

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 9:46:55 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sean Aronson	Testifying for Showing Up for Racial Justice Hawai'i	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing in strong support of SCR 13 - which urges the congressional delegation from Hawai'i to support a ceasefire in Gaza.

The United States is the only country that has the power to stop the bombing - we supply the weapons that are used to kill thousands of innocent women and children. It is a genocide and the United States is complicit.

What kind of message are we sending the rest of the world when we allow Israel to ignore the humanitarian crisis they have created. We are losing our standing as a country with morals because we have refused to condition our support of Israel on them obey long-standing international norms when it comes to the protection of civilians.

Please pass this resolution which will show that the Hawai'i State Legislature has a moral compass and is not afraid to defend the rights of civilians in times of war.

“How can you have a war on terrorism when war itself is terrorism?”

— Howard Zinn

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 11:00:28 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
The Rev. Dr. Moses D. Barrios	Testifying for Faith Action Hawai'i and Calvary by the Sea Lutheran Church	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

As the President of Faith Action Hawai'i an non-profit organization working for justice and equity on behalf of the working class and people of Hawai'i and as the Senior Pastor of Calvary by the Sea Lutheran Church in Aina Haina, I appeal to your heart of justice and righteousness.

This is my formal attempt to call upon our elected officials to stand in boldness and faith. The days of staying silent and neutral are no longer, especially when innocent civilians pay the price with their lives on decisions made by politicians.

I am testifying in strong support of [SCR13/SR6]. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since October 7th, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately. A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities. Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of

apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

Thank you,

The Rev. Dr. Moses D. Barrios, Senior Pastor & Faith Action Hawai'i President

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 1:03:36 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jim Albertini	Testifying for Malu 'Aina	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

On behalf of our organization, Malu 'Aina, I testify in support of SCR 13 and SR6 calling for an immediate and permanent **ceasefire** in Gaza.

In five months, more than 100,000 people in Gaza have been killed or injured by US weapons provided to Israel, the majority of victims being women and children. Thousands more are missing in the rubble. Most houses, businesses, schools, even hospitals and refugee centers have been damaged or destroyed. Disease is now rampant. Many people are starving. This Genocide must be stopped now by an immediate and permanent Ceasefire, and a massive influx of humanitarian aid.

As a long-time resident of Hawai'i Island, I am very proud to say that the Hawai'i County Council Government Operations committee passed Resolution 449-24 by a vote of 8-0 that called for peace, disarmament, non-proliferation, and a CEASEFIRE in Gaza The Hawai'i County Council resolution also urged support for "the adoption of Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 13 by the Hawai'i State Legislature."

The Genocide in Gaza must be stopped now by an immediate and permanent Ceasefire, and a massive influx of humanitarian aid. Mahalo for your support.

Jim Albertini,

President of Malu 'Aina

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Jim Albertini Malu 'Aina Center For Non-violent Education & Action P.O. Box 489 Ola'a (Kurtistown) Hawai'i 96760
Phone 808-966-7622 Email ja@malu-aina.org Visit us on the web at www.malu-aina.org



TESTIMONY FROM THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF HAWAII
**SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL
AND MILITARY AFFAIRS**

MARCH 8, 2024

**SCR 13/SR 6, URGING MEMBERS OF HAWAII'S CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION
TO SUPPORT THE CEASEFIRE IN GAZA RESOLUTION INTRODUCED BY UNITED
STATES CONGRESSWOMAN CORI BUSH.**

POSITION: SUPPORT

The Democratic Party of Hawaii*i* **supports** SCR 13/SR 6, which urge our state's congressional delegation to support a ceasefire in Gaza. On December 2, 2023, the party adopted a resolution calling for a permanent ceasefire in Gaza and initiation of negotiations for a lasting peace.

According to the health ministry in Gaza, at least 30,717 people have been killed in Israel's ongoing war against the Palestinians. Roughly 12,300 of those lost were children and 8,400 were women. Another 72,156 have been injured, 8,663 of whom are children and 6,327 of whom are women. These numbers do not include figures from the occupied West Bank, where another 400 people have been killed and 4,600 injured.

The devastation in Gaza is impossible to overstate. More than half of Gaza's homes—360,000 residential units—have been destroyed or damaged. Another 392 educational facilities have been demolished; 12 out of 35 hospitals are only partially functioning; 132 ground water wells have been damaged or destroyed, and 267 places of worship have been ruined.

Every hour in Gaza since the incursion began, 15 people have been killed (including 6 children), 35 people have been injured, 42 bombs have been dropped, and 12 buildings have been destroyed, Nearly 100 journalists have also been slain, some of whom appear to have been deliberately targeted by Israeli forces for reporting on the horror of the conflict. As 1.9 million Palestinians have been forced to flee their homes, many more lives are now at risk from hunger, disease, and low temperatures.

This situation is exacerbated by the U.S.'s defunding of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestinians in the Near East, which has provided critical humanitarian aid to Palestinian refugees since its inception in 1949. Much of the UNRWA's budget since the most recent conflict began has paid for flour for 350,000 families; 14 million food items, mattress pads, blankets, and kitchen sets; the distribution of 20 million liters of water; and life-saving medication.

Local, national, and international pressure on Israel to stop its military offensive is growing. **The months-long Israeli siege of the Gaza strip has created a dire humanitarian crisis that can only be addressed by the achievement of a permanent ceasefire.** We also note and condemn the continued U.S. military aid for Israel—President Biden recently requested another \$10 billion—that has come despite Israel's restriction of humanitarian assistance and repeated violations of international law.

Israel's assault on Gaza is the latest episode in a long legacy of colonial bloodshed that has left the Palestinian people struggling to defend their basic human rights and dignity. We cannot stand idly by while the world bears witness to a withering offensive that is intended to fortify the apartheid conditions that Israel has imposed on Gaza's citizens. **To prevent the further loss of innocent lives, we, the Democratic Party of Hawai'i, stand with all those throughout the world who are demanding the establishment of a permanent ceasefire. Now.**

Mahalo nui loa,

Kris Coffield

Co-Chair, Legislative Committee

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March 7, 2024

TO: Chair Wakai and Members of the PSM Committee

RE: SCR 13 URGING MEMBERS OF HAWAII'S CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO SUPPORT THE CEASEFIRE IN GAZA RESOLUTION INTRODUCED BY UNITED STATES CONGRESSWOMAN CORI BUSH.

Support for Hearing: March 8, 2024

Americans for Democratic Action is an organization founded in the 1940s by leading supporters of the New Deal and led by Patsy Mink in the 1970s. We are devoted to the promotion of progressive public policies.

We support this measure calling for a Ceasefire in Gaza where at least 30,000+ Palestinians have been killed, including some 10,000+ children & the rest are starving and homeless. This humanitarian atrocity must end. We should do what we can to support an end to the horrors of war.

Thank you very much for your consideration of our testimony

Sincerely,

John Bickel, President



HAWAII WORKERS CENTER

Defending and Respecting the workers of
Hawai'i

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March 7, 2014

Executive Board Committee

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Hawai'i State Senate
Committee on Public Safety and Intergovernmental and Military Affairs
Senator Glenn Wakai, Chair
Senator Brandon Elefante, Vice-Chair

Board Members

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Nanea Lo

Innocenta
Sound-Kikku

Ray Catania

Justin Jansen

Leyton Torda

RE: **STRONG SUPPORT for SCR13 URGING MEMBERS OF HAWAII'S CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO SUPPORT THE CEASEFIRE IN GAZA RESOLUTION INTRODUCED BY UNITED STATES CONGRESSWOMAN CORI BUSH.**

Dear Chair Senator Wakai, Vice-Chair Senator Elefante, and Members of the Committee on Public Safety and Intergovernmental and Military Affairs:

The Hawai'i Workers Center joins with many unions, workers, and human rights organizations across the country and internationally in calling for a permanent ceasefire in Gaza and the protection of Palestinian rights. At this point after weeks of heavy bombing, over 30,000 civilians have been killed in Gaza, many of them children. Thousands more have been injured and many thousands more buried in the rubble. There is no safe place from the bombing by the Israeli government.

Thus, we stand in **strong support of SCR13**, urging members of Hawaii's Congressional Delegation to support the ceasefire in Gaza Resolution introduced by United States Congresswoman Cori Bush.

A permanent ceasefire would halt the daily death toll and provide an opening for a negotiated peace settlement. It could also free more hostages and bring about the release of over 6,000 Palestinians in Israeli military prisons, many held without charges.

The brutal seizure and occupation of Palestinian lands since 1948 and the expansion of Israeli settlements, in violation of international law, have eroded Palestinian lands and helped bring about groups like Hamas determined to resist Israel's illegal expansion and end its existence.



We affirm that the Jewish people and all people, including Palestinians, deserve a world where they can live safely, joyfully, and without the constant threat of hate and violence. The October 7th attack and slayings of over a thousand Israeli civilians by Hamas were despicable war crimes. However, the Israeli government's retaliatory response of massive bombardment of Gaza, supported and funded by the U.S. government, has been even more murderous and criminal.

It is also disturbing to witness the current rise of both antisemitism and Islamophobia in the U.S. and globally, which the continued war is fueling. This was most grotesquely exemplified by the recent murder of 6-year-old Palestinian-American youth Wadea al-Fayoume, and the killing of Samantha Woll, the head of the Isaac Agree Downtown Detroit Synagogue. In Honolulu, authorities are now investigating a recent email threatening to place bombs in every Hawai'i synagogue. These threats and crimes of hatred against Jews and Muslims have been fed by the hostilities and killings in the Middle East.

It is not in the interest of working people in this country to support the slaughter in Gaza by our government's sending bombs, weapons, and artillery shells to Israel. Over \$3 billion of our hard-earned tax dollars go each year to supplying Israel's military. Those monies could be better used to provide housing, jobs, healthcare, and schools, and address the challenges of climate change.

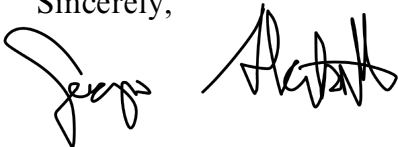
Workers' interests include not only winning higher pay and better living and working conditions but also securing a more safe and peaceful world so all can prosper and fewer die from disasters and war.

There is also a clear danger that Israel's invasion and incessant bombing campaign in Gaza could lead to a much wider conflict in the Middle East, a conflict which could involve more countries and cause even more death and destruction.

An immediate and permanent ceasefire is crucial now, and our elected officials at local, state, and national levels should advocate for a permanent ceasefire and work to make it happen! Please support SCR13 and let Hawai'i be an example of the courage, compassion, and aloha needed in the world today.

The Hawai'i Workers Center Executive Committee, Board of Directors, and Staff stand in peace and solidarity with the people of Gaza.

Sincerely,



Sergio J. Alcubilla
Executive Director



SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 2:15:19 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Julie Warech	Testifying for Jewish Voice for Peace-Hawai'i	Support	In Person

Comments:

Aloha members of the PSM Committee,

Thank you for ensuring this most pivotal resolution was scheduled for a hearing today. I am testifying today on behalf of Jewish Voice for Peace- Hawai'i in strong support of [SCR13/SR6] URGING MEMBERS OF HAWAII'S CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO SUPPORT THE CEASEFIRE IN GAZA RESOLUTION INTRODUCED BY UNITED STATES CONGRESSWOMAN CORI BUSH.

Jewish Voice for Peace Hawai'i is the local chapter of the largest Jewish anti-Zionist organization in the world. We are a grassroots, multiracial, cross-class, intergenerational movement of Jews in solidarity with the Palestinian freedom struggle, and the struggle for a free Hawai'i. Like generations of Jews before us, we fight for the liberation of all peoples and lands.

We are over 150 days into a genocide being committed by the State of Israel made directly possibly by funding, weapons, and support from the United States. The death toll is growing every single day, currently as I write this on Tuesday standing at 30,631 and Friday when I read this, the number will have grown. 74% are women and children.

Researchers project that even with an immediate permanent ceasefire today, 6,500 more lives likely would be lost in the time it would take to get aid and services to Gaza due to the dire current conditions. The same researchers project 74,000 people could be massacred over the next six months if Israel continues to escalate. Children as young as 5 are saying they would prefer to die and at least 17,000 children in Gaza are unaccompanied. UN rights experts have stated that Israel is deliberately starving Palestinians, and international bodies have made it abundantly clear Israel is committing genocide.

Every single day our country fails to demand a permanent immediate ceasefire, more blood is on all of our hands.

One of the greatest horrors of the holocaust is that the world sat by and watched as it happened. The trauma of the holocaust was then weaponized into 75 years of trauma for Palestinians through Zionism. The U.S.'s unwavering support of Israel has culminated in this horrifying moment where another systematic extermination of a peoples is taking place

as we speak. It is morally unjustifiable to allow this to continue and today the power to take a significant step toward stopping it lies in your hands.

We are calling on you as our elected officials to heed our calls, to heed the majority of your constituents who support a ceasefire. The people have been speaking for 150 days through phone calls, letter writing, press conferences, rallies, and ceasefire resolutions being passed by city councils and the democratic party of Hawai'i.

It is completely unacceptable that every single one of our federal congress people have not called for an immediate and permanent ceasefire, blatantly ignoring the will of their constituents. Today, we ask you to rectify this, to codify the overwhelming support for a permanent ceasefire through this resolution.

We are asking you to look long and hard in the mirror and in this time of moral reckoning, choose your humanity over the political fearmongering meant to keep unprecedented amounts of power in Israel's hands. Gaza and its people are being destroyed due to the cowardice of so many elected officials to act. Due to getting campaign money from AIPAC. Due to decades of lobbying to make Israel a bipartisan untouchable issue at the expense of Palestinians lives, livelihoods, futures, dreams.

We are calling on you to honor the over 30,000 human beings who have been murdered, to honor the 12,450 children who have been killed by Israeli airstrikes, ground operations and starvation, and to honor the entire lines of families who have been physically wiped out by voting yes today. As Jews, we invite you to stand with us in the Jewish values of shalom and tikkun olam, to fight for a just world by repairing it, to be in right relationship by holding all life as inherently sacred. Thank you.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 2:55:13 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Fatima	Testifying for Rise for Palestine	Support	In Person

Comments:

It is early morning and the sun is just rising. You're awoken by a distraction from outside. Your neighbors are running from house to house warning people about something. You know it's really bad. You know something is really wrong, but you still don't know what. A neighbor and friend of yours busts into your home in a panic, "We have to get to safety!!!" You don't even have to ask what they mean. You've been through this before.

You look outside of your window, after hearing bombs in the distance. You frantically text your aunt, cousin, nieces and nephews after trying to call, but there's no answer. It is then you notice something falling from the sky.

Leaflets, telling you that you have minutes to evacuate or your home is next. You grab your mom, brother, kids and family pet in a hurry, and run outside to the one place you're told it's safe to evacuate to—a school.

Reporters on the ground continue to cover the disaster around you while dodging bullets. They don't have time to grieve their wives and kids blown to pieces just minutes before. You feel for them, and are grateful to how brave they are for trying to tell the world what's going on while putting themselves in immediate danger.

You finally get to the school where you are told it is safe—the area you were told to evacuate to.

You're winded and tired. It was a very long journey. All the while, you can still hear bombs in the very far distance.

You breathe a sigh of relief. You look around to see other families and members of your community, scared but hugging each other.

You join them and remind each other, this is temporary. This has happened before, and you'll soon rebuild and be able to go home again.

At the school, you take turns with hundreds of people sharing electrical outlets. Everyone is desperate to reach their loved ones and to find out what's actually going on.

Your kids have to use the bathroom. The line for the bathroom is hours long. You have to choose between charging your phone or accompanying your children. You figure, this is normal. This

will all blow over soon, so you wait in line with your children, who are surprisingly unshaken by the events. “They're used to it.” You think to yourself. And while you're holding your child's hand wonder how this will affect them in the future.

Then. Everything goes dark.

Blackness.

You can't see anything. Now fear really begins to set in. Your kids are crying and scared. If there's anything that frightens them, it's the darkness.

Whispers of parents comforting their babies and tears in the darkness surround you, while the patter of feet from school staff rush to look for candles to try and calm everyone down.

But you have a sinking feeling.

It is too late.

Suddenly, your pet that you've had in your carrier starts whimpering.

You hear a long-winded sound in the distance—a sound, almost like a firework advancing. The sound becomes louder and louder, closer and closer until it comes roaring forward. All of a sudden, it's bright again!

Then BOOM. Your ears are RINGING; you can't hear anything.

SCREAMS break the sound barrier along with the explosion. Body parts and bits of buildings fly everywhere. You grab your kids in a panic and hurry, not knowing where the next one is going to hit. But when you turn to look behind you, your pet is stuck under the rubble.

You cry out, with milliseconds to make a life or death decision.

A school teacher is leading people and kids to the nearby hospital. You yell for a neighbor to grab your kids and go. ‘TAKE THEM TO THE HOSPITAL WITH THE OTHERS!’

Your neighbor, although worried for you, agrees and hurriedly grabs your children and RUNS from the sounds of the violent explosions.

You frantically dig as hard as you can with your bare hands, searching for your furry friend. You've always loved animals, and your pet is like another child. You can't bear the thought of them trapped helplessly under rubble, injured, bleeding and terrified.

Everything around you is destroyed. Everything is still deafening. While digging, the thought of your children weighs in the forefront of your mind.

Just then, you hear the whimpers of your beloved pet. You know you're getting close. You keep digging, your fingernails now bleeding. You are covered in ash from head to toe. Then, from the corner of your eye, you see two young children holding two blue plastic bags. They hear the whimpers and cries of your furry friend. They place their bags down and rush over to help. As they start digging, other survivors that can stand run over and grab sticks and pieces from the rubble to help you dig. A tail! You see your baby! Everyone helps pull your furry family member out from the rubble, and for a moment there are tears of joy before they are clouded by unwavering sadness. Your pet and your family are safe, for now. But what's next?

You thank everyone, and follow them with your pet to the hospital five miles away, up North. The two orphaned boys who helped dig your pet out are close by your side, their bag in their hands once more. They use their free hands to pet your fur baby. The older of the two boys says, "What a little fighter!" You smile a weak smile and feel a bit of guilt. The little one is petting your furry friend lovingly. He has a gentle touch. Your pet feels warm and comforted by this child. Safe.

The child says his name is Omar. You offer to take the heavy bag off his hands so that he can hold and snuggle with your pet, who is miraculously unscathed. Omar reluctantly hands the bag over. You're afraid to ask what's in it. As he's holding your pet, you ask the kids, Omar and Jason, what happened to their parents. Omar gets very quiet, lowers his chin to the ground and points to the bag. You don't want to look, but you know.

"I tried to save them. I tried," says Jason, tears welling up in his eyes. Omar says, "They covered us. They held us so we were safe." Jason stutters, "We...we couldn't leave them behind." Omar starts to cry.

You hug them, tightly and move forward toward the hospital, just four more miles to go.

Just then, you hear screams in the distance. "Oh no. Oh no," you think to yourself. The boys start panicking.

Not sure what to expect, you tell them to remain calm. As you keep walking, you notice more injured people heading in the same direction.

Then...that sound again.

The sound of carpet bombing. You rush over to the hospital as you see a crack of light in the distance and hear a BOOOMING explosion. Your ears are still ringing from hours earlier.

You rush over, adrenaline rushing through your veins, to look for your family - your face cold and pale.

Five months later...you are alone, barefoot and stumbling over piles of rubble. You can see the bones in your hands, legs and ribs, protruding outwards. The pain has become numbness as you've lost circulation to most of your extremities.

You painfully and slowly peel a photo out from your pocket. It is blood-soaked and scorched.

You hold the photo up to the sky, matching the sunset from the photo to the one overlooking the ocean that illuminates the Mediterranean.

The kids got ice cream on that day, and played on the beach. You can still see the sunset in their eyes, their smiles imprinted in your soul.

At this point you notice through the rubble a woman still holding an infant, laying in the sand. She is skin and bones.

You decide to lay there with her too. "Just to rest," you whisper to yourself.

You place two blue plastic bags on the sand next to you. The sound of a bell from a collar ringing heavily while one of the bags is placed down. You kiss the photograph and hold it to your chest while lying down. "We can watch the sunset together."

Then.

Darkness.

You see your life and your loved ones, all smiling and waving. You watch your kids grow up before your eyes. You see them graduate high school and college, get married. You hold your grandchildren, your beloved pet by your side.

"This is peace."

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 2:59:52 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Christopher Castagne	Testifying for Maui for Palestine	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Israel was never an ally and endagers us all. From 1967 attacks on American military personel, to the aggression in the weeks and months leading up to Oct 7th Israel's actions challenge global stability and world peace and completely undermine the US position globally.



LATE

Muslim Association of Hawaii

1935 Aleo Place
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96822

Statement of
Hakim Ouansafi, Board Chairman
Muslim Association of Hawaii

Before the
**SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY AND
INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND MILITARY AFFAIRS**

3:00 PM, March 8, 2024
Hawaii State Capitol
Room 225

In consideration of
SCR 13 /SR 6
RELATING TO CEASEFIRE IN GAZA

Honorable Chair Wakai, Honorable Vice Chair Elefante and members of the Senate Committee on Public Safety and Intergovernmental and Military Affairs, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on SCR 13 /SR 6, relating to Ceasefire in Gaza.

The Muslim Association of Hawaii (MAH), representing over 4500 members statewide, is in **strong support** of SCR 13 / SR 6, which urges and requests our congressional delegation to support the ceasefire in Gaza. Knowing the legislative process, we have asked our members not to send individual testimonies and we are summarizing their concerns and thoughts in this testimony.

As we are here today testifying, a catastrophe and genocide continues to unfold in Gaza, and many part of what is left of Palestine, the like of which has not been seen since the Nazi's holocaust committed against our Jewish brothers and sisters in 1941. In fact, in the International Court of Justice January 26, 2024 ruling, 15 out 17 judges agreed that a plausible genocide is occurring. For the past 5 months, unlike the children in Israel who are sound asleep in their beds (as every child should be), children in Gaza are either rotting under the rubble of their homes flattened by Isael's bombs, orphaned, in the only hospital left partially standing without access medicine, dealing with the psychological trauma caused by the loss of their limbs or loss of their entire family, or starving to death and all caused by Israel bombs and policies. These are not our words but the words of United Nations and international NGOs.

The Netanyahu regime, along with the Zionists who believe that Israel does no wrong and believe in the Amalek mandate that the Israeli government advocated for publicly on many occasions, the IDF has embarked on a clear collective punishment, genocide and ethnic cleansing of the Palestinian land from Palestinians. The current condition in Gaza especially is not surprising since Netanyahu and the IDF made it clear that what is expected is Amalek, which as you know states, “I will punish the Amalekites for what they did to Israel when they waylaid them as they came up from Egypt. Now go, attack the Amalekites and totally destroy all that belongs to them. Do not spare them; put to death men and women, children and infants, cattle and sheep, camels and donkeys.”. Indeed, the Settlers and the IDF are not sparing anyone and are putting to death men and women, children and infants, cattle and sheep, camels and donkeys not to mention flattening homes, hospitals, shelters, schools, places of worship and even cemeteries.

Calling for ceasefire is not only the right thing to do, but it is a minimum action that any human being with a heart should take. It is to send a message that a life of a Palestinian child is no less valuable than that of an Israeli child. It will send a message that we in Hawaii do not believe that Palestinians are human animals as were described by many in the Netanyahu’s far-right government. This genocidal government and its Zionists’ supporters use these words to dehumanize the Palestinian people so that this massacre, slaughter, arrests/kidnappings, torture and war crimes that are happening in every part of Palestine, including the West Bank that has no Hamas, would be justified as self-defense.

Although the people of Gaza and Palestine have been living under brutal occupation, including torture, murder and humiliation, this resolution is not an attempt to solve this issue but rather a humanitarian appeal to stop the killing and the starvation as reported by the international media and collaborated by on the ground statements of reputable NGOs in Gaza such as Doctors Without Borders, Save the Children and others.

We urge the honorable senators of this committee to consider the following suggested corrections and additions:

- 1- Address this resolution of the United state President Biden and our Hawaii congressional delegation as wells as to the leadership of United State House and Senate who may have access to the Netanyahu regime.
- 2- Reference the need for the flow of unlimited humanitarian supplies and medicine to help in the ongoing famine and diseases.
- 3- Reference the return of Gazans to their destroyed homes to bury their loves ones and start rebuilding.
- 4- Urge the United States President and Congress to withhold sending any additional weapons given the ICJ’s Jan 2024 statement or at minimum ensuring that such US bombs are not used to further the ongoing genocide.
- 5- Transmit this Resolution to the Governor of our great state.
- 6- Add “Immediate and permanent” to word ceasefire.

Once again, thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony and request for amendments. On behalf of my community, I thank you for your kind consideration of this important resolution and urge you to pass it.

Much MAHALO.

Hakim Ouansafi



Senate Committee on Public Safety and Intergovernmental and Military Affairs

Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action (HAPA) Supports: SCR13

Friday, March 8th, 2024 3:00pm, Conference Room 225

Aloha Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Elefante and Members of the Committee,

HAPA strongly supports SCR13, which urges members of Hawai'i's Congressional Delegation to support the Ceasefire in Gaza Resolution introduced by US Congresswoman Cori Bush.

We stand against collective punishment and mass violence inflicted upon civilians in any form – be it by the Israeli State, Hamas, or the United States. We join with Jewish Voice for Peace in the belief that, “A future of peace and safety for all, grounded in justice, freedom and equality for all, is still the only option.” We affirm the equal value of all lives.

Residents of Hawai'i contribute \$13 million in federal taxes annually to the \$3.8 billion per year in U.S. military funding and economic aid to the apartheid State of Israel¹, which is used to commit daily war crimes against Palestinians in their own homelands, including the theft, destruction, and occupation of their lands, homes, food sources, water, natural resources, and means to survival.

We also recognize that a ceasefire and stop to the planned ground invasion of Rafah is not enough to bring peace, freedom, and dignity to the Palestinian people, who have long faced conditions of “open air imprisonment” in their homelands. For true and lasting peace for Palestines, Israelis, and all people, we must work to eradicate oppression in all forms.

Please support SCR13 to urge the US federal government to stop participating in the genocide of the Palestinian people.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Anne Frederick', is placed below the text 'Respectfully,'.

Anne Frederick
Executive Director

¹ International Court of Justice: Application of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide in the Gaza Strip (South Africa v. Israel) <https://www.icj-cij.org/case/192>



Friday March 8, 2024

To: Committee of Public Safety and Intergovernmental Affairs
Representative Glenn Wakai, Chair
Representative Brandon J.C. Elefante, Vice Chair

Re: Support of SCR13 - Relating to Israel; Gaza; Permanent Ceasefire

Aloha Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Elefante, and Esteemed Members of the Committee,

We come before you with urgency and conviction to voice our staunch support for SCR13. For too long, Palestinians have faced displacement, occupation, and relentless injustice at the hands of a violent state apparatus that has persisted for over seven decades. It's crucial that we confront the truth and acknowledge the historical accuracy surrounding the events of October 7th, recognizing it as an act of necessary resistance borne out of decades of oppression.

The suffering endured by the Palestinian people in Gaza over the last almost six months amounts to nothing less than genocide. Israel's relentless siege has systematically deprived 2 million Gazans of access to clean water, food, and fuel, rendering them unable to sustain themselves or access essential medical care. This urgent crisis demands immediate attention and decisive action.

Roots Reborn stands unwaveringly in solidarity with our Palestinian brothers and sisters, both within Palestine and across the global diaspora, in their pursuit of liberation from apartheid and settler colonialism. As a BIPOC, queer, and woman-led organization, we are deeply rooted in the principle that every single child is our own. Consequently, we mourn deeply for every child unalived and harmed.

We vehemently denounce the heinous violence inflicted upon innocent civilians—mostly babies, children, and women—and call upon our elected officials to advocate for an immediate and permanent ceasefire.

At Roots Reborn, we understand that the struggles of our immigrant communities are intimately intertwined with those of our Palestinian kin. In our shared quest for justice and freedom from oppression and violence, we recognize the interconnectedness of our fights.



We implore you, esteemed members of the committee, to throw your weight behind SCR13 and take a stand against genocide and injustice.

Thank you for affording us the opportunity to address this vital issue.

Sincerely,
Veronica Mendoza Jachowski
Executive Director
Roots Reborn



LATE

TO: Senate Committee on Public Safety and Intergovernmental and Military Affairs
Senator Glenn Wakai, Chair
Senator Brandon Elefante, Vice Chair

DATE: Friday, March 8, 2024

FROM: AF3IRM Hawai'i

RE: SR 6/ SCR 13 Permanent Hawai'i Ceasefire Resolution

Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Elefante, and members of the Committee on Public Safety,

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **STRONG SUPPORT OF SR 6/SR 13**. Today is International Working Women's Day. Today, all throughout Women's History Month, and every day, AF3IRM underscores how patriarchy is at the core of what enables violent oppressive systems and asks everyone to commit to instead build systems of justice and care.

The ongoing genocide in Palestine is a product of the aforementioned violences. Because of this, Palestine is and will always be a feminist issue. Our Palestinian relatives are enduring horrors orchestrated by the violent, colonizing forces of "Israel". We also know that Israel would not be able to do this without the unrelenting support of the United States.

We say LAND BACK BODIES BACK, FREE PALESTINE. AF3IRM supports the demand for a permanent ceasefire. We call to end the siege and for the permanent end of Israel's occupation of Palestine. We affirm the Palestinian resistance against their oppressors and affirm the right of Palestinians to return home to live in their ancestral lands. The last day of Israeli occupation will be the first day of true and lasting peace.

As women from colonized lands, we know that military occupation creates and enables violence against women and gender expansive people. The Imperial War Machine uses propaganda to appeal to women's rights & queer rights to propagate harmful agendas. But we know there is no women's liberation and queer liberation in Zionism and genocide.

The facts to the contrary are damning:

1. Israel claims to stand for gender equality for women, claiming Israeli women soldiers indicates women's empowerment, all while women and children – including the Occupation's own female soldiers - experience misogynistic and sexual abuse at the hands of the Occupation's soldiers. Palestinian women share firsthand accounts of rape, sexual violence, sex trafficking, physical abuse, and torture, dating back to the original Nakba of 1948.



2. Israel has been a safe haven for pedophiles and sexual predators, sheltering about 100 rabbis, teachers, and other figures who have been accused, charged, or convicted of sexual abuse of minors overseas.

And 3. The most recent siege on Gaza has increased infant mortality and produced a more than 300% increase in miscarriages among Palestinian women.

The U.S. military also perpetuates this violence. Where there are military bases, there is domestic violence and rape. Where the US military goes, brothels and prostitution follow. The demand for sex is connected to the entitlement to land and bodies, where women and queer people are coerced into paid rape in the sex trade.

It is women who bear the brunt of the violent consequences that come with the dispossession of land from indigenous people. As transnational feminists, we must be attentive to intersections among nationhood, race, gender, sexuality, and economic exploitation on a world scale in the context of imperialist globalization. The same tools of imperialism, white supremacy, and patriarchy are the root cause of the ongoing crisis of missing murdered indigenous women and girls. It is the root cause of the dispossession of Native peoples.

The occupation of Hawai‘i and Palestine are both settler-colonial projects backed by US imperialism. Former Hawai‘i senator and known sexual abuser Daniel K. Inouye is infamous for advocating for millions in tax monies to go to Israel. Like the U.S.’s colonial project in Hawai‘i and other occupied lands, Israel is exploiting lands, poisoning waters, desecrating sacred places, and erasing the Palestinian people. Israel has also emboldened settlers to attack Palestinians and enact their false entitlement to take Palestinian homes. The U.S. has been complicit by funding and providing weapons to the Israeli Occupation Forces even when American citizens have demonstrated their dissent to the death and destruction of Israel’s crimes against humanity. Many of these weapons have been developed and tested right here in Hawai‘i! Hewa!

Before the colonization of both places the Hawaiian Kingdom and Palestine had diplomatic and personal relationships with one another! In many ways, we still do. AF3IRM is committed to fighting for a deoccupied Hawai‘i and Palestine, for we know our struggles are inseparable. Palestine is showing the world what can be. The Palestinian resistance teaches us life and how justice for Palestine is connected to the liberation of all colonized lands and peoples everywhere, especially in Hawai‘i.

Until the last aloha ‘āina, until the last olive tree, we as a people will remain steadfast in the love for our homelands and each other. From the river to the sea, from Kō Hawai‘i Pae ‘Āina to Palestine, every empire will fall at the knees of the mothers who have birthed this revolution.



SIERRA CLUB OF HAWAI'I

LATE

SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

March 8, 2024

3:00 PM

Conference Room 225

In SUPPORT of SCR13/SR6: URGING MEMBERS OF HAWAI'I'S CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO SUPPORT THE CEASEFIRE IN GAZA RESOLUTION INTRODUCED BY UNITED STATES CONGRESSWOMAN CORI BUSH

Aloha Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Elefante, and Members of the Committee,

The Sierra Club of Hawai'i **STRONGLY SUPPORTS SCR13/SR6**, which seeks to address an ongoing humanitarian and environmental catastrophe that has already claimed tens of thousands of human lives, and that threatens to leave a growing legacy of devastation and abject injustice that will shape the fates of multiple future generations.

The Sierra Club as a national organization has not taken a position on the particular issue of a ceasefire in Gaza. However, in addition to the international humanitarian issues arising from this unprecedented crisis – including the documented impacts on children, infants, journalists, and medical and aid workers, as well as International Court of Justice orders that highlight the imminent threat of genocide – **the Sierra Club of Hawai'i believes that the established policy positions of the Sierra Club can lead to no other conclusion than to support an immediate ceasefire, as urged by the Gaza Resolution referenced in this measure.**

First, Sierra Club's Water Policy recognizes that "Water quality and water quantity are integral to issues such as energy, land use, and maintenance of a healthy environment for plants, wildlife and humanity. Access to potable, sufficient and affordable water is a human right."¹ In direct contravention to this policy statement, the governmental denial of peoples' access to clean water has been well documented in Gaza and the West Bank even well before the current crisis,² which has now reportedly deprived displaced residents and children of the minimal amounts of water needed for survival.³ Contamination from military actions also threatens to destroy regional water sources and deprive future generations of access to clean

¹ Sierra Club, Water Policy, <https://www.sierraclub.org/policy/water-policy> (last accessed March 7, 2024).

² See, e.g. Amnesty International, *The Occupation of Water*, November 29, 2017, available at <https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/campaigns/2017/11/the-occupation-of-water/#:~:text=Israel%20does%20not%20allow%20water,by%20sewage%20and%20seawater%20infiltration>; The Institute for Middle East Understanding, *Israel's Environmental Apartheid in Palestine*, November 3, 2022 available at <https://imeu.org/article/environmental-apartheid-in-palestine>.

³ UNICEF, "Barely a Drop to Drink": Children in the Gaza Strip do not access 90 per cent of their normal water use, December 19, 2023, available at <https://www.unicef.org/lac/en/press-releases/barely-drop-drink-children-gaza-strip-do-not-access-90-cent-their-normal-water-use>.



SIERRA CLUB OF HAWAI'I

and sufficient water in the Gaza region, potentially indefinitely.⁴ Without an immediate ceasefire, the access to clean, drinkable water essential for healthy people and a healthy environment and that is a basic human right will continue to be deprived for tens if not hundreds of thousands of people, including future generations yet unborn.

Second, the Sierra Club has been long “committed to maintaining the world's remaining natural ecosystems, and, where feasible, to the restoration and rehabilitation of degraded ecosystems. Wildlife, plants, and their ecosystems have value in their own right, as well as value to humans and to the health of the biosphere.”⁵ This policy statement is likewise contravened by the active military violence taking place in Gaza, including the indiscriminate⁶ deployment of tens of thousands of bombs⁷ and as well as the apparent use of highly toxic white phosphorous⁸ in both populated and rural areas - all of which have disrupted, and could irreparably destroy, regional ecosystems and the integrity of the terrestrial and aquatic biospheres. A ceasefire would prevent further destruction of the natural and native ecosystems of the Gaza and surrounding regions, and the attendant, potentially irreparable harms to both humans and the environment.

Third, the Sierra Club has an agricultural policy that supports “healthy and abundant food, fiber and other services for all communities while maintaining the fertility of the soil and protecting the Earth’s climate and the native diversity of plants and animals. . . . Agriculture is also inherently cultural: every system of food production has the capacity to generate not only economic benefits and ecological capital, but also a sense of meaning and connection to natural resources.”⁹ The aforementioned destruction of regional water resources, and the contamination of soil from the indiscriminate deployment of military munitions in rural areas, run directly contrary to this policy, and have already led to reports of widespread starvation.¹⁰ A ceasefire would prevent the further loss of generational agricultural and fishing practices critical to the civilian and indigenous communities of Gaza and their continued cultural

⁴ Nancy A. Youssef, et. al., *Israel Begins Pumping Water Into Hamas' Gaza Tunnels*, THE WALL STREET JOURNAL, December 13, 2023, available at <https://www.wsj.com/world/middle-east/israel-hamas-war-pumping-seawater-gaza-tunnels-2ed3b3f2#>.

⁵ Sierra Club, Wildlife and Native Plants, <https://www.sierraclub.org/policy/wildlife/wildlife-and-native-plants> (last accessed March 7, 2024).

⁶ Natasha Bertrand and Katie Bo Lillis, *Exclusive: Nearly half of the Israeli munitions dropped on Gaza are imprecise “dumb bombs,” US intelligence assessment finds*, CNN, December 14, 2023, <https://www.cnn.com/2023/12/13/politics/intelligence-assessment-dumb-bombs-israel-gaza/index.html>.

⁷ Julia Frankel, *Israel's military campaign in Gaza now seen as the most destructive in recent history, experts say*, ASSOCIATED PRESS, January 11, 2024, available at <https://apnews.com/article/israel-gaza-bombs-destruction-death-toll-scope-419488c511f83c85baea22458472a796>.

⁸ *Human Rights Watch says Israel used white phosphorous in Gaza, Lebanon*, REUTERS, October 13, 2023, available at <https://www.reuters.com/world/middle-east/human-rights-watch-says-israel-used-white-phosphorous-gaza-lebanon-2023-10-12/>.

⁹ Sierra Club, Agriculture and Food, <https://www.sierraclub.org/policy/agriculture/food> (last accessed March 7, 2024).

¹⁰ OXFAM International, *“Golden time” seasonal farming production destroyed and lost in northern Gaza amid mounting fears of worsening hunger and starvation*, February 26, 2024, available at <https://www.oxfam.org/en/press-releases/golden-time-seasonal-farming-production-destroyed-and-lost-northern-gaza-amid>.



SIERRA CLUB OF HAWAI'I

connection to their lands and natural resources.

Fourth, the Sierra Club has committed to “oppose efforts to dispossess Indigenous peoples of their lands, culture, and their right to self-determination,” and has recognized that “the exploitation of land goes hand in hand with the exploitation of people.”¹¹ As detailed by the Progressive Workers Union, representing hundreds of Sierra Club frontline staff working to protect our environment across the United States and Hawai'i, the exploitation and dispossession of indigenous land in Palestine long predates the unprecedented violence seen over the last five months.¹² However, the sheer magnitude of death and destruction, including what has been described as “ecocide,” that has already occurred and that will continue to occur without a ceasefire, threatens an even greater mass dispossession of land, culture, and self-determination of indigenous Palestinians for generations to come.¹³

As a final note, the Sierra Club of Hawai'i has long emphasized the importance of indigenous rights and environmental stewardship as not only a moral imperative, but a key strategy to confront the existential crises that face our islands, as well as our planet as a whole. This strategy has most recently been acknowledged in a recent Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change report, which identifies colonialism as a key driver of our climate crisis. Accordingly, in order to give ourselves and our future generations the best chance at a livable and hopeful future, the enforcement of indigenous rights and the protection of our biocultural lands and resources must be pursued not just locally, but on a global scale. An immediate ceasefire to prevent the further wanton destruction of indigenous peoples, lands, resources, and rights, and radical action to rectify the historical and ongoing injustices perpetrated against indigenous peoples and the planet, is therefore both a moral and existential imperative for humanity as a whole.

For the above reasons, the Sierra Club of Hawai'i respectfully but strongly urges the Committee to **PASS** this measure. Mahalo nui loa for the opportunity to testify.

¹¹ Sierra Club, Indigenous Rights, <https://www.sierraclub.org/equity/journey/indigenous-rights>, last accessed March 7, 2024.

¹² Progressive Workers Union, Ratified PWU Union Wide Resolution in Solidarity with Palestine, November 17, 2023, available at <https://pwunion.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/RATIFIED-PWU-Union-Wide-Resolution-in-Solidarity-with-Palestine.pdf>.

¹³ Emma Pearce, *Israel's ecocide is contributing to the forcible displacement of Gazans*, OPEN GLOBAL RIGHTS, February 9, 2024, available at <https://www.openglobalrights.org/israel-ecocide-contributing-to-forcible-displacement-gazans/>.

LATE

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 1:45:32 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Colonel (Ret) Ann Wright	Testifying for Veterans For Peace-Chapter 113 Hawaii	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

With the continuing five-month Israeli genocide of the Palestinians in Gaza with over 32,000 killed, 70,000 injured and at least 10,000 buried under the collapsed buildings, as a retired US Army Colonel and the co-coordinator of Veterans For Peace, Chapter 113-Hawaii, I fully support SCR 13 which calls for the US to support a ceasefire. In the spirit of aloha, our state does not condone genocide. We do not support apartheid. We do not support killing. Ceasefire NOW!



LATE

March 8, 2024

Regarding SCR 13 before the Committee on Public Safety and Intergovernmental and Military Affairs

Aloha Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Elefante and Members of the Committee,

Ka Lāhui Hawai'i stands in strong support of Senate Concurrent Resolution 13 "Urging Members of Hawai'i's Congressional Delegation to Support the Ceasefire in Gaza Resolution Introduced by United States Congresswoman Cori Bush".

The Hawai'i State Legislature has been mostly silent on the issue of the ongoing genocide of Palestinian men, women and children in Gaza. It is important for this committee to pass this resolution not only because it is the morally right thing to do but because this genocide is being funded by taxpayer monies. Human rights violations and war crimes are happening right now in Gaza as children die from starvation, much needed aid is being blocked, and Palestinians are being shot on sight by Israeli soldiers. US citizens (including Hawai'i residents) are paying for these atrocities that are happening in occupied Palestine.

A call for a ceasefire and humanitarian aid is necessary immediately in order to save thousands of innocent lives. Please add your voice to a growing movement of local governments, international communities, and concerned community members and pass this important resolution. This is a first step toward any hope of long lasting peace in Palestine.

We commend this committee for hearing this important resolution and allowing us an opportunity to advocate for the people of Gaza.

Sincerely,

M. Healani Sonoda-Pale

Public Affairs Officer, Ka Lāhui Hawai'i Komike Kalai'āina

PO BOX 240454 Honolulu, HI 96824

LATE

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 1:20:06 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kaylan Bray	Testifying for Students and Faculty for Justice in Palestine UH Manoa	Support	In Person

Comments:

PSM Committee Chair, Vice Chair, and Members

SCR13/SR6

Hear date: Friday, March 8, 2024 - 3:00 PM

IN SUPPORT

Aloha members of the committee,

Thank you for holding a public hearing. My name is Kaylan Bray and I am a student at UH Manoa majoring in American Studies and I'm a member of Students and Faculty for Justice in Palestine, testifying in SUPPORT of SCR13/SR6.

For the first time in history, we as civilians have been able to witness the largest number of massacres in history carried out almost entirely against civilians and through aerial bombardment.

Since October 7, 2023, I have collected, analyzed and verified a total of 1033 videos that have been coming out of Gaza as of today. I'm sure I do not need to go into detail with what I am seeing, as you all are most certainly familiar with the the different wounding patterns of blast injuries, but I was not. I had never seen anything like that until October 7, 2023. And every single day for the last 152 days, I watch, contextualize, verify, and preserve the most horrific things I have ever witnessed in my life. While I have come across some fake videos, the majority have been real. My life has completely changed since this conflict started, completely shifting my focus within my academic studies to clinical research within my department so that I am able to provide as much credible evidence as possible to ensure legal accountability, including individual criminal and command responsibility.

Hawaii's location in the Pacific holds such a pivotal position for the United States military structure due to our location in the Pacific and our state's military installations are essential for defense, power projection, and as a strategic link between the U.S. and Asia-Pacific regions. All

of you sitting on this committee are responsible for the enhancement of stability in the Indo-Asia-Pacific region by promoting security cooperation, encouraging peaceful development, responding to contingencies, and deterring aggression. There is only so much we can do as citizens can do, but together we can begin to put a stop to this humanitarian catastrophe.

I am pleading with you to please support a ceasefire immediately. Thank you all for your time.

Kaylan Bray

Students and Faculty for Justice in Palestine

808-931-9734

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/5/2024 4:35:22 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Stephen T Hazam	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please SUPPORT the ceasefire in Gaza Resolution.

The killings of tens of thousands innocents, the injuries of hundreds of thousands of innocents, the displacement of more than 1.5 million innocents, the destruction of hundreds of thousands of homes, the starvation, famine and obstruction of humanitarian aid goes beyond any definition of self-defense. It must be stopped. This does not make Israel safer.

Please SUPPORT the ceasefire in Gaza Resolution.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/5/2024 4:46:29 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Danielle Beaver	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of [SCR13/SR6]. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

It would send a strong message to the rest of the world if Hawaii supported this resolution. Given our history of colonization and trampling of the rights of Native Hawaiians, it is important that we show our solidarity and compassion for another group of colonized and occupied people.

This is the moral and right thing to do and to stay silent would be to remain complicit in this genocide.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes

committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/5/2024 5:18:55 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ezra Levinson	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Elefante, and Sens. Fukunaga, Rhoads, and Awa,

My name is Ezra Levinson. I am a resident of Kailua. I am testifying in strong support of SR6/SCR13, with a preference for a Concurrent Resolution, calling on Hawaii's Congressional Delegation to support a ceasefire in Gaza.

On November 11, hundreds of Jewish writers and public figures published a letter titled "[A Dangerous Conflation](#)." They wrote that "It is precisely because of the painful history of antisemitism and lessons of Jewish texts that we advocate for the dignity and sovereignty of the Palestinian people. [...] we believe the rights of Jews and Palestinians go hand in hand." I am here today to support this resolution because of my Jewish values.

These writers make another critical point: "Characterizing all critiques of Israel as antisemitic also conflates Israel and all Jewish people in the popular imagination," essentially holding Jews collectively responsible for Israel's violence. Beyond that, it presents "Palestinians, Arabs, and Muslims as inherently suspect," playing on racist stereotypes and putting these groups at risk. Conflating Israel with the Jewish people threatens all of our safety. Senators, some will try to stifle this resolution with false claims that it is somehow antisemitic, but this is a dangerous attempt to use Jews like me as a political shield for the State of Israel as it systematically oppresses and kills Palestinians. Do not be misled into supporting this violence.

If the hundreds of Jewish leaders who wrote this letter, including numerous rabbis, professors, and journalists, are not enough to demonstrate the force of the Jewish conviction that "never again" ought to mean never again for anyone, look to the many thousands of Jews who have taken to the streets across and beyond the United States in recent months to call for a ceasefire as a step toward peace and justice for all. I am proud to count myself among them.

Senators, once again, I urge you to support this urgent resolution calling for a ceasefire and making clear to our Congressional Delegation that we expect them to listen.

Ezra Levinson, 96734

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/5/2024 5:30:44 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Arif Rahman	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Honorable members of the committee,

With a heavy heart, I stand before you today to advocate fervently for SCR13, propelled by a tragedy that is both deeply personal and painfully emblematic of the crisis we face. The escalating violence by the Israel military in continuation of their brutal colonization, has wrought unspeakable devastation upon civilians, casting a dark shadow over the sanctity of human life. My testimony is anchored in the loss of a dear friend, a beacon of love and compassion, whose life was extinguished by Israeli bombs. Along with him, his wife, three daughters, baby son, and parents were all tragically killed, erasing an entire family committed to the welfare of others in Gaza. This barbarity is not an isolated incident but a reflection of a broader, more horrifying narrative of indiscriminate violence that respects neither age nor innocence.

The statistics are harrowing: approximately 40,000 civilians have perished since October 7, the majority of whom are women and children—a stark testament to the indiscriminate nature of this conflict. An additional 70,000 have been wounded, while countless others remain unaccounted for, buried beneath the rubble of their own homes. The humanitarian situation in Gaza is dire, with two million people besieged, cut off from essential supplies of water, food, and fuel due to Israel’s relentless blockade—now in its 16th year. This blockade, in defiance of international law, exacerbates the suffering, transforming Gaza into an open-air prison where despair and death loom large.

Furthermore, the plight of some 200 Israeli hostages held in Gaza underscores the widespread disregard for human life defining this conflict. Indiscriminate rocket fire threatens civilians on both sides, yet it is the innocents who pay the highest price. The urgency for a ceasefire cannot be overstated. It is imperative to halt the unlawful attacks, end the bloodshed, and allow for the delivery of essential humanitarian aid. Hospitals in Gaza are in dire need of life-saving medicines, fuel, and equipment to treat the wounded and repair the damage inflicted by relentless bombardment.

A ceasefire also opens a path for dialogue, for addressing the underlying causes of this conflict. It offers a chance for the release of hostages, for conducting independent international investigations into the war crimes committed by all parties, and for confronting the impunity that fuels this cycle of violence.

The structural violence and apartheid imposed on Palestinians must be dismantled. It is a prerequisite for peace, for a future where all can live in dignity, free from fear and oppression. This cannot be achieved amidst ongoing violence.

I implore you, with every fiber of my being, to support this resolution. Let us honor the memory of my friend, his family, and the tens of thousands of lives lost by committing ourselves to peace, to humanity, and to justice. The time for action is now; let us not wait for more lives to be lost before we find the courage to act.

Thank you.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/5/2024 5:37:38 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Patricia Blair	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Absolutely Hawaii's Congressional should sign on to support a ceasefire in Gaza. They should have done this months ago. Please pass this bill. Children are dying.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/5/2024 6:33:03 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mike Golojuch, Sr.	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support SCR13. Please pass this resolution.

Mike Golojuch, Sr.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/5/2024 6:46:17 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nanea Lo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hello,

My name is Nanea Lo. I'm born and raised in the Hawaiian Kingdom. I live in Mō'ili'ili. I'm writing in STRONG SUPPORT OF SCR13.

Ceasefire needs to happen now! This is crazy and I can't believe this is actually happening. It makes me physically and mentally distraught! Below are some facts:

- **The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children.**
- **At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.**
- **Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.**
- **A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.**
- **A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.**

me ke aloha 'āina,

Nanea Lo, Mō'ili'ili, O'ahu

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/5/2024 6:49:54 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ayah Abdo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

It is obvious that the "situation" in Gaza is nothing short of a genocide. Palestinians are being massacred, kidnapped, and forcibly starved at an alarming rate. I urge you to call for an immediate ceasefire and to stop all US aid to Israel. CEASEFIRE NOW

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/5/2024 7:11:38 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lily Hiʻilani Okimura	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha mai kākou,

I am testifying in strong support of SCR13. What has become a retaliation to the October 7th Hamas attack at the Nova Music Festival in Israel has grossly escalated to a genocide of over 35,000 innocent Palestinians, approximately 1% of the Gaza population. Over 70,000 Palestinians are wounded, and thousands are still missing under rubble of destroyed buildings and homes. The majority of these deaths are women and children, meaning this has never been about eliminating members of Hamas. In addition, there are still around 200 Israeli hostages in Gaza facing constant danger from Israel's indiscriminate rocket firings, and some have even been killed by members of the IDF. This has also never been about rescuing the hostages.

I am a member of a grassroots collective where we communicate with Palestinian families in Rafah and northern Gaza, as well as their family members who live outside of Gaza. We are helping over 600 families trying to raise funds to either evacuate into Egypt (which costs between \$5,000 - \$10,000 per person) or rebuild their homes in Gaza. Many are also needing funds to afford food, water, and medicine. I, along with the others in the collective, have grown close to these Palestinians and their families, as if they were our own family members or long-time friends. Several of these families need life-saving operations and/or medication, but are unable to due to several hospitals and medical clinics being bombed, and lack of medical supplies. Some are single mothers who have lost their husbands in the genocide and now have to raise three to four children on their own, but food prices have skyrocketed. Many were university students studying to be doctors, translators, and even physical therapists, but now are training to survive.

I urge you to think about these families, think about humanity. Mahalo ā nui.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/5/2024 7:12:42 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Giulia Moriondo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I Giulia Marenco di Moriondo, believe that what is occurring in Gaza at the hands of the Israeli army is unethical and immoral. I am in full support of an immediate and permanent ceasefire.

Any further support of the Israeli regime by the US government does not in any manner have my support.

Immediate ceasefire now.

Giulia Marenco di Moriondo

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/5/2024 7:22:06 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Chazz	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Members,

I am writing to express my support for SCR13. The conflict in Gaza has already claimed the lives of more than 30,000 Palestinians and 1,400 Israeli. These deaths will continue to rise unless action is taken by the US. For the safety of all civilians and hostages, I believe an immediate ceasefire to be vital. The majority of US citizens want a permanent ceasefire, so please carry out our voices.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/5/2024 7:28:22 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Aubree Marote	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am an American citizen. A Hawaiian by blood. I am married to a Palestinian whose family had to flee their homeland because of the NAKBA of 1948.

I am testifying in strong support of [SCR13/SR6]. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

Palestine has been illegally occupied and has faced brutal attacks and inhumane treatment by Israel for the last 75+ years.

A ceasefire would put an end to the devastation in Gaza and neighboring areas, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on

Palestinians is more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

Please. Ceasefire now. Free Palestine from the lethal hand of Israel. Rid our world of the Zionist ideologies.

Mahalo,

Aubree Marote

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/5/2024 7:33:49 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
briana kawata	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of [SCR13/SR6]. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on

Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

thank you.

Senator Glenn Wakai, Chair

Senator Brandon J.C. Elefante, Vice Chair

Committee on Public Safety and Intergovernmental and Military Affairs

Eduardo Sotorodriguez

Friday, March 8, 2024

Comments on SCR13, urging members of Hawaii's congressional delegation to support the ceasefire in Gaza resolution introduced by United States Congresswoman Cori Bush.

Dear Committee Members,

I am writing to express my comments on SCR13, urging members of Hawaii's congressional delegation to support the ceasefire in Gaza resolution introduced by United States Congresswoman Cori Bush.

I appreciate the opportunity to provide comments on SCR13. As a concerned member of the Hawaiian community, I want to emphasize the potential impact of this resolution on our state's dealings and the potential divisiveness it may cause among both the Jewish and Palestinian communities.

I believe that the focus of our state should primarily be on issues that directly impact the well-being and prosperity of the Hawaiian population. The complex geopolitical situation in the

Middle East, while undoubtedly significant on a global scale, may not be directly relevant to the day-to-day business and concerns of our state.

Furthermore, it is crucial to acknowledge that the Israeli-Palestinian conflict is a deeply sensitive and divisive issue. While advocating for peace is commendable, we must also consider the potential for this resolution to create divisions within our own community, particularly among the Jewish and Palestinian populations residing in Hawaii.

I respectfully request that the committee consider the potential implications of SCR13 on our state's harmony and focus. It would be prudent to prioritize issues that have a more direct impact on the lives of the people of Hawaii.

Thank you for considering my comments on SCR13. I hope that the committee considers the potential implications of this resolution on our state and its diverse communities.

Sincerely,

Eduardo Sotorodriguez

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/5/2024 7:42:31 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Greg and Pat Farstrup	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

Please support this resolution to do whatever you can to bring about an immediate cease-fire in Gaza.

Ku i ka pono!

