the-iwi-bird-hawaiian-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'iwi 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 are trying 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.

## A close-up photograph of a bird with bright orange plumage and black wings and tail. The bird is perched on a cluster of small, pink, bell-shaped flowers with yellow centers. The background is a soft, out-of-focus green, suggesting foliage.



Only 17/50 species of  
Honeycreepers  
remain today.

Dear Legislators of the State of Hawaii,

I am a student at 'Iolani 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 'Iolani 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

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E mālama i kā mākou holoholona hihū

# SAVE THE HAWAIIAN HONEYCREEPERS



BE THE CHOICE THAT  
MAKES THE DIFFERENCE

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!



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.*

Greetings,  
I am an Ikaika student, and I have  
done research on this subject:



It has come to my attention  
of the significant decline  
in honeycreepers.



I therefore stand before  
you today and say yes to our  
resolution: where August 8 is recognized  
as Hawaii Honeycreepers Celebration Day.



Many factors are causing the  
declining population of honeycreepers,  
some of which are:



However, the biggest threat  
to the honeycreepers is a  
disease called avian malaria.



Avian Malaria is contracted through  
Mosquitoes.



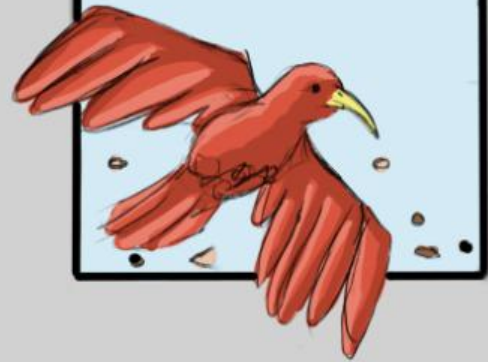
But we need these honeycreepers  
as they are important for  
our ecosystem.



Honeycreepers are important  
pollinators for native plants



They are seed dispersers ...



... and honeycreepers are good  
pest managers.



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!



I can't, an  
entire bird species  
depends on it!

Dude slow down.  
why are you  
moving so fast?





# THE HONEYCREEPERS NEED OUR HELP

VOTE YES RECOGNIZING AUGUST 8 AS HAWAI'I HONEYCREEPERS CELEBRATION DAY

'AKIKIKI



AKIKIKI: A SMALL, GREEN BIRD WITH A WHITE THROAT AND BELLY. IT IS A COMMON SPECIES IN THE HAWAIIAN ISLANDS. IT IS A CRUCIAL POLLINATOR OF MANY NATIVE PLANTS. IT IS A CRUCIAL PART OF THE HAWAIIAN ECOSYSTEM.

'OHIA TREE



'OHIA TREE: A NATIVE HAWAIIAN TREE WITH RED, BRUSH-LIKE FLOWERS. IT IS A CRUCIAL POLLINATOR OF MANY NATIVE PLANTS. IT IS A CRUCIAL PART OF THE HAWAIIAN ECOSYSTEM.

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



MOSQUITO: A SMALL, BROWN INSECT WITH LONG LEGS. IT IS A CRUCIAL POLLINATOR OF MANY NATIVE PLANTS. IT IS A CRUCIAL PART OF THE HAWAIIAN ECOSYSTEM.

MOSQUITOS MOVE HIGHER INTO THE MOUNTAINS, SPREADING AGAIN MALARIA AMONG THE BIRDS, KILLING THEM. WITHOUT THEM, ECOSYSTEMS OF HAWAI'I WILL COLLAPSE.

AN 'IOLANI BIOLOGY STUDENT TRYING TO SAVE THE HONEYCREEPERS WITH YOUR HELP

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

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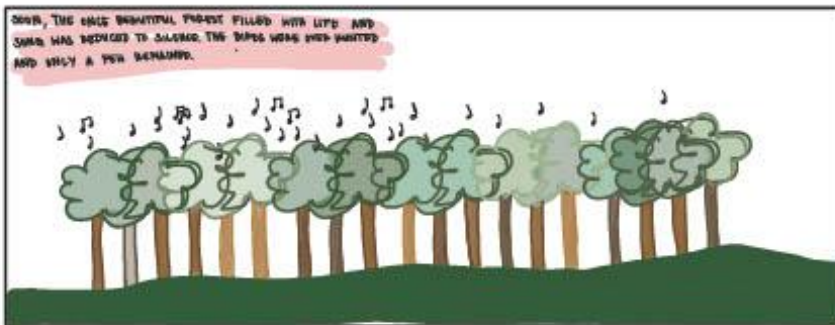
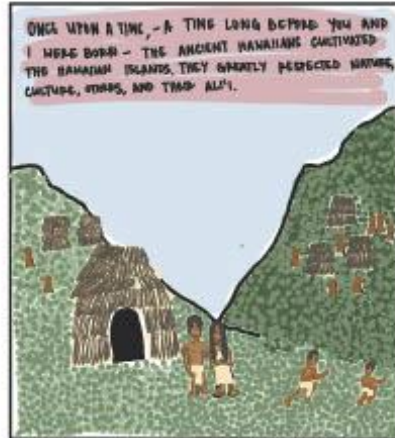
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Dear Legislators,

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 Hawai'i, 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 Hawai'i, 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,

**HCR81/HR86**  
**MONALUA MIDDLE SCHOOL**

**TESTIFIER NAME**

**LIST OF TESTIFIERS**

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.  
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 decorative 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

## **Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

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

## **Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

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)

## **Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

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

## **Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

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



## **Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

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

## **Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

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

## **Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

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

## **Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

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

## **Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

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



## **Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

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

**Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

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 Hawaiian culture, they use the feathers of different Hawaiian Honeycreepers in feather work, Like King Kamehameha's cape. If the Hawaiian Honeycreeper were 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 Christianity. 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

**Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

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

**Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

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 Hawaiian honeycreepers pollinate literally anything; one of the main things they pollinate is ferns. We need to have these ferns because most trees 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 coral. 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

**Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

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

**Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**



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

**Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

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 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

**Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

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

**Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

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

## **Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**



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

**Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

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

**Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

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 the plant releases oxygen for 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

**Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

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

**Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

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

**Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**



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

**Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

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

**Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

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

**Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

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

**Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

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

**Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**



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 environment. Hawaii is very important as well. Although the I'iwi makes the islands suitable for living for us, the I'iwi also helps the environment 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

**Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

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.

**Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

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

**Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

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

**Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

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

**Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

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's capes). It pollinates and keeps plants alive such as the Hawaii state endemic plant, the ohia. 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

**Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**



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

**Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

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 don't want that to happen to these birds. It's humanity's fault for global warming and the increased 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

**Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

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

**Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

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

**Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

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

**Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

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

**Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

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

**Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**



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

**Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

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 a lot so thank you!

Sincerely,

Nicholas H. 7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School

**Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

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

**Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

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

**Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

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

**Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

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

**Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

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 mele (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.

**Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**



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

**Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

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

**Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

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

**Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

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

**Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

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

**Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

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

**Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

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

**Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**



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

**Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

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

**Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

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

**Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

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

## **Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

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

## **Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

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

## **Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

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

## **Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

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



## **Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

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

## **Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

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

## **Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

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

## **Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

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

## **Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

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

## **Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

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

## **Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

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 they 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

## **Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

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



## **Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

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 diseases 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

## **Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

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

### **Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

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 mamu bird on his cape, but the mamu 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

### **Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

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

## **Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

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

## **Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

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

### **Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

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

## **Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

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.



## **Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

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

## **Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

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

### **Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

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

## **Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

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 only 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 pollination.

Thank You for reading my testimony for Hawaiian Honeycreepers.

## **Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

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.

### **Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

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 majestic 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

## **Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

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

## **Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

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



## **Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

"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

## **Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

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.

### Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony

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.

## **Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

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

### **Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

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

## **Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

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

## **Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

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

## **Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

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



## **Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

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

## **Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

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

## **Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

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

### **Hawaiian Honeycreeper Testimony**

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.

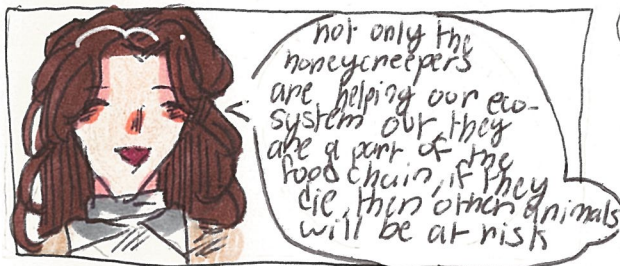
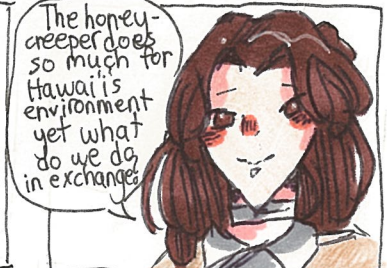
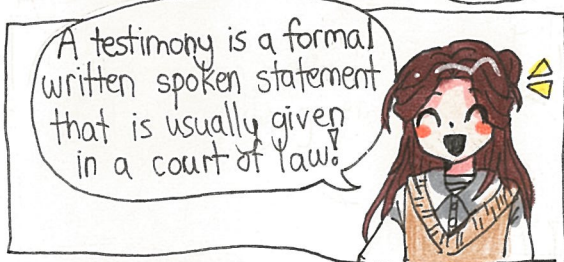
Sincerely,

Yedzell D, 7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School

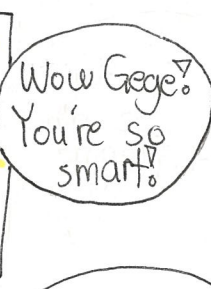
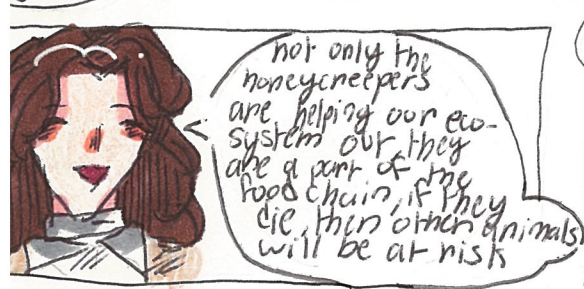
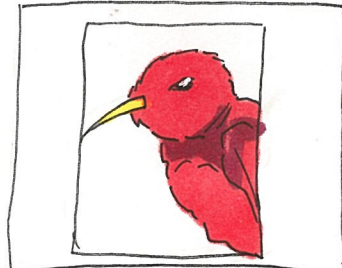
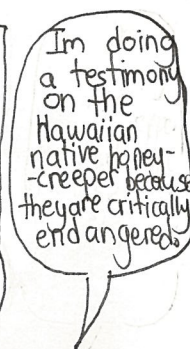
SAVE THE  
HONEYCREEPERS



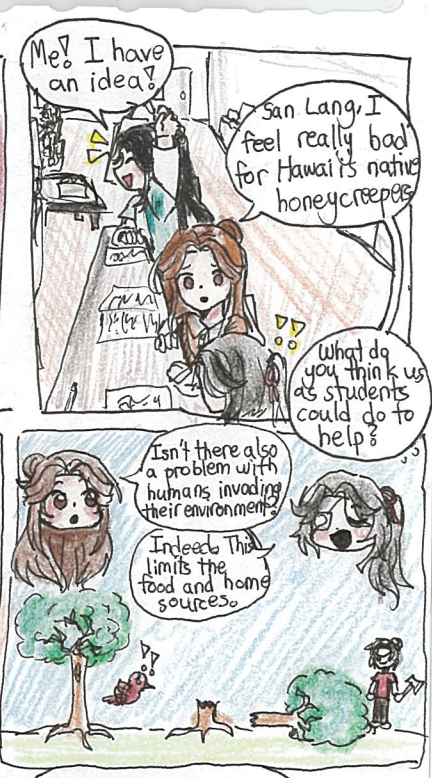
















## Problem

The honeycreepers are dying out mainly due to diseases like the avian flu, from mosquitos.

## What is being done to help?

There are many things being done to help such as invasive species control, translocation, and writing testimonials to prevent the honeycreepers going extinct.

## Why is it important to people in Hawaii and/or you?


It's important to people in Hawaii because the honeycreepers are endemic to Hawaii, they can only be found here.

Honeycreepers go way back in Hawaiian culture. Hawaiians made the capes out of their feathers. If the honeycreepers go completely extinct, the ecosystem will become imbalanced. Other species could over populate or go extinct.

Sophie M.




What is the problem?



our problem is that we are slowly going extinct due to people cutting down our habitats. We live in forests and without our homes it is very dangerous because we have nowhere to stay.

What is the problem?



The problem is invasion of animals and insects are harming us honeycreepers. These species include mosquitoes, rats, and so much more that are in charge of the extinction of honeycreepers.

How did this problem occur?

This problem occurred because people cut down trees that we live in. They cut down our homes. Some live in specific natural forest habitats that are important to agriculture but honeycreepers aren't supported there and they lose their home.

How did this problem occur?

This problem that occurs with mosquitoes are a #1 threat. Mosquitoes are the main reason they are extinct. Mosquitoes are so bad because they have wiped Maiana that is spread from them. This creates death for our birds.

How can you help?

Stop cutting down trees. Animals are losing their homes for our needs. Habitat restoration is an organization that gets animals/honeycreepers a new home to return too.


- Have a fundraiser or talk about it with your friends.

How can you help?

- Scientists have thought of an idea to release a certain type of male mosquitoes (because males don't bite) that do not bite honeycreepers.
- Invasive species control reduce populations of some native species to protect and enhance.
- Research ways to help and learn.


Why is it a problem to Hawaii and you?

This habitat loss is important to us and our island because our honeycreepers are native to just our island. If people keep chopping down trees as well that won't be good for honeycreepers and other animals. Lastly, they will have no other home.



Why is it a problem to Hawaii and you?

Losing our birds to mosquitoes is our problem too because we also get bit by mosquitoes, but it's much more serious for birds. Losing our birds can lead to many sad consequences in Hawaii history, and lastly mosquitoes will increase and birds will decrease.





What is the problem?

The problem is honeycreepers getting spread with diseases, include Anemia which do with blood cells. Malaria again, which is from mosquitoes.



What is the problem?



The problem is climate change. While growing up our native birds have learned to live in forests but now that the weather has changed mosquitoes have found a way to bite more honeycreepers.

