

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 30 2023

RE: S.R. No. 215
S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Thirty-Second State Legislature
Regular Session of 2023
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Water and Land, to which was referred S.R. No. 215 entitled:

"SENATE RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO INVESTIGATE THE CAUSES OF AND UPDATE KEY INFORMATION ON, INCLUDING FACTS AND STATISTICS, THE DECLINE OF THE CRITICALLY ENDANGERED PALILA (LOXIOIDIES BAILLEUI) BIRD ON MAUNA KEA,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to request the Department of Land and Natural Resources to investigate the causes of and update key information on, including facts and statistics, the decline on Mauna Kea of the critically endangered Palila bird (*Loxioides Bailleui*), also known as the finch-billed Hawaiian honeycreeper.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources and two individuals.

Your Committee finds that the Palila is a critically endangered bird found only in Hawaii, with nearly all of its population residing within the Mauna Kea Conservation District on Hawaii island. Your Committee further finds that for decades, the presence of sheep and goat populations threatened the Mauna Kea Mamane-Naio Forest, which contributed to the decline of Palila in



the area. However, despite eradication efforts to remove sheep and goats from the Palila's habitat and the subsequent full recovery of the Mauna Kea Mamane-Naio Forest, the population of mature adult Palila on Mauna Kea is still just one thousand. Therefore, this measure requests the Department of Land and Natural Resources to further study the causes of Palila decline and specifically requests the Department to investigate what effect the eradication of sheep and goats had on the Palila population.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment to its title for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water and Land that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.R. No. 215, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as S.R. No. 215, S.D. 1.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Water and Land,


LORRAINE R. INOUYE, Chair



The Senate
 Thirty-Second Legislature
 State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Water and Land
WTL

Bill / Resolution No.:* SR 215	Committee Referral: WTL	Date: 3/24/23		
<input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is: <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
INOUYE, Lorraine R. (C)	✓			
ELEFANTE, Brandon J.C. (VC)	✓			
CHANG, Stanley	✓			
MCKELVEY, Angus L.K.	✓			
FEVELLA, Kurt				✓
TOTAL	4	0	0	1
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: <div style="text-align:center; margin-top: 10px;">  </div>				
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink Goldenrod File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Copy				

*Only one measure per Record of Votes