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/5/2024 7:47:44 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Wallace Engberg	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of SCR13. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

We cannot sit idly by as our tax dollars are being spent on killing innocent civilians! We cannot condone or ignore these atrocities that are sanctioned and approved of by the US white house and US military. We must use our voices and demand a stop to the genocide of Palestinians.

RE: Testimony of Will Caron
Strong Support for SCR13/SR6: The Hawai'i Ceasefire Resolution
Senate Committee on Public Safety and Intergovernmental and Military Affairs
March 8, 2024

Aloha members of the committee,

Thank you for scheduling this important resolution, and for giving the community the chance to testify. With all my heart, I am in full support.

Over the past few months, your constituents have organized dozens of rallies across the archipelago in all four primary counties, multiple teach-ins, and a thousands-strong march through Waikīkī. They have sent in thousands of emails and made thousands of calls to elected officials at both the federal and state level—including all of you—making it known that Hawai'i stands with Palestine.

On Tuesday, on March 5, 150 days after Israel began its latest brutal assault on Gaza, the Hawai'i County Council Government Operations and External Affairs Committee added its voice to this growing chorus by unanimously passing Resolution No. 449-24, titled "Demonstrating the Aloha Spirit and Fostering Peace, Diplomacy, and Unity within the County of Hawai'i, the State of Hawai'i, and Beyond," forward to the full council.

This county resolution calls on the State Legislature to adopt the Hawai'i Ceasefire Resolution (SCR13/SR6), in accordance with Hawai'i values and with the United Nations' International Day for Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Awareness which calls for a more just and peaceful world for all of us.

The Hawai'i State Legislature should now add its voice as well, and join its constituents in calling for an immediate, permanent ceasefire in Gaza, and for the opening of negotiations for a lasting peace—a peace that includes liberation for Palestinians.

If the Hawai'i State Legislature were to adopt this resolution, it would send a signal to our Congressional delegation, and the Biden Administration, that Hawai'i and its people demand an immediate end to the indiscriminate killing of Palestinian civilians in Gaza, the West Bank and throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territories and Israel.

The rate of civilian casualties in Gaza is unprecedented in the 21st century. Some 30,000–40,000 Palestinian civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk as well.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza, and enable aid agencies to get life-saving food, water and medical supplies into Gaza to address the staggering levels of human suffering there. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza, and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties, in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

Introducing and passing the Hawai'i Ceasefire Resolution this legislative session is the first step in a long road to collective liberation. But it is an important step, and one that we residents of Hawai'i, your constituents, are raising our combined voices to support.

Lawmakers, listen to your constituents. Please pass the Hawai'i Ceasefire Resolution out of your committee with full support. Let's show the world that—in Hawai'i—we believe in peace, justice and liberation for all people.

If we can keep in our minds the long-term vision of a world in which oppressive systems are universally dismantled—and recognize that we need to stay in it together for the long-haul to get there, one step at a time—we just might have a chance at making it. And we must, because truly none of us are free until all of us are free.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Free Palestine.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/5/2024 8:32:05 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Colleen Rost-Banik	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of SCR13. I am a resident of Waikiki and am extremely concerned with the U.S. - and Hawaii's - support of Israel's unprecedented killing of some 40,000 civilians since Oct 7, the majority of them women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza. It is time we take a collective stand as a State against such intentional violence and destruction.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

Mahalo for your time.
Colleen Rost-Banik

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/5/2024 8:43:25 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mae Ha	Individual	Support	In Person

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of [SCR13/SR6]. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

IOF attacks its own citizens in the process. Aid trucks and Palestinians are being shot at for wanting the food and supplies to live. This is a genocide. As a Vietnamese person, I urge for a ceasefire. America continues it's legacy of killing civilians of other countries to fund it's own agenda. Palestinians deserve to live in peace.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/5/2024 8:44:54 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Noel Shaw	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of SCR13. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence

continues.

Mahalo,

Noel Shaw

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/5/2024 9:04:59 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Christine A Villaflor	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please help stop the genocide. This resolution could make a difference. FREE PALESTINE ps !!

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/5/2024 9:07:34 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Christy MacPherson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in STRONG SUPPORT of SCR13 and I hope that our congressional leaders do what is right. I cannot stand to think of the loss of any more innocent lives, including women and children, because of our nation's choice to continue allowing this to happen.

Mahalo for your consideration.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/5/2024 9:36:07 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Koohan Paik-Mander	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of SCR13/SR6. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since October 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

At the same time, some 200 Israel hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

A vote in support of this resolution is a vote on the right side of history.

Koohan Paik-Mander

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/5/2024 9:46:23 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Korie Kiani Lee	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am testifying in strong support of SCR13. What is happening Gaza is inhumane and completely illegal. The Palestinian people are defenseless and starved. They just want to go back home, why is that so much to ask for? 40,000 have been murdered and slaughtered since October, with even more injured. It is ridiculous that I am being represented by a country that continues to not only defend these actions, but give billions of dollars to. I'm 18 years old now, and I do NOT want my taxes going to a place of genocide, when it could be helping the people of Hawai'i, or anyone else in need of aid in the United States. Ceasefire on Gaza.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/5/2024 9:46:25 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Darasay Raksinh	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Dear Hawaii Reps:

I am writing as a responsible citizen to voice my support for SCR13/SR6 legislation. We as minorities know too well the evils of settler colonialism. And we know for a fact that it is being perpetrated against Palestine IN 2024! Palestinians are being murdered, bombed, sniped, gassed, starved, terrorized, brutally assaulted, raped, imprisoned without due process for over 100 years, have been living through apartheid for over 20 years, and now being ethnically cleansed and genocide. How much more barbaric, inhumane, heinous, and despicable are we going to allow the US government to be? We have lost all morals and values and the world has lost all trust and respect for this country.

Just like Hawaiians, Palestinians have been living peacefully on their land until Israel and the US went in and terrorized them and ever since have destroyed their lands, their lives, their children, their culture, history, education, institutions, etc. This is absolutely unacceptable and needs to be stopped immediately. CEASEFIRE NOW! Do what's right. FREE FREE PALESTINE!!

Please, please I implore you to vote for and pass SCR13/SR6 legislation.

Thank you and respectfully,

Darasay Raksinh

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/5/2024 9:50:53 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sorcha McCarrey	Individual	Support	In Person

Comments:

Aloha, my name is Sorcha, testifying in strong support of measure SCR13. How can we continue to spend public funds extracted from citizens' tax dollars and use them to build bombs? How can we walk around each day as if we have lives worth living when we are systematically annihilating any chance of life for those bound in Gaza? We have no option but to push through this belated, beleaguered ceasefire. If we are to have any hope of one day aspiring to reclaiming our own humanity, we must do all in our power to end the violation of sacred Palestinian life. I say aspiring to reclaim because those of us chained to this ultraviolent war machine here in the so-called states have no authority to speak on what is human, what with the atrocities currently being carried out in the name of Zionism as the leaders at the highest level of our supposedly representative democracy bay for blood, as military servicemembers literally burn their bodies to ash rather than continue in complicity with genocide. We must prevent the genocide from mounting even further, it is as urgent as the breath of a newborn child. Thank you.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/5/2024 10:00:18 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Abby Simmons	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

As a member of the State Central Committee of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i, I support SCR13, as it is identical to the resolution the SCC unanimously adopted on December 2, 2023, calling for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza and negotiations toward a lasting peace.

Mahalo nui loa,

Abby Simmons

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/5/2024 10:02:32 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Shannon Clusel	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear members of the committee,

I am testifying in unwavering support of SCR13. The escalation of conflict in Gaza at the hands of the Israeli government has led to the murder of 40,000 civilians since October 7th, 2023. Another 70,000 have been wounded and many more are still missing, likely buried under the ruins of what were once happy homes. Not even the children are spared from the atrocities of this conflict.

How many more innocent lives must the IDF take before our government takes action? Israel's armed forces not only violate international law but go against all morals and against even the lowest form of human decency. If Netanyahu is not stoped, the massacre we are witnessing today will only end once every single Palestinian is dead, no matter if Hamas's Israeli hostages must die in the process.

The United States is in a unique position of power to end the bloodshed. Innaction is tantamount to murder. We already have blood on our hands, and time works against us. We cannot be spectators to such heinous violence any longer.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/5/2024 10:05:00 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Desiree Alesna	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of [SCR13/SR6]. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/5/2024 10:21:37 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Leah Y	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of [SCR13/SR6]. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

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A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/5/2024 10:47:23 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Rik Masterson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of [SCR13/SR6]. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

Mahalo,

Rik Masterson

Hilo

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/5/2024 10:55:16 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dylan Ramos	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

If I'm not mistaken, your support could help make Hawai'i the first to call for a ceasefire at the state level. Not only would that display a courage yet to be mustered by two-thirds of our congressional delegation -- in fact it urges them to find that courage -- but it would demonstrate what cities, towns, and millions of people across the nation have been trying to express to the world: the United States is not united behind what the Biden administration is enabling in Gaza.

This is not a conflict, this is not a war; this is an ethnic cleansing, potentially a genocide. So if you are worried about calling for a ceasefire, remember it's the least that can be called for in the "Occupied Territories." And even if you support Israel, understand that without a ceasefire, Israel continues to harm its own reputation and relationships.

I would like to suggest two amendments. In the second whereas clause, I hope an amendment can be made to update the numbers and also change one small but, given the context, I think important word: "...and wounded tens of thousands more, the vast majority of ~~which~~ whom are civilians;"

Thank you for taking up this measure and standing for humanity.

Mahalo,
Dylan Ramos
96816

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 12:19:10 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Reyna Johnson	Individual	Support	In Person

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of

[SCR13/SR6]. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented.

Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 12:45:26 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Daniel	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of

[SCR13/SR6]. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented.

Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately. Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 1:29:35 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Willow Takahashi	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of

[SCR13/SR6]. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented.

Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

Learning about Americas involvement in this crisis is deeply disturbing and not reflective of a large portion of its citizens interest. Taxpayer money is going towards funding a genocide. Money that should be going towards bettering our own communities and our quality of life is being used for the murder of innocent lives. Our government continues to support this genocide along with so many others, current and past. In order to secure a better future, we must make a

stand and show that the people of Hawaii call for not just a ceasefire, but for freedom and liberation for all.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 3:11:24 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Stephanie Spear	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Wakai, Vice-Chair Elefante, members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of SCR13. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

Israel’s tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel’s 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn’t stop immediately.

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel’s system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. Here in Hawai’i, with our own history (and ongoing reality) of dispossession and settler colonialism, it is especially important that we stand with Indigenous peoples all over the world in protecting their exercise self-determination. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

Please stand on right side of history and vote aye on this resolution.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 3:17:01 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ciera Cummings	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Ke aloha nui kākou, I am writing as a Native Hawaiian constituent from Kaua‘i and partner of an active-duty airman stationed near the affected area, to offer my strongest support of all efforts toward a permanent ceasefire. Mālama!

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 6:14:00 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Anique Singer	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hello,

I am testifying in deep support of SCR13/SR6. Israel is current committing a genocide against Palestinians, resulting in 40,000 dead, many of whom are children. Another 70,000 are wounded, and thousands more are missing under the rubble. People are currently starving due to Israel blocking the entry of goods. The Israeli hostages that Hamas has taken are no more safe while Israel is indiscriminately bombing Gaza, as made clear by the ways that hostages have died at the hands of the IDF. This all must stop immediately.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 6:33:14 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jocelyn Mamea	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I, Jocelyn Mamea am testifying in strong support of [SCR13/SR6]. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 7:20:43 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lexi Everton	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hawaii County must be a leader and call for an immediate ceasefire. We are witnessing an absolutely devastating genocide and cannot be silent.

Recently, Aaron Bushnell, a 25-year old Air forceman self-immolated in protest of the ongoing genocide. Some of his last words are as follows: "many of us like to ask ourselves, "what would i do if i was alive during slavery? Or the Jim Crow South? Or apartheid? What would I do if my country was committing genocide?" The answer is, you're doing it. Right now."

So, ask yourselves. What are you doing?

FREE PALESTINE. CEASEFIRE NOW.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 7:29:15 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Hannah Manshel	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of SCR13. As a Honolulu resident and an American Jew, I strongly support this resolution calling for a ceasefire in Gaza. Over 30,000 civilians have been killed, and tens of thousands more have been wounded. Those surviving are now starving due to a lack of access to food, and Israel and other nations' limits on food aid. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire is the bare minimum that is necessary to begin to dismantle Israel's apartheid system.

Please show your support for a ceasefire, for the lives of innocent Palestinians, and for a humane world, by voting yes on SCR 13.

Mahalo nui loa,

Hannah Manshel

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 7:44:34 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Meghan van Bergeijk	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of [SCR13/SR6]. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on

Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues. Please call for an immediate ceasefire, our collective humanity depends on it.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 8:14:14 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Breon Michel	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of [SCR13/SR6]. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

Thank you for reading this,

Breon Michel

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 8:14:42 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Gaye Chan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The intentional brutality occurring in Gaza must end.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 8:31:32 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lily Engle	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha to all members of this committee.

I strongly support SCR13 and all calls for a permanent ceasefire in Gaza. My faith and participation in Hawai'i 's electoral government rests on the decisions being made. Over the past few months, I have seen in our community rushes of support for non-militaristic and conciliatory solutions in Palestine. However, our state government has taken quite a bit of time to catch up to the will of the people, instead following the trends of the federal government in denying Palestinians their basic human rights and refusing to acknowledge their humanity as an occupied people. It is undeniable that the crimes and atrocities Israel has committed against Palestinians in the past 75 years, amplified and escalated in Gaza over the past 150+ days, are beyond the scope of what any institution that claims to care about human life can support. It is also true that Hamas' attacks on Israeli settlements on October 7 is a tragic reflection of the violence that has been enacted against Palestinians, and while the losses of October 7 have reverberated throughout the international community and been a primary factor in decision making over the past 150 days, there is no such compassion for the over 30,000 Palestinians who have been murdered in cold blood since October 7. Calling for a ceasefire IMMEDIATELY is our chance to stand on the right side of history and to amend the inaction that has cost many, including Israeli hostages still in Gaza, their lives and families. The irreparable trauma that the people of Gaza and throughout the wider region are experiencing now must end and be healed through processes which dismantle the violent systems that have led us to today. Hawai'i 's decision to pass a ceasefire resolution is part of what will determine whether I have any faith in our state government as a body that represents genuine concern for human beings and its constituents beliefs that no human life is worth less than anothers, and that militaristic war-mongering will only cause further harm in Palestine, the so-called Middle East, and at home in Hawai'i.

The ceasefire is the first step towards a future that we can now choose to be a part of building.

Mahalo nui loa,

Lily Engle

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 8:53:35 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Bianca Isaki	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support a ceasefire and add that the american government shouldn't be funding genocide.
Thank you.

Bianca

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 8:59:53 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kaua Kama	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the Committee,

I am testifying in strong support of SCR13. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups, have taken a devastating toll on innocent civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 Palestinian civilians have been killed since Oct. 7th, majority being children and women. Another 70,000 have been wounded and thousands more buried under the rubble in Gaza.

Israel's siege has kept aid such as medication, food, and water from reaching the people of Gaza resulting in deaths caused by starvation, injuries, and sickness. Two million people in Gaza are struggling to survive. This humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16 year long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 9:12:54 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Cristina Bacchilega	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha kākou committee members,

I am testifying in **strong** support of SCR13/SR6. You know how high the number of lost lives is, how devastating everyday life is in Gaza, how children are being robbed of their childhood and future, how hunger has spread. I am not going to repeat the numbers or refer to the awful and heart-wrenching images we see on the internet. My point is that you have the opportunity to support a cease fire in Gaza resolution. Please, please do so. This is not a radical request. It is a humanitarian one. The situation in Gaza continues to be catastrophic, and you have the opportunity to call for ending the violence and fighting at least for a while. I urge and trust you to do the right thing!

Cristina Bacchilega

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 9:07:34 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nate Hix	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Had 40,000 lives been lost in Hawai'i, we would spare no effort to prevent further loss. Following the wildfires that razed Lahaina, leaving 101 individuals dead, we placed recovery at the forefront, receiving support from around the globe. We must maintain our commitment to valuing human life, acting now to assist those in dire need by calling for an end to violence. They would unquestionably do the same for us.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 9:15:29 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Oumoussa	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, as a resident of Hawaii, we understand the impact of colonization and the importance of addressing historical injustices. Supporting a ceasefire in Gaza aligns with our values of justice, compassion, solidarity, and Aloha with those who seek a peaceful and stable existence. I kindly urge the Hawaii State Legislature to consider advocating for an immediate and unlimited ceasefire in Gaza through diplomatic channels. By taking a clear stance on this matter, we contribute to the collective efforts for a more just and peaceful world.

Mahalo,

Sofia Oumoussa

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 9:16:35 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ezgi Green	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of [SCR13/SR6]. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Palestine has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented.

Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food, and fuel, leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

Me ke aloha pumehana,

Waiialua/ Ezgi Green

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 9:30:33 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Daniela Escontrela	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

I am in **very strong support** of a ceasefire resolution. In just five months we have seen the mass murder of over THIRTY THOUSAND Palestinian people, with the real number more likely approachin 40,000 as thousands of people remain trapped under rubble. This is the highest civilian casualty rate of any war in modern times and over 13,000 children have been murdered. This is in addition to the 17,000 children and babies that are now orphaned, many of them with no remianing suviving family members, and the thousands of children who have had to have limb(s) amputated, many times without anesthesia. Besides the indiscrimate bombing campaign that has been carried out, the people of Palestine are now facing the risk of faminine. As of this writing at least 16 children have died of malnutrition or dehydration, and this number is expected to quickly escalate. I do not support this genocide or US involvement. I do not support my tax payer dollars being used to perpetuate what is amounting to be a Holocaust. Voters are sick of their voices not being heard, and I think I don't just speak for myself when I see I will not vote for anyone who continues to support and bankroll these crimes.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 9:31:39 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Arnold Kotler	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of [SCR13/SR6]. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 9:31:48 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Rachel Engel	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am a constituent living in Honolulu, HI and am testifying in strong support of SCR13. I am a Jewish woman and the granddaughter of two Nazi Holocaust survivors who survived Auschwitz, but whose family members did not. I have experienced firsthand the trauma and impact of a genocide.

Over 30,000 Palestinians in Gaza have been murdered at the hands of the Israeli state. Over 70,000 people have been wounded. Children less than a year old have had their limbs amputated without anesthetic. If not from gunfire or drone attack wounds, children are dying from malnutrition and starvation due to the Israeli government's blockade, disabling much-needed aid (medical supplies and food) to enter the Gaza strip. Right now, there is no safe place for any person in Gaza to be. Organizations such as Doctors Without Borders have desperately called for a ceasefire.

As someone with an intimate personal history with genocide, I cannot in good conscience watch this genocide continue. I certainly cannot let my tax dollars contribute to the ongoing genocide against Palestinian people not only in Gaza but in the West Bank and other occupied territories. I have been to Israel many times and have family from there, and due to my experiences I cannot support this genocidal, apartheid state.

Passing this ceasefire resolution would be a fantastic first step in the right direction.

Respectfully,

Rachel Engel

Laith Enani, MD
500 Lunalilo Home Road.
Honolulu, HI 96825

RE: Testimony to the Hawai'i State Legislature in Support of SCR13

Honorable Members of the Hawai'i State Legislature,

I am writing to urge your support for SCR13, which calls upon members of Hawai'i's congressional delegation to endorse the Ceasefire in Gaza Resolution introduced by United States Congresswoman Cori Bush. The situation in Gaza demands immediate attention and action due to the egregious violations of international law and humanitarian principles. Here are some key points highlighting the urgency of this matter:

1. Deliberate Targeting of Innocent Lives: Israel's targeting of civilian infrastructure and densely populated areas in Gaza constitutes a clear violation of international humanitarian law, particularly the Fourth Geneva Convention. Article 51(2) of Additional Protocol I to the Geneva Conventions explicitly prohibits attacks against civilians and civilian objects, which are not being used for military purposes. The loss of innocent lives in Gaza suggests a deliberate disregard for these legal obligations.

2. High Casualty Rate among Civilians: The disproportionate use of force by Israel has resulted in a high number of civilian casualties, including women and children. This violates the principles of distinction and proportionality enshrined in international humanitarian law. According to the Geneva Conventions, parties to a conflict must distinguish between civilians and combatants, and their attacks must not cause excessive harm to civilians compared to the anticipated military advantage gained.

3. Orphaned Children and Humanitarian Crisis: Israel's blockade of Gaza, which restricts access to essential supplies such as food, medications, and medical equipment, constitutes collective punishment and is prohibited under Article 33 of the Fourth Geneva Convention. The blockade exacerbates the humanitarian crisis in Gaza, leading to a severe shortage of basic necessities and leaving thousands of children orphaned and vulnerable to exploitation and abuse.

4. Obstruction of Humanitarian Aid: Israel's restrictions on the entry of humanitarian aid into Gaza violate Article 23 of the Fourth Geneva Convention, which obligates parties to a conflict to allow the free passage of humanitarian supplies. By obstructing the delivery of essential supplies, including food, medicine, and fuel, Israel is exacerbating the suffering of the civilian population and contributing to a man-made humanitarian disaster.

5. Systematic Targeting of Healthcare Facilities: The deliberate targeting of hospitals and healthcare facilities by Israel constitutes a violation of international humanitarian law and the Geneva Conventions. Article 18 of the Fourth Geneva Convention explicitly protects medical

personnel, hospitals, and other medical facilities from attack, and parties to a conflict must take all feasible precautions to avoid harming them. By targeting healthcare infrastructure, Israel is denying civilians access to life-saving medical treatment, in violation of their fundamental right to healthcare.

6. Moral Imperative for Action: As citizens of Hawai'i, we have a moral obligation to speak out against the violations of international law and humanitarian principles occurring in Gaza. Neutrality is not an option when innocent lives are at stake, and we must stand on the side of justice and humanity. By supporting SCR13, we can send a clear message to Hawai'i's congressional delegation that we demand an immediate ceasefire and an end to the humanitarian crisis in Gaza.

7. Historical Parallels: The situation in Gaza evokes memories of past atrocities, such as the Holocaust, where innocent civilians were targeted and deprived of their basic rights. Just as the world came together to condemn and address these injustices, we must act decisively to end the suffering in Gaza and hold those responsible for human rights violations accountable under international law.

In conclusion, I urge you to support SCR13 and demonstrate our commitment to upholding international law and humanitarian principles. Thank you for your attention to this critical issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Laith Enani', with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Laith Enani, MD

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 9:36:04 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kristiana Kahakauwila	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of SCR13/SR6. I testify to support an immediate ceasefire because I care about protecting human life. The toll on civilians has been devastating, and the level of casualties unprecedented. More than 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

Some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

At the same time, Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel, leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards. This is about protecting lives and valuing all human life.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 9:42:08 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Shree Deshpande	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of **SCR13**. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

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A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 9:44:38 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Donovan Sun	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Senators,

I am in support of SCR13. We need to stop sending our money to fund this and stop the killing.

Mahalo,

Donivan Sun

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 9:49:41 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jacquelyn Chappel	Individual	Support	In Person

Comments:

I support CSR13 and urgently call for a ceasefire in Gaza.

In 2018 I visited Israel.



The Palestinian did not exist beyond a check point in some far-away place. They were all around us, their voices calling out in the morning call to prayer at a nearby mosque my first morning in Nazareth (in the West Bank). At the time of my visit, Palestinians lived *next to* the City of David, an incredibly important site for the Jewish, which was just starting to be excavated while I was there. They lived in the [Mount of Olives](#) across the way from the Dome or the Rock. I thought Israel would be a *Jewish* country, and I was surprised and impressed at how diverse Israel really was.



This is a picture of “Palestinian” children who lived near the City of David just outside the Old City in the West Bank.

I had not realized how important Christ was to Palestinians, who consider him one of several important prophets. Palestinians too celebrate Christmas with Christmas-themed ads, [parades](#), and nativity scenes, only theirs played Mariah Carey’s “All I Want For Christmas is You” *on a loop*.



Bethlehem (West Bank), Dec. 25, 2018.

The [term Palestinian](#) has political, racial, and religious dimensions. In the news, it usually refers to a political group, the indigenous people who resided in the area prior to the [establishment of Israel](#) after WWII, when Western powers including the US supported the founding of a Jewish state in response to Nazi atrocities against them. But if everyone agrees that there is not much of an organized state to the state of Palestine, then what exactly are we talking about when we're talking about a Palestinian as political identity?

Because most Palestinians are Muslim, the term has religious overtones. And because the term Palestinian is often equated with "Arab," the term Palestinian also has racial overtones, referring to a people with a common ancestry that [scientists say are genetically closely related to Jewish people](#).

On Oct. 7, Hamas attacked Israel, in what has been described as one of the worst terrorist attacks in history. Israel estimated that [1,200 people were killed](#). Following the Oct. 7 attack, Israel launched a brutal current counter-offensive against Hamas in Gaza, in which [over 28,000 Palestinian are estimated to have been killed](#) — so far. The disproportionate response was predicted by Mid-East pundits. (["How many more sons of bitches do we need to kill so Ben Shapiro is happy?"](#) 2:43–3:33).



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 מותרת פריקה וטעינה ר
 לחומרי בניין בלבד
 לכלי רכב המוגדרים כריש
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 ביתר השעות החניה
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 תו חניה אזורי



WE WERE

ONCE REF

פליטים היינו

But the fighting did not begin on Oct. 7. The fighting began long before through Israel's [illegal occupied settlements of Palestinian territory](#). The fighting began in the [unlawful takeover of homes and lives](#), in overnight rulings finding legal loopholes that were used to [displace Palestinians from the homes they'd lived in for generations](#).



While in Israel, I *met* Americans *recruited* to live in Israel, part of [a wave of settlers immigrating from the US and Russia](#).

Why purposefully augment a population when land possession was already fraught and causing violence? Why fan the flames of a fragile peace? Through its [illegal occupations, which has ramped up in recent years under Netanyahu](#), Israel has willfully, purposefully and callously provoked violence.

This conflict did not begin on Oct. 7.

The problem is not the state of the Israel. A good part of the problem may be Netanyahu himself, who is [unpopular among many in Israel](#) and who, prior to the Oct. 7 attack, brazenly [attempted to reduce the power of Israel's courts](#). Israelis themselves have protested against Netanyahu and against the war in Gaza.

If Israel wants to attack Palestinians, for the love of God, Biden, Congress, do *not* spend *my* tax payer dollars on this genocide. Do not [increase aid several times over](#) just as Israel stands under increased scrutiny from the international watch groups for their disproportionate attacks. Don't impotently say, "Bad, Israel!" while *financing* the killing. Not funding human rights abuse is the absolute minimum we can ask of the US.

The question that is not asked enough in the US media: Why is the US financing Israel?

One response often given for this answer is: the US has always supported Israel. *But inertia is not a geopolitical strategy!*

Another possible reason often offered: there are a lot of powerful Jews in the US who represent an important constituency. But Jewish-Americans account for 2.5% of the US population and not all support Israeli violence in Gaza. Indeed, Israelis themselves do not support continued violence against Gaza.

Is the US interested in oil, the reason at the root of so many of our conflicts in the Mideast?

Or is it to maintain "stability" in the region? Because if that is goal, the US is most certainly *not* achieving it! The US has already [provoked violence](#) unnecessarily, entangling the US in yet another quagmire in a place few Americans — aside from the 2.5% of American Jews with ties there — understand or even care about. [Three Americans have already died in what appears to be a mix-up](#).

Whatever the reason for US interest in ancient Canaan, the US needs to be explicit about its goals. And if it has no clear and compelling interest in the area, for the love of God, get my tax dollars out of there.

Israel is a relatively rich country. And the case might be made that they can finance their own war.

Given Biden's repeated calls to reduce violence, given the international outpouring of sympathy for Gazans over Israel's aggression, given the US's own history of disproportionate responses after 9/11, which also pulled the US into a miscalculation in Iraq and quagmire in Afghanistan, given the wider regional conflict that has already begun, for the love of God, Biden, Congressional leaders:

Stop funding this genocide.

We know from history that when an atrocity occurs, it is the bystanders who allow it to occur. Every day that passes that I don't think about what's going on in Gaza and don't say something is another day when I am unwittingly okaying the US-backed killing of innocent Palestinians.

It is unlikely I will ever be able to visit Israel again. Travel to the country is heavily restricted, the backgrounds of visitors closely monitored. But if peace ever resumes in Israel, I encourage *you* to visit.

When I visited, there were mainly European tourists, a smattering of African tourists but very, very few American tourists— despite the overwhelming popularity of Christianity in the US.

If you are American, I encourage you to go to see this place to begin to understand the incredible complexity of the politics, and to understand that Palestinians are people who would like a place to live in peace just like the rest of us.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 9:55:33 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kelsey Amos	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The genocidal way the war in Gaza is being waged is heart-breaking to watch. I've written to my congressional delegates multiple times to express that the US should not spend our taxpayer dollars to support genocidal tactics and violence against children and civilians that brings no one--not Israelis or Palestinians--closer to safety and being able to live in peace and dignity.

I support this resolution and thank the introducer. Please pass SCR13 to put further pressure on Hawai'i's congressional delegates to support a ceasefire now.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 10:09:30 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Anneke Wirth-Yap	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of [SCR13/SR6]. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on

Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 10:18:10 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kelli Cadavona	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Since October, my heart has ached for the people in Gaza and the West Bank. As the conflict has grown into a genocide, it has been infuriating and disappointing to watch the Biden Administration continuously and unconditionally support the Israel occupation.

Billions of taxpayer dollars have been sent to kill civilians under the guise of unsuccessfully seeking justice against Hamas. In the least, it is fiscally irresponsible, and in its truest form it's funding a genocide. As the months have passed we have watched Israel bomb churches, hospitals, and places of refuge mercilessly. Over 30,000 civilians have been killed but that number is a conservative estimate as it doesn't even include those that couldn't be reached under the rumble. Our money, our country's alliance with Israel, our weapons and sending Israel aid to buy more weapons - this all makes America complicit in the devastation and injustice. America is an accomplice.

Surveys show that the majority of Americans want a ceasefire. Hawai'i wanted a ceasefire months ago, we need a ceasefire NOW. Hawai'i stands for peace. Hawai'i stands with the oppressed.

I whole heartedly support a ceasefire.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 10:33:53 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jordan Smith	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in **strong support** of SCR13. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

To witness these atrocities and do nothing is unfathomable.

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

Mahalo for your support of this resolution.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 10:34:40 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jane E Arnold	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support SCR13. Thank you.

Jane E Arnold

1763 Iwi Way, Apt D

Honolulu HI 96816

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 10:42:45 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Alia Jeraj	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha kākou,

I am writing in strong support of SCR13. Frankly, it is shameful that it's taken us 5 months of witnessing the current escalation of the genocide in Gaza to consider this measure. The very least we can do is call for a ceasefire, putting a stop to the violence.

Mahalo,

Alia Jeraj

March 6, 2024

Aloha Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Elefante, and the Committee on Public Safety and Intergovernmental and Military Affairs,

My name is Pastor Casandra Chee of Wahiawā United Church of Christ. I am in strong **support** of SCR 13 “URGING MEMBERS OF HAWAII'S CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO SUPPORT THE CEASEFIRE IN GAZA RESOLUTION INTRODUCED BY UNITED STATES CONGRESSWOMAN CORI BUSH.”

I am submitting the below statement on behalf of the **forty seven faith leaders** from across Hawai'i who are calling for an immediate and permanent ceasefire in Gaza. We urge you to pass SCR13 and take all actions to bring about a ceasefire as soon as possible.

Mahalo nui,

Rev. Cassandra Chee
Wahiawā, O'ahu

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 19, 2024

(Signatures updated 3/7/2024)

Contact: Cassandra Chee, cassandralchee@gmail.com

Hawai'i Interfaith Call for a Permanent Ceasefire in Gaza

We, faith leaders of Hawai'i, undersigned, are calling for an immediate and permanent ceasefire in Gaza. We live in the Hawaiian Kingdom which has been illegally occupied by the United States since January 17th, 1893. Now over a hundred years later we join the many who call for the de-occupation of Hawai'i, Palestine, and all occupied nations across the world.

We are calling upon Representative Jill Tokuda and Representative Ed Case to support [House Resolution 786](#) “Calling for an immediate de-escalation and cease-fire in Israel and occupied Palestine”; and we are additionally calling upon Senator Brian Schatz and Senator Mazie Hirono to support a Senate counterpart when and if it surfaces. We thank Senator Hirono for being the first congressperson from Hawai'i to publicly call for a ceasefire.

We are calling upon Governor Josh Green and all members of the Hawai'i State House of Representatives and members of the Hawai'i State Senate to support measures which call for an immediate ceasefire including [Senate Resolution 6](#) and [Senate Concurrent Resolution 13](#) "URGING MEMBERS OF HAWAII'S CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO SUPPORT THE CEASEFIRE IN GAZA RESOLUTION INTRODUCED BY UNITED STATES CONGRESSWOMAN CORI BUSH." We thank Senator Maile Shimabukuro and Senator Mike Gabbard for introducing these resolutions.

The conflict between Israel, Hamas, and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Nearly 30,000 civilians have been killed since October 7th and the majority of them are women and children. (An additional credible-but-as-yet-unverified 7,000 civilians are "under the rubble" of the northern area of the Gaza Strip and presumed dead. Also, some 68,000 Gazan civilians are in a "wounded" category.) A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the ever-surging death-and-wounded toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and a repair to damaged wards. Importantly, a ceasefire would lead imminently to a resolution of the hostage crisis (Israelis taken into Gaza on October 7th; thousands of Palestinian prisoners languishing without legal recourse in Israeli prisons) on both sides.

We reject Settler-Colonial Zionism, the extremist ideology which displaced some 750,000 Palestinians from their homes, towns, and land in 1948-9 plus many thousands more in the intervening 75 years (many of them, effectively imprisoned via siege/blockade in the Gaza Strip). We condemn all forms of religious violence and intolerance including Islamophobia, anti-semitism, and Christian supremacy.

"Why is it totally acceptable and commendable to resist oppression in other contexts, yet there is a double standard when it comes to Palestinians? Why is every Israeli violence "self defense" while every Palestinian violence "terrorism"? . . . Repeatedly throughout the years, the Palestinian Christian community and the great majority of Muslims have been committed to non-violence and to dialogue. Even in the midst of violence and oppression that we face daily in every aspect in our life." (Rev. Dr. Munther Issac of Christmas Evangelical Lutheran Church in Bethlehem) We support nonviolence as the de-escalation of violence and we support Palestinians in their rights to defend their land, families, and selves.

As South African Anglican Bishop Desmond Tutu said, "If you are neutral in situations of injustice, you have chosen the side of the oppressor." While we are people of many faiths and cultures, we are united in demanding an immediate and permanent ceasefire for true peace and an end to violence.

Rev. Alan Mark

Retired United Methodist Pastor
Honolulu, Hawaii

Rev. Amy Chieko Wake
Trinity United Methodist Church
Pearl City, Oahu

Rev. Bob Miyake-Stoner
United Methodist
Aiea, Oahu

Kahu Brianna Lloyd
Ka Hana O Ke Akua
Wai'anae, O'ahu

Pastor Brenda Wong
Waimānalo, O'ahu

Rev. Brittani Alexander
Honolulu, Oahu

Pastor Cassandra Chee
Wahiawā United Church of Christ
Wahiawā, O'ahu

The Rev. Christopher PJ Golding, SCP
Episcopal Diocese of Hawai'i
Makawao, Maui

Senior Pastor Rev. Darren Galindo
United Church of Christ
Honolulu, Oahu

Rev. David Yoshida
The Giving Circle Church, UCC
Honolulu, O'ahu

Fr. David Gierlach, SCP
Episcopal Diocese of Hawaii
Honolulu, Oahu

Eric Paul
Church of the Nazarene
Kailua Kona, Hawai'i

George M Hudes
Jewish Voice for Peace Hawaii
Honolulu, Oahu

The Rev. Prof. Gregory Johnson
St. Elizabeth of Kapalama
Honolulu, Oahu

Dr. Kahu Haaheo Guanson
Pacific Justice & Reconciliation Center
Honolulu, Oahu

Kahu Mua Heather Barfield
Kaunakapili Church
Honolulu, Oahu

Imam Dr. Ismail Elshikh
Muslim Association of Hawaii
Honolulu, Oahu

Rev. Dr. Jack E. Belsom
United Church of Christ
Wailuku, Maui

Rev. Jessica Kawamura
Aiea, Oahu

Jim Albertini
Malu 'Aina
Ola'a (Kurtistown), Hawaii Island

John Witeck
Hawaii Workers Center
Honolulu, Oahu

Rev. JP Sabbithi
Joy of Christ
Honolulu, Oahu

Dr. Kahu Kaleo Patterson
Pacific Justice and Reconciliation Center
Honolulu, Oahu

Dr. Ketty Mobed
Humanists of Hawaii
Kaunakakai, Molokai

Kristen Young
Faith Action Hawai'i
Honolulu, O'ahu

Rev. Mary K. Herbig
United Church of Christ
Kailua, O'ahu

Kahu Moanike'ala Nanod-Sitch
Ka 'Ohana o ke Aloha
Kailua, O'ahu

The Rev. Dr. Moses D. Barrios
Faith Action Hawai'i President
Honolulu, O'ahu

Makaiwa Kanui
Hilo, Hawai'i

Rev. Malia Galindo
Church of the Crossroads
Honolulu, Oahu

Malie Sellers
Keaau Friends Worship Group
Keaau Hawai'i

Rev. Mary Paik
Kailua, Oahu

Rev. Dr. Michele Shields
United Methodist Church
Kaneohe, Oahu

Kahu Napua McShane Burke
Hawaii Conference United Church of Christ
Waiakea Uka, Hawai'i

Rev. Neal MacPherson
United Church of Christ
Honolulu, O'ahu

Noel J. Kent
UH Manoa
Honolulu, Oahu

Rev. Piula Alailima
Wesley United Methodist Church, Kahala
Honolulu, Oahu

Rev. Pua Kekaula Kāneali'i
Church of the Nazarene
Kalama'ula, Molokai

Rebecca Woodland
Central Union Church
Honolulu, Oahu

Kahu Rennie Mau
Hawaii PAAM
Honolulu, Oahu

Rona Mangayayam
Honolulu, Oahu

Ronald Fujiyoshi
Retired missionary, United Church of Christ
Hilo, Hawai'i

Rev. Dr. M. Scott Landis
Ordained Minister - United Church of Christ
Kihei, Maui

Venerable Rev. Steven Costa
Episcopal Church
Honolulu, O'ahu

Wally Inglis
Catholic Worker House
Honolulu, O'ahu

Pastor Wayne Ibara
Makiki Christian Church
Honolulu, Oahu

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 10:47:59 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dawn Morais Webster Ph.D.	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Daily, the genocide in Gaza is being televised. Yet the world watches and waits. I did not think that at this stage in my life I would be witnessing the active involvement of the US government in the genocide of Palestinians in Gaza. Civilians are being subjected to a horrific campaign of revenge bombing and displacement that has taken over 30,000 lives and maimed or killed thousands of innocent children. There is NO ALOHA in bombing and starving innocent civilians. As taxpayers we are complicit in that our tax dollars are helping to pay for the genocide. The least we can do is say NOT IN OUR NAME! CEASEFIRE NOW. As a mother and grandmother, my heart breaks for the children. They could be OUR children. As the poet Adrienne Rich has said, "so much has been destroyed." But we can "cast our lot with those who age after age, perversely / with no extraordinary power reconstitute the world." You have the power to pass this resolution. I implore you to do so. Mahalo nui.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 10:48:51 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kyle K Kajihiro	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hawai'i must speak out against genocide. I urge you to support this resolution. Mahalo.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 10:51:39 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Chase Livingston	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the Senate Committee on Public Safety and Intergovernmental and Military Affairs,

My name is Chase Livingston and I am writing in strong support of SCR 13, calling for a Ceasefire in Gaza. It is our responsibility to do everything in our power to protect innocent life and stop the massacre of civilians. We must come together to support a ceasefire in Gaza and work towards a peaceful and just resolution to the ongoing conflict.

Mahalo,

Chase

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 11:00:09 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jessica dos Santos	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To the Honorable Members of the Senate:

As an informed and caring citizen, mother, and advocate for human rights, I am writing to express my strong support for S.C.R. No. 13 urging members of Hawaii's congressional delegation to support the Ceasefire in Gaza Resolution introduced by United States Congresswoman Cori Bush.

Human life is invaluable, and the targeting of non-combatants in any conflict zone is a flagrant violation of international humanitarian law. The recent armed violence in Gaza has resulted in a staggering loss of life, with over thirty thousand Palestinians and one thousand two hundred Israelis losing their lives, and tens of thousands more wounded. These casualties, predominantly civilians, underscore the urgent need for a permanent ceasefire and the immediate delivery of humanitarian aid.

Of particular concern is the impact of this violence on children, who make up approximately half of the Palestinian casualties. International humanitarian law mandates the protection of children during armed conflicts, yet innocent lives continue to be lost due to attacks on schools and hospitals, denial of humanitarian access, and other grave violations.

It is imperative that the United States, with its significant diplomatic influence, takes proactive measures to end the violence and alleviate the suffering and human rights violations. Supporting Congresswoman Cori Bush's Ceasefire Now Resolution is a crucial step towards this goal. By calling for an immediate ceasefire, facilitating humanitarian assistance, and initiating negotiations for lasting peace, we can help prevent further loss of life and create a pathway towards a more secure and stable future for all.

As a mother, I cannot bear the thought of innocent children being caught in the crossfire of conflict. As a citizen, I believe it is our moral obligation to speak out against injustice and advocate for peace. I urge members of Hawaii's congressional delegation to stand on the right side of history by supporting this resolution and working towards a just and lasting resolution to the crisis in Gaza.

Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter.

Sincerely,

Jessica dos Santos

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 11:08:06 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Thomas Kevin Kekoa Dolan-Ma	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of [SCR13/SR6]. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on

Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 11:08:39 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
George Hudes	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is George Hudes. I'm the 80 year old son of holocaust survivors and I've lived in Hawaii for 55 years. I received a very religious Jewish education and have visited Israel and the Palestinian Territories several times starting in 1959. I have studied the context of the issue before you for literally my entire life.

I urge you to vote in the affirmative in support of SCR13 which supports the resolution introduced by Congressman Cori Bush urging the Biden Administration to immediately call for a ceasefire in Gaza. No conditions are attached to this call in Congressman Bush's resolution and this is as it should be if stopping the outrageous numbers of deaths and injuries to innocents is our most immediate concern. The current catastrophic carnage (the roots of which long predate the mayhem of Oct, 7, 2023) has gone on far too long with the United States having acted as a lone non-supporter and major impediment of such a ceasefire call which has otherwise received truly worldwide support.

Talking, negotiating, and working out details for both near term and lasting peace - with the aim of bringing dignity and equality to both Palestinians and Israelis - is much more likely when wholesale destruction of the lives of innocents ceases. Please allow and enable a bit of sanity to come to the forefront of this issue. Vote your approval of SCR13/SR6.

Mahalo - George Hudes

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 11:10:37 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Olivia Meyer	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am an Oahu resident testifying in **strong support** of SCR13. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza. At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Beyond the numbers, my friends and community members have spent months watching video after video of individuals mourning the loss of their children, parents, spouses, friends, and loved ones. **Each number is attached to a story of unnecessary and painful loss.** We feel responsible knowing that our tax dollars contribute to these deaths. Additionally, donations are insufficient. Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

While many of us have taken individual actions to try to call for a ceasefire, **it is clear that we need the support of our representatives to make this happen.** A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards. A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities. I am proud and grateful to be part of a community standing up for a ceasefire, and I hope that this resolution will encourage others to do the same.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence

continues. A ceasefire would be the first step toward preventing the violence from continuing. Thank you very much for your time and consideration.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 11:14:44 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Isis Usborne	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Elefante, and esteemed members of this Committee,

Mahalo for hearing this important measure. I am in strong support of this resolution, which could make us one of the first states under the jurisdiction of the US government to express a position against the ongoing genocide in Gaza. I am personally appalled and disgusting that my hard earned tax dollars are supporting missiles against innocent people instead of material needs of myself and my fellow citizens, such as healthcare of student loan forgiveness. We must demand: End the genocide in Gaza. Free Palestine. No liberation without collective liberation.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify,

- Isis Usborne, 96815

Law Student at the William S. Richardson School of Law

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 11:17:39 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Rev. Malia Galindo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of [SCR13/SR6]. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 11:25:46 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jennifer Hee	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Elefante, and Members of the Committee on Public Safety and Intergovernmental and Military Affairs,

I am a legislative attorney for the House Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs testifying as an individual in strong support of SCR13.

It is appalling that the United States continues to be complicit in the deaths of tens of thousands of innocent Palestinian civilians in Gaza. Of course I want to wrap myself in the complacency that privilege allows. Of course I want to scroll past the images of war that will haunt me the rest of my life. Human flesh and organs smashed by IDF tanks; surgeons amputating children's limbs without anesthetic; children shaking and silent besides the corpses of their dead siblings; starving and sick humans and animals. What can I do besides use my voice to plead that our lawmakers support immediate ceasefire? Plead that the nation provide aid to Gaza instead of weapons to Israel. Plead for the humane treatment and assistance to citizens who had nothing to do with the heinous attack by Hamas on October 7th.

It is surreal in the most dystopian sense that our legislature must consider a resolution that urges Hawai'i's delegates to support a ceasefire resolution in Congress. Every day we spend in contemplation is another day we deprive humans in Palestine of the most basic elements of life. We must do everything we can to alleviate their suffering with utmost urgency.

Thank you,

Jennifer Meleana Hee

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 11:20:21 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Valerie Weiss	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha.

I firmly support our Hawaii Congressional delegation joining in requesting a full ceasefire in Palestine.

We must do everything possible to stop the mounting deaths and stop the destruction of what infrastructure is still left. I am horrified that the US is complicit in this and has long contributed weapons to Israel that are being used in these war crimes and atrocities.

Civilians are in desperate need of food, water and shelter. Hospitals are out of everything and have to perform surgeries and amputations without anesthetic. This must not continue with our support.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 11:28:21 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ethan Chang	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of SCR13. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on

Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

Mahalo for fielding this testimony.

Aloha,

Ethan

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 11:28:36 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Napua Canales	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of SCR13. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 citizens have been killed since Oct. 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is not more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as violence continues.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 11:28:57 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Cynthia Franklin	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

I write to give my strongest support for SCR13, and with indescribable sadness that, 152 days into Israel's genocidal campaign against besieged Gaza, and 17 years into its total blockade on what is the world's largest open air prison, and 75 years into Israel's settler colonial project of ethnic cleansing, dispossession, and apartheid, it is necessary to do so.

I also write as someone who has written about, studied, and spent time in Palestine for the past 10+ years. From this study and from my experiences I know all too well that the events happening right now in Gaza, and the violence Israelis are enacting on Palestinians throughout historic Palestine, did not begin in response to Hamas's Oct. 7 attack. Israel's settler violence, funded and otherwise sponsored by the US, has been ongoing since and in the decades leading up to the establishment of the state of Israel in 1948. What is happening now is an intensification of that colonial violence that Palestinians have been struggling against in their efforts to live with peace, in freedom, and with dignity.

For the past 152 days, each morning, I reach for my phone and scroll through images of unspeakable violence (Israel's bombings, shootings and torture of Palestinians) and images of over a million people living in tents, of starving babies, of children crying for their dead parents, of parents crying over the shrouded bodies of their babies. There is nothing complicated about deciding to STOP this. The solution is not--as the US is currently doing--to pay for Israel's bombs while air dropping food to the starving people of Gaza. This is not a war on Hamas. This is a war on the Palestinian people, and on all that lives and breathes on this occupied land. It is past time for a permanent ceasefire and an end to the modern world's longest military occupation. It is time for a free Palestine.

How can anyone with a shred of decency, with any moral compass, do anything other than call for a permanent and lasting ceasefire, as a first and belated step towards peace and justice? The US has made this genocide possible and now must stop participating in it. I

It is the duty of Hawai'i's elected officials to heed the voices of their constituents who are rising up in our thousands to call for a permanent ceasefire now.

Thank you, and I hope you will do what is morally correct, and also your responsibility as elected representatives. Vote yes on the ceasefire resolution.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 11:35:58 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Rachel Saul	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of [SCR13/SR6]. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow whatever hospitals are left that have not been destroyed by Israel, to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities. This war has made the world more dangerous and more violent, for all of its global citizens.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

Thank you for your time and careful consideration.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 11:38:03 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Cedar Wilson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

A ceasefire is the least we can do. I'm not gonna sit here and pretend like the fake state has Hawai'i's best interests at heart, much less Palestine's. But I am writing today to make it known that I support the people's efforts toward a ceasefire, like SCR13 as long as it is followed with Land Back. Palestine should always be for Palestinians as Hawai'i should always be for Hawaiians. They should be allowed aid and have the right to return, their homes rebuilt, the right to self govern, etc. It's hard for any of this to happen when hundreds of Palestinians are being massacred, violated, starved, and humiliated by the U.S. backed "Israeli" Offensive Forces (IOF). So like I said before, a ceasefire is the absolute least we can do as "citizens" of the fake state and can only be the start to Palestinian liberation if followed by the right action.

From one illegally occupied land/people to another- may we all organize and resist against occupying forces and be free from capitalism, namely U.S. imperialism.

So yeah, I support SCR13 under these conditions above. Long live the intifada & Free Palestine!

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 11:50:56 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mary Rose Go	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am friends with Palestinians and Israelis who are scared for the lives of their loved ones. A ceasefire allows negotiations for the release of hostages in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into war crimes committed by all parties.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 11:53:02 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Meagan Harden	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support calls for an immediate and unconditional ceasefire.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 11:58:51 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nawahine Kahoopii	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is Nawahine Kahoopii. I support SCR13. I am speaking today representing the Nawahine Kahoopii ohana; WE ARE WATCHING THIS BRUTAL GENOCIDAL MASSACRE LIVE-STREAMED 24/7

The genocide in Palestine is a colossal man-made catastrophe of our time. An immediate and permanent ceasefire, the reinstatement of UNWRA, massive humanitarian aid, and deoccupation are all essential first steps. Our community must stand on the right side of history at this critical time.

The reality on the ground in Palestine, according to the UN:

- **3 UN calls for a ceasefire, the US being the only veto**
 - **40,000 slaughtered**
 - **10,000 under the rubble, buried alive, left to die**
 - **13,500 children murdered a child is murdered every 15 minutes**
 - **340 medical staff members were targeted and murdered**
 - **A breaking number of 130 journalists targeted and murdered**
 - **136 UN staff members were murdered, hundreds detained and tortured**
 - **Record-setting- 1-6 children starving, fastest decline of nutritional status the world has ever seen**
 - **90% of kids under 5 battling multiple infections due to sanitation conditions, starvation, no clean water**
 - **Record-setting 69,000 tons of explosives have been dropped on communities, hospitals, schools, and UN safe shelters.**
-
- **C-sections and amputations are conducted with no anesthesia or pain medication**
 - **83% of water sources were destroyed**
 - **350,000 illnesses untreated**

- **Desecration of burials**
 - **Bulldozing alive the injured camped outside hospitals**
 - **Israel has been condemned in 45 UN resolutions by UNHRC**
 - **28 condemnations in the UN Security Council**
-
- **ICJ- a pillar of the UN structure: “Not only has Israel created one of the worst humanitarian crises in the world, but it is also displaying a callous indifference to the fate of Gaza’s population by creating conditions that the ICJ has said places them at imminent risk of genocide.”**
 - **Eighty-eight countries formally joined the charges of genocide, with many more countries signing on or filing separate complaints.**
-
- **Human Rights Watch verified Israel’s use of white phosphorus munitions through interviews and videos. The use of white phosphorus is a war crime.**

I leave you with this profound and relevant statement by Aunty Pillahi: “It is a wise person who rights a wrong but a fool who wrongs a right.”

Pass this legislation today.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 12:02:43 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Melia Kim	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members,

I am writing in support of SCR13. The death toll in Gaza keeps increasing, with more and more innocent Palestinian men, women, and children being killed by the Israeli military. We need an immediate, permanent ceasefire to stop the bloodshed, release the remaining hostages, and provide aid to the Palestinians. The only path to peace is a ceasefire.

Mahalo.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 12:03:10 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
THERESE KLATY	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Since 1948, native Palestinians have been displaced and ethnically cleansed from their homeland. Since 1967, the State of Israel has had varying levels of control and occupation of Palestinian lands outside the border of the State of Israel. For the past 17 years, the State of Israel has enforced a blockade and control over all persons, goods, water, food, fuel and electricity going in and out of Gaza. Numerous international humanitarian organizations have determined that Israel is imposing an apartheid state on Palestinians in the occupied West Bank. 17 years ago, Hamas took control of Gaza via an election that was, of course, not unanimous. Note that a large majority of the current population of Gaza was not old enough to vote or was not yet born 17 years ago. On October 7th, Hamas executed an attack on Israel that resulted in the loss of hundreds of civilian, military and police lives, which has rightly been condemned. The State of Israel has used the October 7th attack as a pretext to kill over 30,000 Palestinians in Gaza including at least 13,000 children. Many more children have been maimed, orphaned and are now facing famine especially in the north of Gaza. With the full support of the Biden Administration and US tax dollars, Israel has wiped out huge amounts of civilian housing, critical infrastructure necessary to sustain life, and most of the health care system. Israel continues to block food, water and medical aid. Enough is enough. An immediate, permanent ceasefire is necessary to save hundreds of thousands of innocent civilian lives. The State of Israel's actions are not consistent with the values of the citizens of the State of Hawaii. I support this resolution

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 12:02:55 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sarina Dayal	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is Sarina, and my Jewish partner was born and raised in Honolulu and we spend significant time in Hawaii with their family. I can't put to words the devastation and grief I have felt as we have collectively watched the killing of more than 30,000 innocent people. The U.S. is active in this violence and the starvation of thousands more through our funding of the genocide and we need to stop sanctioning this violence. Hawaiians have also felt the violence of this kind of imperialism and it is imperative we put it to an end. I'm calling on the representatives here to call for an immediate and permanent ceasefire, to end the senseless killing, and to do what is right, stand for what is right, and stand for humanity.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 12:06:50 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
CJ Kee	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support SCR13! Calling for a ceasefire is the bare minimum.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 12:14:53 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kathleen Sands	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Senators Hirono and Schatz -

Please support this resolution. The destruction of Gaza is a moral catastrophe that must be resisted with all our might. No national defense interests could possibly justify what is happening.

Sincerely

Kathleen Sands

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 12:18:34 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jessica Kawamura	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Committee Members,

I am writing in strong support of SCR13. As a faith leader, citizen, and voter, I am horrified that our country continues to support the ongoing genocide of the Palestinian people.

I call all of our elected officials to take a stand to end the rampant bloodshed and starvation of innocent people. As an American of Japanese descent, whose family members were wrongfully incarcerated by our own government during WWII, I am particularly sensitive to the suffering of civilians and children in the name of national security.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Rev. Jessica Kawamura

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 12:24:36 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Emily Sarasa	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in **strong support** of SCR13. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues. Please **support** this measure.

Mahalo,

Emily Sarasa

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 12:51:38 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nancy Dela Cruz	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear members,

I am in support of SCR13. I believe we need an immediate ceasefire in Gaza to ensure the safety and well-being of both the Palestinians and Israeli hostages. A ceasefire is needed to get the hostages out, and aid into Gaza. There have been too many deaths of innocent civilians, especially children.