How did this problem occur?

The diseases occurred when mosquitoes bite honeycreepers. They get a disease called Malaria. The disease Malaria is not good because it makes animals sad or stressed causing them to die.

How did this problem occur?

While the weather may be slowly getting hotter and humid mosquitoes have found a way to come to the forests. The more climate change the more mosquitoes. The forests that were once free from mosquitoes are now filled with them. Hungry and ready.

How can you help?

Again scientists are using male mosquitoes to help biting end.

Invasive species control and control for mosquitoes is the risk of honeycreepers dying.

Our birds be stress free.

How can you help?

- Captive breeding helps keep animals in a safe place away from extinction.

- Invasive species control helps protect native animals/honeycreepers from predators.

- Controlling / use fences / trapping

Why is it a problem to Hawaii and you?

This is a problem to Hawaii and myself because that means we are losing our culture and island of life. Diseases might also spread to other animals causing them to go extinct as well.

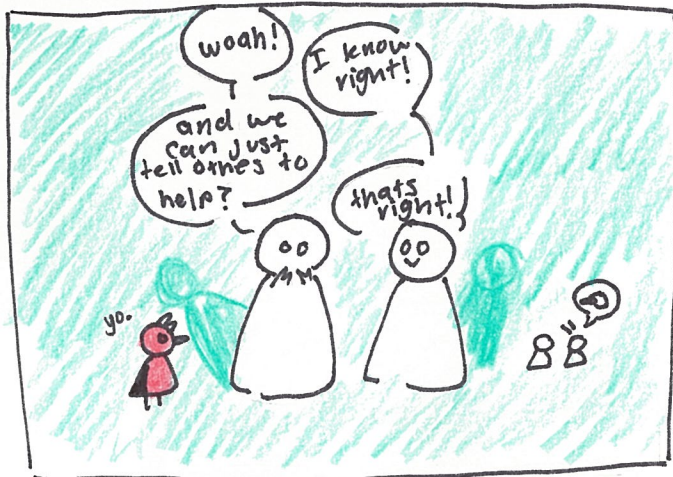
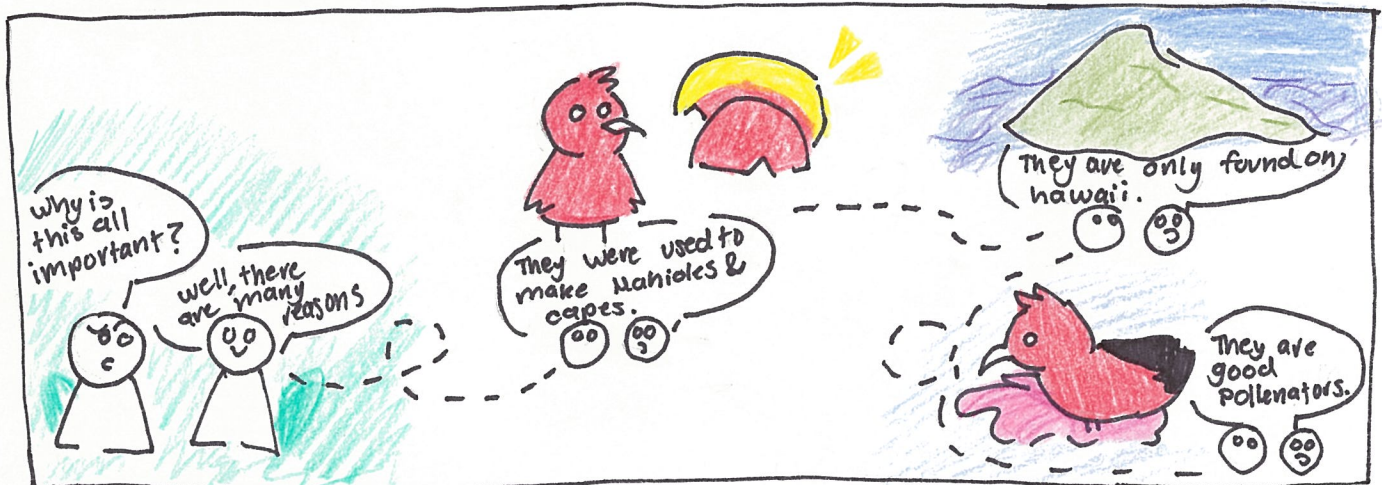
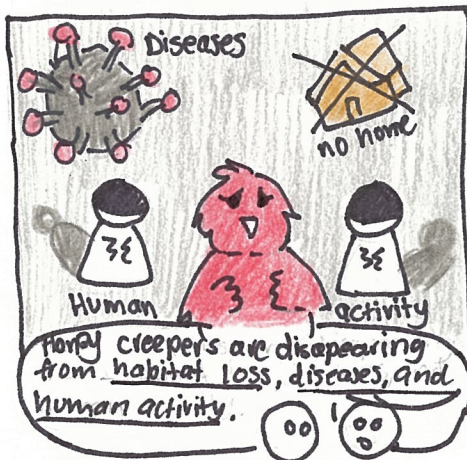
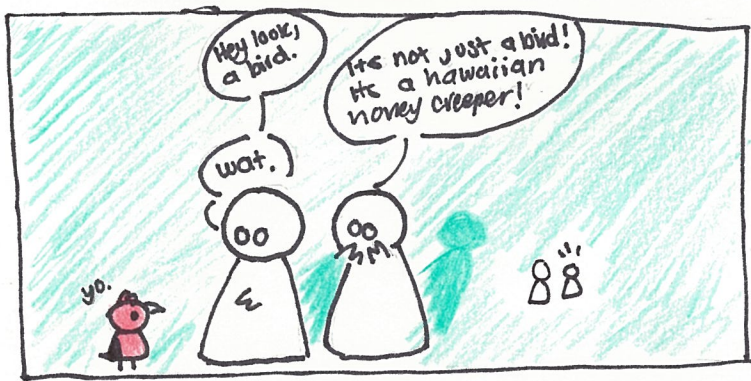
Why is it a problem to Hawaii and you?



This is a problem to Hawaii and us because climate change is not good for anyone and can harm all of us. In conclusion our honeycreepers going extinct will not be good for culture and Hawaii's importance.



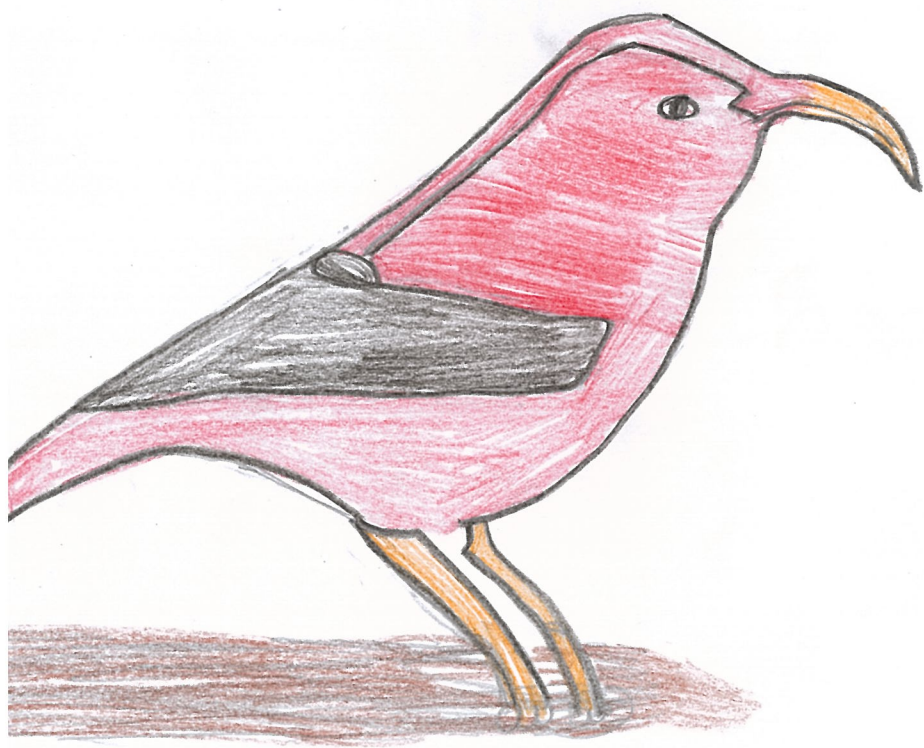






re Hawaiian Honeycreepers are endangered and close to extinction. The problem is the native trees are getting mixed with non-native trees. The Hawaiian honeycreepers have to move up but the mosquitos are moving up with them and some are dying. So scientist are coming up with a virus called wolbachia which is in male mosquitos. Also after you hike you can make sure no seeds are on your shoes. You can make sure there is no still water because that's when mosquitos lay eggs. The hawaiian honeycreepers are important because it is hawaiian culture. The hawaiians also used its feathers as a symbol of power. Also the birds are considered spiritual guides for families.

Kaylan S. P/S





# Honey Creeper

Briana B  
TaWiyahP



Q&A:

1. Why is it important for us to save Honey Creepers?  
It is important to us because we can make a difference in our community.

2. Why is this important to people in our (Hawaiian) Community?

It is important to people in our (Hawaiian) community because Honey Creepers are apart of Hawaiian history. Honey Creepers have been in Hawaii for a long time.

3. What is being done or can be done to help?  
Conservation services, these programs help by trying to get rid of mosquitos, they get rid of mosquitos by preventing them from hatching eggs.

4. How are mosquitos harmful for Honey - Creepers?  
Mosquitos are harmful because they spread avian flu which Honey - Creepers are unable to overcome.

What is the problem?  
Honey Creepers are going extinct, as they go extinct it slowly erases part of Hawaiian history. Our goal is to prevent honey creepers from going extinct.

## Quiz \ Guessing Game:

7. How many species are native to Hawaii? 2

- a. 14
- b. 35
- c. 50
- d. 125

2. What country's state's content did they come from

- a. Austria
- b. Asia
- c. Hawaii
- d. Florida

Answers: 1: c 2: b

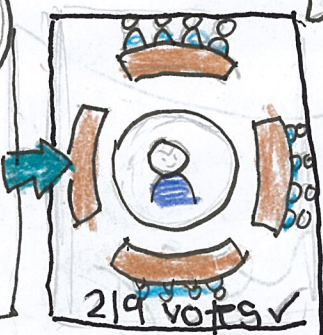
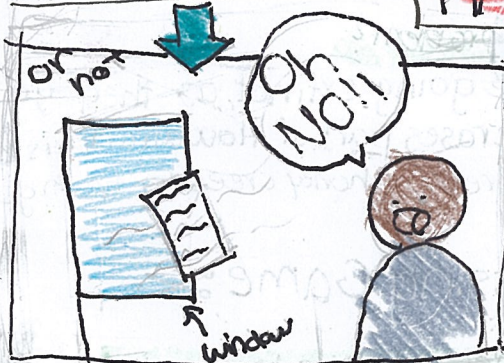
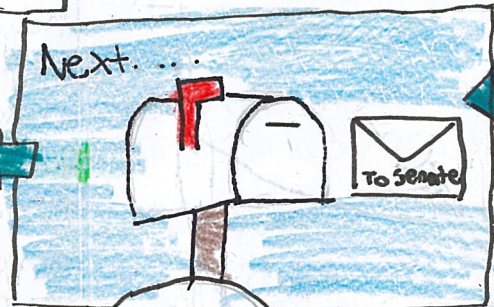




After writing letters and mailing it to the district Rep.....

Wow!

Bill! Approved  
↓  
the full house & Hawaii Rep.





Poem:

## Vanished Birds

Birds vanished as  
unwanted visitors invade  
their home. They seek help  
but they are alone.

They are not alone, they  
have samaras who  
can fix those invaders'  
behaviors





# Credits:

Honey Creeper photo inspiration

<https://www.istockphoto.com/>

# Special Thanks:



To Luka Zabas

Thank you for teaching us the importance of hawaiian honey creepers. We learned so many things such as their importance, their history in Hawaii, types of honey creepers and how mosquitos are harmful to honey creepers.

- Ja'Nyah P
- Briana B

To Kailee Lefebvre

Thank you for teaching us that our voice matters and we can make a difference in our community. We appreciate you for teaching us about resolution & how we can help our environment while being apart of history.

