

JAN 17 2020

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE STATE SNAIL.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that Hawaii's land snails
2 have a significant role in native ecosystems that includes
3 acting as fungivores that scrape fungus off of plants to promote
4 plant health, as decomposers that break down decaying material
5 for plant nutrients, and as a major component of intact
6 watershed forest communities. Snails may also serve as a food
7 source for other native species. In Hawaiian culture, snails
8 such as kāhuli, pūpūkanioe, and pūpū kuahiwi have a significant
9 role in native songs, hula, chants, and as a symbol of romance
10 and omens. Furthermore, land snails are among the most
11 threatened of all animal groups in the world, with more recorded
12 extinctions than birds and mammals combined.

13 The legislature further finds that pūpū kuahiwi (*Laminella*
14 *sanguinea*) is a snail endemic to Hawaii and, according to the
15 International Union for Conservation of Nature Red List,
16 critically endangered. This snail is one of only a few living
17 representatives of the Amastridae family, the only extant



1 endemic family remaining in Hawaii. Pūpū kuahiwi has a zigzag
2 color pattern, reminiscent of kīkeʻekeʻe, a Hawaiian kapa
3 pattern. This endangered snail is important for the
4 preservation of native ecosystems and the Hawaiian culture.

5 The legislature finds that designating pūpū kuahiwi as the
6 state snail will increase awareness of the imperiled status and
7 cultural and ecological relevance of all Hawaiian land snails,
8 preserve their cultural and ecological significance, and
9 encourage continued conservation of native Hawaiian
10 invertebrates.

11 The purpose of this Act is to designate pūpū kuahiwi as the
12 official state snail.

13 SECTION 2. Chapter 5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended
14 by adding a new section to be appropriately designated and to
15 read as follows:

16 "§5- State snail. Pūpū kuahiwi (*laminella sanguinea*) is
17 established and designated as the official snail of the State."

18 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

19 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

20 INTRODUCED BY: 



S.B. NO. 2714

Gil Rivas
Lorraine L. Proulx



S.B. NO. 2714

Report Title:

State Snail; Pūpū Kuahiwi

Description:

Designates pūpū kuahiwi as the official state snail.

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