Thank you for listening.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 12:55:26 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Rachel Tjoeng	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Honorable Senator Wakai and honorable members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of SCR13. Approximately 40,000 civilians have been killed and another 70,000 have been wounded since October 7th, 2023– many of them women and children. Thousands of people are missing, and there are still hostages in danger. A ceasefire would put an end to the attacks by all parties and enable aid agencies to get food, water, and medical supplies into Gaza. It would also allow international investigations into war crimes. Please take a strong stand against this violence by supporting the ceasefire. Please support SCR13.

Mahalo,

Rachel Tjoeng

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 1:02:02 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Hueina Hemaloto	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Elephante, and the members of the committee, and thank you for meeting on this crucial matter in regards to the ongoing genocide in Palestine.

I am in **strong support** of SCR 13.

As the genocide in Gaza continues, supported by U.S. tax dollars, military force, and government influence, we must do all that is possible to pressure this country into pushing for an immediate and permanent ceasefire, demanding for a safe passage of humanitarian aid into Gaza Strip.

Everyday, Israel kills around 100 people, innocent civilians, in Palestine. That has lead us to over **30,000 deaths since early October**. Israel has also taken thousands of Palestinians hostage within this time frame and is weaponizing starvation by blocking humanitarian aid from entering Gaza, and mass killing those who do try to receive aid that is delivered in Gaza. This madness needs to end **IMMEDIATELY**.

United States tax dollars are fueling the genocide in Gaza, and it needs to end now. I will not allow for my tax dollars to be used to starve, injure, mutilate, murder, ethnically cleanse, and forcibly displace Palestinians!

Support this measure for an immediate permanent ceasefire in Gaza, facilitate deescalation of atrocities and genocidal acts committed by the Israeli Occupation Forces, and promptly send aid including food, water, fuel, and medical supplies into Gaza.

Also be aware that lasting peace begins with the dismantling of Israel, a genocidal state, and reinstating sovereignty of Palestine.

Free Palestine,

From the River to the Sea,

Hueina Hemaloto

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 1:18:56 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Cheyenne kalama	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of

[SCR13/SR6]. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza. we need action now.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 1:41:26 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
S. Shankar	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of [SCR13/SR6]. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on

Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 1:49:15 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Arielle Kula	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee my name is Arielle and I am a jewish woman writing to you in strong support of SCR13 and urging you to push for a ceasefire and an end to Israel's indiscriminate bombing of Palestinians. Since October 7 Israel has murdered 40 000 innocent civilians and injured 70 000, this brutal carnage must end. The humanitarian crisis in Gaza is horrific and unspeakable, men, women, and children continue to suffer and die under Israel's brutal bombing campaign of innocent Palestinians. The people of Gaza have suffered under Israel's illegal blockade of Gaza for the past 16 years, and Palestinians in general have suffered for the past 70+ years under Israel's brutal occupation of Palestine. Israel has tightened the siege on Gaza since October 7 leading to a humanitarian catastrophe and unprecedented starvation, Gazans are struggling to get food water and fuel, basic necessities needed to survive. At the same time the ongoing violence puts Israelis in danger of rocket fire and prevents the return of the hostages who are also at risk of being bombed by Israel. A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long standing impunity, as this impunity will continue to breed further atrocities. Tackling the root cause of this conflict by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid against Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 1:51:51 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kathryn L Bradford	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As a constiuent of Hawai'i and a witness to the 151 days of genocide in Gaza I support this resolution with all my heart. Let us be on the right side of history and call for an immediate, permanent ceasefire in Palestine (Gaza and the West Bank).

I appreciate your time and consideration on this matter. Please note, that going forward, I will not support canidates that vote against this resolution.

With gratitude,

Kathryn L Bradford

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 1:56:25 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I urge you to support the ceasefire proposal.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 1:56:55 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kaiqing Su	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am a Ph.D. student in the Political Science Department at UH Mānoa. I strongly support SCR13's demand for an immediate, permanent ceasefire in Gaza. It's already too late; please stop the killing of more innocent people.

Sincerely,

Kaiqing

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 2:11:15 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Molly J Cunningham	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am testifying in support of SCR13. Israel is committing human rights abuses against Palestinians in Gaza including rape, torture, and forced migration. A ceasefire is imperative to 1) stop ongoing violence, 2) allow for the opportunity for both parties to discuss the release of hostages and the political future of this region, 3) allow aid to enter Gaza where civilians may safely access it. The only hope for peace is a ceasefire.

The United States' support of its ally, Israel, makes us complicit in these human rights abuses. By demanding a ceasefire, we influence our ally towards peace and take the stance that we will no longer tolerate genocide. We must strongly support and enforce a ceasefire.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 2:23:04 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Justine Espiritu	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing to support SCR13 which calls for a ceasefire in Gaza.

It is devastating to know US taxes are funding the violence and destruction of people and places in Gaza. An entire population of innocent people should not suffer the consequences of actions they had no part of. So many people have left their homes as demanded to try to find safety elsewhere in their country and they are still being targeted and killed.

Anyone that claims to care for human rights, and the health and safety of children should be calling for a ceasefire. Please be on the right side of history and vote in support of SCR13 which calls for a ceasefire.

Justine Espiritu

3410 Leahi Ave

honolulu HI

96815

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 2:26:45 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Alan R. Spector	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing in opposition to SCR13. While we all would like to see the Israel-Hamas conflict come to an end, US Rep. Cori Bush's proposal is not the proper vehicle to do so and it has minimal support in the US House of Representatives. Her resolution calls for a permanent ceasefire, leaves Hamas in power, and does not require the release of Israeli hostages. There was a permanent ceasefire in place between Hamas and Israel on Oct 6 which was broken by Hamas on Oct 7 when it attacked Israel, murdered 1200 people, and took another 240+ back to Gaza as hostages. This was the worst attack on Jews since the Holocaust.

Hamas is classified by the USA as a terrorist organization. The only way to bring peace is for Hamas to be disbanded and disarmed. Leaving Hamas in power will only lead to the next war as it is the aim of Hamas to destroy Israel, replace it with an Islamic Caliphate, and murder Jews worldwide. It says so right in the Hamas Covenant and Oct 7 proved how serious Hamas is in its goals.

By supporting this resolution, you are supporting the continued existence of Hamas. The only way for peace to come is for the release of hostages, immediate humanitarian aid, and the installation of a new government in Gaza.

SCR13 is beyond the purview of the Hawaii State Senate and I urge you to vote no on this resolution.

Mahalo

Alan R. Spector, Kaneohe

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 2:29:44 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
David ashe	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, My name is David Ashe. I am in support of SCR13. Over 30,000 people have been killed and millions have been displaced. Hawai'i has a responsibility to stand up for those that cannot stand up for themselves or have been denied their basic human rights. As a U.S. veteran I hope you all can make the right decision and move forward with SCR13. Mahalo

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 2:31:33 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Shay Chan Hodges	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of [SCR13/SR6]. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

--Shay Chan Hodges

Haiku, Maui

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 2:33:41 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Bonniebrooke Bullock	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Committee Members,

I am writing this testimony in strong support of SCR13. For the past 150+ days now the world has been witness to the live streaming of genocide of the Palestinian people living in the Gaza Strip. The incident of aggression committed by Hamas on October 7th was framed by Israel as a terrorist attack. I would like the committee to take a pause here and ask the important question of "why?". Why would Hamas do this? First off, it is never ok for innocent civilians to lose their lives and my condolences go to the Israelis that lost family and friends that day. I also would like to strongly state that we must also care about Palestinian lives equally! The narrative of Hamas as the worst terrorist organisation in existence that needs to be completely destroyed has been used as the justification to commit this genocide. This narrative has also been wielded by our president and western governments across the globe, as well as western media. We now know that their never was any beheaded babies and no rape victims have come forward or been verified. I would like the committee to take a pause again and to ask yourselves the important question of "why would Hamas attack Israel in the first place?" Critical thinking is important to this discussion. It is also important to understand that a people that are occupied in their own land have every right to resist their occupation, even through armed conflict. This right is protected under international law. If we now understand this situation as a people who have been brutally occupied for over 75 years and have been living under an apartheid state, the story looks very different. It has become very clear that Israel is currently committing atrocities that are parallel to that of the holocaust and perhaps even worse. The intention of Israel has always been one of colonizing the land of Palestine and to ethnically cleanse the land of Palestinian people. If we, the people and government of the United States continue to allow this to happen we are complicit in genocide and the ethnic cleansing that Israel is committing. I believe that it is our duty as human beings to speak out against brutality and oppression everywhere.

Here are today's death count from aljazeera.com; "Here are the latest casualty figures as of February March 6 at 10:40pm in Gaza (08:40 GMT):

Gaza

Killed: at least 30,717 people, including more than:
12,300 children

8,400 women

Injured: more than 72,156, including at least:

8,663 children

6,327 women

Missing: more than 8,000"

We do not need to be Palestinian to feel upset about innocent people being killed. Palestinians have the right to exist peacefully on their own land. There is a lot more that I could communicate here but I am afraid we are running out of time and need to act quickly now. I pray that each committee member take the time to further educate themselves beyond the standard narrative that we have been taught for so long by western media and dare I say western propaganda. Thank you for taking the time to read my words and consider them thoughtfully.

Bonniebrooke Bullock

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 2:35:42 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Riley Herron	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I, Riley Herron, a second year student at University of Hawai'i fully support bill SCR13. I think it is important to add support to US Congresswoman Cori Bush's ceasefire. Coming from a jewish family with friends and family who are going through the consequences of this war, it is disheartening to even fathom what is going on in Gaza. I think this bill is highly beneficial and the least we can do to be a supportive nation.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 2:36:14 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mary Balbin	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, my name is Mary Balbin and I am a student from the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. I am in support of ceasefire in Gaza resolution introduced by United States Congresswoman Cori Bush.

Ceasefire will help reduce the loss of life and injuries among civilians and combatants alike. The continued conflict only leads to more suffering and loss of innocent lives. Supporting ceasefire will demonstrate peace and stability which is crucial for the well-being of the civilian population.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify!

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 2:43:13 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Logan Malterre	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hello, my name is Logan and I am an individual citizen in support of bill SCR13. I am in support of this bill because for too long the genocide of Palestinians has been allowed through lack of action and silence. I recommend that this bill be approved to secure a ceasefire and prevention of further loss of human life. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 2:43:44 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Casey Brinkman	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

My name is Casey Brinkman, and I am testifying in strong support of SCR13. Since October, I have been filled with horror daily at the genocide occurring against the people of Gaza. Particularly, as a woman of Jewish descent it pains me that our struggles, our culture, and our identity are being used as a defense of such atrocities. Never again means never again for anyone. There can be no justification for the brutality committed against 40,000 innocent civilians, and countless more injured, starving, and without shelter. This is one of the worst humanitarian catastrophies of our time, which is heightened by Israel's blockades on food, water, and medical supplies.

Ceasefire is the first step in dismanteling the occupation of Gaza and the Apartide state imposed by Israel. A ceasefire would not only halt the non-stop murder of Palistinians and allow aid to reach them without threat of gunfire, but would provide opportunities to negotiate the safe release of the 200 remaining Israeli hostages who are currently at risk of being indiscriminately bombed as well. I implore this committee to consider the lives of Palistinians as valuable as you would your own family and act now to support a ceasefire and SCR13.

Mahalo Nui Loa

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 2:43:54 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lora Horiuchi	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I believe that all people have the right to live or life. This is why I am in support of bill SCR13. The citizens of Gaza have been stolen their right to life, from the war between two countries. The lives of children are being affected.

I am hoping this bill be passed for the sake of keikis in Gaza. Imagine if it were the keiki here. It is unfair and they shouldn't be stolen this right.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 2:45:25 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Vai Alefosio	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

My name is Vai Alefosio and I am writing in support of Resolution SCR13. As a person who identifies as Pacific Islander, I have seen the destruction that military occupation has done to our islands, our people, our ecosystem and our ways of living.

The outcome of military occupation has always ended at the expense of indigenous peoples' lives. This narrative is tired. We are tired, of seeing history repeat itself.

That is why you are being called to approve Resolution SRC13. There has been an overwhelming demand for a permanent ceasefire in Gaza since before AND after, October 7th, 2023, and it is your duty to uphold this call instead of blind loyalty to a broken system that has forgotten its humanity and its duty to protect life.

As your constituent, you are in service to amplify our voices. The voices have spoken, permanent ceasefire in Gaza now! No more illegal settlements in the West Bank now!

Do better!

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 3:00:41 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Spencer Headley	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hello,

Ceasefire now!

What has occurred in the past 5 months is nothing short of a catastrophe for global humanity. We have utterly failed the Palestinian people for the past 152 days... and counting. We are all being judged at this moment. The United States endorsement and protection of Israel's barbaric genocide in Gaza will be remembered as one of the darkest chapters in human history. Never before has society had instant access to social media footage of children, women, men, and elders being blown into pieces of torn flesh, blood and bone before our eyes, day after, day after day.

Now, at least 180 journalists have been killed for exposing the truth of Israel's depravity and absolute moral degradation. Hospitals, mosques, schools, healthcare workers have all been deliberately targeted over the course of this genocide, in a seemingly endless barrage on innocent bodies as well as our collective consciousness.

All the while the United States government holds double standards on the value of civilian life, sends billions of dollars worth of bombs, artillery and weapons of all kinds to perpetuate daily massacres.

This is pure insanity.

I wish with all my being an immediate ceasefire to end the collective punishment of innocent Palestinians at the hands of an oppressive, apartheid government of Israel, which has proven itself as a full-blown terrorist state.

Do the right thing. Call for an immediate and permanent ceasefire. It is demanded of you on every level imaginable. It is already too little too late, but at least it's something.

Spencer Headley

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 3:18:26 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Olivia Chang	Individual	Support	In Person

Comments:

Good afternoon Chair Wakai and members of the committee:

My name is Olivia Chang, and I am testifying in strong support of this resolution urging members of Hawaii’s congressional delegation to support a ceasefire in Gaza. I direct the following statements to Hawaii’s congressional delegation:

At least 30,000 Palestinians dead, millions displaced, and you do not call for a ceasefire.

Explicit, public, broadcasted statements of “flattening Gaza to the ground”, “all Palestinians are animals”, and you do not call for a ceasefire.

Targeting hospitals, schools, refugee camps, and you do not call for a ceasefire.

A Holocaust survivor going on national television to implore for an end to a fighting, and you do not call for a ceasefire.

The US is the only dissenting vote in three UN ceasefire resolutions, and you do not call for a ceasefire.

Half of the population are children, **the average age of people killed in Gaza is 5**, and still you do not call for a ceasefire.

Senators, representatives: this is not complicated. It is about standing on the side of human rights and prioritizing peace for all peoples.

Mahalo for your time. Ku Kia’i Palestina.

March 6, 2024

Hawaii State Legislature, via email:

Dear Legislatures:

I am writing from all my heart and experience in war-torn countries in hope that you will vote for an immediate and permanent ceasefire in Gaza.

The policies of the current Administration and the State Department inhumane, antiquated, and dangerous. They are putting us all at risk. They are doing nothing but causing suffering and instability. The world has called for peace. Why are we going alone into violence?

I have both Israeli and Palestinian friends. None of them want this violence and suffering. I have worked in countries shattered by war and violence. How can we open our hearts, minds, and logic to help humanity heal?

I have close friends in the military, and I want to protect them and all servicepeople throughout the globe. Did you know how many military veterans from the invasions of Iraq and Afghanistan died by suicide? Sources say 30,000. 30,000.

How can you prevent this? How can you feel the death of 30,000 people in your soul? Death and suffering mostly children because the US has given billions in weapons, has not called for peace.

How much has the US given to Israel? Over \$14billion, only to cause suffering. Imagine how those funds could help Hawaiians? Israelis have healthcare and higher education paid for while most Hawaiians have multiple jobs and still struggle to pay for food, healthcare, housing, etc.

How many times has the US vetoed peace?

The US government is not a leader, it is scarily beholden to Israel. Israel that is terrorizing the Palestinian people of Gaza daily at a genocidal proportion. The US government has blood on its hands.

If you don't agree, please follow Palestinian journalists. Please ask Palestinian people how they survive each day. Please ask Palestinian people what life was like under the Israeli regime. Do you know? Most US Congresspeople and most American people do not. Most history books do not tell the Palestinian point of view. Do so now.

Violence is a failure of diplomacy. Retaliation never works. This is not the way forward. Especially not for Hawaii.

Lead with your heart, empathy, and love. Please call for peace. When we have peace we can work together and find a new way forward by working with one another. This can happen. Let it be so. Let peace happen now.

Action Items:

1. Educate yourself and your constituents.
 - a. Follow Palestinian journalists.
 - b. Follow Jewish Voices for Peace.
 - c. Understand what constitutes a genocide. How would you define genocide?
 - d. Understand the Balfour Declaration and what life was like for the Palestinian people before and after it.
 - e. See the horrifying parallels of the Nazi treatment of the Jewish people and how the Israeli government treats Palestinians.
2. Find out how much money the US Congress and the President receive from AIPAC.
3. There is no place for Antisemitism or Islamophobia.
4. We must take great care of one another. We are a human family. Not all Jewish people are Zionists, A call for peace is not antisemitic, not all Palestinians are Hamas, not all Israelis follow Netanyahu, not all Americans want violence.
5. Reevaluate our relationship with Israel.
 - a. Over \$14 billion given to Israel in arms.
 - b. Israeli people have healthcare and higher education paid for.
 - c. How do we hold ourselves and our global partners accountable

Thank you for your time, energy, and consideration.

All my best,

Kira Siebert

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 3:41:43 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dasha Alvarado	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of [SCR13/SR6]. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on

Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues. There is no justification for the massacre Palestinian lives.

As someone who is a part of the Lahaina community, we stand in solidarity with the people of Palestine. Their loss is devastating and after going through the loss in Lahaina fires, we have witnessed and continue to witness how neglect in taking action is harmful to culture, to people, to history, and to our collective future. The loss in Lahaina is devastating, yet is still unfathomable to fully realize the loss in Palestine, at such a large scale. This issue was caused and escalated since history because of colonialism, imperialism, and endless justification of apartheid we see again and again.

I end this statement by remembering one of thousands of children lost in the genocide of Palestine. Sidra Hassouna, 12 year old girl killed in the bombardment funded by billions of dollars of US military warfare and enacted by Israeli Occupational Forces. May her and her sister find peace and may the rest of her family and her people receive aid and protection.

Imua Lahaina and Free Palestine

Mahalo

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 3:53:22 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Madison Morita	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am a constituent of Honolulu and I am testifying in strong support of SCR13. Over the last several months, we have witnessed an escalation of violence to the point that we cannot idly look on anymore. The level of casualties is unprecedented.

The people of Gaza are civilians. They do not deserve to be bombed and mass-extermiated. No difference in peoples can justify this extermination being carried forth by the Israeli government. All this while ~200 Israeli civilian hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups remain in Gaza shows the Israeli government does not actually care for their peoples and only for the ultimate control of land.

In addition to constant bombing and indiscriminate rocket fire, Israeli forces continue to block humanitarian relief from entering Gaza to aid innocent civilians. We are witnessing massacre on all fronts. This is an international humanitarian crisis like no other. We must call for a ceasefire.

A ceasefire is the only solution available at this time. No negotiations can take place while innocent lives are in immediate danger. A ceasefire will provide the opportunity to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza, to negotiate a peace treaty, to negotiate sharing a space, or to at least try. It additionally will allow aid and relief to reach innocent civilians that so desperately need it.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 3:59:24 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mandi	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of

[SCR13/SR6]. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented.

Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 4:12:55 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Eman Al-Misky	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

There has to be an immediate ceasefire in Gaza. There are too many displaced people in Gaza desperate for food, medicine, water, and clothing.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 4:24:17 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ashlie McGuire	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I unequivocally support this Ceasefire Resolution, and demand that we keep putting the pressure on our federal government to make this ceasefire permanent and to stop sending weapons and money to Israel!

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 4:24:47 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nathan Abril	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of SCR13. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas, and other armed groups, has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Over 30,000 Palestinians have been killed since Oct 7. The majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas, and other armed groups, held in Gaza remain in danger. Families of the hostages have pled to Netanyahu's government to call for an immediate ceasefire, so their family members can return home. Three hostages have already been mistakenly killed by the IDF, and it is estimated that 18 more have perished. Either due to Israel's indiscriminate bombing campaign, or the lack of aid going into the Gaza Strip. Ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk as well.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel; leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to bring life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip; in order to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in both Gaza and Israel. Along with allow for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

Mahalo,
Nathan F. Abril

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 4:28:20 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jennifer Kim	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members,

I am in total support of SCR13/SR6. We need an immediate, permanent ceasefire in Gaza to ensure the safe release of the hostages and for aid to be sent to Palestinians. The death toll in Gaza continues to grow, and several thousand Palestinian men, women, and children continue to live in constant fear. Please choose humanity, and call for a ceasefire.

Mahalo,

Jennifer Kim

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 5:02:15 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Keoni Varlack	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, my name is Keoni Varlack, a concerned student from University of Hawai'i at Manoa, advocating for your support of Congresswoman Cori Bush's Ceasefire in Gaza Resolution SCR13.

I support this resolution due to its vital role in safeguarding human lives. The conflict has claimed over thirteen thousand Palestinian and one thousand two hundred Israeli lives, including innocent civilians and children. It is our moral responsibility to oppose the targeting of non-combatants.

The resolution is urgent as it addresses the imminent risk to hundreds of thousands of lives, urging a swift and permanent ceasefire. I emphasize the importance of delivering humanitarian aid promptly to those in need, especially children, who are disproportionately affected by the violence.

I urge you to back this resolution, emphasizing the need for the Biden Administration to call for an immediate ceasefire, facilitate humanitarian assistance, and initiate negotiations for lasting peace. Dismantling terrorist organizations should not come at the expense of innocent lives.

Thank you for considering my testimony. Your support is crucial in addressing this humanitarian crisis.

Mahalo,

Keoni Varlack

Autym Awo
UH Manoa Student
Honolulu, HI, 96822

Dear, Mr. Wakai and Members of the PSM Committee,

Re: Testimony in Support of Hawaii State Bill SCR13 - Ceasefire in Gaza Resolution

My name is Autym, and I am writing this to encourage our legislatures to support the Hawaii State Bill SCR13, which is urging members of Hawaii's congressional delegation to endorse a Ceasefire in Gaza introduced by United States Congresswoman Cori Bush. This resolution calls for an immediate and permanent ceasefire in Gaza, the facilitation of humanitarian aid, and the commencement of negotiations for lasting peace.

I believe that supporting this resolution is essential to advancing stability and peace in the Gaza region. The ongoing violence in Gaza has claimed the lives of thousands of innocent civilians, including a staggering number of children, who are supposed to be protected under international humanitarian law. Targeting areas where civilians reside is an unacceptable infringement of established international humanitarian law and a serious injustice that has to be resolved.

As someone privileged enough to live in the United States, especially Hawaii, I can't imagine the immense amount of suffering endured by the people of Gaza who have to constantly worry about their safety as well as their children. I try to imagine the faces of our ohanas if this act of war were to happen here in Hawaii, and how our community would deal with and try to survive such a tragedy. Although taking out Hamas, a known terrorist group, is a justifiable objective, innocent lives cannot and should not be sacrificed in the process.

Our congressional delegation can contribute to the de-escalation of hostilities, open the door for humanitarian supplies to reach those in need, and establish the groundwork for long-term peace talks by endorsing the Ceasefire Now Resolution. I urge you to support the SCR 13 Bill to enable a strong statement to our congressional delegation expressing Hawaii's solidarity with the innocent victims of this tragedy and our desire for immediate action to put a stop to the suffering and destruction.

Thank you for considering my testimony, and I appreciate the opportunity to contribute to this important issue.

Sincerely,

Autym Awo

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 5:31:48 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jeanette Qablawi	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am testifying in strong support of SCR13/SR6. As a family medicine physican, I support the collective liberation of all oppressed peoples. I know how precious every life is from those I care for every day. Palestinan adults and children deserve to know they are precious too, that the world won't look the other way while they face genocide. As stweards of communities and peoples lives, it is the responsibility of family physicans to call for a cease fire. It is a moral imperative to call for the end of murdering of civilians, that has not just been going on since Obctober but since 1948. As the death toll goes over 30,000 we cannot continue to stay silent. Please open your hearts and see this for what it is and call for an immediate permanat ceasefire.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 5:51:05 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ayden Subjeck	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Ayden Subjeck

Regarding the Committee on Public Safety and Intergovernmental and Military Affairs

March 6th, 2024

Hello, my name is Ayden Subjeck and I am a concerned O'ahu resident/University of Hawai'i at Manoa student. I am testifying on why Hawai'i's Congressional Delegation should support the Ceasfire in Gaza Resolution introduced by Cori Bush because it is the humane decision and we should not simply stand by as Palestinians are wiped out.

While the issues of the genocide of Palestinians has not directly affected me, it has completely changed my outlook on countries other than the United States and how I have taken my way of living for granted. I've felt helpless as I continue going to classes everyday, stressing about exams and presentations, while children are being killed in explosions and will never have the opportunity to go to college or grow up. I have seen gruesome images that I am unlikely to forget in the foreseeable future.

I lead a simple life and also have no extreme political views (neither democratic or republican), yet I felt the need to send a written testimonial for this bill over any others. 300,000 people murdered. A large majority of those people were innocent civilians who had no part in the initial attack on Israel in October. Innocent men, women, and children.

There is no making sure others do not have the same negative experience as I have, as a United States citizen watching a genocide occur openly, because millions of others feel the same as I do. What could have stopped the negative experience earlier and saved thousands of Palestinian lives is if President Biden and whoever else was in support of his decisions concerning the genocide did not vote against the ceasefire multiple times. Our government is part of the reason over 300,000 Palestinians were murdered, and they died in vain because it all could have been stopped earlier if it weren't for President Biden's incompetence, or his blatant refusal to save human lives. So, my simple solution is to vote for the permanent ceasefire.

Thank you, Senator Glenn Wakai, for reading my testimony. The time you take to read these and your consideration of these matters are very much appreciated.

Aloha Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Elefante, and Members of the Committee on Public Safety and Intergovernmental and Military Affairs,

I strongly support this resolution.

For the past 4+ months, I have spent day in and day out watching the war crimes and atrocities committed hourly in Gaza. I have been a virtual witness to the lifeless bodies of children dangling from windows, keiki vomiting from eating animal feed, disabled kupuna having to take forced migrations to "safe zones" that Israel then bombs and raids, and daily I see the massacred bodies of innocent civilians. In just these few months, between 30,000 to 40,000 Gazans have lost their lives.

Israel's actions in Gaza and the US support are beyond abhorrent and depraved. Having spent over five years in the Hawai'i Army National Guard, I know the rules of war. The war crimes I see committed every single day are so far removed from the already low bar of moral and ethical standards provided by the Geneva Conventions and other international humanitarian laws. That is why servicemembers like myself have been so vocally opposed to the actions of the IDF. We immediately recognized the use of white phosphorus, both indiscriminate and deliberate attacks on civilians, siege warfare, targeting of protected sites, etc., for what they are - war crimes. Recently, we all witnessed the self-immolation of one of my fellow servicemembers, airman Aaron Bushnell, who performed this extreme act of protest against US complicity outside the Israeli embassy. The protests of Aaron, myself, and the countless other servicemembers/veterans that I have protested alongside should serve as a testament to just how unfathomably horrific the acts of war perpetrated by Israel in Gaza are.

Meanwhile, you have our federal politicians asserting their unwavering support. I have corresponded with all of my congressional delegation. Senator Brian Schatz and Representative Ed Case have been unequivocal in their opposition to a ceasefire. They insist on sending billions and billions of taxpayer dollars to provide the weapons that are responsible for these heinous acts. When has this ever been the priority of American families? Never. A government that not only accepts but enables and funds these horrors is unjust and disgraceful. It's unacceptable. As our elected body, we need the Legislature's help in legitimizing the demands of a majority of Americans - a ceasefire.

Please vote yes on this resolution and take the first step in severing our complicity.

Scott Gifford

Hawai'i Army National Guardsman (testifying as an individual)

Moanalua Resident

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 6:14:02 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Alexander Osborn	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In regards to: SCR13. URGING MEMBERS OF HAWAII'S CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO SUPPORT THE CEASEFIRE IN GAZA RESOLUTION INTRODUCED BY UNITED STATES CONGRESSWOMAN CORI BUSH.

From: Alexander Osborn (Resident of Hawaii)

Dear Committee Members,

I support the Senate Resolution of the Hawaiian Congressional Delegation to support and urge the Biden Administration to utilize the United States diplomatic ability to support a ceasefire in Gaza Resolution. I believe the United States can provide the support required in order to minimize further loss of unnecessary lives. The State of Hawaii taking part in this support shows the value we hold on innocent lives while potentially supporting others who may feel the same in this complicated time. I understand there are many factors that play into the situation with some I am likely unaware of, however, I do believe standing for what is right for innocent people is an American obligation. Providing support and aiding the hurt is least we can do.

Thank you for taking the time,

Alexander Osborn

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 6:54:56 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Makana Hicks	Individual	Support	In Person

Comments:

It is time for the US to stand again for the humanitarian principles that lead to the creation of the nation state of Israel. It's time for the US to demand an immediate ceasefire.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 7:08:02 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Carissa Chew	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To the members of the committee,

I am a History PhD Student at the University of Hawai'i. I am testifying in support of SCR13 to support ceasefire in Gaza, which I believe should be a permanent ceasefire. With the death of over 10,000 Palestinian children since October 7 and Israel's siege of Gaza blocking the entry of aid into the region and causing a man-made famine, Israel's violence against Palestinian civilians has reached unprecedented heights. Through supporting ceasefire, the state of Hawai'i has an important opportunity to speak out against these inhumane atrocities and bring a halt the murder of innocent civilians, not to mention the destruction of important heritage and cultural sites caused by Israel's air strikes as well as civilian infrastructure (hospitals, schools, refugee camps) and the environment. Whilst it is tempting to take this opportunity to talk about the parallels in the history of the violences of settler colonialism suffered by Native Hawaiians and Palestinians, the fact of the matter remains that there is no context in which the slaughter and starvation of tens of thousands of civilians is justifiable.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 7:08:06 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ana Baldinger	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Aloha,

I am offering my strong support and testimony for [SCR13/SR6]. The escalating hostilities between Israel and Hamas, along with other armed groups, have exacted a catastrophic toll on civilian populations. The casualty figures are staggering and unprecedented. Since October 7th, approximately 40,000 civilians have tragically lost their lives, with the majority being women and children. An additional 70,000 individuals have sustained injuries, while many thousands more remain unaccounted for, buried beneath the rubble in Gaza. Concurrently, around 200 Israeli hostages seized by Hamas and other militant factions in Gaza confront a perilous situation, while the indiscriminate rocket attacks directed towards Israel continue to imperil its civilian populace.

Israel's tightened blockade of Gaza has obstructed the entry of essential goods, including water, food, and fuel, leaving the 2 million inhabitants of the Gaza Strip grappling to survive. The humanitarian disaster stemming from Israel's 16-year illegal occupation of the Gaza Strip will only intensify if the fighting persists unabated.

Why a PERMANENT ceasefire is the only solution:

1. A ceasefire would put an end to the unlawful assaults perpetrated by all parties, curb the mounting death toll in Gaza, and enable aid agencies to deliver life-saving assistance, water, and medical supplies to the Strip, addressing the staggering levels of human suffering.
2. It would also allow hospitals to receive critically needed life-saving medicines, fuel, and equipment, as well as facilitate the repair of damaged wards.
3. A permanent ceasefire would create opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and pave the way for independent international investigations into the war crimes committed by all sides, ultimately ending the long-standing culture of impunity that perpetuates further atrocities.

Addressing the root causes of this conflict by dismantling Israel's apartheid system imposed upon Palestinians has become an increasingly urgent imperative. However, this cannot be achieved as long as the violence persists. Please listen to the majority of the world, and your constituents. Choose to be on the right side of history.

Mahalo,
Ana Baldinger

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 7:28:21 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kayla Marie	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

End the genocide in Palestine

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 7:31:06 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lauren Taijeron	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of SCR13. The continued genocide of Palestinians by the terrorist Israel state, has led to the murder of 40,000 Palestinians, 70,000 Palestinians wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if we do not see a permanent ceasefire.

Again please support SCR13

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 7:34:28 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mariah Iris Ramo	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Dear Members of the Committee,

My name is Mariah Iris Ramo, and I am a first-year student at Barnard College of Columbia University in New York City.

I am writing to express my **strong support for SCR13**, which urges the members of Hawaii’s Congressional delegation to support the ceasefire in Gaza resolution introduced by United States Congresswoman Cori Bush.

Having grown up in the Philippines and immigrated to Hawaii at the age of four, I consider both places my home. However, my understanding of their history and culture was limited due to the lack of educational resources during my K-12 schooling. It was only through my involvement in external organizations and my current enrollment in undergraduate studies that I began to comprehend the extent to which U.S. imperialism and colonialism have impacted Filipinos and Hawaiians, both historically and presently.

Many of our ancestors were denied citizenship in their own land, forced to endure terrible conditions, subjected to experiments, or sacrificed during wartime. The social, economic, and political structures of the Philippines and Hawaii were reshaped to suit the selfish interests of the United States.

Today, many of us, including myself, struggle to connect with our heritage because much of it has been erased by the United States. I highlight this because our struggles mirror those of Palestinians, and our fight for liberation is intertwined with theirs. We share a common resilience.

Calling for a permanent ceasefire in Gaza would halt the current violence and provide assistance to the children and families who have suffered at the hands of the Israeli government. Ultimately, advocating for a permanent ceasefire brings us one step closer to a free Palestine.

To conclude, I would like to share an Ilokano version of “If I Must Die,” written by Refaat Alareer, a Palestinian poet who was killed in an airstrike carried out by the Israeli military:

Nu man matayak

Isu ti namnama

Isun to't agbalin a pakaistoryaan

If I must die

let it bring hope

let it be a tale

I believe that within our lifetime, Palestine will be free, and we will all be free. From Hawaii to Palestine and from Palestine to the Philippines.

Thank you for allowing me to testify.

Sincerely,

Mariah Iris Ramo

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 7:35:23 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jocelyn B Brody	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is Jocelyn Brody, and I am testifying in strong support for [SCR13/SR6]. I live in Kapahulu right near the Leanard's and my senator is Les Ihara, Jr. I am a Jewish constituent, and feel incredibly strongly that the brutal genocide currently being enacted against the Palestinian people with weapons paid for by my tax dollars is wrong and abhorrent. The killing must stop. Further, I wish, as a Jewish person, to make it plain that to call for a ceasefire is not antisemitic. The conflation of Judaism with Zionism is incredibly harmful both to the Jewish community and the Palestinian community.

The UN has been withheld from passing a Ceasefire resolution by a single veto from the US three times now since October. The international community in general agrees that what is happening now is an appalling humanitarian catastrophe and needs to stop. In Hawaii especially we should see how American militarism is destroying Palestinian land just as it has eaten away at land here in Hawaii.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 7:45:12 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jacqueline Chico	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this call for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza and an end to the use of our tax dollars to fund ethnic cleansing and genocide. I stand against the sixteen-year blockade of Gaza, the 75 year Israeli occupation of Palestine, and the bombing of civilians. I oppose the sinister use of the tragic deaths of some to justify the ethnic cleansing of others.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 7:46:28 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Cory Harden	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, in strong support! Cory

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 7:59:51 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jessica Christine Lipman	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I, Jessica Christine Lipman, testify for the SCR13 bill to urge members of Hawaii's congressional delegation to support the ceasefire in Gaza. Between October 7 and February 29, the Gaza Health Ministry reports that at least 30,000 Palestinians (including over 10,000 minors) have been killed. About 1.5 million Palestinians, most of them displaced, were forced into the small city of Rafah in southern Gaza Strip by relentless Israeli bombing. We need to take action to save the people of Palestine from the Israeli armed forces and to prevent the land from being ethnically cleansed. Thank you for this opportunity to testify for the land and people of Palestine.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 8:35:16 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Christy Werner	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

There is nothing that needs to be complicated about this. It's simple- stop genocide. CEASE FIRE.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 8:36:46 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Vaidehi Shrestha	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of [SCR13/SR6]. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented.

Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 8:38:05 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tiffany Romano-Spencer	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of [SCR13/SR6]. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza. At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel’s tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel’s 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn’t stop immediately.

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel’s system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 8:44:12 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jessica Nakamura	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I am testifying in strong support of SCR13. For the past five months, we have witnessed the horrible atrocities being committed against civilians in Gaza while the United States has been the single nation to block a ceasefire resolution from being adopted at the U.N. not just once, but three times. It is our responsibility to speak up and say NO to genocide. Over 70% of Democrats want a ceasefire according to recent polling, and the Democratic Party of Hawai'i unanimously passed a ceasefire resolution in early December, yet our Congressional representatives have still failed to take meaningful action towards a permanent ceasefire in Gaza.

The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A permanent and immediate ceasefire is the only way to halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to secure the safety and negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the clear war crimes that have been committed against civilians.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid and extensive human rights violations imposed on Palestinians, is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

We cannot claim to support peace while allowing the ongoing slaughter of children. We must stand for humanity and against genocide and call for a lasting ceasefire now.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 8:47:01 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sheala Karratti-Humphries	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support a permanent ceasefire in Gaza, an end to the State of Israel receiving US aid, negotiations for peace, and for the State of Israel to be held accountable for the crimes committed against humanity. Hold the State of Israel accountable for the complete destruction of the Palestinian people and Gaza.

Do the right thing. If you have to, put yourself in their shoes. How would you like to find your loved one mangled under concrete rubble. This is not about politics, this is about human lives. Animal lives. Protecting land. All of it. Even the non-living things wont be the same. It will all have been poisoned. How do you begin to rebuild from that?

Even when the attacks stop, there is still so much chaos to be dealt with.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 8:58:03 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Pua'ena Ahn	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To the members of the committee, it is with great urgency that I write in support of this resolution. The people of Gaza, the children especially, are witnessing and experiencing untold horrors, mass death, debilitating injury, unconscionable violence, starvation, disease and displacement. Neither words nor numbers can adequately describe the images that are being seen worldwide, even the word genocide seems to fall short of doing justice to the events of the last 5 months. This cannot continue, and whatever little that can be done must so be done. The world has spoken and it is incumbent upon you to echo the calls for permanent and immediate ceasefire. Mahalo.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 9:02:52 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Katharine Getchell	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As long as Hawaii is considered part of the USA and as long as my Hawaii representatives have a voice in the United States Government, I implore you to call for a Ceasefire in Gaza so as to uphold the fundamental values for which our nation allegedly stands.

I cannot in good conscience support our tax dollars to support the state of Israel, but at least let us provide incentive to cease the inhumane violence towards and destruction of the Palestinians.

Sincerely,
Katharine Getchell
Honoka'a HI

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 9:30:24 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lilly Fisher	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of SCR13/SR6. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities. Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 9:48:18 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kamaile Grannis	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of

[SCR13/SR6]. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza. At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk. Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately. Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately. A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities. Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

Senator Glenn Wakai, Chair

Senator Brandon J.C. Elefante, Vice Chair

Committee on Public Safety and Intergovernmental and Military Affairs

Jeung Hyun Choi

University of Hawaii at Manoa

808-255-9500

03/08/2024

Support of SRC 13/ SR 6, Relating to Ceasefire in Gaza

I Jeung Hyun Choi, am with the University of Hawaii at Manoa and am in support of SRC 13/ SR 16, Relating to Ceasefire in Gaza which could lead to saving both Palestinian and Israel's lives.

Many innocent lives are at stake at the war in Gaza. This conflict zone is causing homelessness as well as leaving individuals in a food crisis. Not only are innocent lives being taken, but the lives of children and elderly are jeopardized as well. Necessities for survival such as fuel, water supply, electricity, and medical supplies are limited and devastatingly thousands of lives are being lost.

As stated in the Senate Concurrent Resolution and as the United States holds immense diplomatic power in saving Palestinian and Israel's lives, I urge the committee to pass SRC 13/ SR 16. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 9:49:45 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Aree Worawongwasu	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of SCR13. I condemn Israel's genocide of Palestinians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by Israel in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

Me ke aloha,

Aree.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 9:57:02 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kylie Sugahara	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Chairman Wakai and Vice Chairman Elefante. My name is Kylie Sugahara and I am a Hawai'i resident and student at University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. I am writing to testify in favor of bill SCR13, which urges the members of Hawai'i's congressional delegation to support the ceasefire in Gaza resolution. Since the initial unprecedented attack in Gaza on October 7th, over 2,600 Palestinians, more than 1,400 Israelis, and about 30 American were killed. In addition to this, over a million civilians in Gaza have been displaced from their homes and presents a severe demand for humanitarian aid, which is evident in their lack of access to food, electricity, and clean drinking water. This ongoing conflict between Israel and Palestine has amounted to nothing more than the blatant destruction of innocent lives, many of which are children. There must be established peace between both parties for the sake of human life and I strongly believe that the Ceasefire Resolution can help pave the way for that outcome. Your consideration of these matters and bill SCR13 is deeply appreciated.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 9:57:36 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mackenzie Ozoa	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill calling for the immediate ceasefire in Gaza.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 10:36:53 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Marisa Pangilinan	Individual	Support	In Person

Comments:

Aloha,

I am testifying in support of SCR13/SR6. The horrifying subjection of mass punishment against innocent children, women and men civilians is unacceptable. 40,000 humans have been killed since October 7, and we must work together to end this. More than 70,000 have been injured and more will be if this continues. Israel is blocking food, medicine and aid to the 2 million people who desperately need help. By supporting an immediate ceasefire, hostage negotiations can be conducted and international investigations can take place for the war crimes committed since October 7th. Please hear my voice and all the other supporters of SCR13 of support for an immediate ceasefire right away. Thank you for your time.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 10:57:12 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sherry Shimizu	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Honorable Senator Wakai (Chair), Senator Elefante (Vice Chair), and Members of Public Safety and Intergovernmental and Military Affairs (PSM):

I am typing to immensely support SCR13, introduced by United States Congressperson Cori Bush to urgently call for ceasefire in Gaza, Palestine. In the last 5 months or 152 very long brutal days, the Israeli military has murdered more than 30,000 Palestinians and of these tragically high percentage are children with the aid of funding and arms from the United States.

Israel's horrendous crime of genocide towards citizens of Palestine have been identified by many international organizations, including Doctors Without Borders, Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch, and numerous United Nations experts. Furthermore, South Africa backed by 25+ countries brought the State of Israel to the International Court of Justice (ICJ) on charges of genocide and the ICJ found the State of Israel to be plausibly committing this crime!

My life has not been the same with watching Palestinians' own videos filmed from their phones documenting this on-going atrocities by Israel government. My heart has been broken, which is why I attended the rally in Waikiki and am begging you to support this resolution today, please ceasefire immediately!

Sincerely,

Sherry Shimizu

Pearl City, Oahu

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 11:12:14 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Emily Gambino	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of [SCR13/SR6]. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

Thank you for your consideration,

Emily Gambino

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 11:33:46 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Malia Marquez	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

We have a KULEANA to call for a cease-fire NOW. This is NOT a war, it's genocide. We did not give permission for OUR tax dollars to support genocide and ethnic cleansing by the United States. PLEASE support SCR13 and stop this madness now. Mahalo for your time on this urgent matter.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 11:45:29 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dave Nagaji	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This resolution acknowledge both Israeli and Palestinian lives lost since October 7. It identifies Hamas as a terrorist group, and it calls for an immediate ceasefire to prevent further loss of civilian life.

I would make a friendly suggestion that the resolution be amended to also call for an immediate release of the hostages taken by Hamas during the October 7 attack on Israel.

Notwithstanding that suggestion, the jist of the resolution is good, and I urge the Senate to support it.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 11:49:53 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Yasmin Galvis	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I am in support of the SCR13 Hawaii Ceasefire Resolution. As a citizen of the United States I am ashamed of the United States contribution to the killing of Palestinian civilians. Innocent people should not be subjected to such atrocities. Not only have over 30,000 Palestinians been killed (including mainly women and children), but they are being withheld of their basic human right of aid. People in the North of Gaza are starving and are being blocked from receiving any food and medical supplies from aid trucks outside the border. Gaza is in a humanitarian crisis, with Palestinians lacking access to clean water, nutritious food, medical supplies. This is causing the 2 million population to live in unsanitary conditions which increase the risk of disease spreading. Palestinians are continuing to suffer day by day, grieving their loved ones while trying to survive. Not only that, but 200 Israeli hostages are still being held in Gaza. Supporting a ceasefire can help negotiate the release of these hostages, as well as prevent more innocent Palestinian lives from being taken. Let's save the children of Gaza, and stop the senseless and unnecessary violence.

Signed, Yasmin Galvis Hawaii Resident

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 12:20:00 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Campbell Brown	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To the Senate of the Thirty-second Legislature of the State of Hawai'i

Representative Chair Senator Glenn Wakai,

Vice Chair Senator Brandon J.C Elefante

March 6, 2023

Dear Chair Senator Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair Senator Brandon J.C. Elefante, and Members of the Senate,

My name is Campbell Brown, and I am writing to express my strong support for S.R. NO. SCR13, urging members of Hawai'i's congressional delegation to support the Ceasefire in Gaza Resolution, which thankfully was introduced by United States Congresswoman Cori Bush.

I believe the situation in Gaza demands urgent attention and concerted efforts to bring about a permanent ceasefire, and has for sometime now. Within the recent year the loss of thousands of lives, including innocent civilians, is a grave violation of international humanitarian law. The continuous war has left countless families in distress and immediate risk, emphasizing the critical need for a diplomatic resolution. Overall the tension goes back decades steaming from Britain gaining control of an area known as Palestine following the defeat of the Ottoman Empire. This Area was home to two main ethnic groups, The Jewish minority and an Arab majority. Tensions escalated when the international community assigned the United Kingdom the responsibility of establishing a "national home" in Palestine for Jewish people.

The roots of this mandate trace back to the Balfour Declaration of 1917, where the Foreign Secretary Arthur Balfour pledged support to Britain's Jewish community. This declaration became an integral part of the British mandate over Palestine and received endorsement from the League of Nations, a precursor to the United Nations, in 1922. While the Jewish population considered Palestine their ancestral homeland, Palestinian Arabs contested the claim, sparking opposition to the establishment of a Jewish state.

From the 1920s to the 1940s, an increasing number of Jewish individuals migrated to Palestine, seeking refuge from persecution, particularly during the Nazi Holocaust in World War Two.

Simultaneously, violence between Jewish and Arab communities, as well as against British rule, surged. In 1947, the United Nations proposed a plan to divide Palestine into separate Jewish and Arab states, designating Jerusalem as an international city. While Jewish leaders accepted this plan, the Arab side rejected it, leading to its non-implementation.

Amid escalating challenges and an inability to find a resolution, Britain withdrew in 1948, prompting Jewish leaders to declare the establishment of the State of Israel. The creation of Israel aimed to provide a secure refuge for Jews facing persecution and serve as a national homeland. However, this development led to the displacement of hundreds of thousands of Palestinians from their homes, referred to as Al Nakba or the "Catastrophe." After the ceasefire Israel now had gained control which is why today's war is happening.

The call to support Congresswoman Cori Bush's Ceasefire Now Resolution aligns with the principles of humanitarianism and the protection of non-combatants. I believe endorsing this resolution is crucial for the aligning of states to acknowledge the genocide in Gaza and to put an end to the funding of murder.

It is imperative that Hawai'i's congressional delegation not only supports the resolution but also insists on the Biden Administration's active involvement. This includes calling for an immediate, permanent ceasefire, facilitating humanitarian assistance, and initiating negotiations for lasting peace. The provision of essential supplies such as fuel, food, water, and medical aid is paramount to address the immediate needs of the affected population.

In conclusion, I urge the Senate, under the leadership of Chair Senator Glenn Wakai and Vice Chair Senator Brandon J.C. Elefante, to pass S.R. NO SCR13. To ultimately send a clear message of support for the Ceasefire in Gaza Resolution. I recommend the transmission of certified copies of this resolution to the President of the United States, Minority Leader of the United States House of Representatives, members of Hawai'i's congressional delegation, and the Chair of the Democratic National Committee. I want to thank the senate for bringing attention to this critical and important matter, a ceasefire is only the beginning for ending the decades of pain and suffering ahead.

Sincerely,

Campbell Brown

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 12:49:21 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Alexander Muth	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying to support SCR13. I think we have all seen the bloodshed in Gaza, starting with the massacre on October 7 and followed by the brutal ongoing slaughter of Palestinian civilians. We were all horrified by the October 7 massacre, but the actions of violent extremists do not warrant the annihilation of an entire people. I do not know what the solution to the conflict between Israel and Palestine is, but I do know that tens of thousands of murdered Palestinians has not yet solved it, and if we do not do something to intervene, Israel may very well take that number into the hundreds.

We are witnessing a genocide in progress. To quote the late Aaron Bushnell, "Many of us like to ask ourselves, 'What would I do if I was alive during slavery? Or the Jim Crow South? Or apartheid? What would I do if my country was committing genocide?' The answer is, you're doing it. Right now." His actions were extreme, but they are the result of months of collective grief, and the powerlessness that comes with seeing your country hesitate to even refer to a massacre as such, let alone do anything about it.

The US is one of Israel's strongest allies. Even now, we supply Israel with weapons and funding. Whether or not blood is already on our hands is debateable, but if we continue to do nothing - or worse than nothing - it most certainly will be. We must condemn the atrocities committed towards Palestinians and do everything in our power to ensure a cease of hostilities and a peaceful resolution to this conflict. I am asking you to do what is right and stand for those who cannot stand for themselves. Don't let this be yet another atrocity that will make our grandchildren ask us how we could stand by and do nothing. We have quite enough of those already.

Mahalo for your consideration

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 12:52:49 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Trinity	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Stop the genocide.

Chair Glenn Wakai
Vice Chair Brandon Elefante

Senate Committee on Public Safety & Intergovernmental & Military Affairs

Friday, March 8, 2024
3:00 PM

**TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF SCR13/SR6 URGING MEMBERS OF
HAWAII'S CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO SUPPORT THE CEASEFIRE IN
GAZA RESOLUTION INTRODUCED BY UNITED STATES CONGRESSWOMAN
CORI BUSH**

Aloha Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Elefante, Members of the Senate Committee on Public Safety & Intergovernmental & Military Affairs,

My name is Jun Shin. I am a union service worker as well as a labor and social justice activist, testifying as an individual in **STRONG SUPPORT** of **SCR13/SR6**, Urging Members of Hawaii's Congressional Delegation to Support the Ceasefire in Gaza Resolution Introduced by United States Congresswoman Cori Bush.

The State of Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would put a stop to attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It would also allow for medical personnel to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair/rebuild damaged hospitals.

A ceasefire would provide opportunities to negotiate the release of Israeli hostages detained in Gaza as well as the Palestinian prisoners who have been long detained by the State of Israel. It would allow for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties, as well as the crimes against humanity committed by Israel in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities if not stopped here and now. While the road ahead will be very difficult, a ceasefire would also allow for an actual long-term political solution to be formed by Israelis and Palestinians, which includes the end of Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians.

Please **PASS Senate Concurrent Resolution 13/Senate Resolution 6** out of your committee. I am sick and tired of our taxpayer money being used to hurt people around the world while all around us, people need jobs, can't get healthcare, wages remain dramatically low, student loans aren't forgiven, kids are starving in school, etc, etc. I am sick and tired of the government in our

name (despite our protests in the streets and in the ballot boxes), giving diplomatic cover to the cruelty being committed to Gazans day after day. We all deserve better, this conflict is escalating further and further into the rest of the Middle East region. Your work here can greatly help in putting the pressure needed to have our delegation fight for peace and justice.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify,

Jun Shin,

State House District 23 | State Senate District 12

Cell: 808-255-6663

Email: junshinbusiness729@gmail.com

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 6:19:23 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Marilyn Mick	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of [SCR13/SR6]. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

Mahalo, Marilyn Mick, Honolulu

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 6:46:54 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mariko Whitenack	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha mai kākou!

My name is Mariko Whitenack and I am a resident of Kaimukī. I am testifying in strong support of SCR13. The unparalleled escalation of Israel's violence toward Gaza has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. People in Gaza are being starved. The families of my Palestinian friends deserve to live. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes

committed by all parties to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities. Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

Mahalo for your consideration and the opportunity to submit testimony.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 6:50:23 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Holly Coughlan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is Holly Coughlan and I am a university student. I support SCR13 and the urgent call for a ceasefire in Gaza. The deaths of more than thirteen thousand Palestinians and one thousand two hundred Israelis is truly horrific. Targeting civilians is inhumane and unacceptable, tearing apart families and causing indescribable grief and trauma. Hawaii's congressional delegation should support the ceasefire as a means of advocating for peace. With a ceasefire, vital supplies such as food, fuel, and water can then start to be brought to those in need.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 6:59:37 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Maki Morinoue	Testifying for HULI PAC	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of [SCR13/SR6]. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food, and fuel, leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza, and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water, and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel, and equipment they desperately need and repair damaged wards.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

Thank you

Maki Morinoue
Holualoa, Hawai'i Island

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 7:04:11 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sara Yukimoto-Saltman	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Aloha mai kākou members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of SCR13/SR6. As a Jewish person born and raised in Honolulu, Hawai'i, I am compelled to be here today demanding a ceasefire in the ongoing genocide against Palestinian people. I am also here today speaking as a member of Jewish Voices for Peace, JVP's Hawai'i chapter.

It is hard to put words to the unending devastation, anger, grief, and outrage I have felt in the past 150 days as I have witnessed 30,000 Palestinians killed through a genocide that is being carried out by Israel, and funded by the US, and everyone here's tax payer dollars.

You may have been told that supporting a ceasefire or criticizing Israel is anti-semitic. Let me be clear: it is not. I stand alongside the thousands of Jewish people in this country who oppose Zionism, who know that our Jewish identity means we must oppose colonial violence of Israel.

We are at an impasse where Hawai'i gets to decide whether we will stand on the right side of history. To this end, I am calling on Hawai'i state lawmakers in both the legislature and in US congress to stand courageously along with the majority of Americans who demand a permanent and lasting ceasefire in Gaza.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 7:09:55 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
KATHERINE ROSEGUO	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Stop the genocide that our tax dollars are paying for. Permanent Ceasefire and rebuilding

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 7:14:13 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mary True	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support the ceasefire introduced by Congresswoman Cori Bush. This horror show is unacceptable in a civilized world.

Thank you for your attention, Mary True, Pepekeo, 96783

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 7:23:46 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Teatuahere Teiti-Gierlach	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of

[SCR13/SR6]. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented.

Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

Have a heart. Demand a ceasefire. End the genocide and end the occupation of Palestine.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 7:25:10 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Victor K. Ramos	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this resolution. Hamas (Terror Organization) is responsible for starting the war against the citizens of Israel. If they want peace, by the rules of war, they should capitulate and surrender to Israel. Then perhaps, the dying on both sides will stop.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 7:25:19 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Carie Lunsford	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The USA need to make a perminate ceasefire. 18 children died of starvation as of yesterday. This is not what we the people stand for! We the people don't want blood on our hands! Please I encourage you to join this ceasefire resolution!! Let's be the first United state!!!
thank you , Carie Lunsford

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 7:28:34 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lynda Williams	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hawaii congressional delegation must urgently support legislation to demand an immediate and permanent cease fire in Gaza. We are witnessing a genocidal ethnic cleansing of Palestinian people with the support of the United States, and it must stop immediately. The human, environmental and cultural destruction occurring in Gaza, is antithetical to the values of Hawaii and Aloha Aina.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 7:30:21 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Amber Smith	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by Israel, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of inhumane suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards. A ceasefire is the only way to truly help. Not a temporary ceasefire. This must be a permanent ceasefire.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 7:36:50 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mele Hamasaki	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of [SCR13/SR6]. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 8:01:39 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Robert H Stiver	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Ladies and gentlemen of the Senate Public Safety Committee: I am a 61-years-long supporter of the legitimate rights and aspirations of the Christians and Muslims of Palestine. In this 2024, Israel has once again ratcheted up its vile agenda of ridding the Holy Land of its indigenous people. Since the Israeli massacre of Gaza (a "plausible genocide," according to the International Court of Justice) began in **October 2023, more than 1,000 children** in the besieged region have undergone **amputation of one or more limbs**. [Shockingly, many of these procedures were carried out without anesthesia, highlighting the dire lack of basic medical resources.](#) The situation is absolutely heartbreaking, and thought of the suffering endured by these young human beings -- immediate and longer-term -- sears the mind...and soul. **Amputation without anesthesia** has become my *cause celebre*, my rallying cry for imposition of an **immediate ceasefire** to avert additional **no-anesthesia** decisions by medical professionals. To such an end I plead that you -- I beseech you to -- record your resounding **affirmative** vote for SCR 13 and SR6.