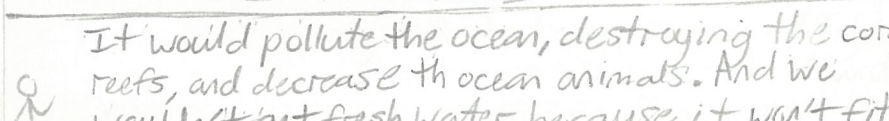
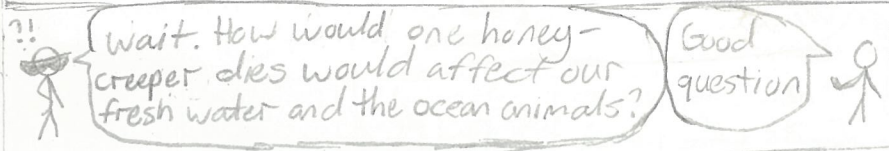
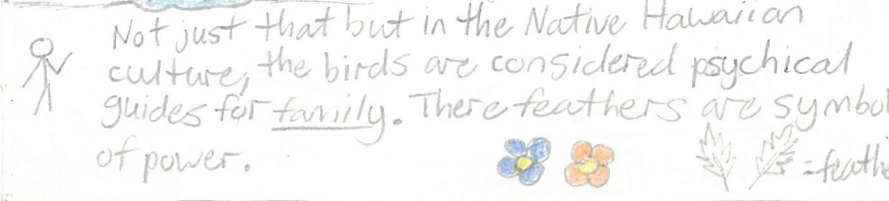
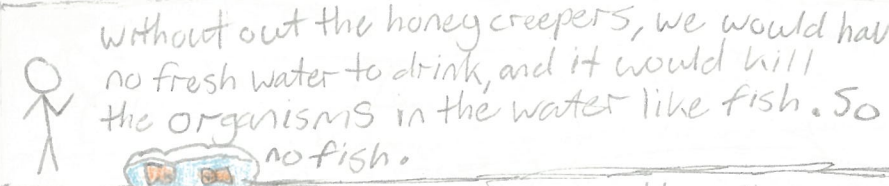
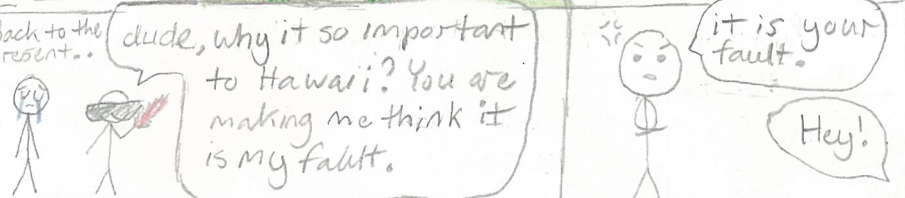
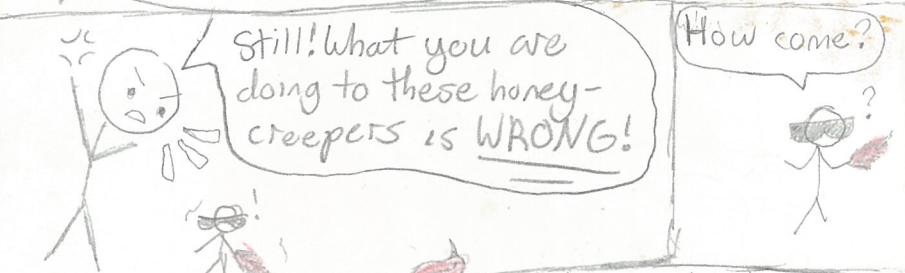
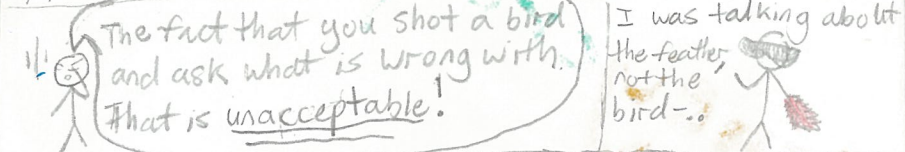
- Briana B
- Ja'Nyah P



By Susan N. pd 6







1. we can try to decrease the mosquito's population. I am sorry but why?



Mosquitoes can spread a type of disease

They carry a virus called "avianflu". If a mosquito bite the bird and sucks its blood, it would transfer to the bird. It would make the honeycreeper more tired, lazy, and lose its appetite. After that, it would die. ☹️

So it would be better if we decrease the mosquito's population. um.. ok

So how do we decrease the mosquito's population?

People are putting Wolbachia in the male mosquito. So when the male and female mate, it will prevent the female from giving birth.

Cool! What else can we do?

well..

2. We could support and speak for our honeycreepers by writing a testimony, and more! Honeycreepers cannot speak for themselves.

As what I was saying, we can send the testimony to our senator. We can meet with our senator in zoom meet or in person.

You can write a letter that says you support the honeycreepers. ☺️

Wait where did you get that paper from?

Don't. Ask. Question.

Want to hear something cool and good?

um.. sure!

Well actually 2 things.

you can support it in any age! Even if you are a kindergarten.

Wow, So I am a kindergarten?

What?! No I didn't mean it like that!

Haha, I was just joking! You can continue.



yeah that wasn't funny.. But ok, I will continue.



# Thank you

Ms. Luka and Ms. Kailee  
for

- spreading the awareness about honeycreepers
- coming here and taught us about these birds





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.





# HONEYCREEPERS!!

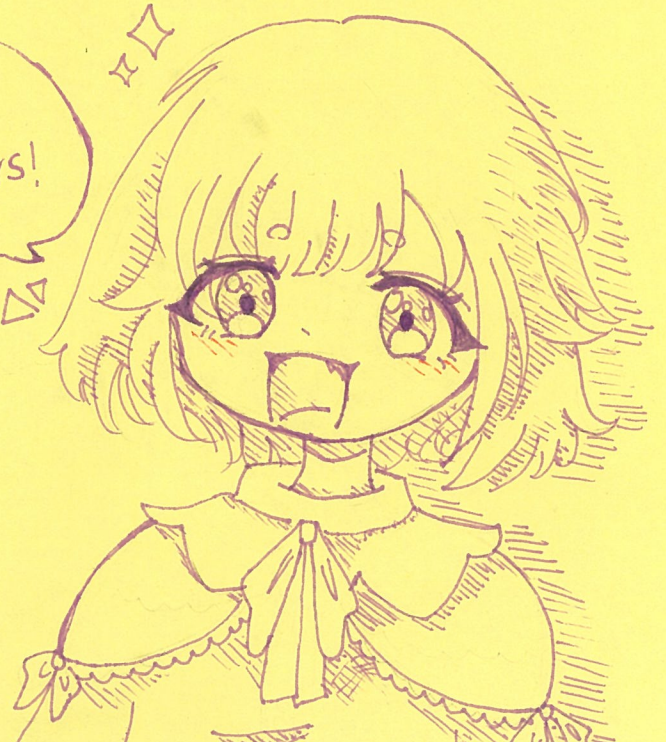
WONDERLANDS X SHOWTIME



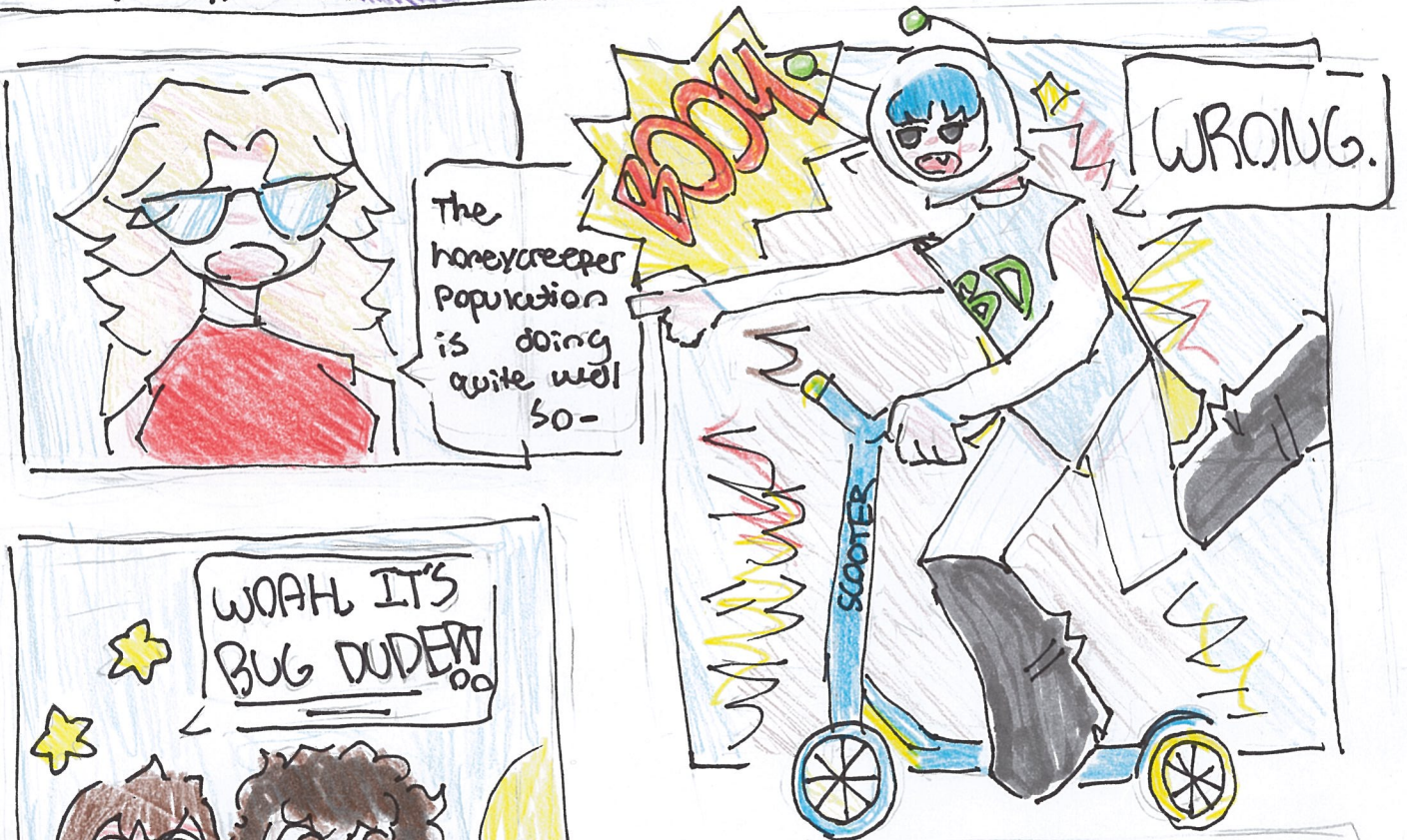
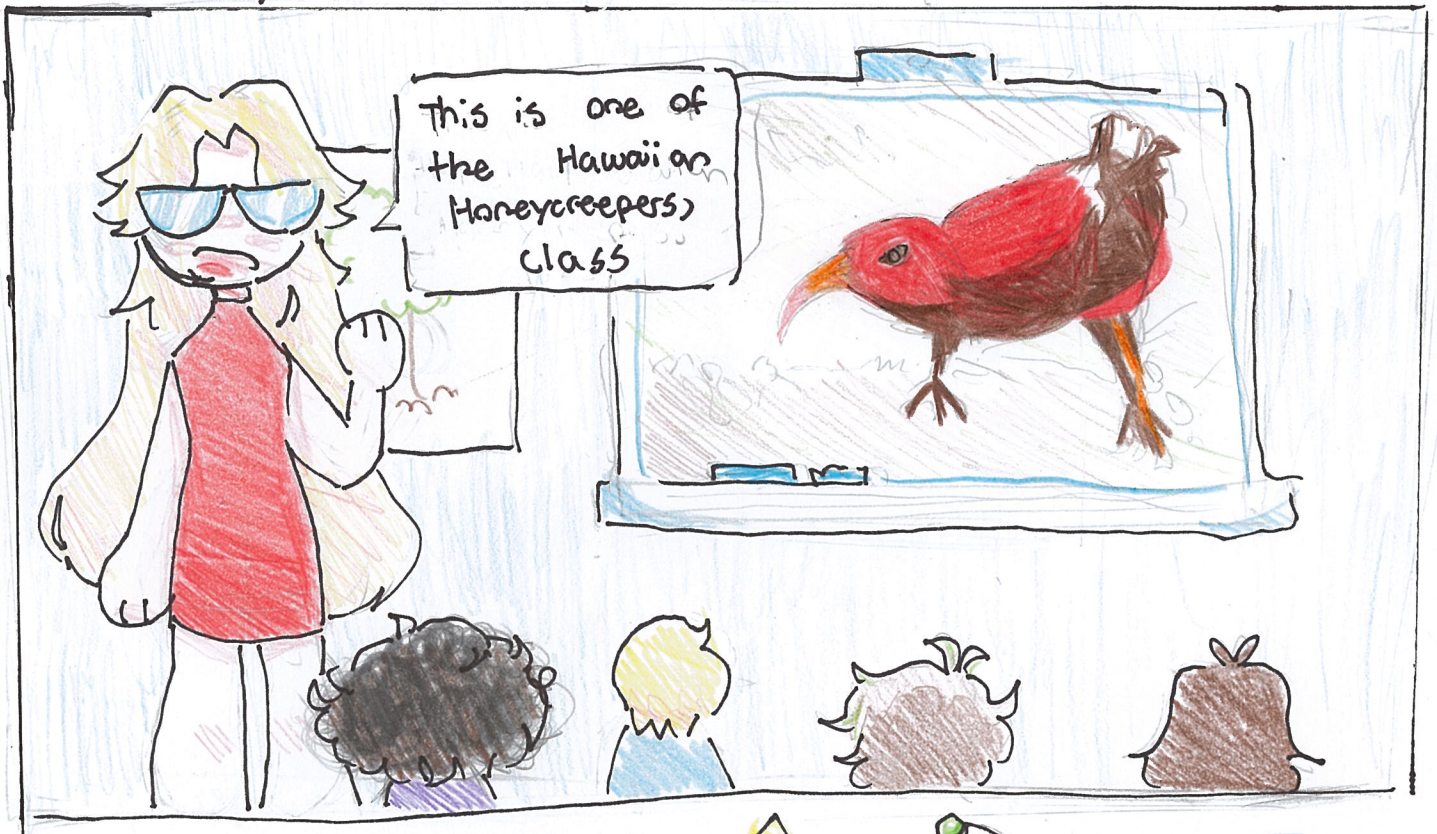
## The End!

Save the Honeycreepers!

Uh oh.. Honeycreepers are going extinct! They've been here for years and have been such a big help to us. It would be horrible to have such wonderful animals gone. The Honeycreepers can spread pollen, help us fertilize plants, and control the bug population too!









Honeycreepers in  
Hawaii actually are  
being harmed, their  
population decreasing  
due to predators,  
mosquitoes, non-native  
species, etc.  
Honeycreepers are  
very important to  
Hawaii's environment.



How can you help?  
You can write  
testimonials  
and work on  
projects to bring  
awareness.

It might be  
small change,  
but assuming  
the population  
will just  
be fine is part  
of the problem.

Wow! Thanks BUB DUDE  
! 😊





When you see a  
injured honeycreeper  
you can contact  
a conservationist

It is important  
to the  
people in hawaii  
because they  
were part of  
their culture

The honeycreepers  
only exist in hawaii  
and they are representations  
of hawaii.

They are also physical  
embodiment of hawaii.  
They are animals we  
have to do our  
best to help  
them.

### Problem:

Disease are killing  
off our birds!

- avian malaria
- Plasmodium relictum
- west Nile virus

You can help  
by contain them  
until the honeybirds  
are back to healthy.