I implore you, ladies and gentlemen, to search the deepest regions of your souls and ask: What if my child or grandchild (indeed any child) were forced to submit to the horror of a **no-anesthesia** medical emergency? How would you answer?...be an honest and caring human, please. Please.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 8:04:31 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mary Marvin Porter	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Members of the Senate Public Safety committee,

I support SCR13/SR6. The horrendous escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

Israel's siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip has led to this.

A ceasefire is needed to halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into Gaza.

It is urgent that there be a ceasefire and stop the denial of Palestinians to exist.

Please vote for SCR13/SR6.

Mahalo,

Mary Marvin Porter

Island Eyes Video

Kea'au, Hawai'i 96749

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 8:13:35 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
cori	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing to you with an ache in my heart and in the most sincere way i know how.

Every single one of us who is not supporting a ceasefire is on the completely wrong side of history. It is the bare minimum to demand that Israel and the United States halts any and all hostility to Palestinians.

I will never again support any politician who is not supporting a ceasefire. I will organize and encourage my community to do the same. Please represent the people your community and fight for a just world for all.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 8:15:44 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kristen Young	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha committee members,

I am testifying in strong support of SCR13. Over the past five months, I've watched in horror as the unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. People in Gaza have been sharing videos and images of what they're experiencing, about how their loved ones are being killed, and they are the most horrific scenes I've ever witnessed. I have seen bodies destroyed in ways that I could not have imagined. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 Palestinian civilians, many of them being children, have been killed since October 7. Another 70,000 have been wounded, disabled, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods including water, food, and fuel, leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to simply survive. Starvation is being used as a weapon. Most people have been displaced from their homes, their homes destroyed, and are now living in tents. If the fighting does not stop immediately, the humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse until there are no more Palestinians in Gaza. We cannot sit by any longer and wait for this to happen.

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water, and medical supplies safely into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians, is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues. A permanent ceasefire is a necessary step for any possibility of peace. I trust that you will side with humanity and pass SCR13.

Thank you!

Kristen Young
Honolulu resident

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 8:18:23 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jennifer Shiiba	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of SRC13. The unparalleled escalation between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

Mahalo nui,

Jennifer Shiiba, Hawai'i resident

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 8:19:16 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Brandi Cutler	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am a resident of Kane'ohe, O'ahu.

I strongly support SCR13. I strongly support a ceasefire in Gaza. I strongly support the end to this genocide.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 8:21:18 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Saturnino Doctor	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of SCR13. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 8:23:34 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Uilani Naipo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this measure.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 8:28:58 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Emanuel Pangilinan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support SCR13 to Cease Fire in Gaza and to cease the killing of innocent civilians including thousands of women and children. Nothing justifies murder of thousands of people.

The definition of "terrorism" is the [unlawful](#) use of violence and [intimidation](#), especially against [civilians](#), in the pursuit of political aims. Palestinians are accused of being terrorists, but the terrorist acts of Israel and United States are far greater. Israel and USA need to stop being terrorists in Gaza. Israel and USA are currently the greatest terrorists the world has ever seen! Cease Fire Now. In conclusion please support SCR13.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 8:32:39 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Donna Au	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support SCR13 calling for a ceasefire in Gaza.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 8:37:45 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Emily Kandagawa	Testifying for Ka Lei Maile Alii	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am testifying in very strong support of [SCR13/SR6]. Collective punishment is a war crime under the Geneva Conventions, and the International Court of Justice (ICJ) has already established there is a plausible genocide being committed by Israel against Palestinians in Gaza, with more than 40,000 civilians killed since October. Tens of thousands more have been wounded, brutally maimed, and/or orphaned. It is the moral, legal, and political responsibility of lawmakers to put an end to these violation of international law — supported primarily by billions of US taxpayer dollars — by calling for an immediate and permanent ceasefire in order to create the conditions necessary for the State of Israel to comply with the ICJ’s ruling to prevent further war crimes and to provide unimpeded humanitarian aid to civilians. There is no military solution that will eliminate Hamas; only good faith diplomatic effort will accomplish the release of the remaining Israeli hostages and a true pathway to genuine peace and justice. The root cause of the attacks of Oct. 7 must be addressed in order to prevent more death and destruction. The nearly 2 decade-long illegal siege, bombings, and blockage of Gaza must end, the occupation must end, and the dehumanizing violence of Israeli apartheid must end. The time is now to stand for humanity.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 8:49:32 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Turi kim	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in support of SCR13/SR6. Palestinians have been forcibly removed from their home sine 1948 and the people of Gaza have been under an air, land, and sea blockade for 18 years. Since Oct 7, more than 13,000 children have been killed and another 25,000 or so have been orphaned. Thousands of children have lost one or two limbs. In total, roughly 40,000 Gazans have been massacred and more than 7,000 taken as hostages to unknown locations by the Israeli military. More than 300,000 are being forcibly starved in Northern Gaza and their lives are put in peril when they do try to access any food aid. All of this constitutes multiple violations of international law, and the ICJ is deliberating on the case of genocide. We have waited TOO LONG to demand a ceasefire. The state of Hawai'i should be on the right side of history this time and pass a ceasefire resolution because it's the right thing to do. This conflict is no longer about Oct. 7, it is obviously no longer about self-defense. It is about HUMANITY and stopping the ethnic cleansing of a group of people who have been discriminated against since 1948.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 8:57:10 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
tara bowman	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please stop the starvation and killing of civilians and work on a peace agreement

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 8:57:22 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lauren Scherr	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Committee members,

I am writing to express my strong support for SCR13.

For years I understood the story of Gaza as a tragedy, a conflict with no resolution. But I've come to understand the story of Gaza as one of possibility, of resistance, of radical love. That radical love aligns with the love we hold so dear in Hawai'i. I've seen that alignment and solidarity in action at every protest and rally I've attended on O'ahu, marching with thousands of my fellow citizens through the streets of Waikiki, chanting for a ceasefire now.

It is clear to me that Hawai'i stands in solidarity with Palestine, and for months your constituents have called for an immediate and permanent ceasefire. We have sent thousands of emails and made thousands of calls. We are calling on you again, urgently and resolvedly, to support a ceasefire and end the unprecedented violence against civilians in Gaza.

The sheer volume of devastation, brutality, and death since Oct 7 is impossible to grasp. I grieve for the people of Gaza, and I imagine its spirit through the words of my friend Anam, whose friends are now starving and displaced, living in refugee camps after having lost their homes and family members to the Israeli government's attacks on residential neighborhoods. I see the beauty of Gaza through the stories Anam has shared about her coworkers, friends, and neighbors. I hold onto her descriptions of a place that no longer exists, with hope for a future that includes the liberation of Palestine.

Thank you for scheduling this essential resolution and providing the opportunity for your constituents to express their testimony.

Lauren Scherr

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 8:57:55 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
KEALA FUNG	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

My name is Keala Fung and I am testifying in strong support of SCR13/SR6. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented.

Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

Mahalo!
Keala Fung, Honolulu

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 9:01:10 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Cardenas Pintor	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I support this resolution. Ceasefire now.

Mahalo nui,

Cardenas Pintor

March 8, 2024

PSM Committee, 3pm

**RE: STRONG SUPPORT for SCR13/SR6; RESOLUTION FOR AN IMMEDIATE
CEASEFIRE IN GAZA**

Dear Chair Wakai, Vice-Chair Elefante and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to express my strong support for the Resolutions calling for an immediate and permanent ceasefire in Gaza. Our collective humanity is at a turning point and where each of us stands on this issue will be forever marked in history.

To date, more than 30,800 Palestinians have been killed in Gaza, 70 percent of whom are women and children. Thousands more remain under the rubble. More than 71,000 Palestinians have been wounded, many of whom are children who have faced amputations, often without anesthesia. More than 70 percent of homes in Gaza have been destroyed and more than 2 million people remain displaced from their homes. The population in Gaza is now facing a human-caused famine, with 1 out of every 5 children under 2 years of age facing malnutrition and death.

Desperately needed humanitarian aid, including critical supplies of food, clean water, fuel, medicine and medical equipment continues to be withheld or severely restricted. Without an immediate ceasefire, it is impossible to meet these urgent needs.

I greatly appreciate your consideration of the following amendments to clarify the request of the Resolution and to reflect the most accurate statistics available on the current situation in Gaza:

1. Amend title to request The President of the U.S. and our Congressional delegation support an immediate and permanent ceasefire in Gaza. Requesting our delegation support Congresswoman Cori Bush's Resolution is not feasible given this is a House Resolution that our federal Senators would not be able to sign onto.
2. Reference and cite the January 26, 2024, ruling by the International Court of Justice (ICJ) that a plausible genocide is occurring, and to reflect the urgency of the ceasefire request.
3. Reference and cite mortality and other statistics provided by the United Nations Office on the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA), an independent, internationally recognized reporting source.
4. Add additional necessary terminology regarding the current famine, need for medicine, urging the U.S. to withhold sending any additional weapons given the ICJ's Jan 2024 statement, and transmitting the Resolution to the Governor and additional parties.

Suggested amendments:

SENATE RESOLUTION

URGING THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES AND MEMBERS OF HAWAII'S CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO SUPPORT THE AN IMMEDIATE AND PERMANENT CEASEFIRE IN GAZA RESOLUTION INTRODUCED BY UNITED STATES CONGRESSWOMAN CORI BUSH.

WHEREAS, all human life is precious and the targeting of non-combatants in a conflict zone is in violation of rule 1 of customary international humanitarian law; and

WHEREAS, on January 26, 2024, the World's Highest Court, the International Court of Justice, declared that Palestinians in Gaza were facing a plausible genocide¹; and

WHEREAS, on March 1, 2024, the United Nations Office on the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA) reported that 30,228 Palestinians had been killed and 71,377 had been injured in Gaza, that 1162 people had been killed in Israel and that 134 hostages remained in Gaza²
~~between October 7 and December 2, 2023, armed violence has claimed the lives of more than thirteen thousand Palestinians and some one thousand two hundred Israelis, and wounded tens of thousands more, the vast majority of which are civilians; and~~

WHEREAS, hundreds of thousands of lives are at imminent risk if a permanent ceasefire is not reached and humanitarian aid is not delivered without delay; and

WHEREAS, roughly half of the Palestinians killed or wounded during the violence in Gaza are children despite international humanitarian law requiring that all parties to an armed conflict protect children and prevent the commission of grave violations against them, including killing and maiming, attacks on schools and hospitals, recruitment and use of children, abduction of children, and denial of humanitarian access; and

¹ <https://www.icj-cij.org/sites/default/files/case-related/192/192-20240126-pre-01-00-en.pdf>

² <https://www.ochaopt.org/content/hostilities-gaza-strip-and-israel-reported-impact-day-146>

WHEREAS, these children and their families face further imminent threats including famine due to Israeli government restrictions on food, water, fuel, medicine and other humanitarian assistance ~~that reach them~~; and

WHEREAS, the dismantling of Hamas, a United States Government declared ~~recognized~~ terrorist organization, cannot and should not be achieved at the expense of innocent lives; and

WHEREAS, the United States federal government holds immense diplomatic and economic power to save both Palestinian and Israeli lives; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2024, the House concurring, that the President of the United States and members of Hawaii's congressional delegation are urged to publicly call for an immediate and permanent ceasefire ~~support the Ceasefire Now Resolution introduced by United States Congresswoman Cori Bush~~; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that members of Hawaii's congressional delegation are urged to insist that the Biden Administration call for an immediate, permanent ceasefire in Gaza, to facilitate the de-escalation of hostilities to end the current violence, promptly send and facilitate the entry of humanitarian assistance into Gaza, including fuel, food, water, and medical supplies, to withhold sending any additional weapons in furtherance of the plausible genocide, and continue ~~begin~~ negotiations for lasting peace; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Governor of the State of Hawaii, President of the United States, Majority and Minority Leader of the United States Senate and House of Representatives, members of Hawaii's congressional delegation, and Chair of the Republican and Democratic National Committee.

Thank you for your consideration of my testimony and the above amendments.

Sincerely,

Inga Gibson

University of Hawaii Students & Faculty for Justice in Palestine (UHSFJP), Member
Conflict Resolution Alliance (CRA) of Hawaii, Member
Jewish Voice for Peace, Member

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 9:15:52 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kylie Akiona	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support SCR13 and any and all means to liberate Palestine from Israeli occupation and the genocide of Palestinians at the hands of Israel's military force backed by Hawai'i and the U.S.'s taxpayer dollars. We must refuse the genocide, ongoing illegitimate occupation, apartheid, and erasure of Palestinians; especially as we all live on stolen Native land, the illegally occupied Hawaiian Kingdom and in an ocean that is also illegally occupied by foreign empires and violent colonial projects. A permanent and immediate ceasefire is direly needed for Palestinians as over 30,000 people have died at the hands of their unrelenting colonizers, "Israel". As a Kanaka 'Ōiwi born and raised by this 'āina and tax paying resident, **I strongly urge you to pass SCR13.**
#CeasefireNow

Me ke aloha 'āina,

Kylie Akiona

kylieakiona2@gmail.com

RE: Testimony of Kasey Ines
Strong Support for SCR13: The Hawai'i Ceasefire Resolution
Senate Committee on Public Safety and Intergovernmental Military Affairs
March 7, 2024

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of SCR13. Since October 7, the violence in the Gaza strip by Israel military forces has led to the deaths of some 40,000 civilians with the majority of them being women and children. Tens of thousands are also wounded and thousands are still missing under the rubble.

At the same time, 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas are held in Gaza and remain in danger from ongoing indiscriminate bombing from Israel that put its own civilians at risk

Israel's siege on Gaza has blocked the entry of humanitarian supplies such as food, water, medical supplies, and fuel, effectively starving the 2 million Palestinians in Gaza.

A permanent ceasefire would provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

Mahalo,
Kasey Ines

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 9:25:03 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Robin Martin	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,
I am testifying in strong support of SCR13. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

Please support this bill and stand with the efforts of peace.

Dr. Robin Martin

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 9:40:13 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nicholas Chagnon	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hawaii must support a ceasefire and oppose the genocide being carried out by not only Israel, but also the US government. What's happening to Gaza is an unspeakable crime against humanity, we must speak out and stand up for the people of Gaza. If we do not, the blood is on our hands too. May the screams of Gaza's children forever ring in the ears of those who refuse to stand up for them!

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 9:42:17 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am a resident of O‘ahu and I am testifying in strong support of SCR13. An immediate and permanent ceasefire is needed to prevent further death and destruction to innocent civilian life in and around Gaza. No amount of humanitarian aid from the United States can undo or counteract the fact the US is helping to kill innocent Palestinians through unwavering support of Isreal's colonial and genocidal actions. The U.S. has the power to save lives by demanding an immediate and permanent ceasefire.

Mahalo for this opportunity to provide testimony,

Lorraine Waianuhea

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 9:45:53 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Chloe Hartwell	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Testimony in Support of SCR13/SR6 // The Hawai‘i Ceasefire Resolution
Senate Committee on Public Safety and Intergovernmental and Military Affairs

March 8, 2024

Aloha, members of the committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of this resolution.

For months, I, along with thousands of your constituents, have called on state and federal representatives to support an immediate and permanent ceasefire and increase humanitarian aid in Gaza. Adopting this resolution would send a message that Hawai‘i stands for peace and justice, and firmly against the indiscriminate killing of civilians.

Including the number of missing presumed dead, some 40,000 people have been killed since Oct 7. That is double the entire UH Mānoa undergraduate and graduate student body. Four Stan Sheriff centers full, including more than 14,000 children. Almost the entire population of Gaza has been displaced, and hundreds of thousands are facing catastrophic hunger, which the UN defines as starvation, death, extremely critical acute malnutrition, and not enough food to sustain basic bodily functions and stay alive. If they have thus far survived, adults and children in Gaza are now starving to death. The status quo also puts the Israeli hostages at risk, as many have reportedly been killed by both the bombing and some directly by Israeli forces. A ceasefire and negotiations would help secure their safe release.

The level of human suffering and destruction (infrastructure, environment, etc.) in Gaza is staggering. Middle East Monitor reports that some humanitarian aid items most frequently rejected by Israel include maternity kits, medicine to treat cancer, anesthetics, sleeping bags, oxygen cylinders, and water filtration. Save the Children US’s president said she has “never seen anything like the level of barriers being put in place to hamper humanitarian assistance.” A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, slow the mounting death toll (thousands could still die of disease, tens of thousands more if there is no ceasefire), and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water, and medical supplies into Gaza.

Lastly, regarding arguments that a ceasefire would allow Hamas to regroup, U.S. research shows that “terrorism” increased in every single place we did military “counter-terrorism operations”

for the past 20+ years. This cycle is called Counterinsurgency Mathematics and has been widely studied. Continuing to carpet bomb civilians makes the world a less safe place for everyone.

I respectfully request your support of SCR13/SR6. Thank you again for this opportunity to testify.

Mahalo,

Chloe Hartwell

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 9:47:37 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Keri Silva	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of SCR13. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct. 7, and the majority of them are woman and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and help in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege on Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe will only get worse if the fighting does not stop immediately.

A ceasefire would also provide an opportunity to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by both parties.

Tackling the root cause of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 9:48:09 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jane Au	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

We must put an end to this genocide.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 9:51:12 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Betty Bruce	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of SCR13. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza. **That is over 5% of the entire population dead or wounded.**

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel, and leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive.

According to the World Food Program currently 4/5 of the hungriest humans on the planet are in Gaza, and children and infants are dying.

Over 70% of the homes are destroyed and the health system has been crippled with only 11 hospitals are even partially functioning with limited access to supplies and medication.

The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid and **repeated forced displacement imposed on Palestinians** is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

For over 150 days I have witnessed Israel's genocidal intent and repeated war crimes, not from western media outlets but from friends, colleagues of my mothers at MSF, and human hearts on the ground. This needs to stop.

Betty Bruce

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 9:55:55 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Christina Oey	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am Christina Oey, currently a concerned student at the University of Hawaii at Manoa. I am testifying in urgent support of SCR13 for a ceasefire in Gaza.

Since October 7th, approximately 40,000 people have been killed. Israel's siege on Gaza has blocked the residents of Gaza access to basic human necessities like food, water, fuel, and access to medicinal supplies/aid. Ultimately leaving over 2 million people to struggle to survive with half of the population being children. This all stems from Israel's 16 year long blockade on Gaza Strip and will only worsen if the fighting does not stop immediately.

A ceasefire would put a stop on unwarranted attacks like the Flour Massacre where Israeli troops open fire on hundreds waiting for food aid. It would allow for the citizens of Gaza to gain medical attention, water, and food. Americans support a ceasefire and want to move towards a peaceful solution that values human rights and lives. Millions of human lives are at stake

.

Thank you for time. Your consideration of this matter is very much appreciated.

Sincerely,

Christina Oey

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 10:05:52 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Hannah	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of SCR13/SR6 to support a call for ceasefire.

This unparalleled escalation of conflict between israel and hamas has taken a huge toll on civilians, mostly in the Gaza Strip but we are also seeing a rise in violence towards civilians in the West Bank. Humanity has failed in these past 5 months. 5 months we have been watching a livestream of Palestinians being murdered on social media, it's horrific. There is no denying that, this is the most documented conflict we have seen in our lifetimes. Israel has the capabilities and precision to go about this without this much casualties and destruction to the land. The carpet bombing has caused Gaza infrastructure to be completely destroyed. This goes both ways as we also see documentation of ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into israel which is also placing Israeli civilians at risk.

Our taxes should be used to restore Lahaina, provide healthcare to Americans, do better at public education, address the climate change issues and the homelessness crisis in America. The amount of destruction that israel has caused is horrific, aside from the civilian casualties, it's going to take years and years to be able to restore Gaza to what it once was. Not to mention the climate impact this is going to have on future generations to come.

Allowing this to continue further is causing more harm. While all this is happening in Gaza, the west bank has been experiencing its own violence from armed settlers (civilians) and the IDF. As the war on Gaza continues 3,500 new homes are being built in illegal israeli settlements in the west bank, These are illegal settlements under international law. These homes are being sold and advertised in states like New Jersey only to the jewish community. This is violating the fair housing act, this is causing segregation and also creating a picture that one religion or race is superior to another. This is going to continue unfortunately as it has been in the past. This by no means should as it is violating many laws but the ongoing war on Gaza is hiding what is going on in places like the West Bank where settlements are expanding and increasing. The entire world is watching a conflict and seeing one side with an established military force with means and resources killing children and civilians for 5 months with a death toll of 40,000 not including those trapped under the rubble and nobody is doing anything to stop it. Instead, Israel is being encouraged by aid and resources. This situation is only going to get worse if the fighting does not stop immediately. One life should not matter more than another.

This is a humanitarian catastrophe, Please do right by history, I urge the committee to call for an immediate and permanent ceasefire.

A ceasefire will allow humanitarian aid to enter, it will provide an opportunity to safely negotiate the release of hostages and it would allow for independent international investigations to take place into the war crime committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Every child on this earth no matter race, gender, religion should have the right to a childhood, do not continue to allow childhoods from both parties to be robbed and negatively impacted. Please call for a ceasefire, immediate and a permanent ceasefire.

Thank you for your time.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 10:06:47 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Aria Juliet Castillo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

We need to call for a ceasefire now.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 10:09:14 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Meredith Buck	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Aloha mai kākou,

My name is Meredith Buck and I am a resident of Kailua Kona. I am writing to share my testimony in strong support of SCR13, calling for Israel's permanent ceasefire in Gaza.

For far too long, the horrors Israeli forces have committed against Gazan civilians have continued to worsen, igniting calls for ceasefire the world over. These atrocities have included countless war crimes and, when taken fully into account, amount to ethnic cleansing. The United States is increasingly alone in its unconditional support for Israel, yet it is the only nation with the power to force a stop to the violence. We are a country founded on life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, yet three times the US alone has voted against ceasefire in Gaza. The message this sends to the world is a dangerous one: "never again, unless we change our minds." The call to justice is only becoming stronger each day. We need to bring about immediate ceasefire, not only for the people of Gaza and the West Bank, but for Palestinians and all people around the world.

For these reasons I urge the congress to support SCR13.

Mahalo nui loa for your time and consideration.

Meredith Buck

96740

Aloha, Senator Glenn Wakai and Senator Brandon J.C. Elefante,
My name is Kayla Uhlmansiek and I am testifying on SCR13 in support of urging the members of Hawaii's congressional delegation to support the ceasefire in Gaza. Being in support of calling for a ceasefire in Gaza is not only important as a nation but as a person with respective morals. The genocide in Gaza is irrefutably tragic and not calling for a ceasefire is shameful. For the government to be in an excessive amount of debt but continue to support and assist Israel is unthinkable. It is important that as a state ourselves we urge the importance of calling for a ceasefire. Here in Hawaii, aloha is valued like no other and being able to hold onto the aloha and spread it among the world is so important. Being able to advocate for standard rights here is just as important anywhere else. Thank you to the committee on public safety and intergovernmental and military affairs for the opportunity to testify.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 10:24:43 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Corinne Foley	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of SCR13. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on

Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 10:26:27 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
shayna esteban	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in support of the Hawai'i Ceasefire Resolution. As an ordinary citizen of Hawai'i, I cannot be silent while bearing witness to a man-made humanitarian catastrophe occurring in Gaza.

In Gaza, at least 12,300 keiki have been killed. To put that number into perspective, I think about my keiki who attend Kane'ohe Elementary where about 580 students are enrolled. Imagine, Kane'ohe Elementary times 20. This number does not include the 8,000 missing keiki and 8,000 injured keiki. The bombing, the killing, the violence as a result of Israel's occupation of Gaza must end. It is an assault on our humanity.

In Hawai'i we are raised with Aloha. We must lead with Aloha. We teach our kids about anti bullying and to help others when in need. Well here I am, a Hawai'i resident and product of Hawai'i's public school system, speaking up because I was raised in a community with Aloha.

Please find it in yourselves to do what is pono. Mahalo for hearing my testimony.

Shayna Esteban

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 10:26:55 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha,

This testimony is intended to express my strong support of SCR13. Tens of thousands of people have been killed since Oct 7, thousands of children have been orphaned, over a thousand have lost limbs, and many will be permanently physically and mentally scarred by what they've experienced. A majority of them have lost their homes and all of their belongings. And now they are starving, as are the Israeli hostages who remain in Gaza. What more must they go through before the United States supports a ceasefire? We were the only member of the UN Security council to veto the last draft resolution calling for one. There will be no possibility of peace in the area as long as the violence against Palestinians continues in Gaza and the West Bank.

City councils, colleges, and unions around the country have come together to call for a ceasefire. Hawaii could set an incredible precedent by becoming the first state to do so. If ever there was a time to embody aloha, it is now. Please support a ceasefire.

Mahalo,

Amy Parsons

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 10:30:18 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Zachary Kubo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

For the past five months, the ongoing genocide in the Gaza strip at the behest of the Israeli government has caused untold death, destruction, and despair for the Palestinian people. Entire communities and their lives have been wiped out through military weapons that have been funded by nations such as the United States and United Kingdom. Being a part of a culture that has and continues to be under the yoke of colonial/neocolonial oppression, I cannot help but see the similarities between the plight of Palestinians and of our native communities here in Hawai'i. Palestinians have to consistently live each day not knowing if it will be their last, the current death toll of 30,000+ people in Gaza testifying to this. Israel's continued bombing of hospitals and restrictions on natural resources (e.g. water, food) for Palestinians also exemplifies the horrific nature of the current situation. The recent Flour Massacre where Palestinians who were trying to receive U.S. aid (the irony is not lost here) were gunned down by IDF forces is a painful example of the senselessness and abhorrent reasoning behind the genocide.

This current funding of genocide by the U.S. cannot stand and it is our kuleana to join others in supporting a ceasefire. This resolution is one step in us contributing to the ongoing movements against the violence enacted on Palestinians and towards reaching said ceasefire to help put an end to the death and destruction.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 10:30:54 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jeffrey Baucom	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of [SCR13/SR6]. The escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas has taken a devastating toll on civilians. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing uner the rubble of Gaza.

Meanwhile, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger.

Israel's collective punishment campaign has nearly decimated all systems necessary to support life in Gaza. Israel has also blocked aid and supplies from entering, forcing the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip to scavenge for food, water and fuel. The few remaining medical facilities left operating in Gaza are overwhelmed and undersupplied. Children are receiving life-altering emergency procedures like amputations without morphine while families and caregivers do their best to provide whatever comforts they can manage.

This humanitarian catastrophe is the culmination of a 16-year-long illegal blockade of Gaza by Israel. If this conflict is allowed to continue, things will only get worse.

The military presence in Hawai'i represents a direct link to this conflict. For decades, the Israeli military and the US military have worked together to develop military technology and train personnel. The Israeli military is also the largest purchaser and user of US military equipment and Israel is the largest receiver of foreign aid from the US government.

We must be realistic about what can possibly come from this conflict. While Israel's goal is to eliminate Hamas, they are ensuring this bitter war continues. The children that are living through this will be the ones who are forced to build a new life, but with many schools and universities in Gaza destroyed and world-renowned Palestinian professors and academics killed in Israel's campaign, how can we expect them to build a better world in the future? Meanwhile, if Israel is allowed to annex Gaza and Israeli settlers allowed to live there, how can their lives be peaceful and prosperous when it was only made possibly by wanton destruction?

Should this continue, the anger and bitter resentment generated from this conflict will poison our world for generations.

A ceasefire would provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

Thank you for your time.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 10:31:54 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Charlotte Sandoz	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Te trstimony of Charlotte Sandoz

i support the ceasefire resolution .

it is of utmost importance to send the message to congrsd and to Biden administration that the first step to having negotiations to create a workable solution in the middle east is a CEASEFIRE

.

thank you for the work you do . Mahalo

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 10:36:25 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Chasity Bae	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is Chasity Bae from the island of O‘ahu and the ahupua‘a of Waipi‘o. I am an individual citizen. I am testifying in support of Bill SCR13, 13 SCR URGING MEMBERS OF HAWAII'S CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO SUPPORT THE CEASEFIRE IN GAZA RESOLUTION INTRODUCED BY UNITED STATES CONGRESSWOMAN CORI BUSH.

The reason I am testifying to cease fire is because it has been too long that we are letting the war continue on. Corporations should be able to control the actions of other countries. Indigenous people should not be removed from their land, and should rightfully be able to operate as such.

As an indigenous person who has family in the occupied land of Okinawa which was once the Ryukyu Kingdom. Indigenous people should not be utilized as a tool for genocide. Support the people of Palestine and cease fire.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Gabrielle Justine Tapat

Waipahu, HI

Testimony of Gabrielle Justine Tapat

Support of SCR13

Urging members of Hawai'i's congressional delegation to support the ceasefire in Gaza resolution introduced by United States congresswoman Cori Bush

Dear Senator Glenn Wakai and Senator Brandon J.C. Elefante,

My name is Gabrielle Justine Tapat and I support SCR13.

Any news outlet can tell you the facts about the situation in Gaza, especially on social media where we are shown the devastating videos and images along with testimonies from Palestinians. The hostilities are present there in line with tens of thousands of innocent civilians killed over months. Also, with the overall destruction in Gaza, the people who are trying to survive there every day increasingly lack the food, water, sanitation, medicine, electricity, and shelter to do so. We, as a State, need to take action. These people are losing their homes. We should understand the severity of the situation and how quickly action needs to be taken to ensure humanitarian aid access for the people in Gaza. Therefore, support the ceasefire in Gaza resolution introduced by United States congresswoman Cori Bush.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 10:38:32 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Melissa Devine	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

We need a ceasefire now in Gaza. The death toll is approaching 45,000 people. Innocent civilians are being murdered as massacred. End funding to Israel, and stop being complicit in this genocide. Enough is enough.

CEASEFIRE NOW!!!

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 10:38:54 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ilima Long	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I am writing as a concerned citizen in support of SCR13. As someone who has paid close attention to the issue of Palestine for over a decade, and who has studied scholarship on genocide, it is clear as day that genocide is indeed what we are witnessing before our very eyes in Gaza. I never thought I'd live to see it so sharply.

It is heartbreakingly disappointing that our Congressional delegation has hardly said a word in defense of innocent lives in Gaza. It is at the federal level that decisions can be made to stop the mass annihilation of Palestinians in Gaza and all people of conscience, especially those under the jurisdiction of the United States, must do everthing they can to apply pressure in that direction.

As I've heard many ask, "every wonder what you would have done if you were alive to witness the Holocaust? The answer is whatever you're doing now." I never understood how the world could have let it happen to the Jewish people. And now I'm watching those in power let it happen to Palestinians. This is how it happens - inaction, excuse-making, and convoluting the facts with the propoganda of the powerful.

Please take action and push the message to our Congressional delegation that Hawai'i stands for human rights.

Mahalo,

Ilima Long

Mō'ili'ili

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 10:40:00 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Julianna Davis	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

My name is Julianna Davis and I am testifying in strong support of SCR13/SR6. It is our duty to put a stop to this senseless violence, funded by our tax dollars, that has murdered thousands of innocent Palestinians. As an American Jew I say NOT IN MY NAME. I urge you to listen to the calls from around the world demanding an immediate ceasefire.

Mahalo for your time.

Julianna

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 10:43:16 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Anya Hubbard	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support SR6/SCR13 for what should be obvious reasons.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 10:44:29 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Christian Ramil	Individual	Support	In Person

Comments:

Testimony of Christian Ramil in Strong Support for SCR13/SR6

Aloha members of the committee,

Thank you for scheduling this resolution and for the opportunity for community members to submit testimony. I'm writing today in support of this important resolution.

I'm testifying today as someone who was born and raised in Hawai'i and very recently relocated back to Honolulu. Having read the deeply tragic headlines of the past several months and seeing people all over the U.S. and the world speak up in support of peace, I feel compelled to add my voice as just one of many in support of a permanent ceasefire.

As you know and as mentioned in the resolution, since the October 7th attack, there has been an unparalleled loss of human life as Israel has continued unrelenting bombardment in Gaza. More than 30,000 Palestinians have been killed, the majority of which are women and children. This indiscriminate bombardment also puts at risk the roughly hundred hostages that remain held by Hamas and other armed groups. More than two months ago in December, Human Rights Watch reported that the Israeli government is using starvation as a weapon. Now, ninety percent of the roughly two million people in Gaza are facing a high level of acute food insecurity. Numerous human rights groups and humanitarian organizations have called for a permanent and sustained ceasefire to address this catastrophic loss of human life and displacement of Palestinians.

As the largest exporter of arms to Israel, the United States has the power, leverage, and capacity to influence Israel's devastating prosecution of warfare. I urge the Hawai'i State Legislature to pass this resolution and support a permanent ceasefire. This will further send a signal to our congressional delegation and the Biden Administration that constituents in Hawai'i demand an end to indiscriminate killing of Palestinians.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Christian Ramil

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 10:50:13 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Joshua Tengan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Committee Members Wakai and Elefante –

I write today to implore you to support this simple, clear, and reasonable Ceasefire Now Resolution introduced by Rep. Bush in the US Congress.

This is a historic moment for Hawai‘i and all of its residents. When our future generations ask us what we did to stop the genocide of Palestinians at the brutal hand of Israel, we can say that we sent a clear and resounding message to our representatives in Washington and to the unlawful Biden Administration that Hawai‘i’s people demand an immediate stop to the murder and indiscriminate killing of innocent Palestinian men, women, and children.

Thousands of Hawai‘i residents have been organizing and attending protests, demonstrations, marches, educational events, teach-ins, etc., to raise awareness of the realities and histories of colonization, forced displacement, occupation, brutality, and genocide, that Palestinians have been facing for the last seventy-five or so years. We are making it known that Hawai‘i stands with Palestine and stands in solidarity all oppressed peoples around the world.

I urge you to move this bill forward today.

Mahalo,

Josh Tengan

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 10:51:07 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Joy Enomoto	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha committee members,

I am testifying in strong support of SCR13/SR6. The unparalleled escalation of genocide by the Israeli government is calling upon humanity to do everything in its power to stop the unrelenting ethnic cleansing of the Palestinian people. The death toll of Palestinian men, women and children has exceeded 40,000 people, with more than half being infants, children and women since Oct 7. Another 70, 000 have been wounded, and many others remain beneath the rubble of bombed buildings. This is not including the countless thousands that have been killed by the Israeli settler regime over that past 75 years. Israel has destroyed every hospital, mosque, and school in Gaza. There is no sanctuary and nowhere for the Palestinian people to go. Palestinians are dying of starvation due to blocked aid trucks by Israeli settlers, the denial off of all fresh water resources and snipers killing civilians seeking food from aid airdrops. This is dehumanizing. The US government has cut its aid to UNRWA and is actively arming Israel with the largest unchecked military budget in history.

This is far beyond a humanitarian catastrophe. Hawai'i must stand with the millions calling for a ceasefire globally. A permanent ceasefire is the bare minimum measure necessary to allow for negotiations to release thostages detained by Israel and in Gaza and for independent international investigations of all of the war crimes that have been committed and to end Israel's long standing ability to commit atrocities with impunity and diplomatic shielding by the US.

Now more than ever, we must tackle the root cause of this genocide by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed upon the nation of Palestine. This cannot occur as long as this genocide is allowed to continue.

Thank you,

Joy Lehuanani Enomoto

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 10:53:43 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jodi Robinson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support all resolutions and efforts calling for a ceasefire in Gaza. Mahalo.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 10:56:32 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Amanda Kuhns	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha

My name is Amanda. I live in Lāhāina. I have two daughters ages 9 and 10.

This is not complicated in the slightest and you don't require me to educate you on the issue. Your very body tells you how wrong this is.

the state and federal government has all but abandoned Lāhāina after the fires- as our friends remain on the beach, unhoused, uncared for, asking for dignity we send arms and money to Israel to annihilate innocent women, children and men.

we hear you all say "national security" but we ask whose security? It certainly is not that of the working class or the middle class. You fail to understand that our standards of living, the cost of living that is imposed on us- multiple jobs, no healthcare, poor education, low access to food, little time for family, lack of dignified wages etc have pushed most of us to evaluate why we continue this game and call it life?

If this is the best you have to offer your people, the risk we are willing to take to say "human rights for all" and permanent ceasefire are far greater than you understand.

as you waiver on your fence, your lack of expediency and persistent choices that leave out the people have left us no choice but to lay it on the line. Do the right thing, do not use our tax dollars to murder and support causes we disagree with while not supporting your constituents.

we are all out of Aloha. Permanent Ceasefire now. Hawaii knows all to well where occupation ends for the land and her people. We divest. We expect our representatives to do the same.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 11:09:14 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Janice Staab	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I am testifying in strong support of SCR13/SR6. The escalating conflict has taken a devastating toll on civilians. This violence and intentional starvation cannot be allowed to continue.

Mahalo,

Janice Staab

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 11:17:34 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Alysha K Higgins	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to urge our Hawaii's congressional delegation to support the ceasefire in Gaza resolution put forward by Cori Bush. The last 6 months of Israel relentless slaughter of Palestinians has been absolutely atrocious. As the US has armed and continues to support Israel with no red lines as they systematically ethnically cleanse the population through forced displacement and merciless bombardment, with 70% of those killed being women and children. As a mother to 3 children, and a postpartum care provider and doula that supports mothers who are pregnant, birthing, and new parents, it is quite unfathomable to me the torture that mothers, families, children in Gaza are enduring at the hands of Israels cruel military slaughter. As I offer families massage and fancy teas for postpartum support, families in the north of gaza are eating grass and animal feed and living in rain soaked tents. According to UNICEF, 90% of children under 2 and pregnant or Breastfeeding mothers in gaza are facing severe food poverty. Mothers are not able to produce milk for their newborns because of starvation, AND mothers cannot even secure formula for their newborns. To date, AT LEAST 16 babies and kids have died from startvation- which is completely preventable- if Israel would follow international law and allow aid into Gaza. The rampant disease and starvation is only getting worse, at a dangerously rapid pace. The flour massacre was a new low- killing a hundred plus civilians who are starving! In what reality is this acceptable? We must stop this- the world must come together and stop the madness.

The world has seen very clearly with our own eyes- this is not a war on Hamas- this is a war on women and children. As I stand here before you today, Israel is intentionally starving newborns and premature infants as they refuse to let in humanitarian aid to gaza. There is no milk for babies to drink as Israel systematically besieges every hospital left in Gaza. Over 13,000 children have had to be buried by their mothers and now 17,000 children have to live without parents, orphaned. Many will live the rest of their lives as amputees. It would take 500 years to rehabilitate all of these injured children. What echos of terror are being rippled across our world?! How can anyone one feel safe in this horrific global environment?

Hospitals have been turned into places of death instead of health and care. There is NO access to healthcare at all in Gaza! How is this being allowed to happen? We have blood on our hands if we continue to stay silent and enable this to happen. So long as we shrug and allow more weapons to crush these babies bones, so long as we stop funding UNRWA, and twiddle our thumbs as 1000 aid trucks stay gridlocked at the Rafah/Egypt border...we have blood on our hands. This issue is THE #1 ISSUE OF THIS TIME.

If you care about Reproductive Rights, I assume you care about the 300% increase in miscarriages that women in Gaza face as they endure trauma and terror day in and day out for over 4 months. They must undergo C- sections without anesthesia, or escape death and snipers after giving birth by walking just hours after birth! Or women have been executed and bulldozed by the IDF while in labor as they carry white flags and try to seek medical care. This is the HARSH reality. Our minds and hearts cannot handle this level of terror. Humanity is crying out for our representatives to stand up for the innocent, to defend the rights of women and children as we witness a Palestinian Holocaust. We are crying out to you representatives- who are supposed to be our voice- as I have called your offices over and over for the past 150 days of this US tax payer funded genocide, please demand a permanent and lasting ceasefire now, stand up for justice and humanity and demand the us stop arming Israel with weapons to commit these atrocious crimes. We the people do not consent!

Respectfully, Alysha Higgins

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 11:19:37 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Christine van Bergeijk	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of [SCR13/SR6]. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Christine van Bergeijk

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 11:19:55 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kelsey Mapa	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Elected Officials of the Hawai'i State Legislature,

I am an educator, a taxpayer, a voter, a daughter, a sister, a wife, and a mom from Maui. I don't usually do this type of thing, but I feel morally compelled to speak up in this moment, so I am writing on behalf of our brothers and sisters in Gaza to support the Hawai'i State Ceasefire Resolution.

As I am sure you are aware, Israel began illegally occupying Palestinian lands in 1948 through a process that came to be known as the Nakba, or Great Catastrophe. Israel's illegal occupation continues to this day. It is extremely violent and oppressive.

In October, a group of Palestinians decided to resist the occupation. Israel responded by imposing collective punishment on everyone living in Gaza. They indiscriminately carpet bombed the North, then Gaza City in the center, and have since moved to the South and are about to escalate their assault on Rafah. Palestinian civilians have nowhere safe left to go. They also do not have access to food, water, medicine, fuel, or other aid as Israel has restricted all routes in and out of the Gaza Strip. In January, The International Court of Justice warned that Israel is at risk of committing GENOCIDE in Gaza.

While most of our elected officials in Washington fail to take action calling for a ceasefire or to stop arming Israel and corporate media outlets fail to speak up about the genocide, people of conscience throughout the world are accessing live images and videos from reporters on the ground in Gaza via social media and we are heartbroken and enraged. All of us can see with our own eyes that Israel is indiscriminately bombing Gazan children and families while simultaneously preventing food, water, medicine, fuel, and other aid from entering the territory.

More than 31,000 souls have been killed, including more than 12,000 children. At least 18 children (mostly toddlers and infants) have died of starvation. Yes, you read that right, starvation is a weapon currently being used against children. The death rate is expected to increase as thousands are still missing under the rubble. More than 72,000 people have been injured. More than 1,000 children have had to have one or both of their legs amputated, usually without anesthetic. At least 17,000 children have become orphans. This is abhorrent.

Witnessing the difficult rebuilding process for our fire survivors on Maui, I feel it is important to mention the infrastructure statistics as well. More than 360,000 homes, 392 educational facilities,

267 places of worship, 35 hospitals, 132 water wells, and 11 bakeries have been destroyed or damaged. Two million people are displaced! TWO MILLION!! Can you imagine the devastation?

This is not self-defense. It's not complicated, it's genocide and genocide is always wrong! I do not want my children to grow up in a world where we overlook the suffering of others. We belong to each other and we should stand up against injustice and oppression. We must come together today to raise our voices to call for an end to the violence. A return of all hostages and a peaceful path forward is most likely to be achieved through de-escalation and a diplomatic solution. Please call for a permanent ceasefire! Mahalo!

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 11:25:18 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Stephanie Yoo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support ceasefire in Gaza and call for an end to the genocide against the Palestinian people.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 11:28:30 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Julia Sakamoto	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

My name is Julia Sakamoto. I am the proud mother of two young girls living on Windward O'ahu. I have never participated in a congressional hearing, let alone submitted testimony. But this cause is one that keeps me up at night.

Most wars or tragedies happening outside of the U.S., or even outside of the islands of Hawai'i, hold my attention. Most seem too complicated, with no clear answer, or it just seems like there is nothing I can do to help or intervene.

The horrors unfolding in Gaza are a clear exception. As stated in the resolution, all human life is precious. We as a civilized society have agreed upon rules, including that non-combatant lives must not be unnecessarily harmed. CHILDREN must be protected. Even if the numbers reported by the government of Hamas are exaggerated by double, their reported numbers have surpassed 30 Thousand deaths. This does not include men, women and children who have succumbed to preventable illnesses, lack of clean water and hygiene, or lack of food. This is a heinous act that we, as a nation who has historically allied with Israel for a variety of moral and political reasons, cannot stand by and let continue.

One of Plato's most famous quotes is "Your silence gives consent." Failing to speak out against injustice is tantamount to condoning it. Plato believed that individuals have a moral obligation to speak out against injustice and to work to make society a more just and equitable place.

We cannot watch silently as the economically- and politically- powerful nation of Israel ignores international laws, bullies and massacres the innocent civilians of a much-smaller nation through direct violence or neglect. As stated in the resolution, the dismantling of Hamas cannot and should not be achieved at the expense of *any* innocent lives, let alone tens of thousands. My heart breaks for the families in Israel still waiting for their family members to come home. We can hold empathy for families on both sides of that border, and simultaneously support a return of hostages while strongly protesting the continued actions causing thousands of innocent civilian deaths.

The United States holds great sway in this global conversation. Please represent our collective voices and insist that the Biden Administration

- 1) call for an immediate, permanent ceasefire in Gaza
- 2) facilitate the de-escalation of hostilities to end the current violence
- 3) promptly send and facilitate the entry of humanitarian assistance into Gaza

Mahalo,

Julia Sakamoto

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 11:29:12 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Grace Nastase	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Bill SCR13: Urging Members of Hawaii’s Congressional Delegation to Support the Ceasefire in Gaza Resolution Introduced by United States Congresswomen Cori Bush

I, Grace Nastase, am testifying in **favor** of the support of the ceasefire in Gaza. Israel’s attack and siege of Gaza has resulted in the loss of over 30,000 Palestinian lives, tens of thousands are wounded, hundreds of thousands are battling against starvation, and over 1.7 million have been displaced by the conflict. This is a humanitarian crisis, a religious crisis, and a political crisis and needs to be addressed urgently.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Mahalo,

Grace Nastase

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 11:31:19 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Quinn Goo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

RE: Testimony of Quinn Goo

Strong Support for SCR13/SR6: The Hawai'i Ceasefire Resolution

March 7 2024

Aloha members of the committee,

Thank you for scheduling this important resolution and for giving the community the chance to testify. With all of my heart, I am in full support.

Over the past few months, your constituents have organized dozens of rallies in all four primary counties, multiple teach-ins, and a thousands-strong march in Waikiki. We have sent thousands of emails, calls, and postcards to elected officials at the state and federal level making it known that Hawai'i stands with Palestine.

I am a part of the Associated Students of Hawai'i student government and have written a resolution in strong support of Palestine. It is so important that we, Hawai'i and the University, align ourselves in support of Palestine.

The Hawai'i State Legislature should now add its voice and join its constituents in calling for an immediate, permanent ceasefire in Gaze, and for the opening of negotiations for a lasting peace-- a peace that includes the liberation of Palestine.

If the Hawai'i State Legislature were to adopt this resolution, it would send a signal to our Congressional delegation, and the Biden Administration, that Hawai'i and its people demand an immediate end to the indiscriminate killing of Palestinian civilians in Gaza, the West Bank, and throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territories and Isreal.

Mahalo,
Quinn Goo

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 11:31:35 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Natalie Maka	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Natalie Maka
Regarding SCR 13
03/07/2024

My name is Natalie Maka and I am a concerned UH Manoa student and in general, a human being. I am submitting testomy in support of SCR 13 to call for a ceasefire in Gaza. Hawaii should demand that the Biden administration to call for an immediate ceasefire and for humanitarian assistance to be allowed to enter Gaza. Palestinian civilians, including children, continued to be subjected to daily and continuous killings, in addition to the policy of incursions and attacks on Palestinian villages, towns and cities by the Israeli occupation forces and settler herds. In Israel, Palestinian citizens and others who dare to express dissent over Israel's brutal assault on Gaza and its failure to uphold its obligations under international humanitarian law, have faced a major crackdown on their freedom of speech, and political persecution. The illegal occupation and the system of apartheid against the Palestinian people, a crime against humanity, must be dismantled if lasting peace and justice are to be achieved.

I urge you to view the citizens in Gaza as your brothers and sisters. As a university student expected to graduate soon and go out into the world and do good with my education, there is nothing more disheartening and discouraging then watching people in positons of power do nothing in a time were intervention is crucial.

Thank you for taking the time to hear my testimony. Your consideration of these matters is very much appreciated.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 11:35:52 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Halie Pruitt	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of [SCR13/SR6]. The unparalleled escalation of violence, occupation, and imprisonment against Palestinians by Israel is taking a devastating toll on the Palestinian community both on the ground and here in the United States. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since October 7th, not including the several thousand Palestinians in Gaza trapped under the rubble from U.S funded bombing. Another 70,000 have been wounded and permanently physically disabled. The entire Palestinian community in Gaza and throughout Palestine have been disabled due to the excessive violence from the U.S. backed Israeli Occupation Forces (IOF).

Some 200 Israeli hostages taken by armed Palestinian groups are also in danger from Israel's indiscriminate bombing. It is clear that, for the IOF, the hostages were never the issue, but are scapegoats that Netanyahu and his government will use to support their genocide of the Palestinians.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food, and fuel leaving the 2million people in the strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will get worse if the fighting does not stop immediately. Additionally, the catastrophe across Palestine, stemming from the original Nakba in 1948, will get increasingly worse if the fighting is allowed to continue. It will not stop with Gaza, as evidenced by IOF members and non-active members assaulting and killing Palestinians beyond the borders of Gaza. Already, Israels bombing, killing, and polluting has destroyed the land and waters to the extent that it may not be tenable for the next 50+ years.

Although Netanyahu has refused to negotiate previously-- saying that the assault will continue until Israel has complete and total control of the area, A ceasefire could provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for investigations into the war crimes to take place.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished unless the violent siege by Israel, supported by the U.S., ends.

Make this island nation of Hawai'i the first within the United States to fully support a ceasefire, and open up for more action in the future.

mahalo

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 11:36:18 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ethan Onipaa Porter	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support this call for peace.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 11:36:39 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Breanne Fong	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of SCR13.

My name is Breanne Fong, and I am currently a graduate student pursuing my master's of environmental management at UH Mānoa. It pains, upsets, saddens, and stresses me out that I and so many others have to raise our voices and urge our politicians to do what is evidently the morally just and humane thing to do right now for those in Gaza, which is supporting a total and permanent ceasefire.

The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

Please help stop this ongoing genocide of Palestinians.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Breanne Fong

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 11:37:24 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lana Bilbo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in **STRONG** support of SCR13.

Kauai alone has had weekly events in support of a ceasefire since November. Thousands of people marched in the streets of Waikiki in January calling for the end of genocide and apartheid. Hawaii County is well on its way to passing a ceasefire resolution. Hundreds of people turned out yesterday to protest vote “uncommitted,” creating the highest rate of uncommitted votes in the nation so far at 29.1%. Thousands of people have signed the petition to end our strategic partnership with Israel. Our message is clear and strong: **CEASEFIRE NOW, END THE GENOCIDE. SEND AID TO GAZA.**

The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel’s tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel’s 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn’t stop immediately.

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 11:37:32 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jennifer Kau'i Young	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support SCR13 and the ceasefire movement for the protection of Palestine and the Palestinian people. None of us are free until we are all free. Aloha mau nō.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 11:44:35 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tadia Rice	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

War is never good. Conflict can be diplomatically resolved if there is political will and a fundamental understanding that all people are one. Differences in religious ideology, gender discrimination, and racism can never justify killing innocent people. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children, with loss of innocent lives and genocide being implemented. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately. This must be done with a ceasefire so aid agencies and medical supplies can help eliminate the suffering. Common sense says that a ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities. Tackling the root causes of this conflict cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

Please support SCR13. Mahalo.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 11:47:01 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
imani altemus-williams	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

My name is Imani and I'm a Jew raised in Honolulu. My jewish values, life experience and upbringing in Hawai'i has compelled me to oppose zionism and the devastating impacts of this polidical ideology. I spent time in Palestine in 2022 and was horrified by what I witnessed, long before October 7th. Today, I can't even fathom that as a genocide is happening before our eyes, most elected officials are refusing to simply call for a ceasefire - an end to the carnage and bloodshed of innocent human beings.

I am testifying in strong support of [SCR13/SR6]. Israel with the backing of the United States, are committing war crimes that have taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 11:48:22 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Brian Heithaus	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Thank you for taking the time to use the power of this legislative body to call for humanity and justice, the overwhelming majority of citizens and voters support an immediate ceasefire and end to this probable genocide in Gaza, as ruled by the World Court (ICJ).

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 11:48:56 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dylan Pilger	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support SCR13 and call for an immediate and permanent ceasefire now.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 11:53:50 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Echo Hirata	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the Committee, I am Echo Hirata, a University of Hawaii at Hilo student. I am in strong support of SCR13 and urging Hawaii to support a ceasefire in Gaza. The unparalleled escalation in Gaza has gotten too far. Over 40,000 lives have been lost due to Israel's actions in Gaza and even the West Bank, many of them Palestinian, others Israelis, and Americans. This "defense" from Israel is nothing short of genocidal behavior. A ceasefire in Gaza can save thousands of Palestinian and Israeli lives, so I urge you, the committee, to pass SCR13. And to put pressure on our government to pass a ceasefire in Gaza.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 11:58:07 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ayla Castillo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in wholehearted support of this gravely important resolution [SCR13/SR6]. The devastating events in Palestine, specifically Gaza that have led to this point with approximately 40,000 civilians killed, the majority being women and children. Over 70,000 injured, thousands (countless) missing under the rubble, and millions in dire conditions/ starving to death, this must end now. Israel's occupation and siege of Gaza has allowed them to block the entry of desperately needed aid, food, water, medicine, and the necessary means of survival. The amount of humanitarian laws and war crimes that have been committed is astonishing and unacceptable. These are not casualties and signs of war, these are signs of dehumanization, genocide, and ethnic cleansing. We must not disregard international, and humanitarian laws as they are the basis of upholding humanity and the value of all human lives, irregardless of race, ethnicities, etc,

I stand and support this resolution for an immediate and permanent ceasefire in Gaza, to end the constant massacring of innocent civilians, which is the first step to a peaceful solution. Leading on to the end of the illegal occupation, siege and illegal abductions and settlements in the West Bank and throughout Palestine by Israelis. Hawai'i must send a clear message that we do not accept this treatment of the people of Palestine, we demand an immediate ceasefire and liberation and justice for Palestinians.

Sincerely,

Ayla Castillo

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 11:58:49 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nicole Valhuerdi	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The genocide happening in occupied Palestine is inhumane and despicable. We need an immediate and permanent ceasefire for the Palestinian people. The United States government has not only been complacent in genocide in 2024, but it has supported, funded, and sent weapons to the Israeli government to continue the terrorizing of an entire population of people. The people have spoken, it is your jobs as our elected politicians to listen and act accordingly. Being neutral during a time like this is being complacent. Hawai'i will not stand to be apart of a genocide towards native peoples who are just trying to exist in their homelands. Palestinians deserve the right to defend their own lands and to exist! We demand a cease fire now. Stop the genocide.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 12:01:03 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Isabelle Constant	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am writing to testify in strong support of SCR13. The unparalleled escalation of the genocide being perpetrated by Israel and its military on Palestine has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. At least 40,000 civilians have been killed since October 7th, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 people have been wounded, and thousands remain missing.

Israel is blocking food, medicine and aid to the 2 million people who desperately need help. By supporting an immediate ceasefire, hostage negotiations can be conducted and international investigations can take place for the horrifying war crimes committed since October 7th. Please hear my voice and all the other supporters of SCR13 of support for an immediate ceasefire right away.

This needs to stop.

Thank you for your time.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 12:01:18 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Aliyah Shklov	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,
I am testifying in strong support of [SCR13/SR6]. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza. At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately. A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 12:01:46 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michael Desir	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am testifying in support of SCR13/SR6. The horrifying subjection of mass punishment against innocent children, women and men civilians is unacceptable. 40,000 humans have been killed since October 7, and we must work together to end this. More than 70,000 have been injured and more will be if this continues. Israel is blocking food, medicine and aid to the 2 million people who desperately need help. By supporting an immediate ceasefire, hostage negotiations can be conducted and international investigations can take place for the war crimes committed since October 7th. Please hear my voice and all the other supporters of SCR13 of support for an immediate ceasefire right away. Thank you for your time.

I am testifying in support of SCR13/SR6, and wholeheartedly condemn the actions of the Israeli government and the United State's complicity in the ongoing genocide against the Palestinian people.

Israel's flagrant indifference to international and humanitarian laws, most notably in their use of collective punishment over a population of 2.2 million people (half of which are children), is undeniable and repugnant. Even more disheartening, is not only the LACK of outrage from state politicians, but their verbal support for Israel while accepting money from AIPAC.

In just a few months, Israel has accomplished nothing aside from executing over 30,000 innocent civilians (two-thirds of which are women and children), injuring an additional 70,000, and smearing their public image to the entire world. Since Oct. 7th, the Israeli military has dropped enough bombs over Gaza (a strip of land that is half the size of Molokai) to equal the cumulative power of two nuclear bombs. All this artillery against a population of people without any military is ridiculous and extremely cowardly and hypocritical coming from a state that claims to have "the most moral army in the world".

Furthermore, as I write this testimony, babies in Gaza are dying in incubators and women are undergoing C-sections without any anesthetics- direct results of Israel's maniacal policies. Thousands of aid trucks are blocked from entering Gaza by Israeli squatters who have no place in Palestine, and the United States stands idly by and allows it all to happen. While the people of Lahaina still suffer after the devastating fires that took place, our state sends \$13 million to the fascist state of Israel each year.

Every month (sometimes a few times a month), residents of Hawai'i have stormed the streets demanding a permanent ceasefire. As time progresses, our voices have gotten louder, our protests have gotten larger, and our will has not died. We will continue to take to the streets until our demands are met and Israel ends their genocidal campaign against the Palestinians. Hawai'i has the opportunity to stand on the right side of history by passing this monumental resolution. Please do the right thing, not just for Palestinians, but for all of humanity.

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of [SCR13/SR6]. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 12:06:06 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michelle Caron	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

A ceasefire is essential. The people of Palestine need and deserve our support.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 12:06:10 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Julie Chhea Arnoldy	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of SCR13. Too many lives have been lost and destroyed due to the United States' military aid and financial support to Israel's genocide against the Palestinian people. Too many children are without their parents and families. Too many parents are without their babies and children. If you have a shred of humanity in you, you will understand these orphaned children will carry so much trauma and vulnerability.

As a daughter to refugees and immigrants who survived similar atrocities and genocide at the hands of US military aid and bombings, I can attest to the trauma, loss and devastation survivors will carry with them throughout the rest of their lives. I bear witness to that within my own family (witnessing the grief and mental/medical issues stemming from such tragedy, violence, loss and incredible trauma) and I see it in the faces of the Palestinian people, who continue to persist and/or have succumbed to the starvation, torture of withheld aid and relentless bombings and shootings. This must stop. A culture and generation of people must not be annihilated for purposes of power, resources and money. This is inhumane. It is wrong.

This massacre and genocide is digitally streamed and documented for us to see. The evidence, the witness, the truth. It's all there for us to see. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel, leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes

committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root cause of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as violence continues.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 12:10:26 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Amaya Hirata	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Kakou,

My name is Amaya Hirata. I am a student at the University of Hawaii at Hilo and I support SCR13 and a ceasefire in Gaza. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since October 7th, the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under rubble in Gaza.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Isreal's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now mre urgent than ever. This cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

As human beings we have an obligation to protect human life, a ceasefire is necessary to end the suffering happening in Gaza.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 12:12:24 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Rabbia Ashraf	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of SCR13/SR6. I am baffled as to why I have to submit testimony in the first place, but here we are.

If you have functioning eyes and ears and theoretically a brain and heart, then I shouldn't have to urge grown people to do the bare minimum and support this resolution.

It has been six months of continuous bombardment of a place that is the size of Moloka'i. I don't know why I have to spell it out, but if there are 1000 pound bombs dropping in a small area then that destruction is catastrophic and absolute. People have lost everything, and they probably lost it all at the 3 month mark, if not earlier.

What we are witnessing now is the aftermath of that bombardment. When there is no food, contaminated water, and no medical services people die a slow and gruesome death; and because humanity has fallen all Gazans can do is post images and videos of it so that someone in the world will care enough to stop it.

I didn't suffer through dozens of creepily patriotic 4th of July parties for our nation's leaders to see all this, shrug their shoulders and say 'Hey, nothing we can do about it.' There is no amount of money, no political and social gains, nothing in this world that can justify what has happened in Gaza at the hands of the "Israeli" army funded by our own country.

I ask that this resolution is supported because, again, it's literally the bare minimum. People deserve to eat??? And drink clean water??? And not get bombed??? Once upon a time these statements weren't controversial; what a time to be alive. I hope that your egos aren't so bruised that it would stop you from doing the abundantly clear, right thing.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 12:15:01 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Erin Axelman	Individual	Support	In Person

Comments:

My name is Erin Axelman and I am a Jewish American, originally from Maine.

I am the co-director and one of the producers of the documentary film Israelism, on the changing American Jewish relationship to Israel, which is screening at the University of Hawaii today, and which is screening on multiple Islands tomorrow in collaboration with Hawaii Jewish Voice for Peace and a variety of other groups.

What I'm about to say, I say as a proud Jewish person, whose family fled violent antisemitism in Eastern Europe a little more than a hundred years ago. What I'm about to say I say as someone who cares deeply about my Jewish community, who is terrified of the very real threat antisemitism and conspiracy theories pose to Jews, and who has familial connections to Israel - through marriage my family is related to the Prime Minister who began the 1967 war, Levi Eshkol, and who by extension began the illegal occupation and colonization of the West Bank and Gaza that has gone on for over half a century.

What Israel is doing to the Gaza Strip is genocidal. I do not use that term lightly. Over 30,000 human lives have been ended, over 10,000 of whom are children. 100,000 people have been killed or injured. 80% of the population have been forced to flee their homes. Children are literally starving to death. All of this death, all of this destruction, all of this famine, is a choice. A choice made by Israel, and made by the United States.

I call this genocidal not only because of this mass death and destruction - the leveling and destruction of the civilization of Gaza - but also because of the words and actions of the Israeli government, and key Israeli leaders.

From calling the Gazas animals, to calls to mass ethnically cleanse the Gaza Strip, to calls to further colonize Gaza, to calls to destroy as many homes as humanely possible. This is a purposeful and clear eyed destruction of a people and of a place. We are watching it in real time. We are seeing the destroyed neighborhoods, the emaciated dead children. And still so many are doing nothing, despite the horror the US population feels towards this massacre.

I know Israelis whose parents were killed on October 7 by Hamas. The lives lost in that horrific attack are precious, and are lost forever. But if we value those lives, as we surely do, do not we not value the more than 20x more Palestinians who have been murdered since? The ability to reckon with Israeli pain and humanity, while completely dehumanizing Palestinians and their experience, is a shame upon our collective psyche.

Before Oct 7, Palestinians suffered in profound and systemic ways. Almost every Palestinian I know has parents or grandparents who were ethnically cleansed during the Nakba of 1948, when the majority of Palestinian society was destroyed and the majority of the Palestinian people ethnically cleansed. Since then, the Nakba has continued. The Occupation, a very literal form of Apartheid, has pushed Palestinians into smaller and smaller areas, while Israeli settlers and the Israeli military systematically steal their land, and impose a military legal system over the Palestinian population while the Illegal Israeli settlers next door maintain their civil rights and freedoms. This ongoing Nakba is a crime against humanity, that the US has repeatedly enabled and endorsed.

The blockade of Gaza that has lasted around 20 years, which has made living any semblance of a normal life in Gaza impossible, is also a crime against humanity.

While Hamas' attack on October 7 was horrendous, myself and so many others knew immediately what Israel's response would be, based upon the words and actions of Netanyahu and his ministers in the immediate aftermath: The attempted destruction of Gaza. Nothing, no terrorist attack even, can justify such wonton destruction as we're seeing in Gaza. Nothing can justify what Israel is doing to the Palestinians now. Nothing can justify what Israel has done to the Palestinians historically.

For months, our political leaders refused to back calls for a ceasefire. Many right wing Jewish orgs even called such calls antisemitic, part of a strategy of labeling all criticism of Israel antisemitic even if it's being done by Jews.

Well guess what? Over 50% of Jewish Americans support a ceasefire. Only around 32% of American Jews want this bombardment and destruction to continue.

We Jews calling for peace, are the majority, no matter what AIPAC or others would like to believe.

63% of all Americans now support a ceasefire. Only 16% of the general public favors continuing this bloodshed.

You have been on the wrong side of history for 5 months now. You have been silence while a genocide has been carried out in public. But it is not too late. You can do the right thing. For Jews, for Palestinians, for the world. Please, please. End this madness. End this destruction. Call for a ceasefire. Now.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 12:22:48 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sam Peck	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

It is of the utmost importance that this body takes a stance against genocide. Failing to do so is endorsing ethnic cleansing and facism.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 12:23:39 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Laila Popata	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, my name is Laila Popata and I have lived on Maui for 20 years and worked here as a public school teacher. Like any parent, losing a child is the ultimate tragedy and something I could never even fathom. Imagine for a second if your own children were being bombed or shot in the head by snipers. How would you feel? What if it was not only your children, but your nieces and nephews, your neighbor’s children, and your colleague’s keiki as well?

Personally, my heart breaks with each death reported and that is not because I have a connection to Palestine. It is because I am human. In Hawaii, children I don’t know call me auntie. Why? Because they know as a female older than them, I have inherited a responsibility to care for and protect them. Just as we both are aunties to the children of Hawaii, we are also aunties to the children in Gaza. You can not wait a moment longer to demand a permanent ceasefire.

My mom and her entire family were displaced from Palestine in 1948 when the state of Israel was formed and like 750,000 other Palestinian they were forcibly expelled during the Nakba. My grandparents and mother spent their entire lives mourning the loss of their homeland. Now 75 years later, my ohana and I watch in complete horror as Israeli forces, funded by our tax dollars, massacre children at a rate of 1 child every 10 minutes. In what world, can the murder of nearly 13,000 children ever be justified?The director of UNICEF says: “ the Gaza Strip as the most dangerous place in the world to be a child”

To add, more than 25,000 have been orphaned since the start of Israel’s relentless and indiscriminate military campaign. Jason Lee, Save the Children’s Country Director, on [January 11th](#), stated that: “For every day without a definitive ceasefire, 100 children on average have been killed. Children have been paying the price for a conflict they have no part in”.

Dr. Ifran Galaria, who went to Gaza to help the dire medical situation wrote in the [LA Times](#) on February 16th, what he saw was not a war but annihilation, he reported “On one occasion, a handful of children, all about ages 5 to 8, were carried to the emergency room by their parents. All had single sniper shots to the head. None of these children survived.” I am going to repeat, children ages 5 to 8, had single sniper shots to the head”. If this is not terrorism, I do not know what is.

So my question is, how have you not called for a permanent ceasefire and not signed resolution 786 on Oct. 16th when it was introduced in the house by Cori Bush, knowing that each day that this genocide continues, 100 more innocent children are killed, that two mothers (not any different from us) are murdered every hour? What if it was your ohana in Gaza, your children being bombed in an area that they were told to go for safety, or your nieces and nephews with a sniper shot in the head, would you wait any longer?

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 12:25:54 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ewa Moscicka	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The famine, massacre and atrocities being committed in Gaza must stop now.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 12:26:40 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Shannon Rudolph	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The world needs Hawai'i's aloha now more than ever.

PLEASE PASS this Reso!

PLEASE DON'T vote #PRO-GENOCIDE.

I'm an old lady who has been forced to pay to kill innocent people for 54 years, since the Vietnam war.

I've had enough.

The extremist Israeli government has turned into homicidal maniacs - it's pure insanity that we should not be supporting in any way.

In my decades of testifying, I've never felt more strongly on any action that has passed through our legislature.

PLEASE do your part to stop this horror TODAY.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 12:32:14 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Christy Chadwick	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee:

Thank you for scheduling this important resolution, and for giving the community the chance to testify. With all my heart, I am in full support.

Over the past few months, your constituents have organized dozens of rallies across the archipelago in all four primary counties, multiple teach-ins, and a thousands-strong march through Waikiki. They have sent in thousands of emails and made thousands of calls to elected officials at both the federal and state level -- including all of you --- making it known that Hawai'i stands with Palestine.

On Tuesday, March 5, 150 days after Israel began its latest brutal assault on Gaza, the Hawai'i County Council Government Operations and External Affairs Committee added its voice to this growing chorus by unanimously passing Resolution No. 449-24, title Demonstrating the Aloha Spirit and Fostering Peace, Diplomacy, and Unity within the County of Hawai'i, the state of Hawai'i, and Beyond," forward to the full council.

This county resolution calls on the State Legislature to adopt the Hawai'i Ceasefire Resolution (SCR13/SR6), in accordance with Hawai'i values and with the United Nations' International day for Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Awareness which calls for a more just and peaceful world for all of us.

The Hawai'i State Legislature should now add its voice as well and join its constituents in calling for an immediate, permanent ceasefire in Gaza, and for the opening of negotiations for a lasting peace -- a peace that includes liberation for Palestinians.

If the Hawai'i State Legislature were to adopt the resolution, it would send a signal to our Congressional delegation, and the Biden Administration, that Hawai'i and its people demand an immediate end to the indiscriminate killing of Palestinian civilians in Gaza, the West Bank and throughout occupied Palestinian Territories and Israel.

I am in full support of this resolution. Ceasefire now.

Thank you,

Christy Chadwick, M.S.D.E., MA MFT

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 12:34:43 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lauren Kamalei Stovall	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of SCR13/SR6. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on

Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

Sincerely,

Lauren Kamalei Stovall

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 12:35:56 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dawn Mones	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hello Committee members,

I am testifying in support of (SRC13/SR6). The escalation between Israel/Hamas is taking a devastating toll on innocent civilians. An estimated 40,000 of non-combatant civilians have been killed since October 7th, and another 70,000 wounded, with thousands more missing in the rubble of Gaza. The 200+ Israeli hostages are also in danger as Israel continues indiscriminately bombing designated 'safe zones' in Gaza.

Israel's siege is also starving over 2 million people struggling to survive. This is a humanitarian catastrophe and we need an immediate ceasefire to stop the shed of innocent blood.

As a state that prides itself in aloha, we cannot sit idly by and allow this bloodshed to continue. I urge you to listen to the voices of the community in support of this ceasefire.

Mahalo for your time and attention,

Dawn Mones

Kauai Resident

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 12:36:31 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Patricia Olivarez	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I have been calling Jill Tokuda's office since around October 11th, for obvious reasons. I continue to be horrified that my tax dollars are funding the blatant murder of innocent families. The fact that any of us have to even write testimony as to how wrong this is gives me no faith in the humanity of our government. A war is not being fought when civilian homes and hospitals are repeatedly bombed, and aid withheld. The definition is genocide. Anyone who does not see this clearly and who does not call for immediate ceasefire does not belong in government. The facts are CLEAR.

Testimony of

Hailey Figueras

University of Hawai'i at Manoa Undergraduate Student

Before the Senate Committee on

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND
MILITARY AFFAIRS

Thursday, March 7, 2024

In consideration of

Measure SCR13

URGING MEMBERS OF HAWAII'S CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO
SUPPORT THE CEASEFIRE IN GAZA RESOLUTION INTRODUCED BY
UNITED STATES CONGRESSWOMAN CORI BUSH.

As an undergraduate student at the University of Hawai'i at Manoa, soon to be graduating with a B.S. of Natural Resources and Environmental Science, who believes that all human life is precious and thousands of lives are at imminent risk if a permanent ceasefire is not reached and humanitarian aid is not delivered without delay, I strongly support the measure to urge members of Hawaii's congressional delegation to support the ceasefire in Gaza resolution introduced by United States congresswoman Cori Bush.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of Measure SCR13.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 12:39:08 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Wally Inglis	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Chair Wakai and Vice-Chair Elefante:

I strongly urge the Senate Committee on Public Safety and Intergovernmental and Military Affairs to pass this urgent measure and send it on to the full Senate for adoption. In doing so, you will be adding your voices to legislative bodies all across the nation in urging an immediate and permanent ceasefire in Gaza. The slaughter of thousands of innocent victims, mostly women and children, must end. The United States must end its complicity with Israel by providing millions of dollars in weapons and other support.

Please pass SCR 13 adn SR 6!

Wally Inglis

Palolo Valley

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 12:40:44 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Alejandra Rivas	Individual	Support	In Person

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

My name is Alejandra Rivas and I am testifying in strong, unwavering, support of SCR13. The unparalleled genocide of the Palestinian people is devastating. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving 2 million people in the Gaza Strip starving and dying a slow painful death. This violent genocide which stems from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse and create even more suffering if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

Because of the U.S.'s funding, participation, and deliverance of weapons of mass destruction, you have me and all other taxpayers complicit in this genocide, as it is our tax dollars that are used to fund this attack on humanity. I cannot continue to fund this genocide and soak my hands in more and more blood. There needs to be a ceasefire now. As well as putting an end to the destruction, a ceasefire will also provide opportunities for independent international investigations to take place into the countless war crimes committed by Israel and the U.S. government in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this genocide, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

This is why I strongly support SCR13. Don't allow me and yourselves to continue to fund and be complicit in this genocide. Thank you for your time and the opportunity to testify.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 12:41:19 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Miranda scarola	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of [SCR13/SR6]. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza. At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

Sincerely,

Miranda Scarola

From Kea'au

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 12:44:01 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
willow chang	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

As a kama'aina + resident of Hawai'i, but also a citizen of the world, I believe it's absolutely imperative that we stand firm in our resolve to demand for a Permanent cease fire in Palestine. It is unconscionable that our tax payer dollars are funding a Genocide! \$3 billion annually to Israel and \$30 Billion since October 7th, 2023. with over 35,000 deaths, thousands maimed, injured, with loss of limbs, and orphaned. This is a humanitarian distaster of epic scale, filled with countless documented war crimes that have been live-streamed in real time on various social media accounts.

There is international outcry, from governments, legal establishments, humanitarian and medical organizations- all in agreement that the actions by the state of Israel are genocidal, illegal and unjust.

Further bombings of hospitals (!), churches, mosques, schools, universities, homes and infrastructures have left Gaza both completely leveled and uninhabitable. There is wide spread disease, and intentional murdering/targeting by the IDF/IOF of both medical personnel and journalists, who account and have witnessed the reality of this savage asymmetrical 'war'.

The last resort now is Israel's intentional and systemic blocking of aid, medicines, and food, resulting in mass starvation. THIS MUST END- and we can as citizens work together to demand this end of funding the genocide + restore aid and pursue justice!

mahalo,

willow chang

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 12:46:20 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
David Beus	Individual	Support	In Person

Comments:

Aloha. Thank you for taking up this important, symbolic bill. We, as individual citizens, cannot stop the ongoing killing and maiming of civilians in Gaza. Many of us are doing what we can, however, including supporting SC13 to press the Biden administration for a lasting ceasefire. The wholesale destruction of people, homes, mosques and churches, universities, hospitals, archives, and plant and animal life in Gaza needs to stop. Our taxpayer dollars are funding this destruction. This too must stop. I plead with you, for all those who have been lost in Gaza and all those who might yet be saved, to support SC13 and take this small step for peace. Speaking personally, as a Jew, I want to underscore that the violence of the Israeli state in Gaza, supported by our own federal government, does not make Israel or Jews, safer. Jewish safety requires Palestinian freedom.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 12:47:03 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tu Nguyen	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Honorable Members of the Committee,

I come before you today to strongly advocate for [SCR13/SR6]. The recent escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas, among other armed groups, has resulted in an unprecedented toll on civilian lives.

Since October 7th, the loss of some 40,000 civilian lives, with the majority being women and children, is a tragic and alarming reality. Additionally, over 70,000 individuals have been wounded, while countless more remain buried under the rubble of Gaza.

In tandem, the peril faced by approximately 200 Israeli hostages held by Hamas and other armed factions in Gaza highlights the continuous threat to innocent lives. The ongoing indiscriminate rocket attacks into Israel further exacerbate the risks faced by its civilian population.

Israel's intensified blockade of Gaza has significantly restricted the entry of vital resources, including water, food, and fuel, leaving the 2 million inhabitants of the Gaza Strip in a desperate struggle for survival. This humanitarian crisis, stemming from Israel's 16-year-long blockade, will inevitably worsen without an immediate cessation of hostilities.

A ceasefire is not only essential for negotiating the release of hostages but also for facilitating independent international investigations into the war crimes committed by all parties involved. Ending the cycle of impunity is crucial in preventing future atrocities.

Addressing the root causes of this conflict, particularly dismantling Israel's apartheid system imposed on Palestinians, is an urgent imperative. However, such efforts are futile amidst ongoing violence.

I implore the committee to take decisive action in pursuing a lasting ceasefire and creating conditions conducive to peace and justice for all affected parties.

Thank you for your attention to this pressing matter.

Sincerely,
Tu Nguyen

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 12:51:54 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Victoria Roomet	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of SCR13/SR6. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

Thank you,

Victoria

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 12:53:33 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Cindy Nawilis	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Elefante, and other Committee Members,

I am writing in strong support of SCR13.

The humanitarian disaster in Gaza continues to worsen day by day. Tens of thousands of Palestinian civilians have been killed by the Israeli military and another 2 million are in danger of death, either from bombs or starvation and disease. Most of the victims are women and children. The International Court of Justice has ruled these actions likely constitute a genocide.

A *permanent* ceasefire is a necessary first step to avoid further civilian casualties. The United States federal government must be pressured into withdrawing its support for Israel's military campaign, for its blockade of Gaza, and for its apartheid government. We can add to that pressure if Hawaii's state lawmakers pass a permanent ceasefire resolution through the legislature.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Cindy Nawilis

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 12:54:27 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lucia You	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Committee Members,

I write in strong support of SCR13/SR6. With each day that passes, more lives are lost and the humanitarian catastrophe in Gaza worsens. The devastating violence between Israel and Hamas disproportionately effects civilians, and more alarmingly children. Please send a strong message and pass SCR13/SR6 the Hawaii Ceasefire Resolution.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 12:57:41 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nicolita Garces	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am a concerned resident of Hawai‘i and I am testifying in strong support of SCR13. The unprecedented escalation of Israel forces on the besieged Gaza strip is now entering its sixth month and has taken a devastating toll on civilians. Since October 7th, around 40,000 civilians were killed, many being women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded and thousands are missing under the rubble.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger due to Israel’s indiscriminate rocket fire in the area.

Israel’s 16-year-long blockade on the occupied Gaza strip is also contributing to Palestinian death through starvation, disease and lack of medical aid and services. Israel is blocking the entry of humanitarian aid which includes, water, food, fuel and medicine.

Reports have also stated that the continued bombardment of the Gaza strip is causing catastrophic environmental damage. Aside from water, air and soil pollution, the first two months of Israel’s aerial bombardment on Gaza immitted 281,000 metric tons of carbon dioxide. This adds to the continuing warming of the planet.

A ceasefire would stop the indiscriminate killing of the Palestinian people who are indigenous to the land. It also provides opportunities to negotiate the release of Israeli hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

People worldwide are in gut-wrench horror witnessing the atrocities of Palestinian civilians in real time from the news and social media. For humanity’s sake, we demand a permanent ceasefire. Palestinian liberation requires the dismantling of Israel’s apartheid system imposed on the besieged people. Only then will the violence end. Free Palestine!

Sincerely,

Nicolita Garces

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 12:59:38 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Cassandra Antonell	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I urge Hawaii's congressional representatives to support an immediate and permanent ceasefire in Gaza

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND
MILITARY AFFAIRS

Senator Glenn Wakai, Chair
Senator Brandon J.C. Elefante, Vice Chair

DATE: Friday, March 8, 2024, 3pm

Testimony of Bart Dame, Individual

SCR 13/ SR 6, RESOLUTIONS SUPPORTING A CEASEFIRE IN GAZA

Aloha Chair Wakai, Vice-Chair Elefante and members. My name is **Bart Dame** and I am testifying as an individual in STRONG SUPPORT of these resolutions.

I will leave to others to address the heart of the issues involved. I would like to address why local legislators in Hawaii should take a stand on a major foreign policy controversy which is beyond your ordinary kuleana.

Let me share excerpts from a speech by Dr. Martin Luther King explaining why, in the face of pressures to remain quiet, he decided to speak out against the US war on Vietnam. These words are from a speech known as “Beyond Vietnam: A Time to Break Silence.” When you have time, I recommend listening to or reading his speech entire speech. Both audio and the text can be found here:

<https://www.americanrhetoric.com/speeches/mlkatimetobreaksilence.htm>

Dr. King:

A time comes when silence is betrayal. And that time has come for us in relation to Vietnam.

Even when pressed by the demands of inner truth, men do not easily assume the task of opposing their government's policy, especially in time of war.

Nor does the human spirit move without great difficulty against all the apathy of conformist thought within one's own bosom and in the surrounding world.

Moreover, when the issues at hand seem as perplexing as they often do in the case of this dreadful conflict, we are always on the verge of being mesmerized by uncertainty; but we must move on.

We must speak with all the humility that is appropriate to our limited vision, but we must speak.

Back to my own words:

Dr. King speaks to the need for regular people to get outside our comfort zone and speak up when we see suffering and injustice. It is tempting to “mind our own business” and leave complicated matters to the experts.

But the videos we see of ragged, wounded children appealing for help from amidst the bombed out rubble, when we see parents begging for food for their dying children, we should not, we cannot, as people of “humane convictions,” turn our heads, harden our hearts and hope the problems go away. It is as if we are waiting for enough people to die, so they will become silent and stop bothering our conscience.

Again from Dr. King:

“These are the times for real choices and not false ones. Every man (sic) of humane convictions must decide on the protest that best suits his convictions, but we must all protest.”

I do not take that to mean that we should leave this to “protestors” standing upon street corners with signs. It is too easy to ignore stereotypical “protestors. This responsibility cannot be shifted to them. Rather, we each must look around to see how, in some small way, we can use our positions, our skills, to do our part to demand an end to the violence.

As leaders of our community, as “men of humane convictions,” I ask you to step out of your comfort zone, out of how you normally conduct your legislative business and vote in favor of this resolution.

Thank you for your consideration.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 1:07:26 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
tlaloc tokuda	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of [SCR13/SR6]. I have been appalled by the senseless slaughter. We need a cease fire. Hawaii needs to speak out!

The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

Mahalo for your consideration,

tlaloc tokuda

Kailua Kona, HI 96740

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 1:08:40 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mistee Uyehara	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of SCR13. How can we continue to witness the beyond countless amount of grandparents, babies, mothers, fathers, families and precious and incredible life, culture, humanity being killed, destroyed, erased in real time before our very eyes! My heart breaks again and again and again for the lives taken, being taken and all the more that will be taken if these acts continue. In support of an immediate ceasefire in Gaza, when can the 2+ million displaced families feel peace, feel life again, be able to fill their starving bodies with nourishing foods, be able to grieve and mourn over the 40,000 lives that have killed since October 7th (majority women and children!), when can the 70,000 wounded find healing and appropriate medical aid. Please let my voice and heart count for something, thank you.

Sincerely,

Mistee Uyehara

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 1:10:41 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jamie Fries	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of [SCR13/SR6]. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza. At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 1:16:43 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lauren Ballesteros-Watanabe	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in **strong support of SCR13/SR6**. The level of innocent casualties at the hands of Israel's U.S backed military regime is horrifying. As a mother of two small children, it is devastating to know that U.S tax dollars are fueling a genocide in front of my eyes. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing, and there is no end in sight.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

An immediate ceasefire is the only way forward. It would save innocent lives on both sides of this atrocity, namely the countless children in harm's way daily and who are being starved of their basic human rights. Death from dehydration, waterborne illnesses, lack of sanitary medical supplies, and starvation due to lack of crops and tenable soil are not conditional side effects of a genocide - they are tactics of a genocide.

Also, as an Indigenous Latinx woman and environmental justice advocate, I recognize the explicit ties between the ongoing evictions of Palestinian people from their homes and the role that white supremacy and settler-colonialism played in the genocide of Indigenous people in the America. The forces that uphold this apartheid are the same forces destroying our planet, we cannot remain silent on this ongoing issue of dehumanization of Indigenous peoples, people of color, and the slaughtering of women and children.

I urge you to pass this bill and call upon our Congressional delegation to do the right thing by tackling the root causes of this genocide, dismantle Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians and stop sending U.S tax dollars and weapons to Israel! Ceasefire now.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this critical legislation. **Please pass SCR13/SR6**

Paz,
Lauren Ballesteros-Watanabe

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 1:17:43 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mareva Minerbi	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support the ceasefire resolution in Gaza.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 1:19:59 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Junior Rex Lokeni	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support SCR13. I strongly support a ceasefire in Gaza. I strongly support the end of the genocide.

I am a resident of Kane'ohe.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 1:25:34 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Alexa Coules	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in unwavering support of [SCR13/SR6]. The conflict in Palestine with Israel has always been something my family and I, as native peoples, have been passionate about. As someone who has had a beat on this topic for many years, it was only ever a matter of time before this crisis erupted. None of this has been shocking to those of us who have questioned and opposed the amount of intelligence, weaponry, and financial assistance which has been given to the Israeli government by the U.S. government. Not shocking, but absolutely horrifying none the less.

We have been and will continue to wake up to images of living corpses - starved of food, dignity, their dreams, and a basic human existence. Terrified children, parents, and doctors pleading - begging - for the outside world to help them. What has been the response of our complicit government been up to this point? Three NO votes in the UN Security Counsel against a Ceasefire, hundreds of millions more dollars in weapons and aid to Israel, and too little, too late air drops in Gaza. ENOUGH IS ENOUGH. This will be the issue upon which I vote in upcoming elections.

The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to

address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues. Please, be brave, be human - support SCR13!!!

RE: Testimony of Kayla Oshiro
Strong Support for SCR13/SR6: The Hawai‘i Ceasefire Resolution
Senate Committee on Public Safety and Intergovernmental and Military Affairs
March 8, 2024

Aloha members of the committee,

I am writing to express my wholehearted support for the Ceasefire in Gaza Resolution. I find deep resonance with the struggles faced by the Palestinian people because growing up in Hawai‘i has instilled in me a strong sense of empathy for communities worldwide experiencing injustice and oppression.

In the spirit of kuleana, I implore our congressional delegation to recognize the historical significance of our actions. We must heed the lessons of the past, understanding that our choices today directly impact future generations. By supporting the Ceasefire in Gaza Resolution, we demonstrate our commitment to breaking the cycle of violence and injustice, choosing a path that aligns with our collective responsibility to create a more just and peaceful world for those who will inherit the consequences of our decisions. It is our kuleana to avoid repeating the errors of history and make choices that reflect our dedication to a better future for all.

The ongoing conflict in Gaza has caused immense suffering for the Palestinian people, with devastating consequences for innocent civilians caught in the crossfire. My own experiences of growing up in Hawai‘i have ingrained in me the belief that every individual, regardless of their background, deserves the right to live in peace and security. The Ceasefire in Gaza Resolution represents a crucial step towards ending the violence and creating an environment where diplomacy and dialogue can take precedence over bloodshed.

Moreover, my Lao heritage has taught me the value of resilience in the face of adversity. I see that same spirit in the Palestinian people, who continue to endure hardships with unwavering strength and determination. By supporting the Ceasefire in Gaza Resolution, you have the opportunity to stand on the right side of history and contribute to the global efforts in promoting peace and justice.

By championing resolutions like the one put forth by Congresswoman Cori Bush, we can play a vital role in shaping a world where the rights and dignity of all individuals are respected, regardless of their ethnicity or background.

Thank you for your attention to this matter, and I trust that you will represent the values of Hawai‘i by endorsing the Ceasefire in Gaza Resolution.

Sincerely,

Kayla Oshiro

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 1:30:15 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Shani Anderson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I support the resolution for a ceasefire on Gaza and an end to the occupation of Palestine. I do not wish to fund a genocide with my tax dollars. Mahalo.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 1:39:11 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Malia Smith	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of this resolution.

For months, thousands of your constituents have organized, protested, and called on state and federal representatives to support an immediate and permanent ceasefire and increase humanitarian aid in Gaza. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children.

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

I respectfully request your support of **SCR13/SR6**. Thank you again for this opportunity to testify.

Mahalo,

Malia Smith

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 1:39:17 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Savannah Coules	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of [SCR13/SR6]. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on

Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 1:42:00 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Natalie Turner	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am a Native Hawaiian who was raised in Hawai‘i, and I am extremely concerned with the devastating situation in Gaza. It is exceedingly heartbreaking to know that the United States government is funding and refusing to help in stopping the genocide happening against the Palestinian people. I am calling for the immediate and permanent ceasefire in Gaza. Hawai‘i and her people stand with Palestine, and the government of Hawai‘i needs to echo this sentiment. Hawai‘i's government officials have a duty to support the congressional resolution for a ceasefire in Gaza. There is no reason for a genocide to be supported by a country who was founded on the principles of liberty and justice for all. There is no justified reason that Hawai‘i should idly stand by and *not* do anything to stop the genocide of the Palestian people, particularly those in Gaza. This is a humanitarian crisis, and a ceasefire in Gaza must be supported now.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 1:42:08 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dr. Durany Mohammed	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha esteemed committee members,

I am testifying in strong support of SCR13. I am a board certified pediatrician and have dedicated the last 10 years of my life towards serving others as a medical professional, focusing on the health of our children. There is no question that our humanity depends on how we treat our children today, everywhere. The trauma that the Palestinian children have had to endure the last 5 months has been some of the worst in history. It is all preventable, caused by illegal sanctions imposed by an occupying Israeli army. There is no natural disaster or disease that killed over 40,000 civilians in the last 5 months (92% of the deaths), not counting those still under the rubble. Over 70,000 injured. Countless orphaned, thousands lost limbs, surgeries without anesthesia. It is unfathomable. After months of seeing innocent children and families annihilated behind our screens, as Aaron Bushnell an active duty member said, we can no longer be complicit in genocide. Physicians and hospitals, journalists have been deliberately targeted and killed at a rate far surpassing any other conflict in modern history while we keep sending billions of our tax dollars. People are being deliberately deprived of FOOD, WATER, electricity. Those trying to get a drop of aid are shot at or run over. All of these are war crimes. These violations pose a serious threat to global security, injure the human race as a whole. Nothing justifies the killing of innocent civilians and forced displacement to this extent. For the sake of innocent Israeli and Palestinians killed and the hostages that are still alive, we must call for a permanent ceasefire now. History and our children will not judge us kindly if we do not call for a ceasefire. Please, I urge you to act now. This is a humanitarian emergency like none other.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 1:46:34 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kencho Gurung	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Dear Committee Members,

Please pass this bill and encourage the US Federal Government to stop the senseless genocide of Palestinians with US made bombs and weapons.

You have a unique opportunity to take a stance and send a strong message for peace and justice, please take this opportunity that your constituents support.

Sincerely,

Kencho Gurung

Kapa'au

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 1:47:30 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mayuki Frei	Individual	Support	In Person

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of the ceasefire. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. To the point where they aren't treated as such and haven't been for the past several months. The level of casualties is unprecedented, soon to be higher as well due to starvation and horrible living conditions. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct. 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are msising under the rubble of Gaza. If you care for humanity and are a human yourself, you'll do the human thing and vote in support for the ceasefire to end this suffering.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 1:48:53 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jonathan	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of SCR13. The colonial violence in Palestine mirrors the shameful and horrific colonial violence of the United States, continuing in insidious ways across the country and in the occupied Hawaiian Islands to this day. The United States projects an image of progress onto the world stage whereby it condemns, at least implicitly, the genocide of Indigenous people and systematic erasure of their cultures and histories. It is clear both by actions in Hawaii and by continued funding for the expansionist Israeli project that these condemnations are by the pen only and not backed by policy.

Although I support the bill as written, I would also support an amendment to the final operative clause to include transmission to other leaders in positions of power not affiliated with the Democratic Party, including the Speaker of the House and the Senate Minority Leader.

Please support SCR13 and help bring an end to the violence and destruction.

Sincerely,

Jonathan

Kapa'au, HI 96755

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 1:51:01 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kaci Stokes	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Kaci Stokes

Support for SCR 13, Relating to supporting the ceasefire in Gaza

March 7, 2024

Aloha, my name is Kaci Stokes and I am a concerned citizen. I am testifying in support of SCR 13, urging Hawai‘i’s Congressional Delegation to support the ceasefire in Gaza resolution introduced by United States Congresswoman Cori Bush.

I am horrified by the acts of violence against civilians, especially children in Gaza. The attacks on schools and hospitals and the restrictions on aid cannot be ignored or continued. Considering the power and influence the United States holds, we have an opportunity to save both Palestinian and Israeli lives.

I am in support of a full permanent ceasefire in Gaza to de-escalate the violence and allow medical supplies and humanitarian assistance to the people who have been suffering far too long.

Your consideration of this Senate Resolution 13 is imperative to more than saving lives, it can stop a genocide. I urge you to support the ceasefire in Gaza. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

RE: Testimony of Lauren H. Blissett

Strong Support for SCR13/SR6: The Hawai'i Ceasefire Resolution

Senate Committee on Public Safety and Intergovernmental and Military Affairs

March 7th 2024

Aloha members of the committee,

Mahalo for the opportunity to have our voices considered in regards to this important resolution. I stand in very strong support of SCR13 and SR6.

In the last five months we have watched some of the most appalling atrocities being committed against unarmed civilians, while the perpetrators live stream their crimes on social media. Two wrongs do not make a right, so while I do not condone any innocent Israeli citizens being attacked by Hamas on October 7th, 2023, what I have witnessed as a 'response' from Israel has left me feeling traumatised. I cannot even begin to comprehend the level of suffering the people of Palestine are being forced to endure, while facing daily annihilation from U.S. made bombs... and now being starved to death.

In the last 150 days I have seen children being operated on without anaesthetics, a kūpuna shot dead while holding her grandchild's hand, people (including a pregnant woman) flattened by tanks, old and young people kidnapped, stripped, tortured and then abandoned, newborns abandoned in their incubators, entire bloodlines eradicated... unspeakable tragedy after unspeakable tragedy... and now orphans with no surviving family are literally dying of FORCED starvation. The IDF are so trigger happy that they even assassinated their own hostages, who they are meant to be rescuing! These horrors were -and still are- entirely preventable. Sadly Israel chooses to continue its sadistic death spree and has even set up bouncy castles and cotton candy at the border to celebrate their success in preventing life saving aid from reaching millions of people.

There is absolutely no justification for this brutal onslaught our 'ally' is unleashing on an unarmed civilian population. This is not a 'war' between the militaries of two countries. Innocent people are being routinely slaughtered by a racist, fanatical, fascist government, and the United States continues to UNCONDITIONALLY fund them! This is not okay.

What makes this so much more painful is knowing that the United States Government is taxing the paychecks of local 'ohana here in Hawai'i and preventing our own money from being positively reinvested back into our own local communities. Instead we have to watch it being sent abroad, in the form of weapons, to decimate another indigenous population living under military occupation. Nothing about any of this is acceptable.

As your constituents we have marched, petitioned, called, emailed, sign waved... last night almost a third of Hawai'i Democrats voted 'uncommitted' to Biden. Hopefully

this sends a clear message that we do NOT support Israel's siege and military bombardment of Gaza, and that we demand an IMMEDIATE and PERMANENT CEASEFIRE.

Given the history of our island home, the United States government is adding insult to injury by representing the islands and the people of Hawai'i to the world as being 'pro' colonization, ethnic cleansing, military occupation, colonial oppression, brutal massacres, collective punishment, forced starvation and genocide.

By adopting this resolution, the Hawai'i State Legislature will honor the values of its constituents, and of this 'āina, by standing in Aloha for what is truly pono... and demanding an immediate end to this unjustified and indiscriminate heartbreak.

Mahalo for your time.

Yours sincerely,

Lauren H. Blissett

Hilo, Hawai'i

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 1:59:21 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ally Nguyen	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The horrific escalation in occupied Palestine, along with other armed groups, has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Over 40,000 children, men, and women have been killed since Oct 7.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages are in Gaza who remain in danger as Israel continues to put not only the hostages in danger but also other Israelis in danger.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of humanitarian aid, including water, food, and fuel leaving over 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip is worsening daily as we are seeing starvation/famine and infectious disease rates rising each day and are ravaging the bodies of an already severely traumatized population—which will worsen daily if the siege and attacks on the population don't stop immediately.

A permanent ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza, and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water, and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel, and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards. Many infectious diseases and wounds can be treated in time if only the supplies and more support medical personnel volunteers could be allowed into Gaza.

A permanent ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of all hostages not only Israeli hostages in Gaza but also the Palestinians who are unlawfully detained by Israel. In addition, a permanent ceasefire would call for independent international investigations to take place into the numerous war crimes committed by the Israeli government/military to bring justice and stop the further displacement of Palestinians.

Tackling the root causes of what had led to the occupation and siege of Palestine, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the indiscriminate violence continues. My voice is one of many as I am a human being in this world demanding a permanent ceasefire, and I believe that it is our duty to humanity to speak up for those who cannot or cannot.

Mahalo for allowing me to share my testimony.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 2:00:08 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Avalon	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Aloha kākou,

My name is Avalon Paradea and I am a resident of Waikōloa Village, Hawai‘i Island. I am in full support of SCR13 which calls for a ceasefire in Gaza. Palestine as a whole cannot continue to be treated as a target by the IDF. Well over 20 thousand civilians have been killed in this ongoing and unnecessary brutality, many of whom are children. Please recognize that no good can come of continued violence. Please call for an immediate ceasefire now.

Mahalo for doing what is right.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 2:02:19 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Derek Petroselli	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To whom it may concern,

I'm in support of the SCR13 bill, introduced by Congresswoman Cori Bush, demanding an immediate ceasefire in Gaza. I also support the US involvement in first-aid/medical support and humanitarian efforts in Gaza for the Palestinian people.

Thank you,

Derek Petroselli

Kailua Kona, Hawaii

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 2:04:09 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Robert Taylor	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am testifying in strong support of [SCR13/SR6]. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 2:04:51 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Davy Wiggins	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I, Davy Crockett Wiggins, am testifying in strong support of [SCR13/SR6]

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 2:05:29 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Shannon Maldonado	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in strong support of SCR13. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of civilian casualties is unacceptable and the mental health of the children suffering through this is extremely worrisome.

Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 2:07:02 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ellen-Rae Cachola	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Hawai'i Legislators,

Please support SCR 13 URGING MEMBERS OF HAWAII'S CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO SUPPORT THE CEASEFIRE IN GAZA RESOLUTION INTRODUCED BY UNITED STATES CONGRESSWOMAN CORI BUSH. We must do all we can to stop indiscriminate attacks on civilians, especially the disproportionate killings on Palestinian children and women. A permanent ceasefire will bring relief to people experiencing genocide and inequality. They need food, shelter, healthcare--not more violence. As leaders of Hawai'i, stand up against injustice, and do all you can to convince other American and Israeli leaders to ceasefire in Palestine and allow humanitarian aid to enter, and de-escalate the tensions to support peace talks.

Sincerely,

Ellen-Rae Cachola

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 2:08:21 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kilihea Inaba	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of [SCR13/SR6].

Although we seem so far away here in Hawai‘i from the unbelievable war, trauma, and death that is happening in Gaza, we are not. The devastating number of civilians to include innocent women, children and babies is unprecedented and needs to end now. This is a humanitarian crisis. Please support this ceasefire as it would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Mahalo for your consideration in this matter,

Kilihea Inaba

Kaloko, Kona, Hawai‘i

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 2:09:20 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Phillip Schrager	Individual	Support	In Person

Comments:

Aloha,

As a 30-year military veteran I served during the Gulf War and the “Global War on Terrorism” I was deployed to Iraq for 10 months in 2005-6 where I witnessed first hand the horrors of war.

All military service members are trained to know the Laws of Armed Conflict and most do all they can to ensure that they follow those extremely practical and reasonable limitations designed to protect the innocent. We all understood that if captured and held as POWs, we would ourselves become people who should be protected under the LOAC and/or the Geneva Convention. It was personal for us.

Battlefield conditions can be chaotic, and Soldiers do make tragic errors that result in horrific consequences both for the victims of violence and for the Soldiers themselves, many of whom suffer “moral injuries” that can have long-lasting effects on them as well. What is happening in Gaza, however, is not the result of the “fog of war”.

Israel is conducting a systematic erasure of the Palestinian people in Gaza. They face a relatively poorly armed group of fighters whom they know are mingled with innocent civilians, mostly children. They are killing these people with bombs and other military ordnance, much of which was produced and supplied by the United States with what appears to be great indifference toward human life and suffering. The IDF is obviously so averse to risk that it has killed thousands of innocent civilians in order to meet its objectives. It makes me sick.

A ceasefire now would allow time for humanitarian aid to reach people who are literally dying of starvation and wounds suffered as the result of continuous military operations against them. Please support this resolution, which will allow the people of Hawai’i to retain at least a

small bit of honor, and could also influence the Biden administration to take more meaningful action, even at this late hour.

Sincerely,

Phillip E. Schrager, CWO4, USN (ret.)

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 2:13:08 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Anna Chua	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of SCR13.

The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

If you stand for humanity, peace, justice, and freedom, please vote in favor for this resolution.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 2:13:12 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Raja Iliya	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of [SCR13/SR6]. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.^[SEP;SEP]At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

March 8th, 2024

Hawai'i State Senate
Committee on Public Safety and Intergovernmental and Military Affairs
Senator Glenn Wakai, Chair
Senator Brandon Elefante, Vice-Chair

RE: Strong Support for SCR13 Urging Members of Hawaii's Congressional Delegation to Support the Ceasefire in Gaza Resolution Introduced by United States Congresswoman Cori Bush

Dear Chair Wakai, Vice-Chair Elefante, and Members of the Committee on Public Safety and Intergovernmental and Military Affairs:

I strongly support SCR13 which calls for Hawaii's Congressional Delegation to support the ceasefire in Gaza resolution introduced by United States Congresswoman Cori Bush. According to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency, more than 17,000 children in Gaza are orphaned. Humanitarian Group Refugees International released that the Israeli government has consistently and groundlessly impeded aid operations within Gaza, creating "apocalyptic" conditions in Gaza, blocking legitimate relief operations and resisted implementing measures that would genuinely enhance the flow of humanitarian aid into Gaza.

Calling for a ceasefire does not equate the Israel's government to suspend its right to defend itself—calling for a ceasefire is asking for protections so that the children of Gaza can live. Just because they were born in Gaza shouldn't have to mean that they are denied of the basic human right to live without fear.

Through documented history, and in Hawai'i as well, we have learned of oppression that has caused marginalized communities to live in fear of losing their right to live a physically, emotionally, and spiritually well life. This is the moment we need to stand on the right side of history and I strongly urge you to pass SCR13.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this crucial measure.

Naomi Leipold
Ewa Beach resident

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 2:15:28 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Stella Caban	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing in support of SCR13. I have been devastated the mass destruction and loss of life that my tax dollars have been used to fund such atrocities. A ceasefire is the most ethical and practical solution for both American citizens and those that are suffering in Palestine. I think of my privilege here in Hawai'i and the ability to hold my five year old son knowing he is housed, fed, and safe. I as a mother and graduate student in Social work am morally called to demand a ceasefire. This ceasefire resolution will be one step towards bringing lasting justice and peace in the region.

The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

In love & solidarity,

Stella Caban

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 2:15:45 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Rob Weltman	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The US has to do its part to end the genocide of the Palestinian population of Gaza, with the first step being to support a UN Security Council for immediate ceasefire.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 2:17:17 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Richard	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Ceasefire now.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 2:17:23 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kent Lange Coules	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I'm in support of this bill urging a ceasefire in Gaza. Do the right thing!

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 2:18:56 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kealii Pooloa	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Aloha mai 'oukou,

It is with great urgency that we call for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza by the Israelies against the Palestinians. We are witnessing in real time the very horrific agenda of ethnic cleansing, violent settler occupation and genocide being comitted against the Palestinians by the Israelies funded by American tax dollars and with the military support of the United States. That makes me, who pays taxes, complicit in these atrocities and I refuse to be complicit!! So I am urging you, who have been elected by the people to represent the people, that you hear us and call for an immediate ceasefire NOW.

Do right by your fellow huMAN. Stop being puppeteers to rich old white men who play with war at the expense of the world.

From the river to the sea, may Palestine be forever free!

Nui ke aloha pau'ole,

Keali'i

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 2:19:29 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ruth Coules	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

I am testifying in strong and urgent support of SCR13/SR6. If aloha has any meaning to the people of Hawai'i you must take action now. The escalation of Israel's war with Hamas is unprecedented. The Ukrainian government recently made a statement that in the first two years of the war with Russia, a brutal enemy, they had suffered the loss of 31,000 soldiers. In only four months over 30,000 Palestinians have been killed!! Almost 13,000 are Palestinian children. UNICEF estimates that at least 17,000 children are estimated to be unaccompanied or separated from their parents in the Gaza Strip, many of them orphans. There is an acronym that has been used in hospitals and other places from the beginning of the war: WCNSF. It stands for wounded child, no surviving family. It is often written on their wrists in permanent marker so their plight will be recognized as they encounter adults.

In the last few days The NY Times reported that 15 children died of malnutrition and dehydration in one hospital in North Gaza; one in 6 children suffers from acute malnutrition; 90% of all children under two years old in Gaza are experiencing severe food poverty; 25% of all Gazans are one step away from famine. The entire population of 2.2 million is facing crisis or worse levels of food insecurity.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

Mahalo for your time and attention.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 2:23:13 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Amber Viernes	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha!

I am testifying in strong support of [SCR13/SR6]. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Around 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 2:23:32 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Joanne Archibald	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

It is well past time to stop the horrific loss of lives and destruction in Gaza. The Hamas attack on October 7 was brutal but the outsized reaction by Israel has left the world aghast. The USA is supporting Israel's attacks by providing weapons and ammunition. If we stopped, they would stop. It's time to act. We have been sending arms without Congressional approval and it needs to END.

Please show the world the spirit of Aloha and pass this ceasefire measure.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 2:24:17 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Daniel R Freund	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Israel was attacked on October 7. It has every right to seek to eliminate Hamas as a threat. What it does not have the right to do is leave hundreds of thousands of civilians to starve as it prosecutes its military action.

We supply Israel with military weapons and that gives us a voice. While the Hawaii legislature cannot and should not *make* foreign policy, it can speak on behalf of the citizens of Hawaii in an effort to *influence* foreign policy to prevent mass suffering and death.

I encourage the legislature to pass this resolution.

- Dan Freund, Kapaa

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 2:26:40 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Alina Bwy	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hawai'i's congressional delegation needs to support a permanent ceasefire in Gaza and an end to the occupation. Israel is committing numerous violations of international law including ethnic cleansing and probable genocide. By blocking the passage of aid into Gaza Israel is starving a population of roughly two million, half of whom are children. We have already begun to see children die from starvation , which will only worsen as this continues. Experts from the UN and many non-governmental agencies have been warning about the continued escalation of these crimes for months and the US can no longer remain complicit in these actions and expect the US taxpayer to pay for them. While President Biden continues to only acknowledge the plight of hostages in Gaza, it seems disingenuous to believe there is any real concern for their lives when we have seen Israeli forces kill more of the hostages than they have rescued, and continue to indiscriminately bomb the strip where hostages are imbedded with innocent Palestinian men, women and children. The only way forward is a permanent ceasefire and justice for the Palestinian people.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 2:27:56 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Joseph Han	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of SCR13/SR6. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 2:29:46 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ella Malie Turner	Individual	Support	In Person

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

My name is Mālie Turner and I am here to testify in strong, unwavering support of resolution SCR13.

The world is witness, we are witness to indiscriminate violence, destruction, and death in Gaza. Well over 30,000 Palestinians have been reported dead in Gaza in just 150 days. This does not account for those lost under rubble, killed outside of Gaza, murdered in detainment, or any form of unreported/undocumented casualty. For reference, O‘ahu is just under 600 sq mi and is home to around 1 million people. Gaza is less than 141 sq mi and, prior to October 7th, was home to over 2 million Palestinians. The Israeli government (with America’s help) has cut Gaza off from basic human rights like food, water, fuel, and electricity, forcing Palestinians, once again, into displacement or death. For many, leaving is not even an option, as escaping THEIR OWN HOME costs them tens of thousands of dollars per person.

The situation will worsen without a ceasefire. We need to put an end to this brutality.

It is more than evident that the people of Hawai‘i stand with Palestine. We have organized rallies, pop-ed workshops, teach-ins, and marches, among other community-based events, for which thousands have shown up to, in support of Palestine. Nā po‘e o Hawai‘i stands in solidarity with Palestine.

We demand an immediate and permanent ceasefire. We demand a liberated Palestine. We demand REAL and LASTING peace.

We urge the Hawai‘i State Legislature to do the same by joining its constituents in calling for an immediate and permanent ceasefire in Gaza.

Thank you for your time.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 2:31:07 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Isabella Grace Dearaujo	Individual	Support	In Person

Comments:

I support SCR13.

I call upon our representatives in District I and District II to take immediate action to represent my voice along with my fellow peers testifying today about in the unfolding crisis in Gaza. I demand an immediate ceasefire to halt the ongoing violence and work towards creating a pathway to a lasting peace that upholds human rights and land rights for the Palestinian people.

There needs to be an immediate ceasefire: The ongoing violence in the Gaza Strip and Israel have caused immense suffering for innocent civilians. I implore our representatives to call for an immediate ceasefire to halt further bloodshed.

As a childcare professional, I must advocate for the children in Gaza. Those who have survived thus far will face great challenges as this stain upon their innocence will impact them for the rest of their lives. Israel's continued lack of regard for civilian life has murdered countless children. No one wins in war.

Considering Hawai'i's own history being an occupied land, it is imperative that we call for a ceasefire and be on the right side of history.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 2:32:10 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Emerson Goo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

My name is Emerson Goo and I am a professional planner and landscape designer. I am testifying in strong support of SCR13/SR6. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel, leaving the two million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately. A ceasefire would put a stop to Israel's unlawful attacks, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza, and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive the life-saving medicines, fuel, and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

As a built environment professional, I know that the occupation of Palestine is a spatial justice issue and that the imposed cycle of destruction, re-construction, and constant de-development imposed by Israel on Palestinians is a form of erasure of their built environment, public space, and dwelling areas. It is what the Syrian architectural researcher calls "domicide", which occurs in conjunction with the genocide taking place. It is also ecocide, as Israeli assaults render life in Gaza unlivable for both human and non-human species, salting the earth and laying waste to nature and Palestinians' relationship with it. Tackling the root causes of this conflict by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

Please support a ceasefire in Gaza.

Emerson Goo

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 2:32:14 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kaiakahinalii Kaopua-Canonigo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Elefante, and members of the Committee,

My name is Kaiakahinalii Kaopua-Canonigo, and I stand in strong support of the resolution. Along with many across Hawaii, we stand against collective punishment and mass violence inflicted upon civilians in any form – be it by the Israeli State, Hamas, or the United States. We join with Jewish Voice for Peace in the belief that, “A future of peace and safety for all, grounded in justice, freedom and equality for all, is still the only option.” We affirm the equal value of all lives.