### Invasive Species Killing off

#### Honeycreepers

- Mosquitoes
- Parasitism
- Humans (tourism)

By killing  
more  
mosquitoes  
and stop  
people from  
touching/dying bad  
state to the  
birds

Climate change is also killing off  
our birds.

- Fire to forest
- Destroying of home
- Introduced of invasive species

Too be more safe  
about fire and not  
building unnecessary  
structures on their  
habitat.







Whats the problem?

- The hawaiian honey creepers are getting extinct!
- The reason they are becoming extinct is because the misquitos.
- Misquitos carry a disease called "Avian malaria" which kills the honey creeper.

What can be done?

We can try and control the disease of misquitos and secure disease-free habitat. We could also spread awareness to the islands.

Why is it important?

Its important to people in hawaii because these birds fertilize native plants. To hawaii families the honey creepers, symbolize a spiritual guide to families and their feathers are a symbol of power.

What is the problem?

Although there are many different types of honeycreepers on the Hawaiian islands.

but, many of them are becoming extinct or harmed because of the invasive species that hurt them. One main threat are the mosquitoes that can kill a honeycreeper with one bite, and also spread a virus called the avian flu-virus that spreads among the bird species. If this does not stop then Hawaiian honeycreepers may go extinct as a whole.

to help combat avian bird diseases scientists will introduce a new type of male mosquito, the Wolbachia male mosquito.

What can be done to help?

How this will work:

When a male Wolbachia mosquito mates with a female that does not have Wolbachia, the eggs will not hatch, therefore decreasing mosquito populations and saving bird populations.

Why is this important to people in Hawaii?

This should be important to people in Hawaii because Hawaiian honeycreepers are native birds and without them we would have problems with the ecosystem that they in, also we would never see a Hawaiian Honeycreeper ever again! Hawaiian honeycreepers are a part of the

Hawaiian Culture.





cicwi





mtl 2027

ΔKE PA



MAMO

White  
2023



Problem

John  
023



Митч  
723



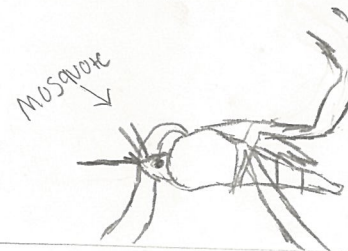
# HONEYCREEPERS

## What is the Problem?

The Problem is *Micropod* bite the honeycreepers infecting them with disease. The disease from the *Micropod* are killing of the endemic honeycreepers making them endangered.

## What is being and what can be done

What is being is they are putting *Wolbachia* in male mosquitos so that when the mosquitos mate they can't reproduce. They are still working on this plan so they haven't released the male mosquitos.



## It is important to the people of Hawaii!

Hawaiian Honeycreepers are important to people of Hawaii because they are endemic animals. If the Hawaiian honeycreepers disappear we can get them back again. Also because they help pollinate other endemic flowers. Plants like the *Metrosideros* *opha*.



## Is it important to us

Hawaiian honeycreepers are important to us because if they are extinct we can never get them back. We think that the Hawaiian honeycreepers are a beautiful extinct species. We would be sad if they were extinct. Also because they are an endemic species to Hawaii.





"As Extinction Loom, Conservationists Race to Save Vanishing  
Hawaiian Honeycreepers" [abcbirds.org/news/race-to-save-hawaiian-honeycreepers-](https://abcbirds.org/news/race-to-save-hawaiian-honeycreepers-2022/)  
2022, August 5, 2022

## Bibliography

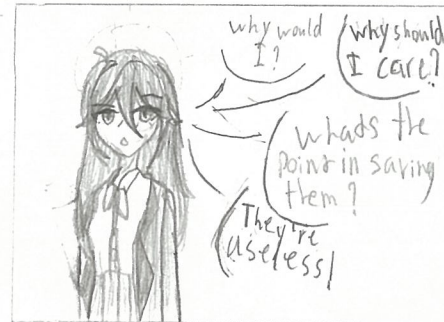
Amber .T  
Danica .N



The Keeper of the honeycreeper.  
By Brandon.C and Jessica.X

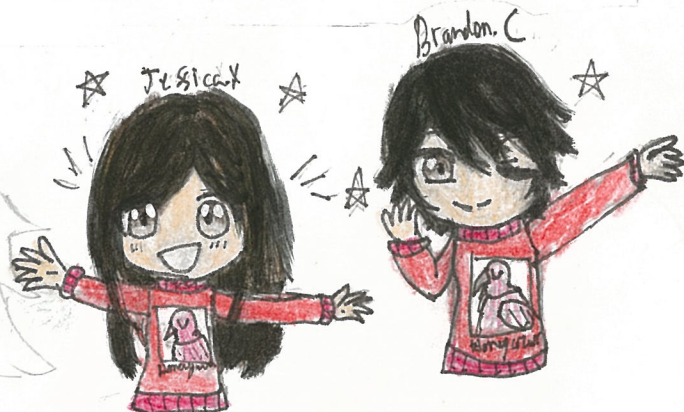
for Mrs. Luka & Part 2 for Mrs. Kailee

Part 1



To Be Continued!

Special Thanks to  
Mrs. Luka and Mrs. Kailee!  
for teaching us about the  
endangered Honeycreeper.

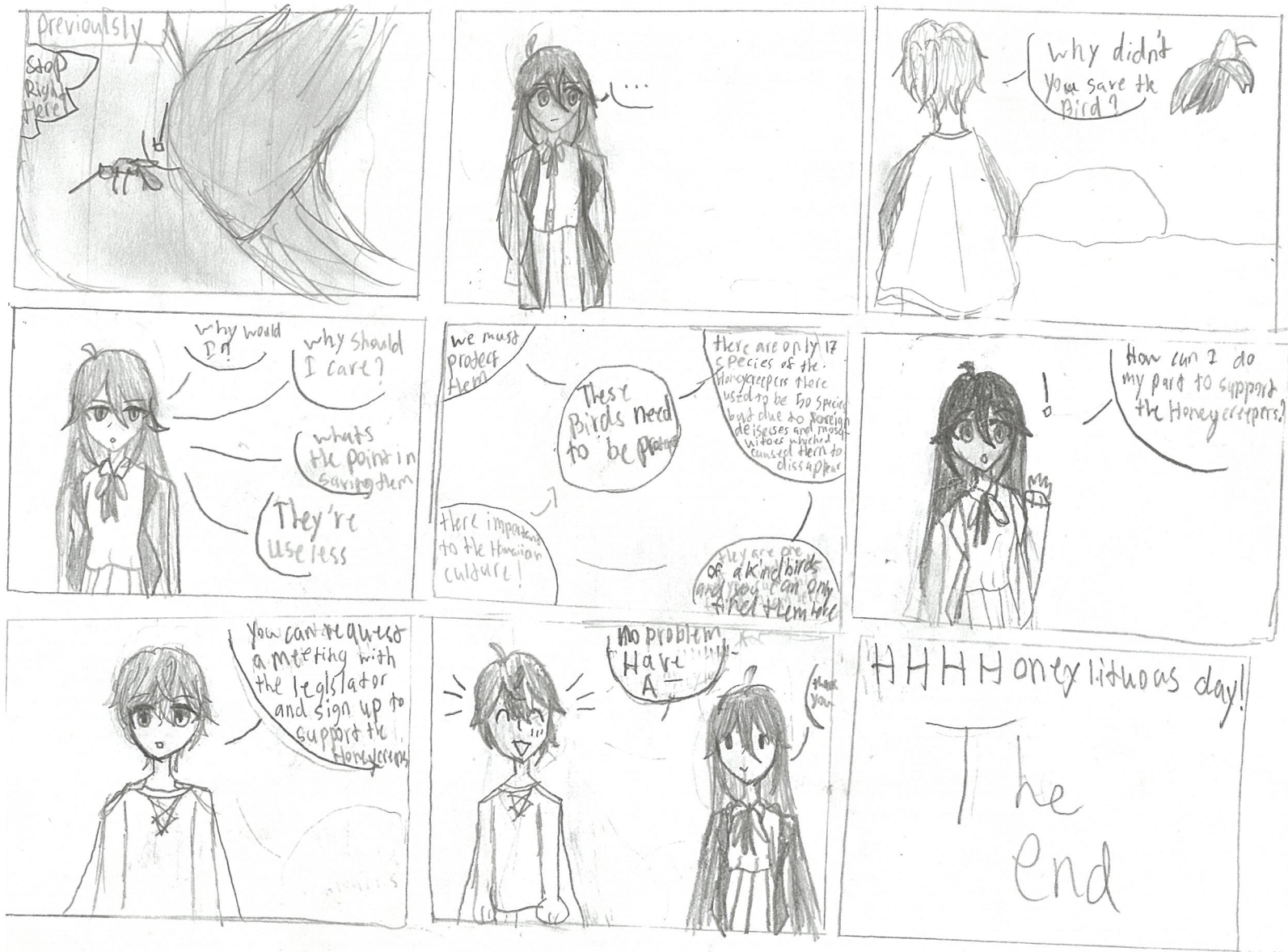


to be continued →



The Keeper of the Honeycreeper  
By Brandon, C and Jessica. X  
Mrs. Luka has part 1

Part 2




Special Thanks to  
Mrs. Luka and Mrs. Kailee  
 for teaching us about the  
 endangered Honeycreeper





The end!





Descended from one.  
There was once a ton.  
But something came and now they are gone.  
Keeping the Honeycreepers.  
We will face many challenges.  
They are the final scavenges.  
Diseased from others.  
Most don't recover.  
The Mosquitoes.  
Many have been vetoed.  
Invasive creatures harm.  
But don't be alarmed.  
We can help save them.



Honeycreepers need protection, not only from mosquitoes, but also from other invasive species.

Their homes are being destroyed or taken. They also have to fight for their food from invasive species.

We should help them by protecting them. People who are trying to help are giving mosquitoes or their most dangerous predators, a type of medication to stop them reproducing. While they do this, we

# HELP THE HONEYCREEPERS





1755



### 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 flu-virus because the birds don't have resistance to the diseases that the Mosquito's are giving.

### How they Help

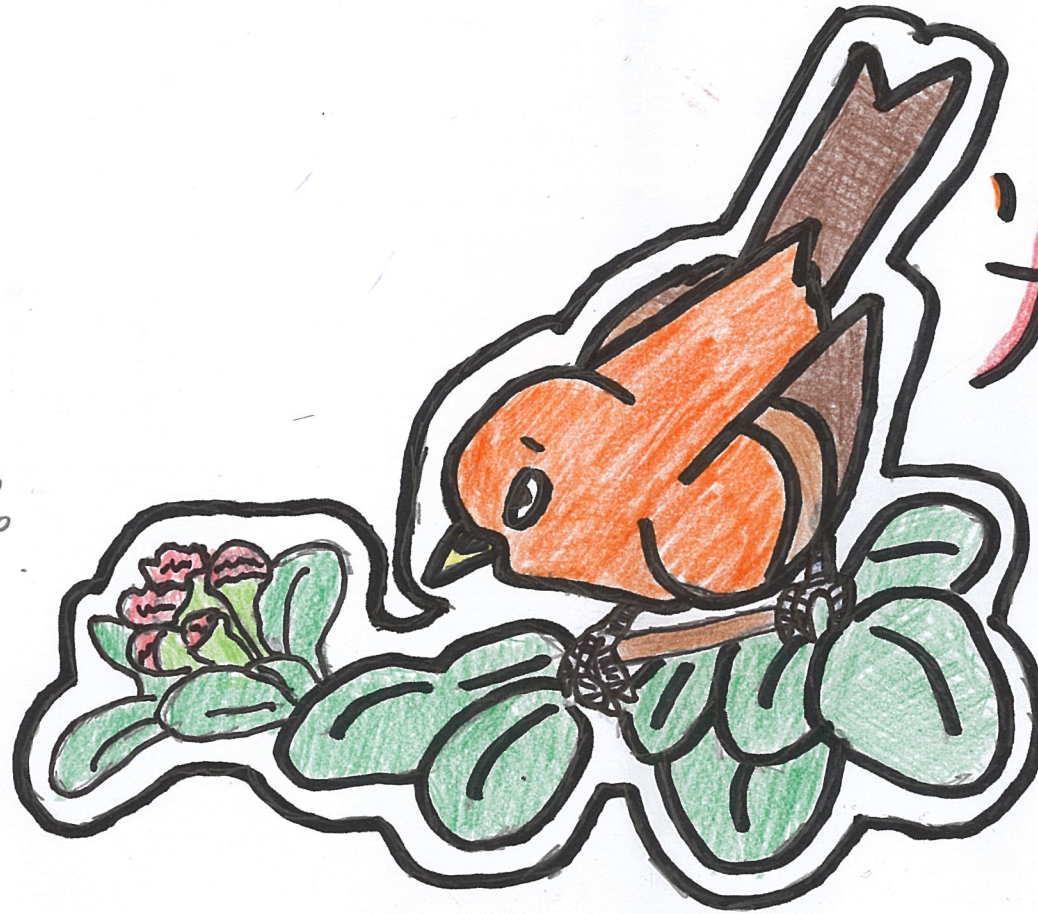
[They are helping by giving male mosquito's Wolbachia so the female can't lay eggs. They are also helping by taking the birds to there facilities / labs. They are also helping by repopulating them.

### Hawaii

[It is important to Hawaii because they are our endemic birds. It is also important to Hawaii culture because of the Honeycreeper feathers. Last reasons why they are important is because they are a big part of Hawaiian history.



Jack  
A. III



'Akepa

3 Why is it important to people in Hawaii and or to you?

Because we would lose the birds that make beautiful capes and the water supplies would decrease cause the birds get pollen which would make the water safe to drink.   
We can

1 What is the problem?

They're going extinct because of a virus known as avian flu carried by female mosquito.

2 What is being done or can be done to help? We're trying to

## Facts

give male mosquito Wolbachia so when the male mosquito meets the female mosquito the eggs won't hatch.