Hawai‘i and Palestine are two occupied nations, deeply connected through a shared struggle for liberation and genuine peace for all lands and peoples.

Residents of Hawai‘i contribute \$13 million in federal taxes annually to the \$3.8 billion per year in U.S. military funding and economic aid to the [apartheid State of Israel](#), which is used to commit daily war crimes against Palestinians in their own homelands, including the theft, destruction, and occupation of their lands, homes, food sources, water, natural resources, and means to survival.

In the words of Congresswoman Rashida Tlaib:

“In response to the [case brought by South Africa against Israel](#), the International Court of Justice just ruled that Israel’s government is plausibly committing genocide.

The Court ordered Israel’s government to act immediately to prevent further harm to the Palestinian people—and to stop “acts of genocide” such as killing Palestinians and “causing serious bodily or mental harm” to Palestinians.

This ruling also puts the U.S. government on notice for enabling violations of the Genocide Convention. As a signer of the Genocide Convention, the U.S. government is legally obligated to prevent genocide.

With U.S. support, the Israeli government has killed more than 30,000* Palestinians in Gaza, forcibly displacing 2 million people within the already-densely-packed Gaza strip.

President Biden has sent thousands of bombs to Israel's military, while blocking international efforts to stop the violence and watering down attempts to secure sufficient humanitarian aid.

Meanwhile, Israel's government is still starving Palestinians in Gaza and depriving the trapped population of other basic needs for survival such as water, shelter, and medical assistance.

As the biggest funder of Israel's military, U.S. government leaders have the power and the obligation to stop this unfolding genocide.

In addition to the order to prevent genocide, the International Court of Justice (ICJ) also ordered Israel to prevent and punish incitement to genocide, to immediately ensure "urgently needed basic services and humanitarian assistance" to Gaza, and to report back within a month to the court.

The only way to implement the Court's orders is by facilitating a lasting ceasefire."

We also recognize that a ceasefire and stop to the planned ground invasion of Rafah is not enough to bring peace, freedom, and dignity to the Palestinian people, who have long faced conditions of "open air imprisonment" in their homelands. For true and lasting peace for Palestines, Israelis, and all people, we must work to eradicate oppression in all forms.

Please support this resolution, and consider taking further action to end the genodice happening in Gaza.

Mahalo for your consideration.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 2:32:37 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kathryn Perryman	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of [SCR13/SR6]. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on

Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 2:32:38 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Robbie Snyder	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support a ceasefire and a free Palestine! I urge you to do the same, and to take a stand by stopping this genocide.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 2:33:53 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Katherine Rothman	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am speaking to you today to ask that you support SCR13/SR6. As a Jew and a disabled citizen of the U.S., I wake up every day thinking about the impact of Israel’s military actions on the most vulnerable people living in Gaza - especially those living with disability or chronic illness, children, and the elderly - who are not able to meet even their most basic human needs, let alone receive the medical care and support they need. The deaths of 40,000 and wounding of 70,000 civilians, as unimaginably horrific as that is, does not even begin to capture the scope of the suffering that the people in Gaza face. As each day of Israel’s military campaign continues, and the longer the U.S. fails to apply sufficient pressure on Israel to demand a ceasefire, the lack of adequate food, water, fuel, and basic supplies in Gaza compounds and risks even more suffering and loss of life in the weeks and months ahead. A ceasefire is also the best way to ensure that the hostages taken by Hamas on October 7 and their family members can be reunited in safety.

I strongly believe that Israel's current military actions will not bring about more peace or security for Israel, the United States, or the world - let alone the innocent civilians who are currently suffering and dying in this conflict - but instead will continue to foment more violence and terror in the region. The United States has seen this time and time again in their own military actions and must see that, while Hamas’ attack and murder of civilians on October 7 was an atrocity, Israel’s response has been brutal, disproportionate, and punitive, and is part of a larger campaign of occupation, blockade, apartheid, and genocide of Palestinians. Additionally, Israel and the United States’ continued support for the same oppressive, brutal policies that fomented that same violent attack can only lead to more senseless violence in the long term.

Please support a ceasefire. Please support much-needed aid and care coming into Gaza, not more violence and death.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 2:34:18 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Siena Hartley	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am here to provide testimony in favor of SCR13/ SR6. The ongoing situation involving widespread harm inflicted upon innocent civilians (including young women and children). It is imperative that we come together to put an end to this violence, as over 40,000 lives have already been lost since October 7th, with more than 70,000 individuals sustaining injuries.

Regrettably, access to essential resources such as food, medicine, and aid is being blocked by Israel, leaving 2 million people in urgent need of assistance. I urge for immediate action to support a ceasefire, enabling hostage negotiations and facilitating international investigations into the reported war crimes that have taken place since October 7th.

I implore you to listen to the voices of myself and other advocates in favor of SCR13, calling for an immediate ceasefire to prevent further harm. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 2:35:05 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Shaw Kailaka Pascua	Individual	Support	In Person

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of [SCR13] The amount of civilian life has reached past 40,000 and 70,000 more have been wounded. In addition, Israel has blocked the entry of food, water and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip with no means of survival. This humanitarian catastrophe stems from the 16-year-long blockade on the Gaza Strip, and if it continues only more life will be lost. If a ceasefire were to occur it would allow the negotiation for the release of 200 civilians and allow for an independent international investigation into war crimes committed during this time. If we can fix the root cause of this conflict, Israel's apartheid imposed on Palestinians, then we can achieve a lasting peace in that region.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 2:35:20 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Noelle Iati	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Warm aloha to all members of the committee - I write today to strongly urge you to vote yay on the Hawai'i Ceasefire Resolution. Hawai'i must stand for peace - it must stand for true aloha to all peoples of the world. The indiscriminate bombing of civilians is not what we stand for, nor does it move Israel any closer to achieving its stated aims of ensuring security and the release of Israeli hostages. All people deserve to live in peace. The people of Gaza deserve the chance to live in peace. 40,000 are dead in an area smaller than Moloka'i - enough is enough. Please vote in support of this resolution. Please stand for peace for all citizens of the world.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 2:36:43 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Samantha Farinella	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of [SCR13/SR6]. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

Thank you.

Samantha

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 2:37:15 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kathleen Flanders	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

I am testifying today to remind you, Hawai‘i’s legislators and you Governor Josh Green that genocide is the gravest of crimes under international law and that the United States has a duty under Article 1 of the 1948 Genocide Convention to prevent its acts.

The United States and its political actors, those who are in a position of power, like yourself, Governor Green and all who comprise this legislative body, are in fact obligated under the 1948 Geneva Convention to, from that time of your first learning of the serious *risk* of genocide by Israel of the Palestinian people, to exercise your influence on Israel to prevent the crime of genocide as well as the risk of acts of genocide.

Quoting The US center of constitutional rights, I remind you that “whether a State has breached its duty to prevent [genocide] depends on the State’s ability to effectively influence the actions of the people likely to commit, or already committing, genocide. The United States has tremendous influence on the actions of the Israeli government, and *the United States — and U.S. citizens, including you and up to the President — can be held responsible for their role in furthering genocide.*

Therefore, I remind each and every one of you, and especially you Governor Josh Green, that you have been given the opportunity by Representative Cori Bush to join him and others to support his call to an immediate and permanent ceasefire by Israel of Gaza. That you have the power, as a state governmental body to disapprove of and demand the cessation of the approval of the giving of all future aid by our United States representatives and our President, Joe Biden of aid to Israel.

This includes unconditional military support to Israel, including military advisors, equipment, and other aid including billions in military assistance for Israel.

By not approving SCR13 you, governor Josh Green and Hawai‘i State representatives in fact not only will be in violation of the 1948 Geneva Convention but, as representatives of the people of these Hawaiian Islands, burden our citizens with the horrific unconscionable crime of genocide, at risk of being committed and already being committed against the indigenous people of Gaza by the colonial apartheid state of Israel, the Palestinians.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 2:40:46 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Keoni Shizuma	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support a ceasefire and think it is long overdue!

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 2:43:46 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michael Orr	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is Michael Orr, I'm a supporter] of Senator Donna Mercado Kim, and I'm calling about Palestine and Israel.

Hello,

Senator Donna Mercado Kim must publicly call for a ceasefire, pressure Israel to allow more humanitarian aid into Gaza, and vote NO on sending more weapons for this war. A "humanitarian pause" is not good enough. They should introduce a Senate Resolution calling for a ceasefire, similar to the one in the House.

I am passionate about this because my faith compels me to.

While I am speaking as an individual I talked to my neighbors about this and we all agree that this should stop. Most U.S. voters agree that the U.S. should push for a ceasefire.

Thank you!

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 2:44:01 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kyrie Puaoi	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Aloha,

I am writing in support of bill SCR13 urging for immediate ceasefire in Gaza.

I recently had a conversation with someone who tried to explain to me that a ceasefire is not that simple because of 1000's of years of history and religion, as well as the many layers of politics that are likely involved.

My response was that that is (one of) the problem(s). Overcomplicating or maybe just straight turning a blind eye to the fact that 10s of 1000s of innocent people are being murdered. Many of whom are children.

If Israel decided that Hawaii was a threat because of our strategic location in the pacific and decided to invade us with bombs and guns, take us hostage, if our children were dying every single day, would the issue still be so complicated? Would you still allow our keiki to be left to die? When it is your cousin, your mother, your child covered in blood are there still reasons left to justify their murder?

I am passionate about this because I imagine myself in the shoes of the innocent Palestinians in Gaza. I think of the love I have for my babies and the pain I'd feel if they suffered the way the people in Gaza are suffering.

Put yourself in their shoes. It's that simple.

mahalo for taking action on this immediately.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 2:46:40 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ilana Stout	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Watching the unfolding violence in Gaza as an American and knowing that my taxpayer dollars are paying for those bombs causes me deep shame. Hawaii must follow the lead of other states, nations, The un, Doctors Without borders, and countless other organizations in calling for an immediate and permanent ceasefire in Gaza

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 2:46:40 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kevin Kauai	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Members of the Committee,

I want to testify my very strong support for SCR13. It has been 152 days of non stop carnage on both sides of the Isreali/Hamas war.

There was a temporary Ceasefire on November 24-30 2023 and that was the only time we saw hostages free and no carnage, that was through diplomatic negotiations.

There has been only killing since then. If we can all come together and show support for a ceasefire, this can save lives. We need to find anyway possible to end this war.

Please please think of the innocent lives at risk, at least we can let god know we tried to stop this war on judgment day.

Mahalo from your local guy

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 2:47:59 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dawn Adele	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of [SCR13/SR6]. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on

Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 2:52:01 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Hoolaikahiluonalani Tjorvatjoglou	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Carmel Alaa Hamdan was less than one year old when a US funded Israeli missile tragically killed her. Carmel's father named her after the Carmel Mountains in Haifa in occupied Palestine. It was his hope and prayer to be able to visit there one day with his daughter in a free Palestine. Heba Ziadeh was born on February 23rd 2024 and just one week later on March 1st 2024 was horrifically killed by starvation from the Israeli government's illegal siege and blockade of humanitarian aid on Gaza. She is one of 20 people who have died from starvation since October 2023. This is just the beginning. According to UNICEF thousands of babies will die. There are at least 5,500 women set to give birth in the coming months. Women who they themselves are malnourished and unable to breastfeed due to lack of nutrition. These are just the infants. Thousands of other children, elderly, women, and men, all innocent civilians, are being purposefully starved by Israel. We cannot allow Israel to continue to murder and torture innocent civilians. This must stop now. Permanent ceasefire. End the occupation. Free Palestine.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 2:53:37 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dr. Ikaika Ramones	Individual	Support	In Person

Comments:

Testimony in strong support, delivered in person.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 2:53:41 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Puanani Kanealii	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of [SCR13/SR6]. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

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Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on

Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 2:53:52 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Keyan Gootkin	Individual	Support	In Person

Comments:

I am a Jewish man, and I am appalled by the actions of the Israeli government in Gaza and our own governments complicity and enabling of that horrific violence, which are credibly called acts of genocide by scholars, people on the ground, even members of the Israeli Knesset. The fact of the matter is that the current government of Israel, even beyond the Likud faction, is deeply fascist, as has been openly admitted by the likes of Itamar Ben-Gvir and Smotrich.

Some will say that the actions of Hamas justify the military action taken by the IDF, this is plain faced idiocy. What Hamas did on October 7th was unjustifiable, horrifying, and entirely predictable based on the treatment of the innocent people of Gaza. When you crowd, starve, humiliate, and kill innocent children, when you destroy their homes, their cultural sites, their hospitals, their places of worship, how do they react? To point out this obvious fact is not blaming Jews, but rather the government that oppresses so many Jews today in Israel alongside the Palestinian people. In Jewish history, and the histories of every other oppressed group, this has happened innumerable times, always with the same result. Every time, be it the Romans, the Greeks, the Persians, the Spanish, or the German, Jews revolt and demand dignity, some peacefully, some violently. Should we condemn the Maccabees for their violence against the oppressors who destroyed their temples and killed their children? Would we say the Egyptians were right to chase Moses and his people into the Sinai as the IDF seeks to do to the Palestinian people today? Even if you believe in reciprocal violence, reciprocity was achieved in the first days of this mass slaughter, we have seen the numbers of Palestinians killed reach at least an order of magnitude larger than the Israeli's lost on 10/7. This sheer scale proves one thing, the Israeli government is the one actor who controls what happens in Palestinian lands. It was their careless disregard for international law in the West Bank that drew the IDF away from Gaza, to enforce segregation in the West Bank. It was their ceaseless depriving of water, food, housing, and medical care that drove young Palestinians into Hamas' hands, convincing them violence was their only choice. It was the Israeli Likud party who decided that Hamas should be supported in Gaza rather than the Palestinian Authority. That's right, the Israeli government has for decades provided and facilitated money and aid transfers not to the People of Gaza, but to Hamas itself! And our government, the most powerful military in the history of the world, condones this in the form of billions of dollars worth of weapons.

Really, the question at hand is simple, is the life of a Jew equal to the life of an Arab? Most would answer yes publically, but their actions betray their true feelings. The lives of those thousand or so Jews will not be honored by destroying 10 Arab children for every Jew slaughtered. You will not make Jews safe by massacring Muslims and Christians. Every child whose parents are blown apart by American bombs, who are gunned down with American arms

while trying to find food for their families, who have their homes reduced to rubble by American munitions, is another recruit for Hamas. The idea of Hamas, of violent struggle being the only way out for the people of Gaza becomes more and more reasonable with every shot fired. Without a political solution there are only violent solutions, and the state of Israel has rejected and sabotaged every hope for a political solution. We would not expect Jews to simply lie down and wait to die, so why should we expect the Palestinians to do so, are they not human?

That's why, when our president (who I voted for, and campaigned for) repeatedly said "There's not a Jew in the world who would be safe without Israel" I become worried for my own personal safety. Israel has made the world more dangerous for me. By calling myself a Jew in public, not only do I have to worry about the Neo-Nazis who hounded me in my youth, who now sit in halls of power in my own government, I also have to worry about Zionists. Who call me a bad Jew, a self-hating Jew, a fake Jew, a *race* traitor, a half-breed mutt, and even "the worst kind of kike" just for believing the humanity of Palestinians. And the two groups get along in hating me! Netanyahu famously claimed that the Holocaust was not originated in the vile anti-semitism of 20th century Europe, but by a Palestinian! Israel's head of state does not blame Hitler for orchestrating the industrial scale slaughter of the Shoah, rather the Palestinian Grand Mufti!

Today, and throughout the history of Zionism, the most numerous Zionists by far have not been Jewish Zionists, but anti-semitic, fundamentalist, protestant, Christian Zionists, who want me to be deported to the Holy Land so that I can be slaughtered in their Armageden. When Joe Biden calls himself a Zionist, and tells me that I am not safe in my own home, in my country, I take it as a threat to me and every other American Jew. Because for most of us there is No home in Israel. I can find no home, no solace in an ethnostate whose race laws would call my father's marriage to my deceased mother a crime. Israel cannot speak for me. Israel cannot weaponize my family's history and pain, just to inflict it upon others. Israel cannot use my name to justify their pogroms, their mass-graves, their apartheid, their ethnic cleansing, their campaign of terror and hate. I cannot stand complicit, with blood on my hands, as so many of you seem content to be.

For these and a million other reasons, I implore you all to vote in favor of this motion, to join with the strong and growing chorus of voices calling for a total, immediate ceasefire. Stand with us in upholding the promise made to the survivors of Holocaust, who were told "Never Again". Again is once more happening, and the only way to prevent complete and total catastrophe, is to demand, with all the might we possess, that innocents are no longer dispossessed and slaughtered, regardless of race or religion. The only way forwards is to demand a ceasefire, NOW.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 2:54:25 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
KianaRose	Individual	Support	In Person

Comments:

asdf

Aloha e members of the committee,

One minute is not enough to outline the atrocities and crimes that are happening towards the Palestinians as we speak.

Thankfully, this minute is compounded on the many that are here.

I will say something of more importance in-person.

Testimony submitted by: **Daria A. Fand**
Honolulu, HI
Email: dariafand@gmail.com

Hearing Measure(s): **SCR13/SR6**
Date: Friday, March 8, 2024, 3:00 PM
Committee: PSM (Public Safety and Intergovernmental and Military Affairs)
Chair, Vice Chair: Sen. Glenn Wakai, Sen. Brandon Elefante
Room: CR 225

Position: **IN STRONG SUPPORT**

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair and Members of the Committee:

I am testifying in strong support of **SCR13/SR6**. These measures are long overdue in light of the fact that we are witnessing a transparently barbaric assault on an entire people, the Palestinians, which is progressing with historically unprecedented ferocity and high casualty rate. The U.S. has not only presided over this state of affairs, but has aided and abetted it via a carte blanche weapons bankroll for Israel, as provided by American taxpayers.

Notwithstanding the tragic nature of the precipitating event of October 7, in which Hamas initiated a military attack on Israel, Israel's retaliatory bombardment, massacre and humanitarian deprivation of a captured civilian population in Gaza is nothing short of a daily stream of unimaginable crises and ever-escalating atrocities. At exactly 5 months into the hostilities, the death toll has topped a staggering 40,000 civilians, the majority of whom are women and children. Additionally, 70,000 and counting are left wounded and severely traumatized, with uncounted tens of thousands buried under rubble. The scope of trauma and suffering, loss and agonizing pain ordinary people like you and me -- people with hopes and dreams, professions, ambitions, and talents -- have endured, with whole families and generations snuffed out in the most savage of ways, is incalculable.

In addition to the continual air strikes claiming lives and limbs of an innocent population with nowhere to escape to, driven from one besieged corner of the region to the next, we have seen appalling on-the-ground war crimes and human rights abuses in real time. We've seen indiscriminate bombing and targeting of areas pronounced as "safe zones". Places protected under international law, such

as mosques, churches, hospitals, schools, and refugee camps have all been under attack by one of the supposedly most sophisticated armies in the world (the Israel Defense Forces, aka IDF), under the pretext that such gross demolition constitutes legitimate “self-defense”. Masses of people are dying of preventable conditions, infectious diseases, lack of food, water, fuel, electricity, sanitation and the most basic of infrastructural requirements for survival. Calculated tactics have prevented acutely needed supplies and aid from reaching Gaza’s inhabitants, and in cases, those reaching the aid are wantonly slaughtered. Israel’s willful defiance of the relevant international standards of war should have been deemed utterly intolerable to the world community with the U.S. leading the charge from the very beginning, but instead, these horrors go unabated and even intensified. The people of Gaza are perishing, reaching out with their cries and pleas, ignored for far too long.

We must take a principled stand, confronting the Biden Administration and asking all our Congresspeople to consider the legacy they are leaving by enabling Israel. The International Court of Justice has ruled that Israel is plausibly committing genocide, which obligates every nation, and every state in every nation, to take accountability for its own role in any such crime. This nation and by inclusion, the State of Hawaii, are complicit with war crimes and potentially genocide if our leaders continue to condone, allow, or contribute in any way to the continuance of Israel’s campaign against the indigenous people, the Palestinians. Also, as Senator Jeff Merkley of Oregon has pointed out, it is in the federal statutes that supplying military aid to any foreign state (in this case, Israel) known to be obstructing the distribution of, and access to, humanitarian aid is unlawful. **Hence, calling for a lasting ceasefire and demanding increased humanitarian support is incumbent upon the United States and Hawaii, to be in compliance with both international and domestic law.**

This is the Aloha State – how is it that our Congresspeople have not stood first in line to condemn the blatantly hateful, cruel, racist actions of Israel? We ourselves have a dark colonial history regarding the Kanaka people. Shouldn’t we be the first calling for the end to an imperialist colonial agenda, especially one that is enacting such a reign of death and terror -- despite whatever crimes Hamas has committed in this asymmetric “war” of a subjugated people under the tyranny of a hegemonic superpower?

It is not in the interests either of Israel or Palestine for this wasteful, deplorable destruction to continue one more day. In fact, Israel’s own civilian hostages held in Gaza are in grave danger, given the “bomb everything that moves” IDF modus

operandi. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A permanent and immediate ceasefire would first put an end to unspeakable carnage. It would allow for life-saving medical supplies, food, water, and other provisions to be delivered to desperately hamstrung hospitals, camps and other places of rehabilitation. A ceasefire would also enable the process of negotiation and diplomacy, with a return of hostages bilaterally, and for the appropriate investigation of war crimes to be embarked upon.

If there is one tenet that all seasoned analysts have held, it's that Hamas will not be destroyed by military means, as it is a political movement. A political movement can only be appeased when the root causes for its agitation are addressed. Only when Israel's illegal apartheid system imposed upon the Palestinians is dismantled will this conflict and its perpetuating factors be dissolved. Only when Israel ends its brutal regime of impunity and allows Palestinians sovereignty, dignity and justice will there be peace. An immediate and permanent ceasefire has never been more urgent, or more needed to achieve lasting resolution instead of perpetual violence as status quo.

On a final note, I am Jewish. Kin on both sides were lost to the Holocaust. Yet, I am sickened at heart by the actions of Israel, as every Jew should be. I don't feel more safe in the world because of the 75-year-old Zionist project. I feel in fact more unsafe and more hated than ever. The current Israeli regime is a blight on my culture of birth, my ancestry, and its religion. How dare anyone undertake such vile deeds in my name? How dare anyone desecrate the memory of all the Holocaust victims, only to become the perpetrators? The gratuitous destruction of so many Palestinian lives and their rich, ancient culture shocks and horrifies me to the core. I beg this committee and our leaders to wake up to the monstrosity that is Israel claiming land that isn't theirs, tilling it with bloodshed, and buying all our elected officials to keep patting Israel on the back and supplying them with more ammunition.

In closing, I submit to you, for your further edification and information, a few excerpts from the Hamas Charter of 2017, below. I don't condone everything that Hamas has done. Nevertheless, it is imperative for any critic to know its credo. Please review these clauses, and ask yourselves if these are the words of a "terrorist organization," (per language in this measure, echoing mainstream,

unstudied categorization) – or rather, a self-governing body longing simply to be emancipated, and to embrace peace and Aloha with its neighbors, but which has been forced to defend itself against annihilation.

Please pass this measure with no objection and continue to press vigilantly for this cause with all your colleagues.

Thank you for your deep consideration of my testimony.

Hamas Charter, 2017:

The Islamic Resistance Movement “Hamas” is a Palestinian Islamic national liberation and resistance movement. Its goal is to liberate Palestine and confront the Zionist project...Hamas believes that the message of Islam upholds the values of truth, justice, freedom and dignity and prohibits all forms of injustice and incriminates oppressors irrespective of their religion, race, gender or nationality. Islam is against all forms of religious, ethnic or sectarian extremism and bigotry. It is the religion that inculcates in its followers the value of standing up to aggression and of supporting the oppressed; it motivates them to give generously and make sacrifices in defence [sic] of their dignity, their land, their peoples and their holy places...Hamas affirms that its conflict is with the Zionist project not with the Jews because of their religion. Hamas does not wage a struggle against the Jews because they are Jewish but wages a struggle against the Zionists who occupy Palestine. Yet, it is the Zionists who constantly identify Judaism and the Jews with their own colonial project and illegal entity...Hamas rejects the persecution of any human being or the undermining of his or her rights on nationalist, religious or sectarian grounds. Hamas is of the view that the Jewish problem, anti-Semitism and the persecution of the Jews are phenomena fundamentally linked to European history and not to the history of the Arabs and the Muslims or to their heritage. The Zionist movement, which was able with the help of Western powers to occupy Palestine, is the most dangerous form of settlement occupation which has already disappeared from much of the world and must disappear from Palestine.

Source:

<https://www.middleeasteye.net/news/hamas-2017-document-full>

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 2:55:05 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Travis	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I, Travis Paradea support this call for a ceasefire in Gaza. And further, to voice support for all current efforts to deliver aid by air and sea to Gaza. As a lifelong resident of Hawai`i Island, I can only assert that innocent people are clearly suffering. The impending attack on Rafah will leave civilians in even worse conditions. While I do not pretend to know what peace looks like, I know that a ceasefire is always the best first step to peace and conflict resolution.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 2:55:14 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sarah Kaneko	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I urge you to support the ceasefire in Gaza. America has stood blindly behind Israel for far too long. The atrocities that are happening with the aide from America is unacceptable. We are no better than the Israelis who are possibly committing genocide, if we turn a blind eye to what is happening in Israel and Palestine. Both Jews and Muslims deserve to live in peace. Let's insist on a ceasefire and stop providing bombs and munitions to Israel immediately. I ask you to please support the ceasefire in Gaza.

Sincerely,

Sarah Kaneko

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 2:55:35 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Julie Warech	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is Julie Warech and I am testifying in strong support of [SCR13/SR6] URGING MEMBERS OF HAWAII'S CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO SUPPORT THE CEASEFIRE IN GAZA RESOLUTION INTRODUCED BY UNITED STATES CONGRESSWOMAN CORI BUSH.

My family is of ashkenazi Jewish descent from Poland, Russia, and Romania. My family fled persecution and came to the United States as refugees in the early 1900s. The generational trauma of living through persecution, genocide, and being stripped of one's home lives deep inside my bones.

And that is why when I see what is happening in Palestine today and over the last 75 years, I recognize this as genocide, ethnic cleansing, and apartheid. This is not and has never been about Jewish safety. You will never secure the safety of one group at the expense of the safety of another.

And let me make it absolutely clear, opposing the Israeli government is not anti-semitism and it is dangerous to conflate it as such. It is time that everyone stood up to the Israeli government. Because Israel will not stop unless it is forced to. And the longer we fail to act, the more barbaric and terroristic Israel becomes.

Last week, over 100 Palestinians who were starving due to Israel's deliberate actions of withholding food and supplies, were shot dead en masse trying to obtain food for them and their families. Israel is committing war crime after war crime, including some of the most atrocious massacres of our time, with impunity and the United States is still stumbling to act. This only serves to embolden Israel even more.

We have been in a time of moral reckoning. The world is asking us whether or not we believe all human life is sacred or only the life of some and for 150 days, our collective answer has been only the life of some as the United States has had the direct power to stop this madness and has chosen not to. And this choice has been made because foreign interests, natural resources, profit, and power have been deemed more important than Palestinian life.

Israel is literally testing new technology and weapons on Palestinians, with the intel being fed back to the United States as we speak. Israel has already given preliminary approval to

develop a gas field off Gaza Strip. Real estate sales are taking place in US synagogues to expand Israeli settlements. And in October 2023 alone, AIPAC received triple the donations than it had received in January-September combined to aid AIPAC in continuing its pro-Israel lobbying efforts that influence our politics at an alarming level, putting the interests of an elite few above the voices of the masses.

IT IS TIME FOR THIS TO END. AND WE NEED YOUR COURAGE AND YOUR HUMANITY NOW MORE THAN EVER.

For the last 150 days, we have watched day in and day out as lives have been wiped off this earth. As 2.2 million people have been trapped in a land area smaller than Moloka'i and indiscriminately bombed with no where safe to go. As children have starved to death, been massacred, caught under the rubble, had limbs amputated without anesthesia, and been orphaned en mass. As aid has been blocked by Israel and its settlers over and over, leaving people to die of starvation. I have opened up my phone to see on the same day a person eating croissants with not a care in the world at a cafe in Tel Aviv while in North Gaza a child with cerebral palsy starved to death due to Israel's barbaric actions.

We are asking you to stop forcing us to be complicit in genocide. You in this room today have a unique power to take a huge step toward stopping this. So what side of history will your name go down on? The side that enabled a genocide or the side that did every single thing in your power to stop it?

Testimony in Support of SCR 13 – Urging Members of Hawaii’s Congressional Delegation to Support a Ceasefire Resolution in Gaza

Senate Committee on Public Safety and Intergovernmental and Military Affairs

February 8th, 2024

Dear Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Elefante, and members of the committee,

I am writing to express **STRONG SUPPORT for SCR 13**, which urges members of Hawaii’s Congressional delegation to support a ceasefire resolution in Gaza.

The horrifying subjection of mass punishment against innocent children, journalists, doctors, and civilians is unacceptable. An estimated 40,000 people have been killed and 70,000 people injured since the October 7th attacks. Nearly 90 percent of the territory’s residents have been displaced, and it has been called by Washington Post as “one of this century’s most destructive wars.”

This violence has been funded in a large part by U.S. taxpayer dollars. The U.S. sends Israel an estimated \$3.8 billion every year and there is currently a proposal in front of the U.S. Congress to increase Israel funding to \$17.6 billion.

Israel is blocking food, medicine and aid to the 2 million people who desperately need help. By implementing an immediate ceasefire, hostage negotiations can be conducted, and the regional partners can begin working on diplomatic solutions.

A recent poll from New Data for Progress found that a majority of voters support a permanent ceasefire and de-escalation of violence in Gaza. Please honor the voice of the people and support the call for an immediate ceasefire through passage of SCR 13.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this important measure.

Abbey Seitz

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 2:57:02 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Barbara Altemus	Individual	Support	In Person

Comments:

I am a Jewish woman who has lost family in the Jewish Holocaust and was taught values that are totally opposed to the genocide committed by the Israeli government. My heart is broken witnessing the extermination of the Palestinian people as my family knows all too well what that feels like. People stood up for Jewish people and if they had not I would not be alive today. I am standing up for Palestinian people and demand a CEASE FIRE for the sake of humanity and what all human beings deserve from one another. No people should go through what the Palestinian people are going through today, and worse not in the name of our Jewish ancestors.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 2:58:10 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Danny H C Li	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Aloha. My name is Danny H.C. Li and I live in Puna on the Big Island, where Madame Pele reigns supreme.

I am testifying strongly in favor of SCR13 as introduced by Sen. Maile Shimabukuro.

I need to make just one very important point. The United States loves to present itself to the entire world that it is the "leader" of Democracy. To me, democracy is listening to the opinions of a majority of citizens. In the current situation in Palestine, the overwhelming majority of both US citizens and also a vast majority of UN members, an immediate Ceasefire is needed, and demanded. Yet the US government, instead of heeding the legitimate and humanitarian call for such a Ceasefire, refuses to go along with the entire global Public Opinion. It has already vetoed 5 times the call of the UN. Worse still, the US is not a simple bystander. It is actively supplying Israel with thousands of bombs, missiles and WMDs to enable the continuing killing of 30,000+ innocent civilians in Gaza alone. Where is the democracy in that aggressive and illegal complicity in that? I know for a fact that millions of American citizens don't want our taxpayers' hard-earned money to go on supporting such a genocide. So, at the very least, have the decency and courage to tell the Wall Street-Pentagon ruling elite in Washington, STOP the war NOW, and STOP wasting our money for more violence,

Peace, Solidarity and Imua!

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 2:58:24 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Aisling Kennedy	Individual	Support	In Person

Comments:

Aloha, I am testifying in support of SCR13/SR6. The horrifying subjection of mass punishment against innocent children, women and men civilians is unacceptable. 40,000 Palestinians, the majority of whom are women and children, have been killed since October 7, and we must work together to end this. More than 70,000 have been injured and more will be if this continues. Israel is blocking food, medicine and aid to the 2 million people who desperately need help. Palestinians are being forcibly starved to death. By supporting an immediate ceasefire, hostage negotiations can be conducted and international investigations can take place for the war crimes committed since October 7th. Please hear my voice and all the other supporters of SCR13 of support for an **immediate and permanent ceasefire**. Thank you for your time.



[EDITORIAL](#) | [ISLAND VOICES](#)

Hawaii health workers call for permanent ceasefire in Gaza

- By Seiji Yamada, Arcy Imasa and Kalamaokaaina Niheu
- Thursday, December 7, 2023

We health care and public health workers and future health workers of Hawaii call for an immediate ceasefire in Israel's assault on Palestine. As health workers, we hold all lives to be precious, and we cannot be silent. We therefore condemn Hamas's Oct. 7 killings of Israeli civilians. Israel's assault on Gaza has gone beyond retaliation for Oct. 7, however, and fulfills the United Nation's definition of genocide, which "means any of the following acts committed with intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnical, racial or religious group, as such:

- a. Killing members of the group;
- b. Causing serious bodily or mental harm to members of the group;
- c. Deliberately inflicting on the group conditions of life calculated to bring about its physical destruction in whole or in part;
- d. Imposing measures intended to prevent births within the group;
- e. Forcibly transferring children of the group to another group."

Israel's leaders openly stated that the people of Gaza would be denied food, water, electricity and fuel. Prior to Oct. 7, Gaza, as an occupied territory, was dependent on 500 trucks per day of supplies, including medicines. It goes without saying that the denial of food and water leads to death. With its air and ground assault, Israel has destroyed half the structures in Northern Gaza. By targeting mosques, schools, universities, bakeries, refugee camps, residences and infrastructure, Israel is destroying Gaza's civil society and ecology. As health workers, we find the targeting of hospitals the most depraved.

Hospitals are humanity's refuge for the ill and injured. Hospitals are where babies are born and where the sick seek comfort. Israel's assault on hospitals, on patients, on health care workers are crimes against humanity. Without medicines, Gaza's doctors have been operating on patients without anesthesia. Without electricity, they have been operating with cellphone lights. With the Israeli military invasion of the Al-Shifa Hospital, Gaza's largest hospital, patients on life support and babies in incubators died.

In the seven weeks since Oct. 7, of 2.3 million Gazans, more than 14,000 have been killed, 40% of them children. That is, over half the killed have been women and children. That is, more than 1 in 200 people in Gaza have been killed. How would you feel if that happened in your neighborhood, and half the houses were razed? Numerous Palestinian health workers have been killed, many as they tended to patients, others while they were at home with their families.

We health workers of Hawaii are sick to our stomachs of the killing. We decry genocide. We want peace, coexistence and equal rights as humans. We call for a permanent ceasefire now.

ONLINE:

More than 100 Hawaii health-care workers have signed a petition calling for an immediate ceasefire; see <https://forms.gle/SeyycJzGFL8pV4XA6>.

Seiji Yamada, Arcy Imasa and Kalamaokaaina Niheu are health workers in Hawaii; this piece was co-signed by Rick Rothschiller.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 2:59:05 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Shannon Pomaika'i Hennessey	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing in strong support of SCR13

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 2:59:12 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Georgia Thompson-West	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I was working on Maui doing wildfire recovery on Oct 7. Every night since I have watched excruciating coverage of Israel's collective punishment of Gaza unfold. An immediately obvious genocide. I can never unsee these images.

What could justify the deadliest rate of civilian casualties of the 21st century? Certainly not self-defense. This is revenge. This is annihilation.

Just some examples of what I have seen and read about:

- Over 100 Palestinian journalists targeted and executed, including their families. The most journalists in a modern conflict.
- Almost the entire infrastructure of Gaza flattened. This is not just about
- Family members digging through rubble and collecting their loved ones body parts, denied proper burial rituals. I will never forget the screams.
- The deliberate targeting of Palestinian poets, artists, doctors, professors, libraries, museums, writers, scientists, and scholars to erase not just the people but the culture.
- Denying an entire population shelter, clean water, food, electricity, medicine. Israeli settlers setting up camps with music and bounce houses to celebrate while they block aid from getting to Gaza.
- A 6 year old girl trapped in a car for hours next to her deceased family members, calling for help only for her and her rescuers to be killed in the end.
- The splattered blood, brains, bones, organs.

- Cats eating corpses. A child begging her cat to die with them and not eat her if her cats outlives her.
- The incessant sound of drones, bombs, gunfire, and more screams.
- A gentle grandfather kissing his deceased grandchild's eyes. Not wanting to let go.
- A beloved Al Jazeera journalist losing almost his entire family and later losing his journalist son yet still reporting the news through his grief and trauma.
- A U.S. Airman lighting himself on fire and screaming "Free Palestine" until his last breath.
- A young Palestinian completely flattened by an Israeli tank with his hands zip tied.
- Skeletal remains of starved children beamed all over the world.
- A mother who tried for 11 years to conceive her twins born at the beginning of the genocide only to lose them both along with her husband.
- A father amputating his teenage daughter's leg with no anesthesia.
- A child losing both legs in a bombing only to lose her life weeks later when rbe hospital she was recovering was bombed.
- Pregnant women denied prenatal care, delivering with no pain meds.
- Supporters of Israel denying all of this yet shouting for more of this carnage in the same breath.

All of this carnage was captured on film by victims and perpetrators and live-streamed 24/7. All endorsed by my government and paid for with my tax dollars against my will. We are all complicit. We have all been influenced by the lies and propaganda of the Israel lobby.

I implore the Hawai'i Senate to endorse a permanent ceasefire. It is the least we can do for the Palestinian people. I wish I had time to write so much more but there is no time left. The most common form of death in genocide is starvation. This is urgent, life saving work. It's not good enough to wait until the Genocide has wiped a whole indigenous community off the earth and then apologize and set up museums in their memory. We still have time to save some lives. Beyond a ceasefire we must act immediately to restore aid to Gaza and end all forms of genocide, oppression, apartheid, displacement, imprisonment, discrimination, and occupation of Palestine by Israel. This is the time for moral courage and conviction.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 2:59:50 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Josiah Rodriguez	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is Keoni Rodriguez and I reside in zip code 96816 and I am writing in support of a ceasefire in Palestine and this measure.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 2:59:59 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Destiny Joy Antonio	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

Thank you for scheduling this extremely important resolution and allowing the community to submit testimonies. My name is Destiny and I am in full support of the ceasefire resolution.

For the past 5 months, many people across the island chain have witnessed horrible atrocities being committed against the people of Palestine by Israel. There have been many rallies and marches across the islands where many Hawaiians and locals have shown up in support of Palestine. We stand alongside them and demand for a ceasefire.

There are 30,000 dead, thousands more missing and under the rubble of their homes, and the remaining Palestinian population in Gaza have limited aid coming to them. Some Palestinians in the north, more specifically, have resorted to using animal feed to make their bread or have starved to death. Israel has made it abundantly clear that it will not provide aid nor stop their acts against the Palestinian people and it is imperative that this resolution passes so that more pressure is applied to end their abysmal actions. If this resolution is not passed and the government is not swayed to put an end to Israel's genocide on Gaza, many more Palestinians will die from bombs, disease, and hunger.

Let us be on the right side of history and pass this resolution.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 3:00:21 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jason Mizula	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of SCR13. Over 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Women and children are politically correct group to care about, but the men of Gaza matter too. Every single person killed by American weapons and apathy either is, or was a child not too long ago. The majority of the population of Gaza before October 7th, 2023, were born after the ethnic cleansing of 1948. Seventy-five percent of the population are either refugees from the "Nakba", or the children and grandchildren of those refugees. The people of Gaza dying today have spent their entire lives under siege and occupation, just a handful of miles in some cases from the farms their families were violently forced from in 1948. This genocide is not about Hamas, which has only existed since 1987. It is about the continuation of the campaign of death and destruction that began 76 years ago and has never ended. Indiscriminate bombing in Gaza is sadly nothing new. For generations of Palestinians, violent dispossession has become the norm. As a disabled combat veteran with PTSD, my heart continually breaks for the Palestinians whose trauma is ongoing, and who don't have access to the VA. It is an endless cycle of trauma, funded by American tax payers. Since this genocide began in October, the violence in the West Bank has increased exponentially as well. The son of a family I stayed with in Bethlehem, who was 7 years when I met him in 2011, was brutally murdered by terrorist Israeli settlers. He was a child. At 19, he was still barely more than a child. The West Bank is forgotten. Gaza is dehumanized.

I have struggled these past few months with reasons to remain alive. Beyond PTSD, I have what is known as moral injury. It is triggered constantly, daily.

I am disgusted by humanity. I am disgusted by heartless, genocide enabling politicians.

Please give me a reason to have hope.

Please pass this.

Jason Mizula

Kaunakakai

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 3:00:22 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Christina Sanchez	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of

[SCR13]. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on families and children. The level of casualties is unprecedented.

Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble in Gaza.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. There is no where for them to go. This forced starvation is leaving 1 out of 6 Palestinian children under the age of 2 are suffering from accute malnutrition and are dying. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and Israel for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence and genocide continues.

In solidarity,

Christina

LATE

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 3:02:11 PM
Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Seb Choe	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of SCR13/SR6.

The apartheid state of Israel (which numerous human rights organizations have labeled it as such) is committing genocide in occupied Palestine. A permanent ceasefire is required now. How many more innocent civilians need to die for you to realize that US tax dollars are better spent promoting peace?

LATE

TO: Committee of Public Safety and Intergovernmental Affairs
Representative Glenn Wakai, Chair
Representative Brandon J.C. Elefante, Vice Chair

RE: Support of SCR13 - Relating to Israel; Gaza; Permanent Ceasefire

DATE: Friday March 8, 2024

Aloha Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Elefante, and Members of the Committee,

I am testifying in strong support of SCR13. The unparalleled escalation between Hamas and Israel and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on innocent civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since October 7, the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza. At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages have been taken by Hamas and other armed groups that remain in Gaza and remain in danger.

Israel's tightened siege on Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food, and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza strip struggling to survive. This is a humanitarian catastrophe that will worsen with the ongoing war.

With everything that has happened in the past we should not turn the cheek on this. There are thousands of innocent people that are being affected by this. Let's not repeat and stand up for those who are suffering. It's been months. How many more innocent lives will be sacrificed for this cause. We need to act now and save those innocent lives.

Furthermore, we ask that our elected officials listen to their constituents asking that they end the violence and oppression of the people of Gaza. I strongly support a ceasefire to all forms of colonial violence in Palestine and beyond. I recognize that the struggle of our immigrant communities is bound up with our Palestinian brothers and sisters, in our pursuit for justice and to live free from oppression, violence, and discrimination.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak on this matter,
Stephanie Villalobos
Community Care Worker
Roots Reborn

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 3:03:50 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jordan Kapono Nakamura	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha my name is Jordan Kapono Nakamura and I'm a kama'aina worker and resident of Oahu. I strongly support the measure urging Hawai'i's congressional delegation to support a call for a ceasefire in Gaza. As a Hawai'i resident it is crucial that I know representatives are adhering to their proposed role of listening to people's concerns regarding issues pertinent to us. In October of last year, the democratic party of Hawai'i passed its own ceasefire resolution but none of the Democratic Congressional reps reflected this motion until this past week when Jill Tokuda released a statement including a call for a ceasefire-- a bare minimum request, consistent with a clear demand made through the vast majority of calls and messages put forth by constituents across all islands weekly since October to all congressional representative offices. As a supporter of unjustly and illegally occupied peoples living under militarized imperialism globally, for years I've witnessed the plight of the Palestinian people escalate to a point where the entirety of the long-besieged Gaza Strip with its population of 2 million refugees was deemed by World Health Organization and other professional agency health experts to be "unlivable by 2020" as early as 2018. The sustained creative and varied attempts by Palestinians to come to a peaceful agreement over decades of effort have been consistently politically thwarted by the zionist entity of the state of Israel, emboldened by the political and financial support the U.S. has provided to Israel's occupation and military forces for the purpose of keeping a U.S. affiliated military outpost in the region. This greed for power and resources that none of Hawai'i residents or working class Americans are ever beneficiaries of is costing us heavy financial tolls (to the tune of 13 million annually of Hawai'i taxpayer dollars for support of the state of Israel, as well as multiple billions of dollars in aid from the U.S. broadly, a portion which recently has been allocated without the approval of Congress.) Hawai'i residents are in need of social aid more than ever before as well as the rest of the working class in the U.S. continent, however billions of dollars are allocated to the settlers in Israel to secure political objectives only serving the agendas and interests of an elite imperial cadre in washington and their defense contractor and corporate beneficiaries who profit from war industry, coersive natural resource extraction, and militarized commandeering of territory and trade routes. Again, these objectives do not result in a better quality of life for the vast majority of stateside citizens in the U.S. whose budget exporbitantly funds these colonial occupation projects, meanwhile settlers in the zionist entity of the state of Israel are provided by U.S. funding: subsidized housing, free healthcare, and immediate citizenship and freedom of passage into a territory that the U.N. acknowledges was illegally claimed and occupied against the will and fair input of the indigenous population of Palestinians since the inception of the zionist occupation of the land beginning in 1948.

In a more direct example I asked, in a recent Talk Story session held by Congressman Ed Case where the majority of those present were there to ask that the Democratic ceasefire resolution passed by the party be honored by our Democratic representative, what is the rationale for allocating Hawai'i's financial support and verbal support from its delegation to the state of Israel carrying out violent and daily escalating genocide in Palestine at a time when we have pressing issues such as the needs of families still displaced from the Lahaina wildfire disaster. It is estimated that it will take 5.5 billion dollars over the next 10 to 20 years to minimally restore the region. This means that over 20 years, Hawai'i should be allocating 270 million each year to Lahaina at minimum to meet the most extended goal. As Lahaina families were that night sleeping on beaches, Ed Case told me that with the one pool of 13 million of Hawai'i's annual funding in support for Israel's occupation, we should "fund both." His rationale for continued verbal and financial support of Israel was that if we don't support them, we will experience a "world of violence." It is unclear to me whether Ed Case seriously believes that collectively starving while simultaneously kidnapping, ground invading, and carpet bombing 2 million refugees, the majority of which are children, trapped in their own imprisoned living quarters of their own occupied land while being carpet bombed for the entire world to view on live cellphone streams doesn't already constitute an already present and unprecedented world of violence ushered in directly due to unconditional support of an illegally occupied military Zionist force in Palestine, or if he's aware of the obvious and he's just protecting the security of his annual AIPAC donations. What is clear is that no amount of actual present horrors seem sufficient for some of our congressional representatives to state what is for the majority of voters in Hawai'i a clear humanitarian conclusion: the occupation must end, aid to Gaza and the West Bank must be provided immediately, and all those held against their will by this war caused by the Zionist occupation deserve to be liberated, and none of this can occur without a permanent ceasefire.

Prime Minister Netanyahu has already stated outright that the Israeli military will not respect any directive or suggestion from international law, including the highest court in human existence, the ICJ who found Israel to be engaging in acts of genocide with a clear outline to cease its genocidal actions in late January of this year. On the world stage, a rogue state allowed to carry out legally defined genocide is a threat to security all across the globe. The integrity of the efficacy of international law is in jeopardy with each passing day the Zionist entity of the state of Israel is allowed to continue its daily massacres. It's estimated that, in just over 4 months, nearly 45 thousand Palestinians have been murdered and the entirety of the remaining population of 2 million Gazans being actively starved, bombarded and simultaneously ethnically cleansed into the desert have not had food or clean water in a significant manner enter Gaza since January. The occupation has destroyed the medical system, bombing every hospital and every university and college, months ago. The Zionist occupation has bombed Christian churches, mosques, temples, refugee camps, shelters, and any form of social gathering facility. The uncountable material and psychological toll on Palestinians will be felt for generations, and many in Hawai'i watching the grotesque violence livestreamed to the world and funded by U.S. taxpayer dollars is taking a psychological toll as well.

We demand a permanent ceasefire as a means toward ending the occupation, which is the only political outcome that can be described as humanitarian in response to this horror that has gone

on for far too long. Please exercise your kuleana as human beings. Ceasefire now. Free Palestine.
Mahalo.

LATE

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 3:04:05 PM
Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Megan Shea	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of SCR13. I cannot stay silent about the brutal violence and devastation that is occurring in the conflict between Israel and Hamas right now. The level of casualties is unprecedented with some 40,000 civilians killed, many of them women and children, and more than 70,000 civilians have been wounded and traumatized for life. The horrific images of babies and children being starved to death should bring us all to our knees. There is never any justification for killing, injuring, and starving babies and children. This kind of violence benefits no one and does nothing to promote anyone's safety or security. In fact, inflicting this type of violence on a population traumatizes a whole new generation of people and creates conditions that encourage even more violence. In addition, the 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas remain in danger until there is a ceasefire. A ceasefire would provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties.

We must all do everything in our power to promote a ceasefire now. It is the only way that anything productive and in both parties' best interests can begin to take place.

Thank you for your consideration,

Megan Shea

Kailua, Hawai'i

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 3:04:10 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Morgan Dobbins	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha State Representatives,

Over the past few months, I have been haunted by the desperate plea of the palestinians. I have watched them brutally murdered in front of my eyes. I have felt deep sadness at my inability to stop this clear genocide and ethnic cleansing campaign. The very least we can do is support a ceasefire. We can't bring back the lives lost but we can stop taking more and sitting idly by while humans are dying horrifying deaths.

I hope that you will stand strong in the face of an injustice so grave, and yet so sadly familiar to the Kingdom of Hawai'i's own overthrow and the attempted cultural cleansing that took place for years afterwards.

Residents of Hawai'i contribute \$13 million in federal taxes annually to the \$3.8 billion per year in U.S. military funding and economic aid to the [apartheid State of Israel](#), which is used to commit daily war crimes against Palestinians in their own homelands, including the theft, destruction, and occupation of their lands, homes, food sources, water, natural resources, and means to survival.

I'd love to see us divest our interests from Israel and stand in strong support of the palestinians quest for freedom. I am in full support of this ceasefire resolution.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 3:08:07 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Camille Monson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, Members of the Committee,

I am testifying in strong support of SCR13. The horrifying death toll, devastation, and destruction that I have witnessed over the past four months are unfathomable, and we must work for an immediate ceasefire. No framework or lens can justify or soften the horror of what is happening in Gaza.

I call for a ceasefire because I am a mother, and I want all people to live in safety and freedom from war, forced starvation, occupation, and collective punishment. Children cannot be considered collateral damage, while indiscriminate bombings of hospitals, refugee camps, homes, universities, and schools are destroyed. All children deserve safety, equality, and freedom.

I call for a ceasefire because, as a teacher, what I am witnessing is abuse. I am continually troubled by the violence against innocent civilians, particularly children. I ask my college students to review resources on reporting abuse every semester. The world is reporting the abuses, and our leaders are not listening while funding continued destruction and genocide. Like many, I have called my representatives and sent letters, but the abuse continues. A ceasefire will allow for investigations of war crimes from both parties, the return of Palestinian and Israeli hostages, and the lives of innocent people caught in the destruction will be saved.

I call for a ceasefire because, as an artist, all humans and the earth are sacred to me and connected. I feel pain and horror as I see dead bodies day after day. The world has watched the destruction of children, babies, and entire families as they die, lose limbs, starve, and lose the ability to speak due to trauma. This visible trauma causes harm to Palestinians, Israelis, and people all over the world. Art allows us to imagine, consider, and see the world as it could be. Let's work together to create a better world for all children. Let's honor life by calling for a ceasefire.

Lastly, I worked with an integration network for refugees and asylum seekers in the UK for four years. I have seen the traumatic effects of displacement, war, and conflict on women and children. I also witnessed our community and the integration network coming together to help women and children heal and find safety. A ceasefire can begin the road to peace and healing. There have been decades of injustices to the Palestinians, and a lasting

peace agreement needs to be the goal. The continuation of violence, occupation, and abuse must end.

Thank you for your time.

LATE

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 3:10:07 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jerady Davis	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of SCR13. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on

Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

Sincerely,

Jerady Davis

Testimony of Perseus Lee Ontiveros

STRONG Support for SCR13/SR6: The Hawaiian Ceasefire Resolution

Senate Committee on Public Safety and Intergovernmental and Military Affairs

March 7, 2024

LATE

Aloha members of the committee,

I'd like to thank you for hearing the voices of our community. I speak for myself and many others when I say we support the passing of this bill, and that we stand behind the Palestinian people.

These past few months in Gaza, the Israeli "Defence" Force has been mercilessly and carelessly carrying out a genocide on the Palestinian people, calling it self defence and constantly referring to the October 7th 2023 attack from Hamas. I am not writing this to defend the actions of Hamas in any way, however the IDF has used this event as an excuse to bomb and displace the people of Gaza for the past five (5) months, or twenty two (22) weeks. This is a total of one hundred fifty three (153) days of terrorizing the people of Gaza, as of today (March 7th, 2024). In this time, Hamas has made many attempts to call for a ceasefire, stating that they'd free any hostages they're holding if their terms for a ceasefire were met; their only terms being that Israeli forces withdraw from Gaza and release any prisoners and/or hostages they currently hold and that it's a start to a permanent ceasefire agreement. (McKenzie 2024) In response, Israeli prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu has called these demands "delusional" and said "Whoever tells us not to act in Rafah is telling us to lose the war and that will not happen," on Thursday March 7th, 2024. (Burke 2024)

This is 153 days of no stable food, water, shelter, and thousands of cruel deaths of innocent people at the hands of the IDF. In this time, the people of Gaza have been removed from their homes and forced to move progressively south as each “designated safe zone” was soon attacked by Israeli forces. They’ve been pushed from all over Palestine into the Rafah area, being told that Rafah would be a definite “safe zone” from the war between the IDF and Hamas. Like the other times they’ve promised a safe zone for citizens, they didn’t mean it. Once they gathered all the Palestinian’s in Rafah, Netanyahu declared that Rafah was a “Hamas stronghold” and vowed to destroy Hamas. (Reuters 2024) Bombings of Rafah, the last safe zone for the Palestinian people in their own country, quickly followed, while the Palestinians fearfully tried to live as best as they could. (AP News 2024)

The Israeli government has promised safety to the people in Palestine, and yet they keep bombing their “safe zones” as they insist it’s the territory of Hamas. They keep pushing the people from their homes and lives, taking lives and wiping out entire bloodlines. They claim self defense, yet they kill families and open fire on those who are starving. It’s time for a permanent ceasefire.

If this ceasefire doesn’t happen, Netanyahu has mentioned that he plans for Israeli forces to stay in Gaza for at least ten (10) years. His 10 year plan included a year or two to “eradicate Hamas and gain control”, and that Israel will control Gaza from afar. (Yerushalmi 2024) Netanyahu has vowed that he will not stop until Israel achieves “total victory” and “Hamas is destroyed”. (The New Arab Staff 2024) Israel’s government has also approved over three thousand and four

hundred (3,400) new homes for Israeli settlements to be built on the occupied West Bank.

Nowhere in this approved plan did the Israeli government even mention what they're gonna do for all the Palestinians that have been forced to leave their homes to make room for these Israeli settlements. (Gritten 2024)

These events have been traumatic for the citizens of Palestine, with many losing family members and friends. Videos of the heartbreaking tragedy that's happening to the people of Palestine have been circulating online. From the top of my head, I remember seeing a father carrying his son's body parts in a plastic bag. I've seen a Palestinian man flattened by an Israeli tank. I have seen mothers lose their children, I've seen children lose their parents. I've seen a little boy, definitely no older than eight (8) years old, so frustrated that he couldn't bring back food for his family that he started to laugh and then sob. I've seen many people begging for food as they starve. I've seen corpses being dug out of rubble, so many that I've lost count. I've seen two brothers shot in the street by an Israeli sniper, the older one trying to shield his little brother. I've heard the story of Hind Rajab, a six (6) year old Palestinian girl who was heard calling for help on January 29th 2024, as gunshots were heard being shot at a car she was in. Her uncle and his family members were dead and she was terrified, stuck in a car with her dead family to wait until help came. As an ambulance came to get her, Israeli forces opened fire on the area. Twelve (12) days later on February 10th 2024, the remains of the child, her family, and the ambulance that was sent for her were all found in the area.