'Akepas eat spiders and other invertebrates

They live in the Hawaiian Islands

There is 14,000 'Akepa birds left



Their habitats are being  
destroyed by us humans,  
and they are being attacked  
by avian malaria due to climate change



Stop Poaching  
Honeycreepers!

Protect their  
habitats

Control mosquito  
populations

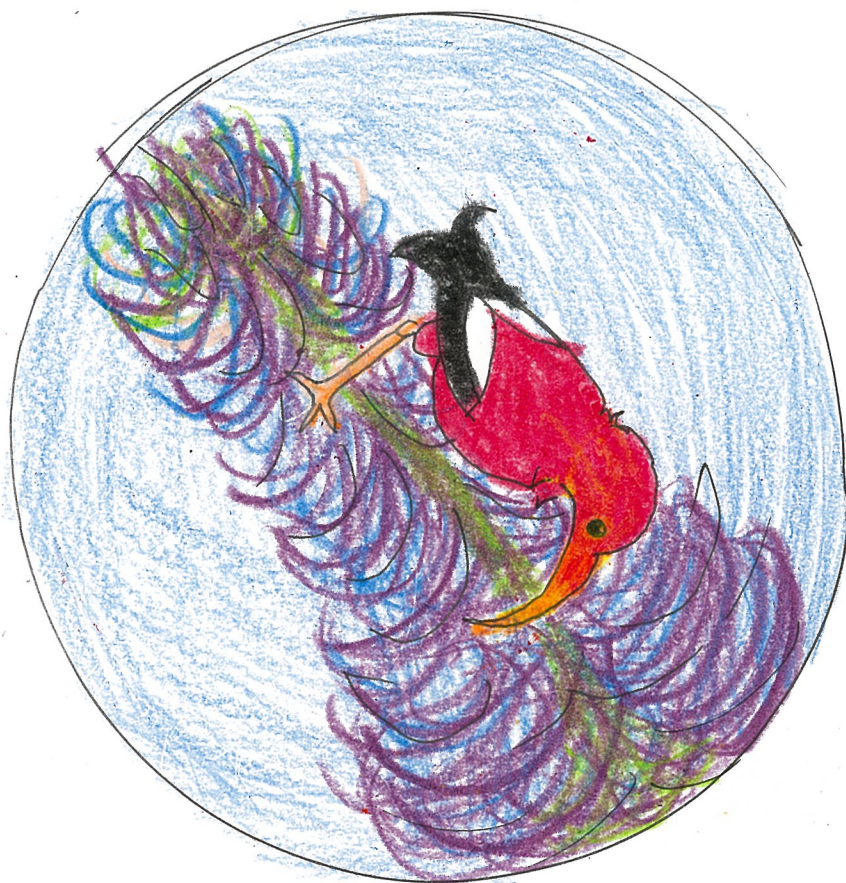
They are  
important natural  
pollinators

They have a  
lot of connections  
with Hawaiian  
history

Native plants are  
also affected by their  
decline

making their habitats  
more comfortable to  
mosquitos who transmit  
that disease

Chloe D.  
Thank you



M. H. : A. D. N.



London  
1/19/23. - 1/19/23





7. The honey creepers are a big deal in Hawaii because they are all part of different cultures and different beliefs and traditions of people, in all they are important to the people!

6 This is important to me because I live here and it is apart of the culture in Hawaii. They are beautiful birds with different personalities. They also have jobs like pollination, pest control, cleaning the ground of nuts, and if we can't help them what else are we going to do about other endangered animals.

4 The scientist's are breeding mosquitos that are male and putting in a non lethal virus in the so when the breed with the females they can be fertilized and lay eggs once.

5 The Honey creepers and other birds are going extinct because the mosquitos are biting the birds and with on bite the bird's will die that why there breeding males.

# Honey creeper facts

- 1 One species of finch evolved into 50 different species of hawaiian honey-creepers.
- 2 There are 12 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.

# THE PROBLEM

Hawaii is losing biodiversity and its many species of birds.

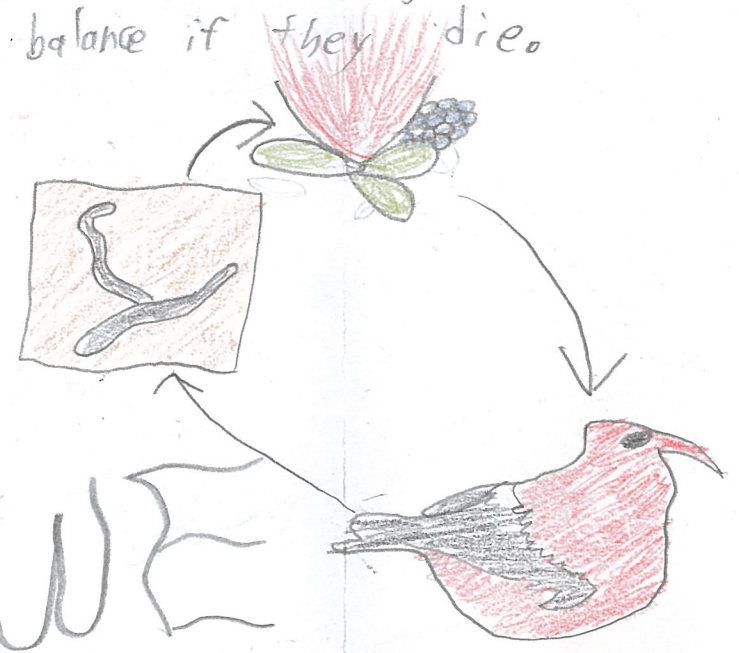


# WHY

Once the birds go extinct, you will never be able to see them again.



They are part of a complex ecosystem of rainforests and the rain forests might fall out of balance if they die.



# WE

# CARE

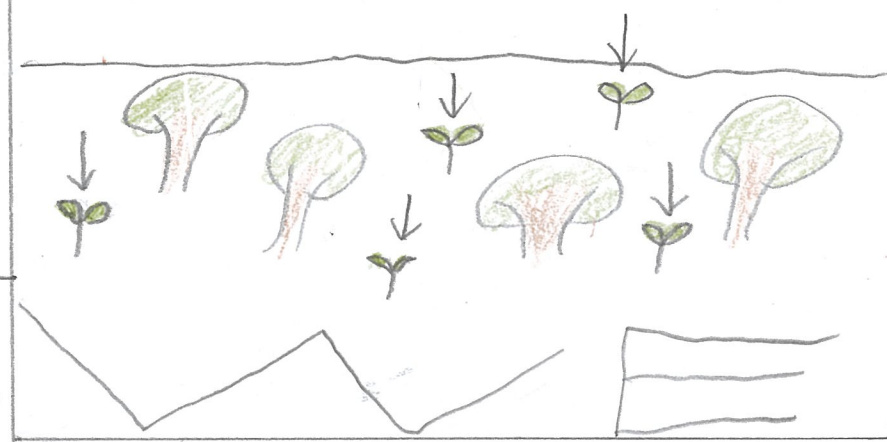
Loss in biodiversity causes ocean runoff



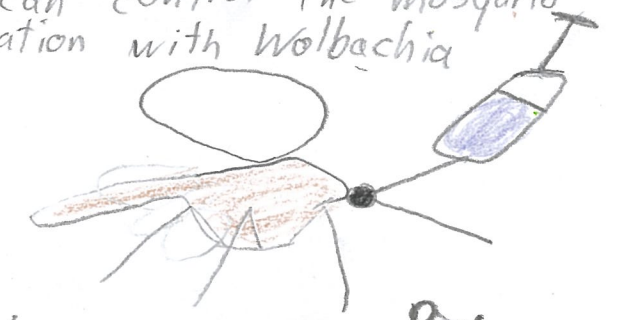
We can remove invasive species



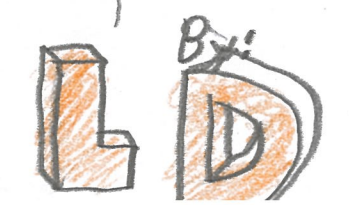
We can restore and protect their habitat



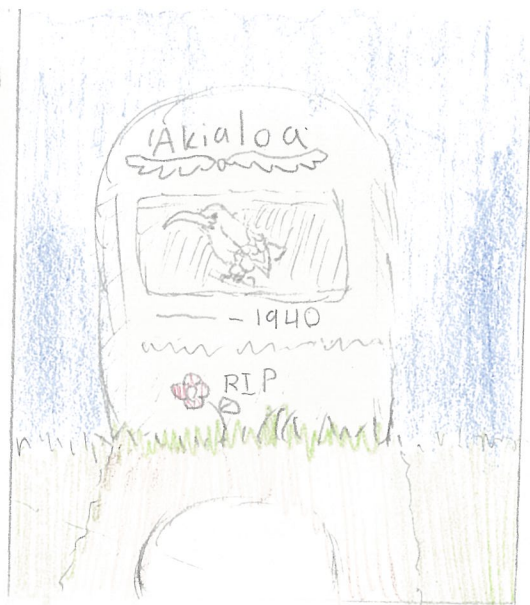
We can control the mosquito population with Wolbachia



# CAN DO









## What can be done to help?

The way we can help is captive breeding + helps and tries to stabilize the population. Second way is translocation, which would mean relocating the birds and trying to get the population up. Third way is to control the invasive species, this would mean reducing the population of the invasive species. Fourth way is using non-computable acting on scales, so 10 species in a red.

## Why are Honeycreepers important?

The feathers of the birds were used to create leis, helmets, capes, and kahlili staffs. They also were written into mele and hula to name a few. Without the birds these traditions would be extinct, affecting Hawaiian culture. The birds have also helped the native plants evolve. Making them have unique interaction, without one the other would die. Third is these birds are only native to Hawaii, and are found nowhere else. Once we lose them they can't come back.



Honeycreepers are the royalty of the Hawaiian islands.

## What is the problem?

The problem Honeycreepers have consist of a lot of parts. First is just to know how big a problem this is, we have lost  $\frac{1}{3}$  of our Hawaiian honeycreeper species that once were here. Second reason one, they are currently facing habitat loss, which causes their numbers to go down. Third, reason two is invasive plants, animals, and insects the plants can take over the native plants for the honeycreepers, feral animals, like cats, mongoose, and rats they can climb up tree and take out the nest. Insects there are a lot of invasive insects, but the main one is mosquitoes which carry avian diseases however, the honeycreepers have little resistance towards new diseases, and other diseases in general. Lastly, it's Climate Change which is killing the birds. There are a lot of other things that are



Why is it important:  
Birds help most  
of our ecosystem.  
They are very  
precious and cute  
so you don't want  
to see them go  
extinct.



Problem: The problem is that they are going extinct and their places are getting teared down. Several birds are going extinct because they have barely and natural resources. A warmer climate has allowed mosquitos that have diseases to transfer the disease to hawaiian honeycreepers raiding their habitat.

What's being done?: Natural resource managers helping to implement. I think what could be done conversation strategies. I think what could be done is they can get little bird houses and spray it with bug spray.



House of Representatives  
Cultural, Arts, and International Affairs Committee  
March 29, 2023

Testimony in Support of HR 86

Dear Chair and committee members,

I, Crystal Kalauawa, am in support of HR 86, 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



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 Ichiyama 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. Chan's Science classes at Highlands Intermediate School. We want to individually share with you why we feel we should support or oppose the bill to make August 8 the Honeycreeper celebration day. Because the capitol is blocked from student email we have combined our testimony. Here are our testimony:

From Kylie Takamatsu

I support this resolution because the honeycreeper species are essential to their ecosystems and are important to Hawaiian culture. With 95 out of 142 endemic birds extinct, it's only a matter of time before many more species become extinct. Only 17 honeycreepers remain, one being the 'Anianiau, and it is estimated that all honeycreeper species will be extinct in 10 years if mosquito populations are not controlled. Without the honeycreeper, ecosystems will be unbalanced. They play an important role in which honeycreepers are used in an artform of global excellence, worn by ali'i (chiefs), but also plays an important symbol of their power and authority. As the birds are being extinct, our cultural knowledge in regards to the honeycreepers will slowly diminish, as well as the ecosystems with the honeycreepers, and so, this bill is essential to the culture of the Hawaiians and the ecosystems.

From Maria Nicole Pineda

I support this resolution because Hawaii is well-known for its rich history and strong 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), 'olelo 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. So, 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.

From Juddah Aparis Kalima

I support this resolution because I support this resolution because I have been researching birds and I found out my bird, the maui creeper, is going extinct. My honeycreeper helps other honeycreepers and the environment out. What that means is if my bird goes extinct then other birds, plants and animals will go along with it. Another reason why my bird is going extinct is because the other bigger mammals are trying to eat my bird and others. This shows that my bird or other honeycreeper population will die or might even get forgotten. The honeycreeper day will be good because even if the bird dies it will be remembered better and not be forgotten. Please make the day of the honeycreeper come and be remembered. Thank you!

From Genesis Fernandez

I support this resolution because I support this resolution because I feel like you can learn a lot about them. You also can find out if some stuff you hear about them is true or not. Like for me, my grandma told me some birds are going extinct and I read they actually are. I've learned about honeycreeper threats and some should really help out these honeycreepers. They have lost in feeding, nest habitat, loss of habitat to invasive plants and insects, predation by invasive rats, cats, mongoose, and mosquitoes. They carried avian maria, and competition with no invasive bird species. If these birds go fully extinct it'd be empty without the sounds, and watching them fly around. Please bring this topic up for discussion.

Shylah Kalilikane

I support this resolution because I've been researching the Hawaiian bird 'Apapane and found out that their closest generation was the 'iwi. The 'Apapane' is important to the 'ōhi'a. They are mainly important because they help pollinate this state endemic tree. 'Apapanes are red hawaiian birds that transformed from a rose finch over time. Their population is slowly extinct. In my opinion I feel a little bit bummed to hear that the 'Apapane is going extinct because I won't get to see them in real life after studying their life.