One of the most recent events is the Flour Massacre which happened on February 29th 2024 as a large crowd of Palestinians came to meet humanitarian aid trucks delivering flour. It was then

that the Israeli Defense Force opened fire on the hungry and desperate crowd, killing more than one hundred and eighteen (118) and injuring more than seven hundred and fifty (750)

Palestinians who just wanted to feed their families. (Cordall, Mhawish, and Nashed 2024)

Palestinians who once lived in Khan Yunis have left due to the bombing, returning to their homes and businesses reduced to rubble, dead bodies scattered among the ground, their hospital destroyed, and former landmarks gone forever. (Zaanoun 2024)

It is time for this to end. The Palestinian people deserve to be free and return to their homes, and they deserve to have their basic needs fulfilled. A permanent ceasefire is necessary, unless our state would like to be complicit in the genocide of the Palestinian people. Our country's leaders have already supplied Israel with Military aid and millions of dollars to complete their genocide, which shouldn't have happened in the first place. By using US aid to complete genocidal actions and deliberately withholding humanitarian aid from the people of Palestine, the Israeli government would have legally broken US Military Aid rules, one of which being to protect the lives of the innocent and provide them with a place to go and humanitarian aid. (Solender, Ravid 2024) This is a serious matter that should be a wake up call as to what's really going on. Israel has said many times what their plans are and what they want to do to Palestine and its people, yet our country is still supporting them. An overwhelming majority of the working class disagrees with this and is on the side of the Palestinian people.

It is time to stop being complicit in genocide and to stand up for the Palestinian people. It is time to stop allying with Israel, time to stop giving them millions of dollars and weapons. We need a ceasefire and we need it now.

Thank you for your time.

- Perseus Lee Ontiveros

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LATE

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 3:15:38 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Rosanna	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support a permanent ceasefire and urge our state to do the same. Supporting the murder of 30k innocent civilians and 13k+ children is not self-defense. I do not want my tax dollars funding the killing of children when we have enough issues in Hawaii that need investment. I am very dislusioned with the integrity of my government representatives not listening to the vast majority of Democrats and US citizens who are in favor of a ceasefire. The US is now forcing the starvation of over 2 million people in Gaza by using aid as a condition for ceasefire. This violates international law. I am so deeply hurt and appalled at the videos and photos coming from journalists and civilians on the ground in Gaza and our government's complicity in their slaughter. Please, call for a ceasefire.

LATE

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 3:16:32 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michele Yacoub	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of SCR13 The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on

Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

Michele Yacoub

LATE

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 3:17:45 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ruby	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha

I am here to provide testimony in favor of SCR13/ SR6. The ongoing situation involving widespread harm inflicted upon innocent civilians (including young women and children). It is imperative that we come together to put an end to this violence, as over 40,000 lives have already been lost since October 7th, with more than 70,000 individuals sustaining injuries.

Regrettably, access to essential resources such as food, medicine, and aid is being blocked by Israel, leaving 2 million people in urgent need of assistance. I urge for immediate action to support a ceasefire, enabling hostage negotiations and facilitating international investigations into the reported war crimes that have taken place since October 7th.

I implore you to listen to the voices of myself and other advocates in favor of SCR13, calling for an immediate ceasefire to prevent further harm. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

LATE

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 3:26:47 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Julia Marrack	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I am urging members of Hawaii's Congressional Delegation to support the ceasefire in Gaza.

- The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Nearly 30,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children.
- At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.
- Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.
- A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.
- A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.
- Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

Thank you,

Julia Marrack

LATE

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 3:32:27 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Georgia L Hoopes	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support SCR13

Mahalo,

Georgia Hoopes, Kalaheo

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 3:41:19 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
joe kassel	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

a ceasefire is long overdue, Israel is committing genocide and the U.S. is supporting it, making it possible really. none of these massacres will put an end to Hamas, quite the contrary.

LATE

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 3:42:36 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Eliza	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To whom it may concern,

I am an American citizen residing in Hawaii and I am in full support of an immediate and permanent ceasefire in Gaza. What is happening in Palestine is perfectly clear to me, it is a genocide. I believe that Israel does not have a right to defend itself against a people it oppresses. Israel has oppressed the Palestinians for 75 years and counting. The founding of Israel begins by stealing prosperous Palestinian land and ever since the two state agreement has stolen more and more of the land to where what little remains of Palestine is an illegal apartheid occupation in the West Bank and a concentration camp known as Gaza. There is nothing complicated about it, the Palestinians are the oppressed. Israel is the oppressor.

Israel has, for a long time, successfully gaslight the world into thinking they are somehow the victims in this story. Media outlets owned by Israel supporters have brainwashed the masses into thinking the situation is "complicated." But it is not complicated at all. You cannot call yourselves the victims when you are the original aggressor. When you are the more powerful one, you are not the one being bullied, you are the bully. Israel has become a very menacing bully with one of the strongest militaries in the world, backed by the very strongest military in the world, the United States. Why does America support Israel? Because it is a means to control the Middle East, to obtain oil and dominate international trade. As President Biden himself said, if there wasn't an Israel, we would have to create one. Colonization is not something of the past, it is happening today, and it has always resulted in the mass murdering of the innocent indigenous people. The real reason Israel wants to invade Gaza is not to rescue their hostages, it is to seize and culturally cleanse the land. It is why they are bombing buildings, flattening and bulldozing the cities. They want to clear the land and rebuild it for themselves. Gaza has a ton of oil worth billions. It is also the perfect geographical location to build a canal to compete with the Suez Canal, worth multiple billions in international trade annually. This genocide is all about conquering the land to obtain their natural resources, money and power. It has nothing to do with religion, hostages, terrorism, or anything of emotional value. It's always about capitalistic gain. Greed.

Unfortunately for Israel the world is learning the truth of its origins, the truth of how they treat the indigenous people of the land they occupy and we will have no more of it. The Jewish are hanging their heads in shame as they realize the Zionists are just as cruel and evil as the Nazis were. We are all watching in live time the genocide Israel is committing. We see all the crimes Israel commits on a daily basis that break international war laws. We're able to deduce that what they're saying and what they're doing doesn't align. It doesn't make any sense. How can you save hostages when you're indiscriminately bombing the areas that they're being kept? When you kill more of your own hostages than you manage to save, how are you bring successful in your mission? When you turn down a trade where you get all your hostages back in exchange for a ceasefire, how are you saving the hostages? When you blame Hamas for everything when in reality they're simply a resistance group trying to fight back against the oppression you caused, how is any of this Hamas's fault? We see the truth now. The real terrorists are the IDF.

They are no fully functioning hospitals left. They've bombed the hospitals, churches, unearthed and desecrated burial sites, schools, homes, refugee camps. There is no longer a safe place in all of Gaza. There never was any safety, but now that they're bombing Rafah, there officially isn't a safe place for the innocent people to go. Israel controls the borders and they won't let any supplies in. No food, clean water, or medical supplies. This is collective punishment. They have salted the earth to ruin crops from growing, another war crime. The Palestinians are being starved to death by the hands of the IDF. IDF Soldiers tease, mock and torture the people. Making them kneel naked for hours while being blindfolded. IDF soldiers laugh as they hold up lingerie of the woman they killed. They sing and dance on TikTok while we all watch in horror. How have they become so brainwashed and heartless? Israeli propaganda is incredibly well indoctrinated into their population, but the world sees the truth. The IDF are the real monsters.

This conflict didn't start on oct 7th, but if you want to bring it up, many of us believe oct 7th was an inside job by the Israelis so that they'd have the world's permission to defend themselves and attack / invade and conquer Gaza. Israel knew the attack was going to happen, they removed security and failed to respond for 6h and later admitted to killing 100 of their own people that day. They lied about babies being beheaded and women being sexually assaulted. We have debunked this lie. They tried to make Hamas seem like the worst group in the region, but who really is the more awful group? The IDF let over 30 babies in incubation to die. On purpose. They knew they were there, they wouldn't let anyone go in and help them, those babies died on their watch. Where is the same anger the world had to the fake baby beheading story when the real Palestinian babies were inhumanely murdered by Israel? Where is your rage?

And after all this military effort, is Israel truly anywhere near close to dismantling Hamas? Again, Hamas is a resistance group fighting against their oppression. Don't you think israel is only creating more Hamas members by hurting them in this way? We can't even comprehend the trauma these Palestinians have been put through. Mothers writing the names on the limbs of their

children so they can identify their body parts after being blown up by bombs in the middle of the night. We can't even imagine the toll this has on the Palestinian population. But I bet you, they don't like Israel right now. Israel is only fueling the fire for more resistance.

I want to add that Israel has one of the worlds strongest and advanced militaries, they are capable of precise targeting. If there was a shooter at a school, would you bomb the school? Yes, you'd successfully kill the bad guy, but also all of the children. No, you'd send in special forces and minimize the death toll. Israel is capable of this, but chooses not to do so. Because again, this isn't about the hostages or Hamas. It's about killing everyone and destroying everything in Gaza. We are done being gaslight into thinking it's anything else. We see through the lies.

I want the United States to enforce conditions on their support of Israel. I want to see the United States immediately defund Israel, to not give them a single dollar more, not one more bullet, not one more bomb, until there is an immediate and permanent ceasefire in place. I want to see the United States demand that Israel redirect the billions of dollars that we have them to go towards Palestinian reparations and retribution. Gaza will rebuild on Israel's dime for the Palestinians, the funds being in control of the Palestinians. I want to see Israel give back all the land they stole after the two state solution. I want to see an end to their illegal apartheid occupation in the West Bank and I want to see all of Gaza to be safe again. A FREE PALESTINE. A Palestine with international protection and human rights. I want to see them in control of their own natural resources, their imports and exports, their trades, their finances. I want to see them rebuild and prosper. If we do not see improvements, then all of Israel should be dismantled and all the land returned to Palestine. Settle where you want, but occupy and torment? Have genocidal intent? NEVER AGAIN.

As you can tell, this genocide in Palestine has woken up the whole world. We see just how corrupt the United States is. We the people don't agree with the corruption. We don't agree with a government that is happy to let 30,000+ innocent people be murdered by our own tax dollars, all so that the powerful can become even more powerful. Our tax dollars should be spent here at home where we can't even afford education, housing, healthcare or proper infrastructure. Revolutions always happen when the people are miserable enough to stand up and fight back. We are getting to that point. You need to keep the people at baseline happiness to avoid an uprising, and guess what, we aren't happy. We are heartbroken, struggling, and angry. We need to see an end to all genocides and see a liberation of all peoples in the world. We need to see an improvement in everyone's quality of life. We want to at least experience the illusion of freedom. So keep us on the grid, keep us spending our money on frivolous things we don't need making you richer, but don't have us struggle for the essentials. Housing, food, healthcare? That's the bare minimum that we shouldn't worry about. Things have got to change. Otherwise, the system as we know it is going to crash and burn. The power is with the people! Always has been, always will be. Never forget it.

FREE PALESTINE!

FREE CONGO!

FREE THE PEOPLE!

LATE

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 3:44:51 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Darcy Attisani	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of [SCR13/SR6]. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

LATE

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 3:52:55 PM
Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Diane Yang	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of SCR13. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since October 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

Concurrently, 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food, and fueling, leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only worsen if the fighting does not immediately stop.

A ceasefire provides opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict and dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

Thank you.

LATE

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 3:58:34 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
franki hernandez	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

My name is Franki Hernandez, I live on Big Island and I am in full support of SCR 13/ SR 6. For over 75 years the Palestinian people have been victims of the nakba, which was the forceful displacement of Palestinians from their homes by Israelis. Towns and cities, which are in present day "Israel" are places where mass genocide was committed by Zionist settlers in order to steal Palestinian land to make a Jewish homeland.

Israel is a settler colonial apartheid state, where Palestinians have no rights and are consistently not treated as humans. Israel consistently desecrates holy Palestinian sites to include churches and mosques. If you are not a Jewish person in Israel you are not equal, this is the definition of an apartheid state. We can not support this. Any country that is under illegal foreign occupation has the right to armed resistance, October 7th was just that.

We as outsiders do not get to determine how Palestinians fight for their right to exist under the illegal occupation. Is it sad that innocent civilians were killed and taken hostage, of course, but it does not compare to the total annihilation of Gaza and its civilian people, where the death toll has risen to over 40,000. Hospitals, schools, homes, and basic infrastructure have all been wiped out.

Israel has told Palestinians to evacuate to the south time and time again and bombed them while they were evacuating to places that were supposed to be safe. It is evident that nowhere is safe in Gaza, Rafa was the last place left for people to flee and now it is being bombed day after day. I have friends in Gaza and in the West Bank and they are living a never ending nightmare, which we have the power to stop by passing this demand for a cease fire.

Keep in mind that there are currently comparisons of Bibi (Netanyahu) to that of Hitler, by Israelis who are protesting in Tel Aviv. Israelis are calling for the war to be over, they want a ceasefire. Also keep in mind, that arms dealers are no longer selling weapons to Israel, because because of the ICJ case which implicates everyone who is helping Israel in the genocide of the Palestinian people.

So, PASS THIS CEASEFIRE NOW AND SAVE PALESTINIANS. WE HAVE THE POWER TO END THIS GENOCIDE. BE BRAVE. JUDAISM IS NOT ZIONISM AND SUPPORTING

PALESTINE DOES NOT MAKE YOU ANTISEMETIC, DO NOT FALL VICTIM TO THAT
WORN OUT RHETORIC.

Mahalo,

Franki Hernandez

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 4:00:08 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lucie Schragger	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To the members of the State Congressional Delegation,

It is undeniable that the Israeli state has been committing acts of genocide against the Palestinian people. The United States is directly involved through intense funding, supply of weapons, and public displays of support for Israel's actions.

As a resident of Hawai'i, I DO NOT support the US involvement and support of this genocide. Our leaders refuse to call it what it is, refuse to stop the killing, and continue to enable and support Israel. Despite these obvious facts - that Palestine has been illegally occupied, that Israel has been committing genocide, that Israel has enacted war crimes on the people of Palestine, that children, mothers, fathers, ENTIRE FAMILIES are being killed. This is unacceptable and I am ashamed of this country.

The ICJ put the U.S. government on notice for **enabling** violations of the Genocide Convention. As a signer of the Genocide Convention, the U.S. government is legally **obligated** to prevent genocide. With U.S. support, the Israeli government has killed more than 30,000* Palestinians in Gaza, forcibly displacing 2 million people within the already densely packed Gaza Strip.

Please, do not place yourselves or Hawai'i on the wrong side of history. These are egregious acts of genocide, continuing to not take action only fuels this continuing crime against humanity. I don't have any more words.

I will not condone this, not in my name.

LATE

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 4:00:59 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Daniel Levy	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Israel, like any other nation has a duty to defend its citizens from terrorism. Hamas must return remaining hostages and surrender power. We can not tolerate terrorism and genocidal ideology. It is not our place, as a state, to tell a sovereign nation what to do. Ceasefire must be mutual. Hamas broke ceasefire on October 7 and we can not let them rebuild their arms and attack Israel again, as they have promised to do.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 4:15:17 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Adhann Iwashita	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I am writing in strong support of SCR13.

What is happening is nothing short of a genocide. We have all had the opportunity to bear witness to the heinous massacres happening daily. By January, Israel had dropped over 65,000 tons of bombs on Gaza--the weight and power equivalent to *three* of the nuclear bombs dropped on Hiroshima--obliterating generations of Palestinian life including homes and tents full of people, water wells, olive groves, places of worship, universities and libraries, hospitals. Israeli Occupation Forces have also used sniper fire, white phosphorous, tanks, robodogs, and other sadistic war technologies to murder at least 30,800 people, 12,300 of them children, and to terrorize 2 million Palestinians as they have been pushed and pursued to Rafah over the past five months.

Israel has also used a deliberate blockade of aid to Palestinians to disable the medical system and to incite acute famine amongst the Palestinian population, the effects of which we have only begun to start to see. Recent projections from a study by London School of Hygiene and Johns Hopkins indicate that continuation of the war offensive by Israel will lead to, along with *direct* deaths of people being shot and bombed, what are referred to as "*excess* deaths" - death from infectious disease, lack of healthcare, and starvation. Zeina Jamaluddine, one of the lead authors on the paper, states that if the offensive continues, these excess deaths could total 85,000 people in the next six months--*and that an immediate ceasefire could save up to 75,000 of those lives.*

Every hour we wait, we are hastening and deepening a crisis that will not halt when the bullets do. In this moment, those with any semblance of congressional power tied to U.S. Empire must use it to call for an immediate and permanent ceasefire.

Mahalo.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 4:16:54 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michelle Pillen	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I stand against collective punishment and mass violence inflicted upon civilians in any form – be it by the Israeli State, Hamas, or the United States. We join with Jewish Voice for Peace in the belief that, “A future of peace and safety for all, grounded in justice, freedom and equality for all, is still the only option.” We affirm the equal value of all lives.

Hawai‘i and Palestine are two occupied nations, deeply connected through a shared struggle for liberation and genuine peace for all lands and peoples.

Residents of Hawai‘i contribute \$13 million in federal taxes annually to the \$3.8 billion per year in U.S. military funding and economic aid to the [apartheid State of Israel](#), which is used to commit daily war crimes against Palestinians in their own homelands, including the theft, destruction, and occupation of their lands, homes, food sources, water, natural resources, and means to survival.

Please support the ceasefire of genocide by the Israeli state in Palestine.

LATE

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 4:18:37 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Victoria Albritton	Individual	Support	In Person

Comments:

Aloha, members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of [SCR13/SR6]. For over 152 days, not forgetting the last 75 years of oppression brought on the Palestinian people, the US government, Israel, and other nations have been complicit in and funding one of the greatest documented massacres in recent history and have not only deliberately killed innocent civilians by selling and distributing weaponry to Israel but also by cutting off essential aid from reaching civilians in Gaza, which constitutes collective punishment. International humanitarian law states that no person may be punished for acts that he or she did not commit. Therefore, Israel's military forcibly displacing over 2 million Palestinians in Gaza is constituted as a war crime, and the international legal system has been exposed. The IDF has killed an average of 250 Palestinians a day throughout Gaza and the West Bank in the most brutal of ways, all before our eyes, and the overwhelming amount of evidence continues to accelerate in devastating ways. The attack on Gaza has resulted in one of the highest civilian casualties in modern warfare, despite the ridiculous statements by U.S. Foreign Secretary Blinken, the Israeli regime, and those complicit in its claim that Israel is attempting to minimize civilian casualties because footage proves otherwise. The 1948 UN Genocide Convention defines what is happening in Gaza as a genocide. It is forbidden to cut off food, water, electricity, and medical supplies, but yet the devastation continues. Infrastructures are being leveled, and they are inflicting serious mental and bodily harm on civilians who pose no threat. How many more thousands of bombs need to be dropped before you feel empathy for the Palestinian people? With an estimate of 40,000 killed thus far, over 70,000 injured, and thousands still under rubble and unaccounted for, when will you say enough is enough?

I am a Christian Palestinian born in America. My parents came to America and believed in this so-called American dream. Little did they know this was not a nation under God, but a nation under Zionist control. We are witnessing the US and Israel use Judaism and Christianity as shields to justify the onslaught of innocent Christian and Muslim Palestinians, all for their own benefit.

I served five years in the US Army and was deployed to Tel Aviv during Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2003, where I witnessed firsthand some of the malicious behaviors and dangerous ideologies taught to the IDF. Palestinians struggled then under the same apartheid system we are witnessing today. I was given a direct order to keep my Palestinian roots to myself and was not treated with the same respect from some in leadership as my counterparts. I ask you: When is it OK for an American soldier to be mistreated on behalf of an ally country? With respect to my nation, I ask you: What about our nation? What about our people? When are we going to care

about our civilians and detach ourselves from those bringing destruction to our society? When are we going to stop being on the wrong side of history and move forward to being on the right side of history? For those of you not sure where to stand in fear, I highly suggest you check your moral compass and urge you to utter the words with clear conviction, "I am no longer willing to be complicit in genocide." We are watching veterans set their uniforms ablaze, disgusted and feeling betrayed that they have been used as pawns in the elite game of world dominance over the innocent. We, the people, have suffered the greed of capitalists and say, "Enough is enough!" Some of Aaron Bushnell's last words before shouting "Free Palestine" were "I will no longer be complicit in genocide." I ask you today: when will you stand up, take your oath seriously, and no longer be complicit in genocide? When will you say, "Enough is enough?" Free Palestine!

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 4:18:54 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Devon Steck	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of [SCR13/SR6]. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

Mahalo, Devon Steck

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 4:22:20 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Leilani Maxera	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of SCR13. It is imperative to take action now, as the longer you wait the more people will die.

The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

LATE

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 4:31:09 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of SCR13. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza. At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in dange, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food, and fuel, leaving the two million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16 year long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

Sincerely,

Lorraine Iliya

Haiku, HI

LATE

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 4:36:57 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Gordon LaBedz	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please help stop the US funded genocide!

LATE

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 4:58:03 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ruth Aloua	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

May there be freedom for all oppressed peoples and an end to all empires. Free Palestine, call for an immediate ceasefire, put a stop to the genocide of Palestinians and stop funding Israel in genocidal acts for these beautiful people. Intervene at all levels to restore humanity and provide Palestine with crucial, lifesaving aid, safety, and care.

LATE

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 5:03:44 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Vivien Lee and Charlie Reppun	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I, Charlie Reppun, am a volunteer for the Mediation Center of the Pacific. All conflicts have a chance of resolution if the parties try and talk it out. **Violence never works.** The United States must use its influence to bring all parties to the negotiating table. Vivien and I believe that every individual, every organization, and EVERY GOVERNMENT ENTITY should call for a ceasefire! Thank you.

Charlie Reppun and Vivien Lee

LATE

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 5:08:45 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Marissa Castillo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of SR6. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

Thank you.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 5:09:34 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Rosemary Bearden	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of SCR13. The level of civilian casualties in Gaza is horrific and unprecedented, and an immediate and permanent ceasefire is desperately needed.. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

Personally, I have been contacting my reps on a near daily basis since October, demanding for a permanent ceasefire and an end to the flow of weapons and monetary support the US has continued to give to Israel even as we watch them carry out genocide. I am happy that something may come out of my prolonged actions if this bill is passed, because watching what is happening in Gaza unfold has been truly horrifying and heartbreaking. Please, please take this action.

Mahalo,

Rosemary Bearden

Nīnole, Hawai‘i 96773

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 5:11:27 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kestrel swift	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of SCR13/SR6. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

Given the historic context of Israel's domination over and control of Palestine lives and territories, the situation in Gaza cannot be accurately classified as anything but genocidal. I urge you from the bottom of my heart to support a ceasefire and let the death end.

As of today, March 7th 2024

31,000 Palestinians have been killed

12,000 Children have been killed

72,000 Palestinians have been injured

1,000 Israelis have been killed

8,000 Israelis have been injured

Tell the world that you don't support this destruction. Your voice and vote as a member of the commute is worth 1000 times mine, you have the power to make a difference. Please use that power for good

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 5:14:27 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
keanu nordstrom	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of SCR13. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

Thank you.

LATE

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 5:33:10 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Isabela Ure	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Elefante, and to the members on The Committee of Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs:

I, Isabela Ure, wholeheartedly support the resolution, SCR13, calling for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza. Palestinians have endured countless massacres by Israel since 1948, and repeated ceasefire attempts have only resulted in further brutal occupation and the murder of Palestinians. Even before October 2023, Palestine has been characterized as the largest open-air prison in the world subjected to the militarization of Israel's imperial surveillance state. The full blockade on Gaza has led to starvation, lack of medical supplies, and unbearable living conditions under harsh military control. Despite extreme acts of protest by American citizens like Aaron Bushnell, who tragically self-immolated to draw attention to this crisis, the American government continues to support and fund the ongoing genocide. Over 30,000 Gazans have been massacred, hospitals bombed, and humanitarian aid blockaded, resembling nothing short of modern-day concentration camps. President Biden's stance on hostage negotiations, shifting responsibility onto Hamas despite previous offers from them, in addition to directly funding Israeli military operations is a blatant disregard for human lives and perpetuates this cycle of violence. It is imperative that we demand an end to this senseless bloodshed and advocate for a just and lasting peace in the region.

The crisis in Gaza holds significant relevance to Hawai'i, as another nation that understands the impact of settler-colonial occupation. Shockingly, Israel's bombings have ravaged over 70% of Gazan homes since October, resulting in the tragic loss of over 30,000 Palestinian lives, funded in part by Hawai'i's tax dollars. To further contextualize this statistic, it is important to note that the size of the Gaza strip is comparable to half the size of Molokai. Despite the commendable call for a ceasefire by Senator Mazie Hirono on February 14th, 2024, it's concerning that she has accepted substantial contributions totaling \$50,100 and allocated millions of dollars annually from Hawai'i's tax coffers to the Israeli military. Furthermore, a disheartening revelation from opensecrets.org unveils that several politicians representing Hawai'i, including Tulsi Gabbard, Ed Case, Jill Tokuda, Kai Kahele, and Neil Abercrombie, have received funding from pro-Israel organizations. This nexus of financial ties raises questions about the alignment of interests and priorities. The recent Democratic Caucus on March 6th, where an unprecedented 29% of voters chose "Uncommitted", underscores the growing unease and desire for change among Hawai'i's electorate. It's time for our representatives to heed the call for justice, to reevaluate their allegiances, and to stand firmly for peace and human rights, both locally and globally.

The widespread public support for a ceasefire in Palestine is unmistakable and underscores the urgency of ending the ongoing violence in Gaza. Since October 2023, numerous public protests have erupted globally and in Hawai‘i, with voices from all corners of society demanding an end to the bloodshed and suffering endured by Palestinians. Notably, on January 28th, over 3,700 peaceful protestors, predominantly Hawai‘i residents, gathered to convey a powerful message in the streets of Waikiki: it's time to halt the war on Palestine. Their collective call for peace resonated deeply, highlighting the empathy and solidarity felt by individuals worldwide toward the plight of Palestinians. This support has been further reflected in our community through the organization of advocacy groups like Hawai‘i For Palestine, Rise For Palestine, and the Hawai‘i chapter of Jewish Voice for Peace. It is imperative that policymakers heed the resounding demands of the public and take immediate action by supporting this resolution to secure a ceasefire, ensuring the safety and well-being of all Palestinians affected by genocide in Gaza. Mahalo for your support,

Isabela Ure

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 5:33:49 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lisa Grandinetti	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Israel is committing a genocide of Palestinians and our tax dollars are funding it. Too many of us have been impacted and traumatized by genocidal acts committed or facilitated by the US empire. My mom is from Okinawa where a third of the population, 100,000 out of 300,000 was killed by both the Japanese and American empires. To this day, we still suffer under Japanese and American military occupation. And the same goes for Hawaii's history. I will not stand by and silently watch this happen again and the people of Hawaii have made it clear that we will not allow our government to be complicit in this genocide. We demand an end to US support of Israel in the form of endless weapons, a divestment of all of our money going to Israel, and to put our full support behind Palestinians fighting for their freedom. FREE PALESTINE!!!

LATE

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 5:43:36 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Heather Jacobs	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Elefante, and to the members on The Committee of Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs:

I, Heather Jacobs, wholeheartedly support the resolution, SCR13, calling for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza. Palestinians have endured countless massacres by Israel since 1948, and repeated ceasefire attempts have only resulted in further brutal occupation and the murder of Palestinians. Even before October 2023, Palestine has been characterized as the largest open-air prison in the world subjected to the militarization of Israel's imperial surveillance state. The full blockade on Gaza has led to starvation, lack of medical supplies, and unbearable living conditions under harsh military control. Despite extreme acts of protest by American citizens like Aaron Bushnell, who tragically self-immolated to draw attention to this crisis, the American government continues to support and fund the ongoing genocide. Over 30,000 Gazans have been massacred, hospitals bombed, and humanitarian aid blockaded, resembling nothing short of modern-day concentration camps. President Biden's stance on hostage negotiations, shifting responsibility onto Hamas despite previous offers from them, in addition to directly funding Israeli military operations is a blatant disregard for human lives and perpetuates this cycle of violence. It is imperative that we demand an end to this senseless bloodshed and advocate for a just and lasting peace in the region.

The crisis in Gaza holds significant relevance to Hawai'i, as another nation that understands the impact of settler-colonial occupation. Shockingly, Israel's bombings have ravaged over 70% of Gazan homes since October, resulting in the tragic loss of over 30,000 Palestinian lives, funded in part by Hawai'i's tax dollars. To further contextualize this statistic, it is important to note that the size of the Gaza strip is comparable to half the size of Molokai. Despite the commendable call for a ceasefire by Senator Mazie Hirono on February 14th, 2024, it's concerning that she has accepted substantial contributions totaling \$50,100 and allocated millions of dollars annually from Hawai'i's tax coffers to the Israeli military. Furthermore, a disheartening revelation from [opensecrets.org](https://www.opensecrets.org) unveils that several politicians representing Hawai'i, including Tulsi Gabbard, Ed Case, Jill Tokuda, Kai Kahele, and Neil Abercrombie, have received funding from pro-Israel organizations. This nexus of financial ties raises questions about the alignment of interests and priorities. The recent Democratic Caucus on March 6th, where an unprecedented 29% of voters chose "Uncommitted", underscores the growing unease and desire for change among Hawai'i's electorate. It's time for our representatives to heed the call for justice, to reevaluate their allegiances, and to stand firmly for peace and human rights, both locally and globally.

The widespread public support for a ceasefire in Palestine is unmistakable and underscores the urgency of ending the ongoing violence in Gaza. Since October 2023, numerous public protests have erupted globally and in Hawai‘i, with voices from all corners of society demanding an end to the bloodshed and suffering endured by Palestinians. Notably, on January 28th, over 3,700 peaceful protestors, predominantly Hawai‘i residents, gathered to convey a powerful message in the streets of Waikiki: it's time to halt the war on Palestine. Their collective call for peace resonated deeply, highlighting the empathy and solidarity felt by individuals worldwide toward the plight of Palestinians. This support has been further reflected in our community through the organization of advocacy groups like Hawai‘i For Palestine, Rise For Palestine, and the Hawai‘i chapter of Jewish Voice for Peace. It is imperative that policymakers heed the resounding demands of the public and take immediate action by supporting this resolution to secure a ceasefire, ensuring the safety and well-being of all Palestinians affected by genocide in Gaza.

Mahalo for your support,

Heather Jacobs

LATE

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 5:47:22 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Haylee Watson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Members of the Committee,

I'm testifying in strong support of SCR13. The conflict between Israel, Hamas and other armed forces has killed thousands of innocent civilians since October 7th including many women and children.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has also blocked the entry of goods, including, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

Ceasefire NOW!

- Haylee Watson

LATE

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 5:47:35 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tina Grandinetti	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Elefante, and to the members on The Committee of Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs:

I wholeheartedly support the resolution, SCR13, calling for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza. Palestinians have endured countless massacres by Israel since 1948, and repeated ceasefire attempts have only resulted in further brutal occupation and the murder of Palestinians. Even before October 2023, Palestine has been characterized as the largest open-air prison in the world subjected to the militarization of Israel's imperial surveillance state. The full blockade on Gaza has led to starvation, lack of medical supplies, and unbearable living conditions under harsh military control. Despite extreme acts of protest by American citizens like Aaron Bushnell, who tragically self-immolated to draw attention to this crisis, the American government continues to support and fund the ongoing genocide. Over 30,000 Gazans have been massacred, hospitals bombed, and humanitarian aid blockaded, resembling nothing short of modern-day concentration camps. President Biden's stance on hostage negotiations, shifting responsibility onto Hamas despite previous offers from them, in addition to directly funding Israeli military operations is a blatant disregard for human lives and perpetuates this cycle of violence. It is imperative that we demand an end to this senseless bloodshed and advocate for a just and lasting peace in the region.

The crisis in Gaza holds significant relevance to Hawai'i, as another nation that understands the impact of settler-colonial occupation. Shockingly, Israel's bombings have ravaged over 70% of Gazan homes since October, resulting in the tragic loss of over 30,000 Palestinian lives, funded in part by Hawai'i's tax dollars. To further contextualize this statistic, it is important to note that the size of the Gaza strip is comparable to half the size of Molokai. Despite the commendable call for a ceasefire by Senator Mazie Hirono on February 14th, 2024, it's concerning that she has accepted substantial contributions totaling \$50,100 and allocated millions of dollars annually from Hawai'i's tax coffers to the Israeli military. Furthermore, a disheartening revelation from opensecrets.org unveils that several politicians representing Hawai'i, including Tulsi Gabbard, Ed Case, Jill Tokuda, Kai Kahele, and Neil Abercrombie, have received funding from pro-Israel organizations. This nexus of financial ties raises questions about the alignment of interests and priorities. The recent Democratic Caucus on March 6th, where an unprecedented 29% of voters chose "Uncommitted", underscores the growing unease and desire for change among Hawai'i's electorate. It's time for our representatives to heed the call for justice, to reevaluate their allegiances, and to stand firmly for peace and human rights, both locally and globally.

The widespread public support for a ceasefire in Palestine is unmistakable and underscores the urgency of ending the ongoing violence in Gaza. Since October 2023, numerous public protests have erupted globally and in Hawai'i, with voices from all corners of society demanding an end to the bloodshed and suffering endured by Palestinians. Notably, on January 28th, over 3,700 peaceful protestors, predominantly Hawai'i residents, gathered to convey a powerful message in the streets of Waikiki: it's time to halt the war on Palestine. Their collective call for peace resonated deeply, highlighting the empathy and solidarity felt by individuals worldwide toward the plight of Palestinians. This support has been further reflected in our community through the organization of advocacy groups like Hawai'i For Palestine, Rise For Palestine, and the Hawai'i chapter of Jewish Voice for Peace. It is imperative that policymakers heed the resounding demands of the public and take immediate action by supporting this resolution to secure a ceasefire, ensuring the safety and well-being of all Palestinians affected by genocide in Gaza.

Mahalo.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 5:47:56 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Glenda Pollard	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

My name is Glenda and I was born and raised in Hawai'i. I grew up on the west side of O'ahu in the small town of Nanakuli. Today, my thoughts and my heart are with the struggles faced by the Palestinian people in Gaza. They are enduring unrelenting suffering inflicted upon them by the people of Israel.

Growing up in Hawai'i, our education was steeped in the rich history of our islands, teaching us about the unlawful overthrow of the Hawaiian monarchy by the United States in 1893. This history has instilled in me a profound appreciation for the importance of preserving culture and giving back to our community. Today, we unfortunately witness indigenous Hawaiian people leaving the state, unable to afford or reside in their ancestral lands—a consequence of being forcefully pushed out by pressures of inflation and capitalism. It is a poignant reminder of the injustices perpetuated against indigenous peoples, happening right in our own backyard.

The root of Palestine and Isreal is parallel to Hawaii and how their land was stolen. It is history repeating itself again. Decades ago, the land of Palestine was unlawfully seized, its people displaced and marginalized. The Israeli occupation, born out of colonial ambitions, has perpetuated a cycle of violence and despair that continues to plague the region to this day.

For far too long, the Palestinian people have been unjustly imprisoned within the confines of Gaza, their basic rights trampled upon, their voices drowned out by the relentless barrage of artillery and gunfire. The blockade imposed upon Gaza has suffocated its people, depriving them of essential resources and the most fundamental liberties. There are videos of lifeless children that serves as a grim testament to the horrors of war and the unbearable suffering. Every child, regardless of nationality or circumstance, deserves to be nurtured and protected, to grow up in an environment where their innocence is cherished, and their dreams are allowed to flourish.

We cannot turn a blind eye to this human tragedy unfolding before us. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since October 7, majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble in Gaza. The Palestinian people have endured unimagineable hardships, their resilience tested time and time

again. It is incumbent upon us, as champions of peace, to heed their cries for freedom and dignity.

We must recognize the right of the Palestinian people to reclaim their ancestral lands, to rebuild their homes and communities from the ashes of destruction. The path to peace begins with the rightful acknowledgement of their land.

The time for action is now. Let us call for an immediate and permanent ceasefire in Gaza and reaffirm our commitment to the principles of justice, equality, and human rights. The Palestinian people deserve nothing less than our unwavering solidarity and support.

Mahalo,

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 5:56:10 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Gretchen Losano	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

Please support this ceasefire resolution! It is absolutely heartbreaking to see the United States and our tax dollars being used to send weapons to Israel so they can continue to bomb innocent civilians. It is devastating to see mothers and fathers grieving their dead children day after day, and people being murdered while trying to receive aide so they don't starve to death. This is absolute madness and it needs to end. Please support this resolution.

Mahalo,

Gretchen Losano

Lahaina, Maui

LATE

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 6:10:10 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Madison Ashak	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of SCR13. The ongoing genocide on innocent Palestinian civilians is unacceptable and must be stopped immediately. Since October 7th, over 40,000 lives have been lost, and over 70,000 have been injured. More lives will be lost if this violence continues.

Currently, 2 million Palestinians are in desperate need of food, water, and other forms of aid, which Israel is blocking from entering the Gaza Strip. These needs are essential to the survival of Palestinians, and Israel's blocking of resources is causing further harm.

I urge for an immediate ceasefire, which will allow for aid to finally be delivered into the Gaza Strip and is necessary to prevent even more lives being lost. An immediate ceasefire will also enable international investigations to look into the reported war crimes that have been committed since October 7th.

I urge and implore you to please listen to my voice, as well as all other supporters of an immediate ceasefire. Innocent lives will continue to be lost and destruction will continue to occur if an immediate ceasefire does not take place. Thank you for your time and attention on this matter.

LATE

RE: Testimony of Keisha Tanaka
Strong Support for SCR13/SR6: The Hawai'i Ceasefire Resolution
Senate Committee on Public Safety and Intergovernmental and Military Affairs
March 8, 2024

Aloha members of the committee,

Mahalo for scheduling this important resolution, and for giving the community of Hawai'i the chance to testify. I am testifying in strong support of [SCR13/SR6]. The level of civilian casualties due to military force, starvation, and rejected humanitarian aid is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble in Gaza.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk. Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food, and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only worsen as Israel's retaliation goes on.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

Hawaii's own history of forced occupation and mistreatment of its native people compels us to stand with our 'ohana in Palestine.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 6:24:29 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Judie Hoepner	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please approve this bill.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 6:40:35 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Erica Yamauchi	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this resolution and support a ceasefire.

LATE

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 6:47:24 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Madeline R Whitehill	Individual	Support	In Person

Comments:

As a Jewish American, I cannot in good conscience stay silent. I am testifying in strong support of [SCR13/SR6]. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 6:53:06 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kawela Kim	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha kākou,

‘O Kawela Kim ko‘u inoa. No O‘ahu mai au. No Kohala mai ku‘u ‘ohana.

I am writing to testify in support of SCR13. As a Kānaka Maoli, I know it is our kuleana to stand up for our Palestinian brothers and sisters. The hewa occurring there is beyond what any human should be able to witness. The immense scale of suffering in Gaza is unequivocally unacceptable.

The harm perpetrated there by the American government is shameful. It mirrors the harm the American government has caused in Hawai‘i nei and countless other places. Settler colonialism wrecks havoc on environments and cultures causing irreparable damage. I know this being descended from a race who was ravaged by American greed. The greed of the ruling class and their inability to see the humanity in BIPOC needs to end.

In blocking ceasefire attempts, the US has shown its true priorities to the world. The US does not value freedom, as it purports, the US values gain and gain alone. This mindset does not allow for a healthy global community. It instead creates a strict caste system, one we are stuck in today. I pray for a world of respect and peace.

Mahalo,

Kawela Kim

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 6:57:27 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
David Olajos (O-lie-us)	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Gaza death toll surpasses 30,000, around 25,000 being women and children. Euro-Med Human Rights Monitor estimates the real number including the thousands buried under the rubble at over 38,000

Israeli forces recapture 2 Palestinian women who were previously released in the November hostage exchange deal — total 11 Palestinian women and children recaptured since their release, a clear violation of the agreement

- WHO: 1 in 6 children under age of 2 is “acutely malnourished” in north Gaza; 16+ kids killed by starvation in past week. Israel continues to block entry & distribution of aid + attacks aid convoys & aid seekers attempting to receive what little aid reaches the north

As a Palestinian-Hungarian American, I am deeply disturbed that my tax dollars are being spent to support a colonizing regime. The influence of the Israeli lobby money machine is unprecedented, and it's needs be stopped. It is neither in the best interest of the United States, or of Israel. The winds of change are blowing. Hawaii should not be support a racist apartheid government.

Lets show the world the spirit of Aloha.

LATE

I am testifying in strong support of SCR13. The conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has had a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Over 31,000 civilians have been killed since Oct. 7th, the majority of which were women and children. Another 70,000 have been severely injured or wounded, and thousands more are missing under the rubble in Gaza.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza. Independent international investigations could also take place into the war crimes committed by all parties, in order to end the longstanding impunity, which will only continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more important than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

As a Hawaiian citizen, I am asking my legislatures to please support this bill. Your consideration will help positively impact the lives of all civilians involved. Mahalo.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 7:06:03 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Thomas Nooney	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I fully support this Bill.

Thomas Nooney

Kula,Hi.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 7:11:06 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Teresa Mupas Purugganan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha kākou,

I am writing to testify in strong support of SCR13, as it is in favor of and aims at protecting children and people who are non-combatants within an incredibly violent conflict zone across the Gaza Strip. As the bill states, since October 7, 2024, "roughly half of the Palestinians killed or wounded during the violence in Gaza are children." It also says, "These children and their families face further imminent threats due to Israeli government restrictions on food, water, fuel, and other humanitarian assistance that reach them."

As a constituent in the State of Hawai'i, as a human, as a mother and auntie, I find this unacceptable.

And also as the bill states, "the United States federal government holds immense diplomatic power to save both Palestinian and Israeli lives."

What not use this diplomatic power to put an end to the unnecessary and costly violence?

As seen in the rising numbers of innocent civilian lives, it is evident the conflict has grown beyond simply Hamas and the Israeli government. Settlements between the two parties can be made more diplomatically when a ceasefire occurs.

Thank you for taking the time to listen to my voice if you've read this far. May your true aloha come alive within you and expand out to those suffering within this struggle.

Me ke aloha,

Teresa Mupas Purugganan

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 7:14:42 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Karim Hanna	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of [SCR13/SR6]. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on

Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

LATE

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 7:14:57 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Susan Muller	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As a voting Democrat and a tax paying citizen I am outraged that my tax dollars are funding the genocide of Palestinian civilians. I demand an immediate ceasefire in Palestine!! Stop giving Israel my tax dollars to fund the genocide of the Palestinian people, immediately allow real humanitarian aid to get to the desperate people of Palestine, support the ceasefire resolution in Gaza and stop the genocide.

LATE

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 7:29:01 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Maryam Siddiqui	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As a fellow person, I recommend that you take a strong stance for a ceasefire in Gaza. The Israeli military are torturing and killing innocents under false claims in order to have control over the land. If you are opposed to this, you are lost.

LATE

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 7:46:36 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Shyun Ueno	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Elefante, and to the members on The Committee of Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs:

I, Shyun Ueno, wholeheartedly support the resolution, SCR13, calling for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza. Palestinians have endured countless massacres by Israel since 1948, and repeated ceasefire attempts have only resulted in further brutal occupation and the murder of Palestinians. Even before October 2023, Palestine has been characterized as the largest open-air prison in the world subjected to the militarization of Israel's imperial surveillance state. The full blockade on Gaza has led to starvation, lack of medical supplies, and unbearable living conditions under harsh military control. Despite extreme acts of protest by American citizens like Aaron Bushnell, who tragically self-immolated to draw attention to this crisis, the American government continues to support and fund the ongoing genocide. Over 30,000 Gazans have been massacred, hospitals bombed, and humanitarian aid blockaded, resembling nothing short of modern-day concentration camps. President Biden's stance on hostage negotiations, shifting responsibility onto Hamas despite previous offers from them, in addition to directly funding Israeli military operations is a blatant disregard for human lives and perpetuates this cycle of violence. It is imperative that we demand an end to this senseless bloodshed and advocate for a just and lasting peace in the region.

The crisis in Gaza holds significant relevance to Hawai'i, as another nation that understands the impact of settler-colonial occupation. Shockingly, Israel's bombings have ravaged over 70% of Gazan homes since October, resulting in the tragic loss of over 30,000 Palestinian lives, funded in part by Hawai'i's tax dollars. To further contextualize this statistic, it is important to note that the size of the Gaza strip is comparable to half the size of Molokai. Despite the commendable call for a ceasefire by Senator Mazie Hirono on February 14th, 2024, it's concerning that she has accepted substantial contributions totaling \$50,100 and allocated millions of dollars annually from Hawai'i's tax coffers to the Israeli military. Furthermore, a disheartening revelation from opensecrets.org unveils that several politicians representing Hawai'i, including Tulsi Gabbard, Ed Case, Jill Tokuda, Kai Kahele, and Neil Abercrombie, have received funding from pro-Israel organizations. This nexus of financial ties raises questions about the alignment of interests and priorities. The recent Democratic Caucus on March 6th, where an unprecedented 29% of voters chose "Uncommitted", underscores the growing unease and desire for change among Hawai'i's

electorate. It's time for our representatives to heed the call for justice, to reevaluate their allegiances, and to stand firmly for peace and human rights, both locally and globally.

The widespread public support for a ceasefire in Palestine is unmistakable and underscores the urgency of ending the ongoing violence in Gaza. Since October 2023, numerous public protests have erupted globally and in Hawai'i, with voices from all corners of society demanding an end to the bloodshed and suffering endured by Palestinians. Notably, on January 28th, over 3,700 peaceful protestors, predominantly Hawai'i residents, gathered to convey a powerful message in the streets of Waikiki: it's time to halt the war on Palestine. Their collective call for peace resonated deeply, highlighting the empathy and solidarity felt by individuals worldwide toward the plight of Palestinians. This support has been further reflected in our community through the organization of advocacy groups like Hawai'i For Palestine, Rise For Palestine, and the Hawai'i chapter of Jewish Voice for Peace. It is imperative that policymakers heed the resounding demands of the public and take immediate action by supporting this resolution to secure a ceasefire, ensuring the safety and well-being of all Palestinians affected by genocide in Gaza.

Mahalo for your support,

Shyun Ueno

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 7:47:00 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Andrew Grandinetti	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

FREE PALESTINE!!!

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 7:52:51 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Susan B Roberts Emery	Testifying for Green Party of Hawai'i	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Members of Hawai'i's Congressional delegation,

On behalf of the Green Party of Hawai'i, we stand in strong solidarity with a ceasefire in Gaza ! This is statement is so overdue from our counties, our state, and our country. Please vote yes and send a strong message from Hawai'i , that the thousands of civilian lives that have been lost in Gaza are criminal. Besides a ceasefire we need to send humanitarian aid, lay down all weapons and begin to negotiate a peaceful settlement for all. Time to stop the open air prisons and treat the Palestinian people with dignity and respect.

Mahalo nui,

Susan RobertsEmery

Co Chair GPH

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 7:57:52 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Shereen Hamed	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hello, my name is Shereen Hamed and I am a resident of Koloa, Kauai. **I am also an indigenous Palestinian born in the occupied West Bank.** My father and brothers still live in Palestine and I am very much impacted by the current **genocide** unfolding in Gaza.

I am urging that you **put forward a ceasefire resolution.** It is imperative that we speak up for a permanent ceasefire. Asking for food to reach starving people and bombs to stop killing innocent civilians is not anti-Semitic, it is a basic right that every person deserves.

IN GAZA.....We're witnessing:

- The dehumanization of Palestinians
- Indiscriminate killing with intentional targeting of civilians as they desperately queue up for food AND
- The purposeful starvation of millions of innocent people held in an open-air prison. It is unquestionably abhorrent and it is NOT "self-defense".

IN THE OCCUPIED WEST BANK....We've seen:

- Nearly 10,000 civilians abducted by Israel and held in prisons without charge.
- We've witnessed indigenous Palestinian land stolen by extremist Israeli settlers, which is completely illegal and against international law.
- We've also seen thousands of innocent civilians (a large number whom are children) murdered and gunned down in the streets.
- The IDF has been testing high tech murder weapons on civilians for decades....and all of this is done in the West Bank, a part of Palestine that has nothing to do with Hamas.

It is important that our elected leaders call all of this what it is...a genocide! Israel continues to commit war crimes and the current Biden administration is complicit.... we just keep handing over more weapons and billions of OUR HARD-EARNED DOLLARS each year to slaughter children. Enough is enough.

Please pass 13 SCR and call for a permanent ceasefire now!

Thank you,

Shereen Hamed

LATE

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 8:01:45 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Justin Taibe	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Scr13 is so important and valid. Israel is committing war crimes and punishing all the people living in Gaza. We too are being punished it is painful to stand by and do nothing. We need to speak up to this injustice and support an immediate ceasefire. Show the world that aloha and intelligence has a strong presence in this world. Mahalo nui for your time and history will show who did the right thing. Free Palestine ! Ceasefire now please !

LATE

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 8:10:43 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Devon Paoli	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of [SCR13/SR6]. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on

Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 8:17:05 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Isabel Miranda	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Elefante, and to the members on The Committee of Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs:

I, Isabel Miranda, wholeheartedly support the resolution, SCR13, calling for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza. Palestinians have endured countless massacres by Israel since 1948, and repeated ceasefire attempts have only resulted in further brutal occupation and the murder of Palestinians. Even before October 2023, Palestine has been characterized as the largest open-air prison in the world subjected to the militarization of Israel's imperial surveillance state. The full blockade on Gaza has led to starvation, lack of medical supplies, and unbearable living conditions under harsh military control. Despite extreme acts of protest by American citizens like Aaron Bushnell, who self-immolated to draw attention to this crisis, the American government continues to support and fund the ongoing genocide. Over 30,000 Gazans have been massacred, hospitals bombed, and humanitarian aid blockaded, resembling nothing short of modern-day concentration camps. President Biden's stance on hostage negotiations, shifting responsibility onto Hamas despite previous offers from them, in addition to directly funding Israeli military operations is a blatant disregard for human lives and perpetuates this cycle of violence. It is imperative that we demand an end to this senseless bloodshed and advocate for a just and lasting peace in the region.

The crisis in Gaza holds significant relevance to Hawai'i, as another nation that understands the impact of settler-colonial occupation. Shockingly, Israel's bombings have ravaged over 70% of Gazan homes since October, resulting in the tragic loss of over 30,000 Palestinian lives, funded in part by Hawai'i's tax dollars. To further contextualize this statistic, it is important to note that the size of the Gaza strip is comparable to half the size of Molokai. Despite the commendable call for a ceasefire by Senator Mazie Hirono on February 14th, 2024, it's concerning that she has accepted substantial contributions totaling \$50,100 and allocated millions of dollars annually from Hawai'i's tax coffers to the Israeli military. Furthermore, a disheartening revelation from opensecrets.org unveils that several politicians representing Hawai'i, including Tulsi Gabbard, Ed Case, Jill Tokuda, Kai Kahele, and Neil Abercrombie, have received funding from pro-Israel organizations. This nexus of financial ties raises questions about the alignment of interests and priorities. The recent Democratic Caucus on March 6th, where an unprecedented 29% of voters chose "Uncommitted", underscores the growing unease and desire for change among Hawai'i's

electorate. It's time for our representatives to heed the call for justice, to reevaluate their allegiances, and to stand firmly for peace and human rights, both locally and globally.

The widespread public support for a ceasefire in Palestine is unmistakable and underscores the urgency of ending the ongoing violence in Gaza. Since October 2023, numerous public protests have erupted globally and in Hawai'i, with voices from all corners of society demanding an end to the bloodshed and suffering endured by Palestinians. Notably, on January 28th, over 3,700 peaceful protestors, predominantly Hawai'i residents, gathered to convey a powerful message in the streets of Waikiki: it's time to halt the war on Palestine. Their collective call for peace resonated deeply, highlighting the empathy and solidarity felt by individuals worldwide toward the plight of Palestinians. This support has been further reflected in our community through the organization of advocacy groups like Hawai'i For Palestine, Rise For Palestine, and the Hawai'i chapter of Jewish Voice for Peace. It is imperative that policymakers heed the resounding demands of the public and take immediate action by supporting this resolution to secure a ceasefire, ensuring the safety and well-being of all Palestinians affected by genocide in Gaza.

Mahalo for your support,

Isabel Miranda

LATE

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 8:28:27 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Yasmin Ganaim	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of [SCR13/SR6]. As a Palestinian in diaspora I am afraid that we Palestinians are collectively targeted. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza. At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel’s tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel’s 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn’t stop immediately.

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel’s system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

LATE

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 8:33:15 PM
Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Aaron Donaldson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of SCR13. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel’s tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel’s 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn’t stop immediately.

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel’s system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 8:36:57 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sancia Miala Shiba Nash	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha kākou,

Members of the committee, mahalo for scheduling this important resolution, and for allowing the community a chance to testify.

I am in full support. People of Hawai‘i have been organizing over the past months across the pae‘āina to communicate to elected officials that we stand with Palestine. Hawai‘i demands an immediate end to the genocide of Palestinian civilians in Gaza, West Bank and Occupied Palestinian Territories.

mahalo nui iā ‘oukou,

Sancia Miala Shiba Nash

LATE

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 8:45:05 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Chalida McCann	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of SCR13. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on

Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

LATE

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 8:53:52 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Veronica Ali	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha committee members,

I am a Kauai resident and married to an indigenous Palestinian. This situation in Gaza is very important to me.

The current death toll in Gaza has surpassed 30,000 with thousands still under rubble. 70,000 people have been injured with 9,000 of those being children. With the indiscriminate bombing and purposeful starvation of the entire Palestinian population of Gaza (which is over 2 million people), we know **the IDF and the Israeli government is committing genocide and has been illegally occupying Palestine for over 75 years.**

We are tired of the lip service and tired of US politicians being 'concerned' about Israel's handling of the situation.

We want to know what **ACTIONS** our elected leaders will take. We want our leaders to stop giving our hard earned tax dollars along with hi-tech weapons to murder innocent Palestinians.

We are calling on our elected officials to call for a permanent ceasefire, to stop arming Israel with weapons and to fight for more humanitarian aid reaching Palestinians.

Mahalo,

Veronica Ali

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 8:59:01 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jazmine Uyehara	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am testifying in strong support of SCR13. Over the past few months, we have seen the loss of over 30,000 civilian lives, more than 10,000 of which are children. Israel is currently blocking aid from getting to the 2 million people who desperately need it. What is happening in Gaza is inhumane and cannot be allowed to continue. An immediate and permanent ceasefire must be called for in order to prevent further harm to civilians, allow for negotiations to take place over the release of Israeli hostages, and to allow investigations to be conducted into the reported war crimes that have been committed since October 7th. Thank you for your time.

LATE

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 8:59:29 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Zyra Gonzalez	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of [SCR13/SR6]. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on

Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

LATE

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 8:59:39 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Catherine Daniels Riveros	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying to express my strong endorsement for SCR13. The current toll of casualties is alarming, with approximately 40,000 civilians losing their lives since Oct 7, disproportionately affecting women and children. Additionally, around 70,000 individuals have been wounded, and countless others remain unaccounted for amidst the debris of Gaza.