From Tia Ogawa

I support this resolution because after doing research upon other birds I have found out that honeycreepers are an important factor in their food web. However, the honeycreeper has many threats. Some of which include; loss of feeding and nesting habitat due to invasive plants and insects, predation by invasive rats, cats, mongoose, mosquitoes that carry avian malaria, and other bird species competing with them. Honeycreepers are also playing a very important role in our culture and ecosystem, and our pilina between communities and birds is decreasing as they disappear. Please consider discussing this at your next hearing, thank you.



From Eziason Olie I support this resolution because the honeycreepers in Hawaii are going extinct. We should celebrate the honeycreepers because they are local birds and now are going extinct without help. So that is why it needs awareness that in 10 years they will be extinct due to mosquito populations. I'd like to raise awareness to the honeycreepers because it needs help in multiple ways. For example, the akeke'e suffer from diseases like avian malaria also majority of honeycreepers and the akeke'e are degrading from predation of invasive cats, rats, mongoose, and mosquitos. So I would like it to be talked about by the congress so there can be hope for these honeycreepers.

From Tory Robinson

I support this resolution because Hawaiian honeycreepers threats are loss of feeding and nesting, loss of habitat to predators and mosquitoes giving avian malaria. I have been researching honeycreepers for a school project and found that they are a big part of native Hawaiian history and used in our mo'olelo, 'olelo, no'eau, ka'ao and mele. Hawaiian chiefs used their feathers to show a symbol of power and authority. There are only 17 species and 12 of them are critically endangered. If we do not control the mosquito population which is the biggest threat to our honeycreepers then in 10 years they will be considered as fully extinct. So please consider scheduling this resolution for a hearing. Thank you.

From Sarah Schronce

I support this resolution because I support this resolution because I support this resolution because only 17 of the honeycreepers remain while 12 are listed as endangered out of all 50 of the honeycreepers. Also honeycreepers are found in our cultural knowledge and in our mo'olelo, no'eau, ka'ao and mele. I did some research on my bird, the common 'amakihi and found that the amakihi is losing its home due to climate change and also mosquitoes carry avian malaria due to getting hotter. These mosquitoes are going up to the mountains and killing these birds and their eggs. Am requesting that you schedule these resolutions for a hearing.

From Kaeleb Sugawa

I support this resolution because Honeycreepers are a part of our Native Hawaiian history. I have researched the 'Anianiau and I find them interesting because of their small bodies and beautiful songs. Honeycreepers are about to go extinct, there are only 17 species of honeycreepers left out of 50. Mosquitos are doing the most damage because they are carrying a disease called Avian Malaria. Honeycreepers are talked about in many different Mo'olelo's. Our community support is essential to take care of our native Honeycreepers. Please schedule these resolutions for hearing.

From Sidney Taise

I support this resolution because the two most essential factors to the success of the actions to taking care of our beloved honeycreepers are community awareness and support. If August 8th were to become Hawaiian Honeycreeper Celebration Day, the honeycreepers will get the

recognition they need to - hopefully - overcome the bird extinction crisis, where the remaining 47 species are facing critical threats. This day is crucial for Hawaiian history as honeycreepers (or native birds in general) are an integral part of Hawaii's ecosystems and culture. This day will strengthen our connection with our communities and the decreasing birds. Moreover, I support this bill in hopes that this Recognition Day will extend the 10 year extinction time of our birds as well as slowly but surely taking these birds off the endangered species list. Please take this bill into consideration for the sake of Hawaii's birds, culture, and people.

From Teegan Nakamatsu

I support this resolution because honeycreepers are going to become extinct soon if we don't acknowledge this crisis. Many people don't even know about these native Hawaiian birds and how they are pretty soon going to be extinct. Out of 50 species of honeycreepers, only 17 species remain and 12 listed as critically endangered. It's also predicted that in the next 10 years if mosquito populations aren't controlled, honeycreepers will become extinct for good. It may seem like a lot of time to try and fix this issue, but in reality time is going to fly by really fast and before we know it, all the species of honeycreepers are going to be gone. Since honeycreepers might become extinct we might be the last generation to witness these birds. This is devastating because our next generation won't fully understand cultural knowledge and our relationship with these birds. This is why we need to establish August 8 as Hawaiian Honeycreeper day to make more people aware of this situation.

From Yuhan Nian

I support this resolution because the Hawaiian honeycreepers are endangered currently caused by the uncontrolled spread of avian malaria. If nothing is done to protect our honeycreepers from the mosquitos, it would all go extinct within 10 years or so. The Hawaiian honeycreepers actually do intend to have a great impact on hawaii because travelers would love to see beautiful honeycreepers in Hawaii but all things aside, there should be a Hawaiian Honeycreepers Celebration Day because of how important they are and travelers could also learn and remember of the hawaiian honeycreepers which it possibly be a worldwide celebration.

From Emi Miyasato

I support this resolution because these birds are important. They are disappearing in nature and some species going extinct. Before this assignment I didn't know what these birds were or the importance of them. I think that spreading awareness to everyone through this awareness day will help educate everyone on the importance of them. Having people know about these birds can also help save them. Estimated honeycreepers will be extinct in 10 years if mosquito populations are not controlled. Since avian malaria has such a big impact on the population of honeycreepers, raising awareness can support finding a cure or just helping maintain the mosquito population.

From Logan Kishi

I support this resolution because if we don't make a change starting soon, the chances of our native honeycreeper extinction percentage increases. Some threats that are affecting our honeycreepers are loss of feeding and nesting habitat, loss of habitat to invasive plants and insects, predation by invasive rats, cats, mongoose, avian malaria carried by mosquitoes, and competition with non-native bird species. As the warm weather in Hawai'i increases due to El Niño, the mosquito population will increase while the birds will decrease. In the next 10 years, our honeycreepers will go extinct for good. So, if we don't act now and add a celebration day for our birds, future generations won't even acknowledge that we once had native birds that put a special place in our hearts. Therefore, August 8th should be known as the Hawaiian Honeycreeper Celebration Day.

From Astyn Capri Martin

I support this resolution because the Hawaiian honeycreepers are an essential part of Hawaii's ecosystems and culture. Due to habitat loss and predation from rats, cats, and many more, the Hawaiian honeycreepers are becoming extinct. If these things are not in control soon, they will be extinct within about 10 years. With the help of August 8 becoming Hawaiian Honeycreeper Celebration Day, our communities could become more aware of this problem and the honeycreeper population could soon increase.

From Bronson Abendenio

I support this resolution because the Hawaii Honeycreepers are unique and very special birds. The Honeycreepers play a very important role in Hawaiian culture, these birds have gone through a lot and a Honeycreeper day is a day where we can acknowledge these birds and learn more about them. Honeycreepers are crucial to the Islands ecosystem and forests. Without the Honeycreepers we won't have a connection between the community and these birds. If we had a Honeycreeper day I believe that people would understand more about Honeycreepers, and the importance of these species

From Malu Ajolo

I support this resolution because the Hawaiian honeycreepers are an essential part of Hawai'i's ecosystem and culture and they are becoming more and more endangered. If the mosquito population is not controlled soon, the honeycreepers will be extinct within 10 years. Honeycreepers are a part of ancient Hawaiian culture and if the honeycreepers become extinct, so will a part of Hawaii.

From Ace Imamura

I support this resolution because the Hawaiian honeycreepers are an essential part of Hawai'i's ecosystem and culture and they are becoming more and more endangered. If the mosquito population is not controlled soon, the honeycreepers will be extinct within 10 years.

Honeycreepers are a part of ancient Hawaiian culture and if the honeycreepers become extinct, so will a part of Hawaii.

From Imipono Kala

I support this resolution because the honeycreepers are going extinct by the minute. The honeycreepers are gonna be extinct in the next 10 years if we don't control the mosquito population. Honeycreepers are found in mo'olelo(stories).climate change means warmer areas,birds having less range,and mosquitoes having more range, community awareness and support are essential to success.

From Rylan Bala

I support this resolution because I have researched about a bird called the 'akikiki (Kauai native bird) because it is endemic to the Hawaiian island called kauai. There are about less than about 40 'akikiki's left and making it a celebration day could help people maybe see the bird for the last time before going away. I am requesting that you schedule these resolutions for a hearing.

From Christian Bautista

I support this resolution. I have been researching the Kauai Amakihi. My bird is unique because of its nice green color and its beak is bent and pointy to easily get nectar from plants. If my bird went extinct I would feel sad because my bird is important to its environment. I might be the last generation to ever see and hear the Kauai Amakihi. Please schedule this resolution for hearing.

From Kaitlyn Cambe,

I support this bill because I recently researched the 'Apapane and I find them interesting due to the fact that their feathers were prized by native Hawaiians and used to make capes and feather leis. This species is dying out due to threats such as invasive plants, predation from invasive rats, cats, mongoose, mosquito carried Avian malaria and competition with non native bird species. I ask that you consider scheduling these resolutions for a hearing.

From Maria Gilyn De Leon,

regarding declaring 8/08 Hawaiian Honeycreepers Celebration Day. I am requesting that you schedule these resolutions for a hearing. I oppose this bill because of the high concern of the honeycreeper decline over the last 15 years. The populations of honeycreepers decreased by 98%, all from primary threats that introduced animals, such as rats, cats, mongoose, mosquitoes that are infected with avian malaria, and other bird species that compete with the native birds. A day of honor and recognition and celebration is important for these birds because out of the 50 honeycreeper species known in Hawaii, only 17 of honeycreeper species remain and only 12 are listed as critically endangered, where 47 are facing serious threats. This





also matters for our culture, especially in our cultural knowledge for our mo'olelo, 'olelo, no'eau, ka'ao, and mele, all learned from our Honeycreepers. Honeycreepers are also important because they play a role in ancient Hawaiian culture of global excellence to be worn by ali'i as a symbol of power and authority. Honeycreepers carry a lot of honorable history for Hawaii and we should conclude to community awareness and support to take care of the birds, especially for many endangered species.

From Alohi Gaspar

I support this resolution because our honeycreepers are the last of our native birds. Which means some way and somehow we are connected to them by the mana of the Kamehameha because they wore the birds feathers. I studied the bird Akohekohe and it was the largest of the honeycreepers. I think it is special because it is the last largest honeycreeper. It might be the last largest honeycreeper if we don't save them.

From Maya Hong I support this resolution because I have been researching a honey bird, the Kiwiku. Honeybirds are part of our land and culture. What makes birds like the Kiwiku is not only their native to Hawaii but also because of their dull or bright feathers and song like many other honey bird species. In native Hawaiian culture, the birds are considered spiritual guides for families; their feathers are symbols of power. By speaking publicly about the honey birds it could spread awareness about their species and increase population.

From Aliyah Kauleinamoku-Marshall

I support this resolution because I have been researching this bird named Palila. Palila is an endangered bird due to the causes of mosquitoes and climate change. This bird is mostly found in the mamane forests. Their diet contains flowers, buds, and insects. I would like others to hear the wonderful noises a Palila can make. Please schedule a hearing for these birds.

From Kaori Kawasaki:

I support this resolution because I've recently done a bird project about honeycreepers. My bird was the 'Akeke'e, and if action is not done to save these birds I'm afraid they'll go extinct in my generation. In total 50 species of honeycreepers were in Hawaii originally, but now only 17 remain and 12 are listed as endangered in Hawaii.

From Lorian Khan, I support this resolution because 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. There are already many situations happening for these birds 47 are facing threats 17 out of the 50 are of which is now remaining the other 12 are listed for critical endangerment.

I support this resolution because Testimony in the oma'o bird along with the many other honeycreepers is the main focus that we're focusing on as of now HCR81 regarding the resolution to make August 8th (8/08) the Hawaiian Honeycreeper Celebration Day.

Lorian Khan is writing to support. I support this bill because these birds are not very looked upon as much as they're needed to be which is saddening in a way to think of it like that rather

and they're also a part of the Hawaiian culture which gives and makes the news sound a whole lot sadder. either way if these different species of beautiful birds are old or not they should still be looked upon for their endangerment of its population because if we aren't able to sort these types of situations out then these next up coming years will be the very last time we'll ever hear or even see of these poor endangered birds either for this generation or the upcoming one. It doesn't matter because by the time the 10+ years come they'll be gone.

From Ezra Kwon

I support this resolution because Hawaiian Honeycreepers are cultural to stories (mo'olelo), legends (ka'ao), and songs (mele). Also our generation will most likely be the last generation to see this Honeycreeper because they may go extinct around 2030. Only 17 species of the honeycreeper remain and 12 are listed as critically endangered. Honeycreepers are a part of the state's ecosystem and the state's culture. If the honeycreepers went extinct it would destroy our relationship and connection with them. So while they are still here it would be nice if we could make a day just for them. Thank you for your time.

From James Mercado

I support this resolution because 17 out of the 50 honeycreeper species are left, and within 10 years the remaining 17 species of honeycreepers will be extinct. Honeycreepers are very important to Hawaiian culture where the feathers were used as a mark of societal ranks. Also being a part of cultural mo'olelo. I personally have studied the Hawaii Amakihi which is one of the honeycreeper species. This particular species is one of the endangered species out of the 17 left, a beautiful yellow feathered bird that feeds on the nectars of the native flowers of Hawaii. Please look forward to speaking about resolution.

From Dylan Nakamura

Testimony in support of HCR81 regarding the resolution to make August 8th (8/08) the Hawaiian Honeycreeper Celebration Day. I support this bill because I have been researching the Aniani'au. This is an interesting bird because of the unique yellow color of the bird,. I do not want to be the last generation to know about this type of honeycreeper. Estimated honeycreepers will be extinct in 10 years if mosquito populations aren't controlled, also feathers of honeycreepers played integral roles in ancient Hawaii culture used as an artform for global excellence. I ask that you would please schedule this revolution.

From Bayli Paschall

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 I have been researching the Alawi and they are beginning to become extinct. They are becoming extinct due to habitat loss, predation by rats, cats, and mongoose, and by mosquitos carrying avian malaria. It has been estimated that honeycreepers

will be extinct in 10 years and we shouldn't just sit around and let it happen. That is why I am requesting that you schedule these resolutions for hearing.

From Brian Reis

I've been researching and studying the Puaiohi bird and my bird is unique in many ways but the most fascinating is its potential tolerance to the deadly avian malaria. Knowing that my generation could be the last to hear them due to them being endangered is just sad. Leaving them to be mere pictures and hearing on audio records and to make it worse in 10 years all Hawaiian Honeycreepers could be extinct. Let's celebrate the birds. Please schedule this resolution for a hearing.

From Sophia Rivera-

I support this resolution because I support this resolution because I have been researching this bird/honeycreeper called the Kauai Amakihi for the past 2 months. This bird is special because it hangs upside down most of the time when they are awake and both of the genders/ parents help with nesting. How I would feel if I was the last generation to see/hear these birds is special and kinda worried because if they were to go extinct before the next generation then some people would not know anything about them or probably wouldn't know they even existed. Please schedule these resolutions for the Honeycreepers Celebration Day for a hearing. Thank you.

From Aliyah Sarinas Farmer

I support this resolution because honeycreepers are found in our culture knowledge in our mo'olelo (stories). Honeycreepers are endangered because of loss of feeding and nesting habitat and 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. Climate change means warmer areas, birds having less range, and mosquitoes more range. Community awareness and support are essential to the success of the actions to malama (take care) of hawaii manu. Based on what I read, malaria was one of the reasons why the honeycreepers are getting threatened. Many honeycreepers have been driven to extinction since the first humans arrived in Hawaii; with extinctions increasing over the last 2 centuries following European discovery of the islands, with habitat destruction and especially invasive species being the main causes.

From Blair Stroude

From Ethan Vera

I support this resolution because I have been researching the Hawaii Akepa and would really love for you to declare 8/08 Hawaiian Honeycreepers celebration day. This species of honeycreeper is special because of its wonderful bright orange color and its beak. I don't want to be the last Generation to be able to see its marvelous bright color and hear it's wonderful song. Without this amazing bird hawaii would have 94/142 endemic birds remaining and would lose another species of honeycreeper. I am requesting that you schedule this resolution for a hearing.

From Jovie Wong,

Testimony in support of HCR81 and HR86 regarding the resolution to make August 8th (8/08) the Hawaiian Honeycreeper Celebration Day. I am requesting that you schedule these resolutions for a hearing. I have been researching one of the Hawaiian honeycreepers, the i'iwi, and it is an amazing vermillion bird. The i'iwi and its feathers are important to their islands' cultures, and I believe that other future generations should have the opportunity to see this beautiful bird. Though, the estimated honeycreepers will be extinct in 10 years if things like mosquito populations are not controlled. If the people don't know about these birds, they wouldn't know to help. Please, schedule these resolutions for a hearing.

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

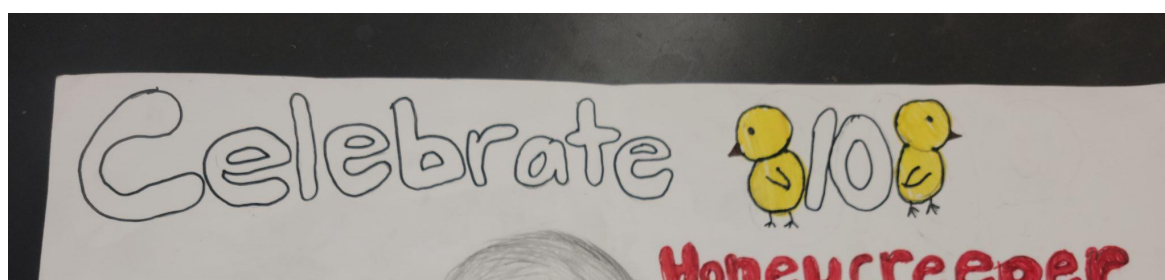
From Kaniala Gionson: I support this resolution because the native birds like the A'apane are important to our culture. To begin, our birds have songs that mean so much to people. The songs are sweet but now sad as they are going extinct, from Avian malaria from getting bitten in the eyes. Also many 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



From Tatiana Colon-Valentin

I support this resolution because our native Hawaiian birds are dying as we speak. Most will think this little celebration will mean nothing to the world but to us Hawaiians this will be the best thing in our history in a long time. People will finally be noticing the importance of our animals. With this celebration, people will know the importance of our birds if half or all of them will be gone.

From Tiara Daoang

I support this resolution because different Hawaiian Honeycreepers like the Kauai Amakihi are endangered by habitat loss, predation of other animals, and diseases. Honeycreepers can be also found in our cultural knowledge stories, proverbs, legends, and songs. Without the Honeycreepers our learning wouldn't be the same anymore. By these threats not being helped it can cause the Hawaiian Honeycreepers to go extinct. With these proposed solutions solved it can really help to restore the Hawaiian Honeycreepers again. Please help these Hawaiian Honeycreepers by making August 8th (8/08) to be recognized as Hawaiian Honeycreeper celebration day throughout the state.

From Dana Dela Cruz

I support this resolution because it is necessary to spread the word about our native Honeycreepers. This day, August 8th (8/08) would encourage others to learn about our beautiful birds. I learned that our birds are quickly being threatened into extinction by the many survival factors within their environment. Of the less than 50 honeycreepers, only 17 remain, and 12 of which are listed as critically endangered. One of the greatest threats is avian malaria. This disease comes from the increased mosquito populations in their environment. The effects of global warming caused the mosquitos to rise in range and reach the homes of the Honeycreepers, killing them off. This generation may be the last of the Honeycreepers before extinction. After then, there would no longer be any native Honeycreeper songs to be ever



heard in the wild ever again. So, it is important to make our community aware and in support of the efforts in protecting our native wild. Let's take action to save our fully-fledged birds!

From Daisy Ann Duldulao

I support this resolution because there's a bird that I've been learning about, a bird named the Kauai' elepaio that has a unique shrill whistle song that is only given by the males of its species. Also, the kauai' elepaio is related to the rose finch and changed over time to fit its environment. And there are a lot of other honeycreepers species that are special to the Hawaii culture like some birds whose feathers were used in ancient Hawaiian culture as an art form of global excellence that is worn by the ali'i (chiefs) as the symbol of their power and their authority. Knowing that this might be the last generation that is going to be able to see and hear the birds saddens me because I would want everyone to know about the honeycreepers. So I hope that your guys declare 8/08 as the Hawaiian Honeycreepers Celebration Day.

From Kiaryn Eghan

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 I support this resolution because 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 Supporting these birds are part of the islands we live on. They were here before us so they really like our history so I feel like it would support. Give a special day to them because if you think about it the birds are really helping us survive and I have been researching the 'Akohekohe and I found out that it's the largest Maui honeycreeper alive in Hawaii right now. I support this idea. Please bring this resolution up for a meeting. With Aloha,

From Joshua Fujii

I support this resolution because our state is known for having a lot of endangered species. We will continue to be known for that unless we do something. Our native animals make our islands feel special. I wouldn't feel very connected to our forests if I see hundreds of doves and not a single native bird. If we can bring awareness to the honeycreepers, then we would be doing something good for the place we live in. Honeycreepers are an essential part of having a healthy food web here. It doesn't help that invasive species and human activities are killing off these beautiful birds. How are we supposed to protect these birds if we don't even know that they exist? Please bring this resolution up for hearing!

From Jayleen Ingram

I support this resolution because with the growth of avian malaria causing birds home range to decrease to cooler slopes of each island. That doesn't allow people to see and love the birds

since their homes are being invaded and terrorized. With 8/08 day it will allow people to learn more about the Hawaiian Honeycreepers and inspire them to save them from going extinct. I plead that you schedule these resolutions for a hearing.

From Taelen Kaawa

I support this resolution because I have been researching honeycreepers for some time. From what I've learned and read about, these birds are truly beautiful and are a blessing towards Hawaiian culture. The honeycreepers are in grave danger facing possible upcoming extinction, 95/142 bird generations are gone. The honeycreepers participate with the state's ecosystem, and form a connection between the communities. Which relates with the ancient Hawaii culture, bird feathers from honeycreepers resembled great power for the chiefs. Please schedule these resolutions for a hearing, these birds play a huge role in our Hawaiian culture. It would be a shame to lose them now.

From Rylan Mercado

I support this resolution because these birds are about to be extinct if we don't do anything to help them, raise awareness, or honor them. First of all there were 50 species of the honeycreepers, now there are only 17! Another reason is that they are a part of our culture and history so we need to save them. Since they are a part of our cultural knowledge you must know why they are. Well they have been seen in our stories, proverbs, legends, and many cultural songs. If we spread awareness to the community about these birds it might just help the honeycreepers survive from extinction!

From Mason Pascual

I support this resolution because we can help support and honor these honeycreeper birds on 8/08. The bird that I studied, the Po'ouli, is one of the birds who have gone extinct and is longer here. These other birds that are alive but barely surviving are trying to survive each day. Avian malaria is causing birds' range to decrease to cooler slopes of each island. These birds are very unique to islands that 17 remain, 12 to be listed as critically endangered. If these birds aren't talked about on 8/08 they can go extinct in 10 years due to the mosquito population causing maybe my generation to be the last to see and hear these birds in person.

From Braydon Relacion

I support this resolution because I have been researching the Hawaii Amakihi and it is a really cool looking bird and has amazing features like, his shape, the color and pattern, and the soothing call of the bird. It is unfortunately decreasing in population. It is being hunted and its habitat is getting taken over by mosquitoes. Honeycreepers are really important to us because they have been found in our cultural knowledge and in mo'olelo (stories), 'olelo no'eau (proverbs), ka'ao (legends), and mele (songs). It is estimated that honeycreepers will be extinct in 10 years if we don't do anything about the mosquitos population. Please bring this resolution up for hearing.

From Zaydee Salavea-Erice

I support this resolution because Honeycreepers have been involved in our culture throughout the many generations. If our culture were to die out then so will our history with the Honeycreepers. So if August 8 were to be a Hawaiian day or recognition, then the Honeycreepers would be discussed throughout the history of the 8 islands. Not to mention, but if we were to make August 8 Hawaiian Honeycreepers Celebration Day, then it can help give the Honeycreepers the recognition it deserves. It is not old news that some of these species of Honeycreepers are endangered, So it would support them a lot if there is a day fully dedicated to them. It would be much appreciated if you were to consider the possibility of making this resolution a reality; For it would not only help us, but the Honeycreepers itself.

From Isaac Yamada

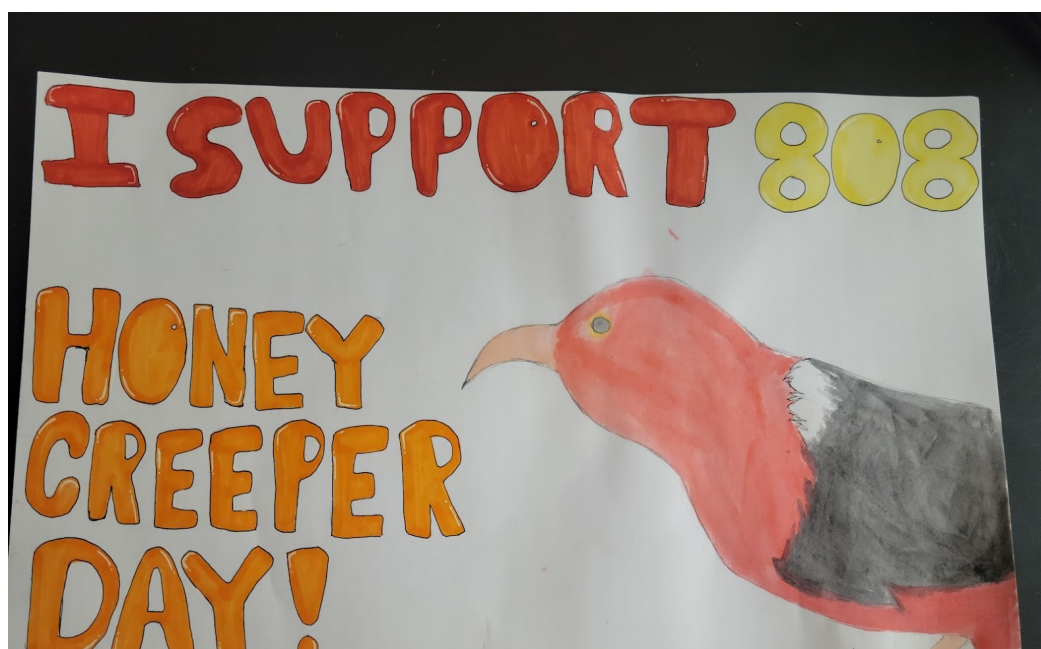
I support this resolution because I support this resolution because to make the date 8/08 a holiday for the reason to honor the birds going extinct and to raise awareness to show how beautiful these birds can really be. A bird I studied in class named the Kauai Amakihi. It is a one of a kind bird that deserves a special day for them. These birds sing and show incredible things. I wish all people could see that and a celebration could help with that.

From Kmsan Youtheo

I support this resolution because we should spread awareness to control the mosquito problem or honeycreepers will become extinct in 10 years. I also found that Climate change is also taking place because when areas are warmer honeycreepers have less range and mosquitoes have more range. Habitat loss and predation is also a threat to honeycreepers because of invasive plants and insects, predation from rats, cats and mongoose. With this celebration people can maybe notice how native and beautiful these birds are to the people of Hawaii.

From Chanel Tranthem

I support this resolution because these past few months I have been researching birds. My bird the Alwai is a bird I have been looking into. The Alwai and many other Honeycreepers are endangered. These honeycreepers are endangered due to loss of feeding and nesting habitat, loss of habitat due to invasive plants and insects, predation by invasive rats, cats, mongoose, mosquitos carrying avian malaria and competition with non native bird species. If the honeycreepers are not saved they will go extinct. Honeycreepers are an integral part of the state's ecosystems and culture. They are a part of our pilina ( relationship and connection) between communities and birds are diminishing as they disappear. Please schedule these resolutions for hearing to celebrate these honeycreepers.





August 8th

Honeycreeper  
DAY!



**HR-86**

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 8:20:48 AM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	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 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 Ichiyama 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 1 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. 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**

**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,**

**Cristin 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 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**

**HR-86**

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 9:31:54 AM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	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 Ichiyama 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,**

**Analua 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 Taitaiiau-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**

**LATE**

**HR-86**

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 8:25:45 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Isabella Lee	Grow with Us	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 HR86, 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

**HR-86**

Submitted on: 3/24/2023 1:20:41 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	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 today, 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. As pollinators, seed dispersers, and insect eaters, they are essential for our forests.

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



**HR-86**

Submitted on: 3/24/2023 6:30:43 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Candice Sakuda	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha kākou,

I fully support HR86, 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 107 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 107 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 107 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 107 and HR 86

Hearing: March 30, 2023

Dear Legislators,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in SUPPORT of HCR 107 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 107 and HR 86

Hearing: March 30, 2023

Dear Legislators,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in **SUPPORT** of HCR 107 and HR 86 which will help protect and preserve Honeycreepers.

I strongly support HCR 107 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 ensures 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.”



Honeycreepers are a very beautiful and precious species of bird. They are important to Hawaii because they are native and are a keystone species.



Honeycreepers are going extinct because of mosquitoes, rats, and pueo. Some species have gone extinct and most are in critical condition.





# SAVE THE HONEYCREEPERS

There was originally 56 species of Hawaiian honeycreepers in the wild, but now, there are only 17 species left. Due to negligence and global warming, these historic creatures are going extinct. Unable to defend themselves against diseases carried by mosquitoes; we are their only hope in survival.

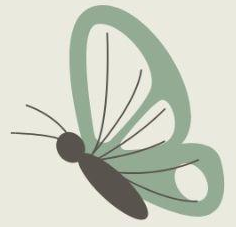


By: Cate'olani Student





# SAVE THE HAWAIIAN HONEYCREEPERS



<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://www.flickr.com/photos/wallyg/4827161644>

- Honeycreepers are endemic to the Hawaiian Islands. Over 30 species have already gone extinct! We MUST protect these honeycreepers for our future generations.



<https://garystockbridge617.getarchive.net/amp/media/protect-against-mosquito-borne-diseases-7af7c2>

- 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.



# SAVE THE HAWAIIAN HONEY CREEPERS

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 School



<https://snl.no/orienteparula>



# PROTECT THE HAWAII HONEYCREEPERS

KERYS- FRESHMAN AT  
'IOLANI SCHOOL

95 out of 142  
endemic manu  
species are  
extinct while  
remaining 47 are  
in critical  
condition



Endangered by  
invasive species-  
rats, cats,  
mongoose, avian  
malaria

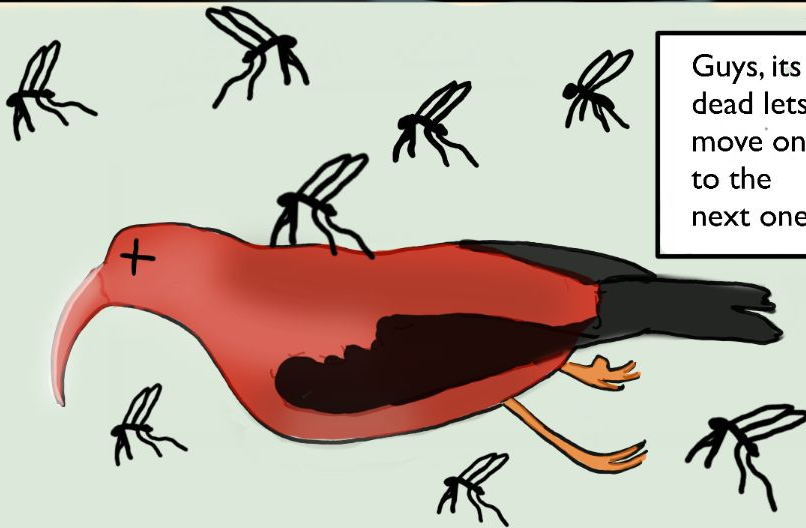
Don't you want the  
future generations to  
see these beautiful  
birds?

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



Hi Ohias, I'm back  
to help you grow  
by pollinating  
your flowers.



Guys, its  
dead lets  
move on  
to the  
next one.

Where did the 'I'iwi  
bird go? The species  
suddenly disappeared!  
How are we gonna  
survive!?



We need the 'I'iwi  
bird to  
pollinate our flowers!!



Mia

'Iolani student

## A LIFE WITHOUT HONEYCREEPERS

*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.*



# *Save The Honeycreepers*



## *Preserve Our Ecosystem*

*Justin*  
Polani School

**Listen to these recorded testimonies from our Haumana.**



[Sean](#)



[Joey and Noa](#)



[Mochi](#)



[Griffin and Jacob](#)

**HR-86**

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 9:28:14 AM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	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](mailto:2401100156@k12.hi.us)

**SELF SCORE YOUR LETTER ACCORDING TO THE CHECKLIST BELOW:**

<b>Assignment Criteria</b>	<b>Points Possible</b>	<b>Student Self-Assessment</b>
<b>Letter includes a claim taking a stance on the legislative action.</b> In one sentence (should NOT start with yes or no): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Answer the claim</li> </ul>	<b>2</b>	
<b>Evidence</b> State what was observed/researched: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cite specific and appropriate data that support your recommendations (data collected or sources of information like websites/video)               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ At least 3, qualitative and/or quantitative</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<b>3</b>	
<b>Reasoning</b> Ties together the claim and evidence: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Justify why evidence supports the claim</li> <li>• State the connection to a given scientific concept (i.e. genetics, plate tectonics)</li> </ul>	<b>3</b>	
<b>Other</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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)</li> </ul>	<b>2</b>	
<b>Total Points</b>	<b>10</b>	
<b>Comments (justify your score):</b>		



**HR-86**

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 10:07:39 AM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	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**

**HR-86**

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 11:08:13 AM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	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 HR86, 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.

**HR-86**

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 11:08:16 AM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Amy Cook	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this proposal



**HR-86**

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 11:33:04 AM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Stella Outzen	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, Stella Outzen, am in support of a State Honeycreeper day on August 8th. Honeycreepers have been going extinct over the years and I have realized how important they are to this ecosystem we live in. I feel it is important to raise awareness to the honeycreepers and to help protect them. They help keep the ohia healthy and without them, this ecosystem will collapse. These birds are just as important as the ohia here, and it would be devastating to lose them. Please consider this bill because Honeycreepers are a big part of what makes Hawai'i unique.**

**Sincerely**

**Stella Outzen**

**7th Grade**

**HR-86**

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 12:13:42 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	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

**HR-86**

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 1:31:57 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	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**



**HR-86**

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 2:31:42 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	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'i's 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 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 high school student in Hawaii. I support the Hawaiian Honeycreepers initiative.

Hawaii had over 50 endemic honeycreepers of 20 different genera (Atkinson, 2009), many of which have gone extinct. Mosquito-borne diseases such as avian malaria and avian pox decimate the remaining species. If current trends continue, nearly all honeycreeper species will go extinct.

I think the bill should be passed to make a honeycreeper awareness day. I saw some honeycreepers with my own eyes, so I want my children to be able to see the same birds in Hawaii's forests as well.

Native birds form an integral part of Hawaii's culture. Without ways to protect them, Hawaiian culture may die along with them. 24 species of birds went extinct after the arrival of Europeans (Paxonetal, 2018), including the 'o'o, whose feathers were used to create Kamehameha I's cape. After the extinction of the 'o'o, many royal capes and ornaments are now irreplaceable. Anyone who wants to repair artifacts and continue practicing Hawaiian customs, such as cape-making, with traditional materials will have an extremely limited supply of resources to use. The species that remain are often confined to small patches of high-altitude isolated forest (Paxonetal, 2018). Those who only want to see the birds that their ancestors witnessed have to climb to nearly inaccessible patches of forest for the slightest chance of a sighting. With habitats shrinking, those small patches may cease to exist. Anyone in the future who wants to practice Hawaiian culture or see Hawaii as it was today might never have the opportunity.



More awareness of native birds can also be used to demonstrate the effects of climate change, a more pressing and global issue. *Plasmodium*, the pathogen that causes avian malaria, develops to its infectious stage at temperatures above 13°C and reproduces best in places where the mean summer temperature is 17°C (Benning, 2002). The only places where the air is too cold for *Plasmodium* is at high altitudes, where the frequency of native birds increases (Benning, 2002). Some of the last havens for native birds exist in this region, which is currently threatened by a lack of moisture driven by climate change (Atkinson, 2009). Educating the public about these effects will allow the public to fully see the effects of climate change as well as spreading awareness of the issues faced by native birds. With a single investment in time and resources, the state can improve two problems at once.

Traditional cape-making can still occur without authentic materials. However, any artifacts that exist today cannot be fully repaired without feathers from native birds. People in the far future may not be able to see artifacts in the same way as prior generations. Although people can still see native birds today, climate change and non-native species may eliminate the habitats altogether, preventing anyone from seeing the birds at all.

I think the honeycreeper day should be designated. Hawaii's native birds form an integral part of our culture and people. Losing our birds could mean the loss of Hawaii's significance to the world, turning Hawaii into but another tourist destination.

Works Cited:

Atkinson, C., & LaPointe, D. (2009). Introduced avian diseases, climate change, and the future of Hawaiian honeycreepers. *JSTOR*.

Benning, T., LaPointe, D., Vitousek, P., & Atkinson, C. (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. *PNAS*.

Paxton, E., Laut, M., Kendall, S., & Vetter, J. (2018). Research and management priorities for Hawaiian forest birds. *BioOne Complete*.

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, since it 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>



**HR-86**

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 2:33:35 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	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 Hawaiian 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 mosquitos. The current mosquitos that are a threat to Hawaiian honeycreepers are *Culex quinquefasciatus*. One might ask how this will help because it would just be releasing more mosquitos. However, male mosquitos 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.



**HR-86**

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 2:36:16 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	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.

Mahalo

‘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>

**HR-86**

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 5:55:17 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lorraine Waianuhea	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha kākou,

I strongly support HR86 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

**HR-86**

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 6:07:48 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Elizabeth Sancho	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,**

**We, the 4th grade students at Kanuikapono Public Charter School, are in full support of HCR 81. 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. Saara 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





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

**HR-86**

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 9:20:30 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	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



**HR-86**

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 9:49:51 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	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 Hawaii 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 Hawaii's ecosystems. Hawaii 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 Hawaii. 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.



Sincerely,

Allison Iida

**HR-86**

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 12:47:14 AM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	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 crimson 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**

Chairs, vice chairs, and members of the Culture, and International Affairs (CAI) committee and Water & Land (WAL) committees

Thursday, March 30, 2023

9:30 AM

VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE

Conference Room 430

State Capitol

415 South Beretania Street

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 Mia Monahan and I am a Junior 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 recognize and designate a day of celebration for these birds. In school, we work together with the Wai'anae Mountains Watershed Partnership. Through our work with WMWP, we move through the Wai'anae Mountains while rehabilitating the native environment that is so important to our island ecosystem. Not only do the complex ecosystems that occur naturally in the Wai'anae Mountains hold significant cultural importance but also extremely impact the health of the entire island from the tops of our mountains to the shores of our beaches. Hawaiian Honeycreepers play a vital role for our native fauna as mass pollinators as well as pest control. Their population declined due to issues caused by a plethora of threats that include but are not limited to; diseases, invasive plants, a large change in our climate, and alien predators to not only the Hawaiian Honeycreepers but the native fauna that they rely on to feed. Is a travesty that causes a negative chain reaction, kickstarting the detrimental decline of our precious native ecosystems. As stewards of the land left to us by our ancestors that took such immense care of our home, it is our kuleana to protect these vital native pollinators from extinction. I hope you will consider passing S.B. No. **HCR81** and S.D. **HR86** as it will bring attention to the existence and struggle of our native Hawaiian Honeycreepers and hopefully push people to educate themselves in ways that they can help with the situation.

Sincerely,

Mia Monahan



**HR-86**

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 8:34:45 AM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Keenan Yoshizawa	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Representative Adrian K. Tam, Chair

Representative Rose Martinez, Vice Chair

House Committee on Culture, Arts & International Affairs

Representative Linda Ichiyama, Chair

Representative Mahina Poepoe, Vice Chair

House Committee on Water & Land

Support for HCR81 and HR86, Recognizing August 8, 2023 as Hawaii Honeycreepers Celebration Day

Hello, Chairs Tam and Ichiyama and Members of the House Committee on Culture, Arts & International Affairs and the House Committee on Water & Land.

My name is Keenan Yoshizawa 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.

Passage of this bill would promote greater awareness for the Hawaiian Honeycreepers. Many of these birds have become critically endangered due to human impacts on the environment like logging and urbanization. These factors reduce the habitat size for the Honeycreepers and leave

them to smaller confined spaces where food and shelter is limited. Another critical risk to these Honeycreeper populations is avian diseases like malaria. Hopefully that through the awareness raised by this bill, more people will be encouraged to learn more about the Honeycreepers and take steps to protect their habitat and environment. The Honeycreepers are one of the many diverse native birds that still inhabit our islands. It is our responsibility to protect these birds to preserve our natural environment and keep the biodiversity in our communities.

Thank you for your time and consideration, and I hope you will support this bill.

Keenan Yoshizawa

Mililani High School

2341100310@k12.hi.us

**HR-86**

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 8:58:50 AM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	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 HR86. 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

**HR-86**

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 8:59:42 AM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	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

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

**In 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 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,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jason Winters". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial 'J' and 'W'.



**LATE**

**HR-86**

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 9:24:36 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**

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

**LATE**

**HR-86**

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 10:01:48 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	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'anāe Mountains Watershed Partnership to protect and reforest the Wai'anāe 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 extinct, 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**



**LATE**

**HR-86**

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 10:08:03 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	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 extinction really is forever. NOW really is the time to celebrate the remaining nine by raising public awareness and understanding of the many threats they face.

**LATE**

**HR-86**

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 11:01:05 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	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

**HR-86**

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 11:39:10 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Corina Yi	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Chair Representative Adrian K. Tam

Vice Chair Representative Rose Martinez

Chair Representative Linda Ichiyama

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