Implementing a ceasefire is imperative to cease the unlawful attacks perpetrated by all involved parties, thus stemming the rising death toll in Gaza. Moreover, it would facilitate the entry of vital humanitarian aid, water, and medical supplies into the region, crucial for alleviating profound human suffering. Such a measure would also enable hospitals to receive essential medications, fuel, and equipment urgently required for treating the injured and repairing damaged facilities.

Lastly, a ceasefire presents an opportunity to negotiate the release of hostages held in Gaza and to conduct impartial international investigations into the war crimes committed by all parties. This concerted effort is crucial for ending the prevailing culture of apartheid and impunity, which only serves to perpetuate further atrocities.

LATE

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 9:11:23 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Heather Borst	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am testifying to strongly support SCR13 in calling for a permanent ceasefire in Gaza. Israel's collective punishment against Gaza is horrific and unconscionable. Since October 7, over 30,000 Gazans have died, with many thousands more dead, trapped under rubble. The people of Gaza are being bombed, starved, and denied medicine, food, and aid. Almost half are children. This is genocide, and it should be unacceptable in 2024.

An immediate and permanent ceasefire will end the genocide and allow for hostages to be released and international investigations into war crimes to begin. Thank you for listening to all the supporters of SCR13 in support of a ceasefire.

LATE

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 9:12:25 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dave Mulnix	Testifying for Our Revolution Hawaii	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair & Committee Members,

On behalf of Our Revolution Hawaii's 5,000 members and supporters statewide, we stand in Strong SUPPORT of SCR13, calling for an immediate and permanent ceasefire in Gaza.

By definition what's happening in Gaza is genocide! And by supplying arms and supporting the military assault on Gaza's innocent civilian population the Biden regime is complicit in that genocide. This kind of brutality is an affront to what the US is supposed to stand for. i.e., fairness and justice. What's happening in Gaza is neither fair nor just.

So it is essential that members of Hawaii's congressional delegation stand up for fairness and justice and demand that the Biden regime: call for an immediate and permanent ceasefire in Gaza; call for the de-escalation of hostilities to end the violence; promptly send humanitarian assistance into Gaza, including fuel, food, water, and medical supplies; and support immediate negotiations for lasting peace.

President Joe Biden has the power to cease the violence in Gaza, and it is his moral responsibility to do so. There are several things that Biden can do to end the violence. Biden can stop sending weapons to Netanyahu, and he can also cut off US funding to Israel to force Netanyahu to end the violence. The vast majority of US citizens want a permanent ceasefire and an immediate end to this unnecessary violence.

Please pass SCR13 and stand for what the US is supposed to stand for, fairness and justice.

Mahalo,

Dave Mulnix, CoFounder & Statewide Organizer

Our Revolution Hawaii

LATE

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 9:22:48 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Gloria Palma	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this measure.

LATE

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 9:23:32 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sarah McIntosh	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hawaii must support an mediate ceasefire in Gaza. Thousands of innocent children have died and we must take action now.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 9:32:50 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Alec Zarenkiewicz	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of SCR13. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.^[REDACTED]At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel’s tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel’s 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn’t stop immediately.

^[REDACTED]A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

^[REDACTED]A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

^[REDACTED]Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel’s system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 9:33:43 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dana Keawe	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Cease Fire. I support SCR13

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 9:36:14 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Olivia Ambo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Gaza has been under attack for over 150 calamitous days. Tens of thousand people are dead, entire families have been wiped out, universities have been destroyed, hospitals have attacked, infrastucture and sanitation systems have been ruined, and the territory is now facing a famine. As people of the world it is our moral obligation to stop this disproportionate barbaric collective punishment. As people living on occupied Indigenous lands, it is our obligation to speak against Israel's illegal settlement and blockade of Palestinian lands, and control of its borders, territorial waters, and air space in the pursuit of lasting peace.

In January the International Court of Justice ruled that Israel must refrain from acts under the Genocide convention, prevent and punish the direct and public incitement to genocide, and take immediate and effective measures to ensure the provision of humanitarian assistance to civilians in Gaza.

But since then, Israel has bombed the Rafah refugee camp, the area it declared Gazans must evacuate to to avoid the fighting, and has massacred Gazans trying to get aid. Israel is in blatant violation of the ICJ, continues to commit war crimes, and we must act to create pressure for a ceasefire.

As Agnès Callamard, Secretary General of Amnesty International, has said: "Alarming signs of genocide in Gaza, and Israel's flagrant disregard for international law highlight the urgent need for effective, unified pressure on Israel to stop its onslaught against Palestinians. An immediate ceasefire by all parties remains essential and – although not ordered by the Court – is the most effective condition to implement the provisional measures and end unprecedented civilian suffering."

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 9:36:19 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sierra Smith	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of [SCR13/SR6]. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes

committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

Thank you for your time,

Sierra Smith

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 9:49:39 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sherry Pollack	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Right now, another kidnapped woman feels alone in this dark world, another pregnant woman in Gaza with no medical help. It's time to end the war and realize that only peace will bring security. Stop the madness. We must demand an immediate ceasefire agreement and hostage release deal, to save the lives of innocent people in Gaza and return the hostages.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 9:52:48 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nadia Alves	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha e Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Elefante and Members of the Committee,

Mahalo for scheduling and hearing this important measure.

I stand in **strong support** of SCR13/SR6, urging our congressional delegation to call for a ceasefire in Gaza and to support Congresswoman Cori Bush's H.Res. 786 - "Calling for an immediate deescalation and cease-fire in Israel and occupied Palestine".

The people in Gaza, old and young alike, are being bombed and starved and put through unimaginable barbarism.

Our Representatives, be it here in Hawai'i or in Washington, D.C, needs to stand against collective punishment and mass violence inflicted upon civilians in any form – be it by the Israeli State, Hamas, or the United States.

We cannot simply standby and watch this happen.

History will remember.

LATE

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 9:55:40 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dianne Deauna	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the Senate Public Safety Committee,

I am writing in strong support of SCR13, which urges members of Hawai'i's congressional delegation to support the "Ceasefire NOW Resolution" introduced by US Congresswoman Cori Bush.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 10:11:25 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Charles Jonsson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Elefante and members of the PSM Committee,

Thank you for taking this historically important resolution under consideration. I am writing you to express my **STRONG SUPPORT** in favor of SR6/SCR13 and to urge you to join me in calling for an immediate and permanent ceasefire in Gaza. What we are witnessing in real-time is nothing less than the ethnic cleansing of the Palestinian people in Gaza. It is incumbent on all who are on the side of humanity to stand in solidarity to oppose this systematic and indiscriminate destruction of innocent life.

It is within the scope and power of the United States to affect the outcome of this ongoing atrocity and to put an end to the violence. The failure of our government to act in furtherance of that end is inexcusable, and with each day that passes without action, we add to our failure, to our collective shame, and to the count of dead children in Gaza. Please do your part as our representatives to call for a ceasefire now. Please vote to adopt SR6/SCR13.

Mahalo.

Charles Jonsson

Chinatown

LATE

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 10:18:09 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
pamela burrell	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I'll keep it simple. Please stop this humanitarian crisis. You have the power.

regards,

pamela burrell

kalihiwai, Kaua'i

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 10:47:37 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Pete Doktor	Testifying for Veterans for Peace, Hawai`i Ch. 113	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I am testifying in strong support on behalf of Veterans for Peace, Hawai`i Ch. 113 for SCR13. As our name implies, we are military veterans appalled by what we have seen from militarism and misuse of the military for political and economic agendas, such as the military occupation of Palestine and genocidal war. As former soldiers we attest soldiers are beholden to international laws such as the Geneva Convention, and such rampant and disproportionate slaughter of civilians is intolerable and permanent ceasefire must be enforced immediately.

Personally, I am a former US Army medic of Askenazi and Holocaust victim descent. So I am particularly incensed by this bloodbath, as no one should be made to suffer from such hell that can never be justified, even by the horrific October 7th war crimes and hostage taking. We must cut ties from apartheid regimes such as Netanyahu.

The wars of modernity have disproportionately killed civilians. Veterans for Peace Hawai`i strongly supports an immediate ceasefire and immediate unfettered relief and recovery.

Maluhia me ka Pono -- Peace Comes With Justice,

Pete Doktor

Co-founder, Veterans for Peace, Hawai`i (O`ahu) Ch. 113

LATE

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 11:07:10 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ameer Eghbarieh	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

As a father, as a human being and as a proud Hawaiian resident I urge you to put the brainwashing slogans aside and reconnect with your humanity to make the most minimal effort to show support to the innocent victims of these atrocities that our government ,influenced by greedy lobbyists, has committed and keeps supporting.

I am a dual citizen. American and Israeli and I am urging my American representatives to do everything in their power to not help Israel keep committing genocide.

Please call for a ceasefire , a permanent ceasefire. And let the talks and negotiations begin .

After all, this is what makes us "human" isn't it?

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 11:45:37 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Alison Welser	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I'm writing in support of SCR13. The actions of the Israeli government and military have caused unimaginable suffering for the people of Palestine. 30,000+ people have already been killed and many more will die without access to medical care, food, clean water, or shelter. Entire families, even entire bloodlines have been killed. Israel is an occupying, illegitimate state that has caused undue suffering to the people of Palestine in the name of colonization.

International courts have already spoken on Israel's wrongdoing in this conflict, including committing war crimes, but they continue on, and with U.S. support. It is horrific and inappropriate for the U.S. to be supporting Israel both directly and indirectly. A permanent ceasefire is the bare minimum that should occur, and the U.S. must finally speak up and demand a ceasefire. Palestinians deserve to live freely on their lands, rather than under an apartheid regime.

The U.S.--and the lawmakers who are part of this system--cannot consider themselves ethical or moral while allowing this to go on.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 11:50:28 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Keone Kapisi	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Testimony of Keone Kapisi Strong Support for SCR13/SR6: The Hawaii Ceasefire Resolution Senate Committee on Public Safety an Intergovernmental and Military Affairs March 8, 2024 Aloha members of the committee, Thank you for scheduling this important resolution, and for giving the community the chance to testify. With all my heart, I am in full support. Over the past few months, your constituents have organized dozens of rallies across the archipelago in all four primary counties, multiple teach-ins, and a thousands-strong march through Waikiki. They have sent in thousands of emails and made thousands of calls to elected officials at both the federal and state level--including all of you making it known that Hawaii stands with Palestine. On Tuesday, on March 5, 150 days after Israel began its latest brutal assault on Gaza, the Hawaii County Council Government Operations and External Affairs Committee added its voice to this growing chorus by unanimously passing Resolution No. 449-24, titled "Demonstrating the Aloha Spirit and Fostering Peace, Diplomacy, and Unity within the County of Hawaii, the State of Hawaii, and Beyond," forward to the full council. This county resolution calls on the State Legislature to adopt the Hawaii Ceasefire Resolution (SCR13/SR6), in accordance with Hawaii values and with the United Nations' International Day for Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Awareness which calls for a more just and peaceful world for all of us. The Hawaii State Legislature should now add its voice as well, and join its constituents in calling for an immediate, permanent ceasefire in Gaza, and for the opening of negotiations for a lasting peace - a peace that includes liberation for Palestinians. If the Hawaii State Legislature were to adopt this resolution, it would send a signal to our Congressional delegation, and the Biden Administration, that Hawaii and its people demand an immediate end to the indiscriminate killing of Palestinian civilians in Gaza, the West Bank and throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territories and Israel. The rate of civilian casualties in Gaza is unprecedented in the 21st century.

Aloha Elected Officials of the Hawai'i State Legislature, I am a taxpayer, a voter, a business professional, a son, a brother, a husband, and a father from Maui living on Oahu. I don't usually do this type of thing, but I feel morally compelled to speak up in this moment, so I am writing on behalf of our brothers and sisters in Gaza to support the Hawai'i State Ceasefire Resolution. As I am sure you are aware, Israel began illegally occupying Palestinian lands in 1948 through a process that came to be known as the Nakba, or Great Catastrophe. Israel's illegal occupation continues to this day. It is extremely violent and oppressive. In October, a group of Palestinians decided to resist the occupation. Israel responded by imposing collective punishment on everyone living in Gaza. They indiscriminately carpet bombed the North, then Gaza City in the center, and have since moved to the South and are about to escalate their assault on Rafah. Palestinian civilians have nowhere safe left to go. They also do not have access to food, water,

medicine, fuel, or other aid as Israel has restricted all routes in and out of the Gaza Strip. In January, The International Court of Justice warned that Israel is at risk of committing GENOCIDE in Gaza. While most of our elected officials in Washington fail to take action calling for a ceasefire or to stop arming Israel and corporate media outlets fail to speak up about the genocide, people of conscience throughout the world are accessing live images and videos from reporters on the ground in Gaza via social media and we are heartbroken and enraged. All of us can see with our own eyes that Israel is indiscriminately bombing Gazan children and families while simultaneously preventing food, water, medicine, fuel, and other aid from entering the territory. More than 31,000 souls have been killed, including more than 12,000 children. At least 18 children (mostly toddlers and infants) have died of starvation. Yes, you read that right, starvation is a weapon currently being used against children. The death rate is expected to increase as thousands are still missing under the rubble. More than 72,000 people have been injured. More than 1,000 children have had to have one or both of their legs amputated, usually without anesthetic. At least 17,000 children have become orphans. This is abhorrent. Witnessing the difficult rebuilding process for our fire survivors on Maui, I feel it is important to mention the infrastructure statistics as well. More than 360,000 homes, 392 educational facilities, 267 places of worship, 35 hospitals, 132 water wells, and 11 bakeries have been destroyed or damaged. Two million people are displaced! TWO MILLION!! Can you imagine the devastation? This is not self-defense. It's not complicated, it's genocide and genocide is always wrong! I do not want my children to grow up in a world where we overlook the suffering of others. We belong to each other and we should stand up against injustice and oppression. We must come together today to raise our voices to call for an end to the violence. A return of all hostages and a peaceful path forward is most likely to be achieved through de-escalation and a diplomatic solution. Please call for a permanent ceasefire! Mahalo!

LATE

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 11:58:59 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Thomas Quattlebaum	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of SCR13. The horrifying subjection of mass punishment against innocent people, many of them children and women and including those who were in line to receive humanitarian aid, is unacceptable. 40,000 humans have been killed since October 7th and we must work together to end this. Israel has committed war crimes by attacking hospitals and decimated the healthcare infrastructure. Israel is additionally blocking essential aid to the 2 million people in Gaza who desperately need help. I am a physician and I believe strongly it is part of my duty to advocate for those who are suffering; in this case it is entirely preventable and our government has a direct role in funding the Israeli military.

By supporting an immediate ceasefire, hostage negotiations can be conducted and an international investigation may take place. Please accept this testimony in support of doing our part to stop the killing of Palestinians. Mahalo for your time.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 12:02:50 AM
Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tania Tom Hoon	Individual	Comments	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I commend and support Congresswoman Bush for solely and soul-FULLY standing up for the people of Palestine.

The World has resoundingly voted for Ceasefire, Peace & a Free Palestine!...except the US. WHAT??SHAME ON AMERICA!!!

BIG HINT to the Hawaii Delegates....CEASEFIRE NOW, STOP GENOCIDE and BUILD A FREE PALESTINE! Disappointing to know that not one of our delegates co-founded this resolution being that they're from the Aloha State, auwe!

SUPPORT/YES to SCR 13

LATE

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 12:24:44 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Laura Acasio	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

STRONGEST SUPPORT: SCR 13 - URGING MEMBERS OF HAWAII'S CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO SUPPORT THE CEASEFIRE IN GAZA RESOLUTION INTRODUCED BY UNITED STATES CONGRESSWOMAN CORI BUSH

Aloha e Chair Wakai and Honorable Members of the Senate Committee on Public Safety,

My name is Laura Acasio and I am a former State Senator, teacher, mother and healer.

I have sat here for hours, completely stumped at using any amount of formality in the following request. I honestly cannot even believe that we even need to ask to support a resolution calling for a ceasefire. It is beyond unbelievable that it wasn't automatic five months ago, and yet it has been many months of the entire world screaming for a ceasefire in every possible way, including self-immolation. May we never forget Arron Bushnell and may all oppressed peoples be liberated!

It is beyond unacceptable that the federal delegation has not already, with their own personal judgment, called for an immediate and permanent ceasefire in Palestine. Unbelievable and unforgivable that the brutal violence, ethnic cleansing, and genocide is condoned and literally perpetuated by their hands and their work.

Remind Ed Case, Mazie Hirono, Brian Schatz and Jill Tokuda that Hawaii will not stand to be complicit in this genocide and that Hawaii demands a CEASEFIRE NOW. Show your humanity today with an affirmative vote.

Send this resolution to Governor Green's desk like your house is on fire, or like over 33,000 humans have been brutally murdered, or like it was your mom, dad, children, and family being slaughtered every minute...and we have funded it.

Do the right thing.

It's very simple. Just CEASE. Just stop sending money. Just stop supplying weapons.

Thank you,

Laura Acasio, Hilo

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 12:46:17 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Janice Toma Shiira	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support SCR13

LATE

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 12:54:23 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kelly Nishimura	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of [SCR13/SR6]. The escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. More than 30,000 civilians have been killed, 70,000 wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

At the same time, the Israeli hostages held in Gaza remain in danger.

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies and hospitals to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Your support of peace and human rights is critical. Please pass the Hawai'i Ceasefire Resolution.

Sincerely,

Kelly Nishimura

LATE

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 1:45:45 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Momi Nuuhiwa	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support SCR13 and an immediate and permanent ceasefire in Gaza as well as in the West Bank. Palestinians deserve liberty, peace and dignity. Apartheid must be dismantled throughout Palestine. Illegal Israeli settlements and occupation must end. All governments, leaders and people complicit in the genocide of Palestinian people must be held accountable and face criminal charges in the ICC. The ICJ has mounting evidence and the whole world sees plainly the guilty parties; politicians, corporations, and multilateral Western governments who are financing and building the weapons that are massacring innocent civilians, both Israeli and Palestinian alike. It is disgusting that these complicit parties are profiting off of human suffering and world destruction through the use of weapons of mass destruction which impact everyone through massive release of chemicals, like white phosphorus in air and soil, heavy metals, toxic dioxins, oil and radioactivity from depleted uranium as well as massive effects on climate change. "The vast majority (over 99%) of the 281,000 metric tonnes of carbon dioxide (CO2 equivalent) estimated to have been generated in the first 60 days following the 7 October Hamas attack can be attributed to Israel's aerial bombardment and ground invasion of Gaza, according to a first-of-its-kind analysis by researchers in the UK and US."(<https://amp.theguardian.com/world/2024/jan/09/emissions-gaza-israel-hamas-war-climate-change>)

Ceasefire NOW. Palestinians are starving because of US. Because we won't stop the genocide. Because we won't stop the flow of our tax dollars to fund the genocide. Because we won't stop the theft of sovereignty. Palestinians and Planet deserve PEACE.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 2:10:43 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sven Sorge	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

We stand against collective punishment and mass violence inflicted upon civilians in any form – be it by the Israeli State, Hamas, or the United States. We join with Jewish Voice for Peace in the belief that, “A future of peace and safety for all, grounded in justice, freedom and equality for all, is still the only option.” We affirm the equal value of all lives.

Hawai‘i and Palestine are two occupied nations, deeply connected through a shared struggle for liberation and genuine peace for all lands and peoples.

Residents of Hawai‘i contribute \$13 million in federal taxes annually to the \$3.8 billion per year in U.S. military funding and economic aid to the [apartheid State of Israel](#), which is used to commit daily war crimes against Palestinians in their own homelands, including the theft, destruction, and occupation of their lands, homes, food sources, water, natural resources, and means to survival.

In the words of Congresswoman Rashida Tlaib:

“In response to the [case brought by South Africa against Israel](#), the International Court of Justice just ruled that Israel’s government is plausibly committing genocide.

The Court ordered Israel’s government to act immediately to prevent further harm to the Palestinian people—and to stop “acts of genocide” such as killing Palestinians and “causing serious bodily or mental harm” to Palestinians.

This ruling also puts the U.S. government on notice for enabling violations of the Genocide Convention. As a signer of the Genocide Convention, the U.S. government is legally obligated to prevent genocide.

With U.S. support, the Israeli government has killed more than 30,000* Palestinians in Gaza, forcibly displacing 2 million people within the already-densely-packed Gaza strip.

President Biden has sent thousands of bombs to Israel's military, while blocking international efforts to stop the violence and watering down attempts to secure sufficient humanitarian aid.

Meanwhile, Israel's government is still starving Palestinians in Gaza and depriving the trapped population of other basic needs for survival such as water, shelter, and medical assistance.

As the biggest funder of Israel's military, U.S. government leaders have the power and the obligation to stop this unfolding genocide.

In addition to the order to prevent genocide, the International Court of Justice (ICJ) also ordered Israel to prevent and punish incitement to genocide, to immediately ensure "urgently needed basic services and humanitarian assistance" to Gaza, and to report back within a month to the court.

The only way to implement the Court's orders is by facilitating a lasting ceasefire."

We also recognize that a ceasefire and stop to the planned ground invasion of Rafah is not enough to bring peace, freedom, and dignity to the Palestinian people, who have long faced conditions of "open air imprisonment" in their homelands. For true and lasting peace for Palestines, Israelis, and all people, we must work to eradicate oppression in all forms.

*updated since Congresswoman Tlaib's statement to reflect casualties as of March 7th, 2024.

LATE

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 5:12:57 AM
Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Karen Chun	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Although I agree that Hamas should be eradicated, there is no way to do this without genocide to the Palestinians. President Biden's proposed port in Gaza for aid is all very nice, but it doesn't solve the problem of all the people being killed and the homes being destroyed. There must be a ceasefire. The US cannot be supplying offensive weapons as long as they are being used for genocide.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 5:32:18 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Eden Peart	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Bring the world an example of aloha.

Call for a ceasefire, peace and justice.

Mahalo, Eden Prart

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 6:22:53 AM
Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ashley Galacgac	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Call for a permanent ceasefire and end the funding and support of Israel. I urge you to oppose the transfer of more weapons as it is clear that Netanyahu and the Israeli government have rejected any resolution of peace.

Over the past months, the Israeli Occupation Forces (IOF) have murdered Palestinians, leaving thousands injured, and children orphaned. Thousands still remain under the rubble, while survivors are suffering from forced starvation and dehydration and lack of medical attention. The violence and terror perpetuated by Israel has been relentless as the U.S. remains complicit.

Whose safety is protected by Israel? The world cannot ignore the sexual violence that Israel perpetuates. Israeli soldiers have sexually harassed and assaulted Palestinians, with documented cases going back decades. IOF soldiers have also abused and assaulted female soldiers within their ranks. In the same vein of lack of accountability and justice for survivors, sexual abusers and predators have found a safe haven in Israel. No one is safe.

Israel has been targeting hospitals, schools, universities, mosques, and many significant cultural and historical sites. Israel is systematically destroying Gaza and erasing Palestinians from the map. This is a genocide. Journalists have also been targeted to silence the truth.

Israel has flooded tunnels under Gaza with seawater, permanently destroying Gaza's aquifer and main source of water, causing irreparable damage to agricultural land meant to feed its people, and even resulting in roads and buildings collapsing. Israel bulldozed over life-giving olive trees and leveling housing and neighborhoods.

How can starving people be massacred and punished as Israel with tanks, guns, drones, and what appears to be impunity as their military and settlers commit crimes against humanity? Exacerbating the suffering of Palestinians, Israeli settlers are blockading aid to the Palestinian people who dying of hunger and dehydration having already been displaced from their homes and losing loved ones. I cannot imagine the psychological impacts this will have for generations on the children and land.

Please pass SCR 13/SR 6. The U.S. must stop Israel in the terror and violence. Permanent ceasefire now. End the genocide. Lift the siege. End the occupation. Support the right for

Palestinians to return to their ancestral homelands. Let Palestine teach us what it means to live. Free Palestine.

LATE

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 6:30:21 AM
Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Robin Gusich-Batara	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose SCR 13. The primary duty of our legislature is governing the people of the state of Hawaii. We have enough issues in our own state that need our attention that we do not need to waste our time sticking our noses and give opinions in matters that don't directly affect our state. Besides, not all people in Hawaii agree with that stance. Please, let's make the people of Hawaii our priority and give our time and efforts to bettering the lives of our residents.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 6:57:09 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Talia Fermantez	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Members of the Committee,

I am testifying in support of SCR13/SR6. The gruesome escalation of conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The amount of deaths, and the levels of brutality are unprecedented.

Israel's siege of Gaza has blocked entry of goods; water, food, medical aid, fuel, living goods, etc. - Depriving 2 million civilians in the Gaza Strip from living necessities as they struggle to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately. More innocent civilians will die.

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza, and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water, and medical supplies into the Gaza Strip to address the staggering level of human suffering (adult and children). It will allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel, and equipment they desperately need, and will help them to repair damaged wards.

A ceasefire will also provide an opportunity to negotiate the release of hostages held in Gaza, and for international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties to hold those complicit accountable and thereby end this long-standing impunity so that it can no longer bring about further atrocities. This cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

Tackling the root cause of this conflict by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever.

LATE

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 7:35:05 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Rebecca Gardner	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support this resolution; it would be immensely symbolic if the Aloha State can lead the charge in calling other states to pass similar ceasefire resolutions.

LATE

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 7:36:27 AM
Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Susan Chouinard	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I fully support this resolution for a ceasefire in Gaza. There is no reason to continue supporting the death and destruction being met upon the innocent civilians, women and children in Gaza. This has gone so far beyond what any reasonable human being might accept as solution, it is clearly genocide. Children are starving before your eyes. We must not allow it for one more day, one more hour, one more minute. Please, stop this now.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 7:39:25 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michele Chavez-Pardini	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I am testifying in strong support of [SCR13/SR6].

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

I implore you to support this resolution today!

Mahalo,

Michele Chavez-Pardini

LATE

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 7:40:34 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nikos Leverenz	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing in support of SCR 13 and offer the following poem by the late Vietnamese Zen monk Thich Nhat Hanh, who was exiled from his homeland for many years.

Sabbe Satta Sukhi Hontu.

+++++

Please Call Me By My True Names

Don't say that I will depart tomorrow—
even today I am still arriving.

Look deeply: every second I am arriving
to be a bud on a Spring branch,
to be a tiny bird, with still-fragile wings,
learning to sing in my new nest,
to be a caterpillar in the heart of a flower,
to be a jewel hiding itself in a stone.

I still arrive, in order to laugh and to cry,
to fear and to hope.
The rhythm of my heart is the birth and death
of all that is alive.

I am a mayfly metamorphosing
on the surface of the river.
And I am the bird
that swoops down to swallow the mayfly.

I am a frog swimming happily
in the clear water of a pond.
And I am the grass-snake
that silently feeds itself on the frog.

I am the child in Uganda, all skin and bones,
my legs as thin as bamboo sticks.
And I am the arms merchant,
selling deadly weapons to Uganda.

I am the twelve-year-old girl,
refugee on a small boat,
who throws herself into the ocean
after being raped by a sea pirate.

And I am also the pirate,
my heart not yet capable
of seeing and loving.

I am a member of the politburo,
with plenty of power in my hands.
And I am the man who has to pay
his "debt of blood" to my people
dying slowly in a forced-labor camp.

My joy is like Spring, so warm
it makes flowers bloom all over the Earth.
My pain is like a river of tears,
so vast it fills the four oceans.

Please call me by my true names,
so I can hear all my cries and laughter at once,
so I can see that my joy and pain are one.

Please call me by my true names,
so I can wake up
and the door of my heart
could be left open,
the door of compassion.

LATE

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 7:42:52 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
KELSEY BROOKS	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To whom it may concern,

I implore you to please consider supporting a permanent ceasefire in Palestine. The power that you hold has so much influence on people around the globe, including Gazans whose lives have been ripped apart by this senseless war. Tens of thousands of innocent children have already perished by the brutality of the IDF. We care so much and so deeply for our keiki in Hawai'i, I think it is time to start reflecting on how we can positively change the lives of the orphans, injured, and innocent in Gaza. Please support a *permanent* ceasefire now!!!!

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 7:46:50 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Barun Gurung	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this resolution

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 7:54:17 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Melissa Menschel	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of [SCR13/SR6]. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since October 7th, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza. The Palestinians continue to be treated as second class citizen's, with many only knowing lives of continued assault by the Israeli government.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long ILLEGAL blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on

Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

We cannot continue to sit idly by as a genocide is taking place with the assistance of our government. The US has the the diplomatic and financial leverage to force Israel's hand and end the indiscriminate attacks on the Palestinian people as well as end this manmade and entirely preventable famine with thousands of trucks waiting right across the border in Egypt to be able to cross over and deliver relief. Instead the US continues to support the Israeli government in committing genocide for their own capitalistic gains.

LATE

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 7:55:07 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Stacey Alapai	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support a ceasefire in Gaza because we have a moral responsibility to stand against genocide in all forms. It is a waste of financial resources to continue funding this war and supplying weapons that cause so much unnecessary pain and death.

We must do everything in our power to stop the genocide and negotiate a peaceful path forward to coexistence.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 8:17:30 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Luciano	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The State of Hawai'i Resolution and the Cory Bush's US Congress Resolution, together with this call to a cease fire, should explicitly and states for all the armed parties involved, the Israel Government and Hamas together with its other armed groups should adhere to the ceasefire and that, in both state and federal resolutions, the "Whereas" and "Be it resolved" explicitly include and state that Hamas, and its allied, should release all the Israelis living and dead hostages during this ceasefire.

LATE

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 8:42:56 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Carol Gaylord	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

Thank you for putting this essential resolution on your schedule today. I wholeheartedly support a ceasefire. Hawaii County Council unanimously passed resolution 429-44 calling for a ceasefire. Mazie Hirono and Jill Tokuda have called for a ceasefire. Our state should call for an end to the carnage. We need to be on the right side of history. 30% of democrat voters showed up at the caucus to vote uncommitted. That must be a record and must tell you how we feel and what we want our representatives to do on our behalf.

None of us can go another day watching Israel's assault on Gaza and it's indigenous people. Like our Maui survivors by the sea watched their hometown burn, the people of Gaza by the sea have witnessed more that 30,000 of there people killed and over 100,000 injured. The people are starving. Any hostages are surely killed, injured and starving, too.

Mahalo for your time.

Carol Gaylord

LATE

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 8:44:35 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jeannette Gurung	Testifying for WOCAN	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

We are deeply distressed by the situation in Gaza and our government's refusal to take strong action to stop the genocide of innocent Palestinian women and children, in particular. This inaction has brought shame to the US in the global environment, and shows a lack of moral leadership by the US. Hawai'i needs to step up to show that this is NOT acceptable to people of our state, and not aligned to the principles for which this State stands.

We stand against collective punishment and mass violence inflicted upon civilians in any form – be it by the Israeli State, Hamas, or the United States. We join with Jewish Voice for Peace in the belief that, “A future of peace and safety for all, grounded in justice, freedom and equality for all, is still the only option.” We affirm the equal value of all lives.

Hawai'i and Palestine are two occupied nations, deeply connected through a shared struggle for liberation and genuine peace for all lands and peoples.

Residents of Hawai'i contribute \$13 million in federal taxes annually to the \$3.8 billion per year in U.S. military funding and economic aid to the [apartheid State of Israel](#), which is used to commit daily war crimes against Palestinians in their own homelands, including the theft, destruction, and occupation of their lands, homes, food sources, water, natural resources, and means to survival.

In the words of Congresswoman Rashida Tlaib:

“In response to the [case brought by South Africa against Israel](#), the International Court of Justice just ruled that Israel’s government is plausibly committing genocide.

The Court ordered Israel’s government to act immediately to prevent further harm to the Palestinian people—and to stop “acts of genocide” such as killing Palestinians and “causing serious bodily or mental harm” to Palestinians.

This ruling also puts the U.S. government on notice for enabling violations of the Genocide Convention. As a signer of the Genocide Convention, the U.S. government is legally obligated to prevent genocide.

With U.S. support, the Israeli government has killed more than 30,000* Palestinians in Gaza, forcibly displacing 2 million people within the already-densely-packed Gaza strip.

President Biden has sent thousands of bombs to Israel's military, while blocking international efforts to stop the violence and watering down attempts to secure sufficient humanitarian aid.

Meanwhile, Israel's government is still starving Palestinians in Gaza and depriving the trapped population of other basic needs for survival such as water, shelter, and medical assistance.

As the biggest funder of Israel's military, U.S. government leaders have the power and the obligation to stop this unfolding genocide.

In addition to the order to prevent genocide, the International Court of Justice (ICJ) also ordered Israel to prevent and punish incitement to genocide, to immediately ensure "urgently needed basic services and humanitarian assistance" to Gaza, and to report back within a month to the court.

The only way to implement the Court's orders is by facilitating a lasting ceasefire."

We also recognize that a ceasefire and stop to the planned ground invasion of Rafah is not enough to bring peace, freedom, and dignity to the Palestinian people, who have long faced conditions of "open air imprisonment" in their homelands. For true and lasting peace for Palestines, Israelis, and all people, we must work to eradicate oppression in all forms.

LATE

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 8:54:32 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Caroline Chowdhury	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Elefante, and to the members on The Committee of Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs:

I, Caroline Chowdhury, wholeheartedly support the resolution, SCR13, calling for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza. Palestinians have endured countless massacres by Israel since 1948, and repeated ceasefire attempts have only resulted in further brutal occupation and the murder of Palestinians. Even before October 2023, Palestine has been characterized as the largest open-air prison in the world subjected to the militarization of Israel's imperial surveillance state. The full blockade on Gaza has led to starvation, lack of medical supplies, and unbearable living conditions under harsh military control. Despite extreme acts of protest by American citizens like Aaron Bushnell, who tragically self-immolated to draw attention to this crisis, the American government continues to support and fund the ongoing genocide. Over 30,000 Gazans have been massacred, hospitals bombed, and humanitarian aid blockaded, resembling nothing short of modern-day concentration camps. President Biden's stance on hostage negotiations, shifting responsibility onto Hamas despite previous offers from them, in addition to directly funding Israeli military operations is a blatant disregard for human lives and perpetuates this cycle of violence. It is imperative that we demand an end to this senseless bloodshed and advocate for a just and lasting peace in the region.

The crisis in Gaza holds significant relevance to Hawaii, as another nation that understands the impact of settler-colonial occupation. Shockingly, Israel's bombings have ravaged over 70% of Gazan homes since October, resulting in the tragic loss of over 30,000 Palestinian lives, funded in part by Hawaii's tax dollars. To further contextualize this statistic, it is important to note that the size of the Gaza strip is comparable to half the size of Molokai. Despite the commendable call for a ceasefire by Senator Mazie Hirono on February 14th, 2024, it's concerning that she has accepted substantial contributions totaling \$50,100 and allocated millions of dollars annually from Hawaii's tax coffers to the Israeli military. Furthermore, a disheartening revelation from [opensecrets.org](https://www.opensecrets.org) unveils that several politicians representing Hawaii, including Tulsi Gabbard, Ed Case, Jill Tokuda, Kai Kahele, and Neil Abercrombie, have received funding from pro-Israel organizations. This nexus of financial ties raises questions about the alignment of interests and priorities. The recent Democratic Caucus on March 6th, where an unprecedented 29% of voters chose "Uncommitted", underscores the growing unease and desire for change among Hawaii's electorate. It's time for our representatives to heed the call for justice, to reevaluate their allegiances, and to stand firmly for peace and human rights, both locally and globally.

The widespread public support for a ceasefire in Palestine is unmistakable and underscores the urgency of ending the ongoing violence in Gaza. Since October 2023, numerous public protests have erupted globally and in Hawaii, with voices from all corners of society demanding an end to the bloodshed and suffering endured by Palestinians. Notably, on January 28th, over 3,700 peaceful protestors, predominantly Hawaii residents, gathered to convey a powerful message in the streets of Waikiki: it's time to halt the war on Palestine. Their collective call for peace resonated deeply, highlighting the empathy and solidarity felt by individuals worldwide toward the plight of Palestinians. This support has been further reflected in our community through the organization of advocacy groups like Hawaii For Palestine, Rise For Palestine, and the Hawaii chapter of Jewish Voice for Peace. It is imperative that policymakers heed the resounding demands of the public and take immediate action by supporting this resolution to secure a ceasefire, ensuring the safety and well-being of all Palestinians affected by genocide in Gaza.

Mahalo for your support,
Caroline Chowdhury

LATE

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 9:09:02 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Maddie Zi-Ling Chang	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is Maddie and I am a middle schooler. We need a ceasefire and a free Palestine.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 9:10:34 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Melisa Orozco Vargas	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As a tax paying resident of Hawai'i and citizen of the United States of America, living in the illegally occupied Kingdom of Hawai'i, I refuse to have my tax dollars fund the genocide of the Palestinian people in Gaza.

I strongly and wholeheartedly urge the Hawai'i State legislature to support the resolution for immediate and permanent CEASEFIRE.

Save the innocent people of Gaza from more slaughter and suffering. Free Palestine.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 9:19:15 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jennifer Lee	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am testifying in strong support of SCR13/SR6. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence (genocide!) continues.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 9:20:36 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Margaret Prusaczyk	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Members of the Committee,

I am testifying in strong support of SCR13 and SR6. People have suffered immensely and will continue to suffer for a generation because of this war. A ceasefire is an opportunity to begin to move forward. A ceasefire allows a genocide to make a halt. A ceasefire brings forth an attempt to begin negotiations for hostage release. A ceasefire allows for communications to begin cultivating a path forward without unnecessary bloodshed. It is time to put an end to the brutalization of a culture.

Mahalo nui,

Margaret Prusaczyk

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 9:28:06 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
FRANCIS CAMUSO	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Elefante, and to the members on The Committee of Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs:

I, FRANCIS CAMUSO wholeheartedly support the resolution, SCR13, calling for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza. Palestinians have endured countless massacres by Israel since 1948, and repeated ceasefire attempts have only resulted in further brutal occupation and the murder of Palestinians. Even before October 2023, Palestine has been characterized as the largest open-air prison in the world subjected to the militarization of Israel's imperial surveillance state. The full blockade on Gaza has led to starvation, lack of medical supplies, and unbearable living conditions under harsh military control. Despite extreme acts of protest by American citizens like Aaron Bushnell, who tragically self-immolated to draw attention to this crisis, the American government continues to support and fund the ongoing genocide. Over 30,000 Gazans have been massacred, hospitals bombed, and humanitarian aid blockaded, resembling nothing short of modern-day concentration camps. President Biden's stance on hostage negotiations, shifting responsibility onto Hamas despite previous offers from them, in addition to directly funding Israeli military operations is a blatant disregard for human lives and perpetuates this cycle of violence. It is imperative that we demand an end to this senseless bloodshed and advocate for a just and lasting peace in the region.

The crisis in Gaza holds significant relevance to Hawai'i, as another nation that understands the impact of settler-colonial occupation. Shockingly, Israel's bombings have ravaged over 70% of Gazan homes since October, resulting in the tragic loss of over 30,000 Palestinian lives, funded in part by Hawai'i's tax dollars. To further contextualize this statistic, it is important to note that the size of the Gaza strip is comparable to half the size of Molokai. Despite the commendable call for a ceasefire by Senator Mazie Hirono on February 14th, 2024, it's concerning that she has accepted substantial contributions totaling \$50,100 and allocated millions of dollars annually from Hawai'i's tax coffers to the Israeli military. Furthermore, a disheartening revelation from opensecrets.org unveils that several politicians representing Hawai'i, including Tulsi Gabbard, Ed Case, Jill Tokuda, Kai Kahele, and Neil Abercrombie, have received funding from pro-Israel organizations. This nexus of financial ties raises questions about the alignment of interests and priorities. The recent Democratic Caucus on March 6th, where an unprecedented 29% of voters chose "Uncommitted", underscores the growing unease and desire for change among Hawai'i's

electorate. It's time for our representatives to heed the call for justice, to reevaluate their allegiances, and to stand firmly for peace and human rights, both locally and globally.

The widespread public support for a ceasefire in Palestine is unmistakable and underscores the urgency of ending the ongoing violence in Gaza. Since October 2023, numerous public protests have erupted globally and in Hawai'i, with voices from all corners of society demanding an end to the bloodshed and suffering endured by Palestinians. Notably, on January 28th, over 3,700 peaceful protestors, predominantly Hawai'i residents, gathered to convey a powerful message in the streets of Waikiki: it's time to halt the war on Palestine. Their collective call for peace resonated deeply, highlighting the empathy and solidarity felt by individuals worldwide toward the plight of Palestinians. This support has been further reflected in our community through the organization of advocacy groups like Hawai'i For Palestine, Rise For Palestine, and the Hawai'i chapter of Jewish Voice for Peace. It is imperative that policymakers heed the resounding demands of the public and take immediate action by supporting this resolution to secure a ceasefire, ensuring the safety and well-being of all Palestinians affected by genocide in Gaza.

Mahalo for your support,

FRANCIS CAMUSO

LATE

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of SCR13. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct. 7, 2023, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food, and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

As a Native Hawaiian, I support SCR13 because the action we take now, against the Genocide happening to Palestinian people, will set a precedent in America and among the islands of the true value we place on native people, knowledge, culture, and rights. As native peoples, we cannot allow such atrocities to occur in the Gaza Strip against Palestinians even if they are across the world. Native people deserve the right to live in peace and Native children deserve the right to grow up and experience the world.

Thank you for your consideration,

Carmen Williams



JOSH FROST

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Friday, March 8, 2024

SCR13 / SR6

Testifying In Support

LATE

Aloha Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Elefante and members of the Public Safety and Intergovernmental and Military Affairs Committee:

I am Jewish. And I acknowledge the goal of Hamas is the eradication of Jews and the Jewish State. But my Judaism will not and cannot excuse Israel's vengeful over-reaction and retaliation against Hamas for their attack on October 7th.

As a human and citizen of the world, I will not and cannot support nor condone the egregiously bloody and senseless violence being waged against the people of Gaza in the name of self-preservation.

As a pacifist and someone who does not acknowledge the notion of "just war," the violence committed by Hamas against Israelis cannot be condoned. But to compare the actions of Hamas on equal footing with that of a nation with 17th most powerful military in the world.¹

That Hamas shields itself behind innocent Palestinians cannot excuse Israel's brutal assault.

Just last night, President Biden acknowledged that 30,000 innocent Palestinians have been killed since the beginning of this senseless conflict. Any who believes the Israeli IDF can eradicate Hamas in Gaza is either naive or using that goal as an excuse to wage war against a helpless people. Violence begets violence. Those Palestinians who somehow survive are just as likely to seek vengeance against Israel's most recent acts of cruelty.

from an Israeli leader and military hell-bent on war. This cannot be the solution. After all the senseless killing comes to an end, however long it takes to get to that point, talking will come next. Diplomacy will come next to settle the terms of the ceasefire.

Pressure needs to be exerted by the United States, Israel's closest ally. We need our congressional delegation to stand up for the innocent lives under assault, support in the

¹ <https://www.globalfirepower.com/countries-listing.php>

strongest terms a ceasefire, and bring an end to the brutality and cruelty of Israel and the IDF.

Should your eyes come to rest momentarily on my testimony, please take a few extra minutes and watch this video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BJP9o4BEzil>. Dr. Who is one of my favorite science fiction shows. In this clip, he talks about the senselessness of war. The context isn't important, but it truly reflects my own thinking on war in general and the current conflict in Gaza.

Please support this resolution and add your voices to the chorus calling for an end to the current violence taking place in Gaza.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 9:50:08 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Meghan Inabinet	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support SCR13 because as a chronically ill, immune compromised and disabled American citizen, I do not approve of spending our tax dollars to support a genocide of any people. I grieve for the lives of my fellow disabled people in Palestine who can no longer even find refuge and care in a hospital. For those made disabled by weapons we gave, or paid for, to Israel. For those who have lost not only homes and possessions, but their families as well. There is simply no justification for spending US tax dollars to fund a genocide as over 1 million Americans have died of COVID-19, with nearly 2000 adding to the toll every week. It is absurd to me that giving Israel money to wipe out their neighbors is considered worthy of US tax money, but any sort of public health mitigations during a global Pandemic is not. A cease fire is the very least we could do for both US citizens and Palestinians.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 9:52:39 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Diliaur Tellei	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I 100% strongly SUPPORT this resolution calling for a permanent ceasefire in Gaza for all the reasons outlined in the resolution and more and strongly urge the Senate and especially my rep, Sen. Carol Fukunaga, to support and pass this resolution. Mahalo.

LATE

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 9:57:02 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Christopher Boscole	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

No more US aid support for Israel to us US weapons to commit mass war crimes of genocide as well as displacement of almost 2 million people and the worst humanitarian mad made disaster in recent history. This war must stop immedietly and Israel must allow humanitarian aid and the Palenstine people must be protected and recognized - only a two state solution will bring peace.

LATE

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 10:06:39 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Greta Anderson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

For 5 months the world has watched the densely crowded bisieged Gaza strip, already suffering greatly because of the Israeli blockade of their land, undergo indiscriminate bombing of homes, schools, and hospitals. The vast majority of the people are in catastrophic hunger levels due to aid being denied to pass through. The vast majority of residents have been displaced and living in terrible camp situations without electricity, running water, clean drinking water, and protection from winter weather.

In short, there is no one protecting this extremely vulnerable population, 40% who are children. The USA has a responsibility as a member of the Genocide convention, to prevent genocide. The USA has tremendous influence and power to call for a permanent ceasefire and stop sending military aid to continue this horrific humanitarian crisis.

A permanent ceasefire will release the hostages and get aid back in. And provide relief to Israelis and Palestinians alike.

There is no other option. Either the genocide is stopped or it ends with 2 million killed or starved. A ceasefire saves lives and paves a pathway to Middle East peace and security.

Thank you for voicing this to the US administration. It is absolutely essential that America support international law as provisioned by the International Court of Justice.

Thank you,

Greta

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 10:12:08 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Amabel lin	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

All these lives depend on your one choice to call for a ceasefire. This is your kuleana. You're ancestors are watching. We all are watching and depending on you. Mahalo.

LATE

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 10:19:35 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dylan Fujii	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Elefante, and to the members on The Committee of Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs:

I, Dylan Fujii, wholeheartedly support the resolution, SCR13, calling for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza. Palestinians have endured countless massacres by Israel since 1948, and repeated ceasefire attempts have only resulted in further brutal occupation and the murder of Palestinians. Even before October 2023, Palestine has been characterized as the largest open-air prison in the world subjected to the militarization of Israel's imperial surveillance state. The full blockade on Gaza has led to starvation, lack of medical supplies, and unbearable living conditions under harsh military control. Despite extreme acts of protest by American citizens like Aaron Bushnell, who tragically self-immolated to draw attention to this crisis, the American government continues to support and fund the ongoing genocide. Over 30,000 Gazans have been massacred, hospitals bombed, and humanitarian aid blockaded, resembling nothing short of modern-day concentration camps. President Biden's stance on hostage negotiations, shifting responsibility onto Hamas despite previous offers from them, in addition to directly funding Israeli military operations is a blatant disregard for human lives and perpetuates this cycle of violence. It is imperative that we demand an end to this senseless bloodshed and advocate for a

just and lasting peace in the region.

The crisis in Gaza holds significant relevance to Hawai‘i, as another nation that understands the impact of settler-colonial occupation. Shockingly, Israel’s bombings have ravaged over 70% of Gazan homes since October, resulting in the tragic loss of over 30,000 Palestinian lives, funded in part by Hawai‘i’s tax dollars. To further contextualize this statistic, it is important to note that the size of the Gaza strip is comparable to half the size of Molokai. Despite the commendable call for a ceasefire by Senator Mazie Hirono on February 14th, 2024, it’s concerning that she has accepted substantial contributions totaling \$50,100 and allocated millions of dollars annually from Hawai‘i’s tax coffers to the Israeli military. Furthermore, a disheartening revelation from [opensecrets.org](https://www.opensecrets.org) unveils that several politicians representing Hawai‘i, including Tulsi Gabbard, Ed Case, Jill Tokuda, Kai Kahele, and Neil Abercrombie, have received funding from pro-Israel organizations. This nexus of financial ties raises questions about the alignment of interests and priorities. The recent Democratic Caucus on March 6th, where an unprecedented 29% of voters chose “Uncommitted”, underscores the growing unease and desire for change among Hawai‘i’s electorate. It’s time for our representatives to heed the call for justice, to reevaluate their allegiances, and to stand firmly for peace and human rights, both locally and globally.

The widespread public support for a ceasefire in Palestine is unmistakable and underscores the urgency of ending the ongoing violence in Gaza. Since October 2023, numerous public protests have erupted globally and in Hawai‘i, with voices from all corners of society demanding an end to the bloodshed and suffering endured by Palestinians. Notably, on January 28th, over 3,700 peaceful protestors, predominantly Hawai‘i residents, gathered to convey a powerful message in the streets of Waikiki: it’s time to halt the war on Palestine. Their collective call for peace resonated deeply, highlighting the empathy and solidarity felt by individuals worldwide toward

the plight of Palestinians. This support has been further reflected in our community through the organization of advocacy groups like Hawai'i For Palestine, Rise For Palestine, and the Hawai'i chapter of Jewish Voice for Peace. It is imperative that policymakers heed the resounding demands of the public and take immediate action by supporting this resolution to secure a ceasefire, ensuring the safety and well-being of all Palestinians affected by genocide in Gaza.

Mahalo for your support,

Dylan Fujii

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 10:21:11 AM
Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Joseph Wat	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Horrified by the United States' support for violent oppression and dispossession of the Palestinian people. Demand a ceasefire now.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 10:24:17 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kris Bordessa	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am testifying in strong support of SCR13/SR6. The escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas has taken a devastating toll on civilians. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are **women and children**. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive.

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

LATE

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 10:24:19 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Shayna May Udani	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

My name is Shayna May Udani, and I am testifying in strong support of [SCR13/SR6]. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented to witness as the world watched the numbers climb with each cruelly passing month. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since October 7th, 2023, with the majority of them being women and children. Whole families and bloodlines are being snuffed out under the attacks. Another 70,000 civilians have been wounded, and thousands more are unaccounted for, and labeled missing as their bodies lie under the rubble of Gaza.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing *indiscriminate* rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk. Even so, their efforts to retrieve such hostages are dangerous and reckless and lack care for other civilian lives in Gaza.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food, and fuel. This has left the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get *worse* if the fighting does not stop *immediately*.

The innocent children of Gaza are starving and suffering from malnutrition. Those with special diets or needs are especially harmed by this situation. Patients with illnesses such as cancer can no longer receive treatment. It is not only military attacks harming civilians, but an imposed period of no resources, food, or aid being allowed into Gaza.

Each video I see, wherein children are suffering and used to the harsh conditions of conflict, reminds me of my five younger siblings. I look at the round faces of Palestinian children and imagine: what if that young child was my younger brother? What if it was my three-year-old brother playing in that mess of concrete and metal, trying to make the best of a situation? What if that young girl was my ten-year-old sister? Where after her death, pictures of her in princess gowns are shared to celebrate her life which was cut too short at the hands of a conflict she never had a voice in? How much have the Palestinians grieved and lost all this time? In my state of empathy, and with my values of child welfare, I cannot bear to witness children continue to live

as they do in the occupied strip of Gaza. With my own borrowed tears, I admire the strength and immeasurable faith of the Palestinian people.

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza, and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water, and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel, and equipment that they desperately need and to repair damaged wards. With the lack of working ambulances in Gaza and the continued account of injuries and health conditions, this aid is urgently needed before it is too late to save those currently at most risk of death.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities if not addressed.

To tackle the root causes of this conflict: now more than ever, Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians needs to be dismantled. That cannot be accomplished as long as this horrible violence continues.

So please, hear and listen to the voices of Hawai'i. *See that we stand with the Palestinian people.*

Date: 3/7/24

A REQUEST THAT YOU PROMPTLY ASK PRESIDENT BIDEN TO IMMEDIATELY CALL, IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL OF THE U.N. , FOR A PERMANENT CEASEFIRE IN GAZA , AND TO SIMULTANEOUSLY END ALL ARMS SHIPMENTS TO ISRAEL TO EFFECTUATE THE CEASEFIRE.

The Issue. Hamas' attack on some 2,000 Israeli civilians and soldiers in Southern Israel on October 7 of last year, together with Israel's subsequent and massive bombing of Gaza with the intent of displacing and/or annihilating its Palestinians population, have shocked the world which, incredibly, now sees the crime of genocide inflicted on yet another semitic people: the Palestinians who are, ethnically and linguistically, the cousins of Jews. Not counting those who lie missing under the rubble of former homes and offices, over 30,000 Palestinians have died in Gaza. Their deaths, turn, are reportedly generating rising counts of bursts of outrage against Jews around the world by folks who mistakenly conflate Zionism, which is expansionist at core, with Judaism, which is centrally humanist.

The resolution. While an immediate cease-fire in Gaza is crucial to arrest the death and injury rate there now powered by both warfare and famine, it will also provide a space for negotiating a true peace. Such a peace will only come if the world, via the UN, supports a formula for the "day after the conflict" that received the equal authorship of the contestant parties while keeping "great power" interests at bay. In brief, U.S. action is needed now, for an urgent ceasefire. Not "the day after the conflict" when outside powers only help themselves.

Date: 3/7/24

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SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 10:31:37 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Monique DeSimone	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Committee Members,

I'm testifying in strong support of SCR13. With over 30,000 Palestinian civilians killed since Oct 7, we need to end this unprecedented level of violence that has largely impacted innocent women and children. We are now facing a humanitarian catastrophe with Israel blocking the entry of goods, with over 2 million people in Rafah facing starvation in addition to the ongoing bombardment from the IDF. A ceasefire would allow for much need aid to reach Gaza and provide an opportunity for negotiation for a permanent cease in violence.

Dismantling Isreal's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more dire than ever and cannot be addressed if this violence is allowed to continue.

-Monique DeSimone

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 10:33:40 AM
Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Hana-Lei Ji	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of SCR13. The genocide currently occurring in Gaza is unacceptable, and the United States is complicit. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed and another 70,000 have been wounded. Thousands more are missing, and thousands are starving in Gaza. This level of casualties and disregard for humanity is abhorrent.

A permanent ceasefire is needed as soon as possible. This humanitarian crisis has been long ignored, especially due to the United States' support of Israel. To address Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians and horrifying subjection of mass punishment against civilians, please join the fight to call for an immediate ceasefire.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify,

Hana-Lei Ji

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 10:35:56 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Maezel Baria	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I, Maezel Baria, wholeheartedly support the resolution, SCR13, calling for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza. Palestinians have endured countless massacres by Israel since 1948, and repeated ceasefire attempts have only resulted in further brutal occupation and the murder of Palestinians. Even before October 2023, Palestine has been characterized as the largest open-air prison in the world subjected to the militarization of Israel's imperial surveillance state. The full blockade on Gaza has led to starvation, lack of medical supplies, and unbearable living conditions under harsh military control. Despite extreme acts of protest by American citizens like Aaron Bushnell, who tragically self-immolated to draw attention to this crisis, the American government continues to support and fund the ongoing genocide. Over 30,000 Gazans have been massacred, hospitals bombed, and humanitarian aid blockaded, resembling nothing short of modern-day concentration camps. President Biden's stance on hostage negotiations, shifting responsibility onto Hamas despite previous offers from them, in addition to directly funding Israeli military operations is a blatant disregard for human lives and perpetuates this cycle of violence. It is imperative that we demand an end to this senseless bloodshed and advocate for a just and lasting peace in the region.

The crisis in Gaza holds significant relevance to Hawai'i, as another nation that understands the impact of settler-colonial occupation. Shockingly, Israel's bombings have ravaged over 70% of Gazan homes since October, resulting in the tragic loss of over 30,000 Palestinian lives, funded in part by Hawai'i's tax dollars. To further contextualize this statistic, it is important to note that the size of the Gaza strip is comparable to half the size of Molokai. Despite the commendable call for a ceasefire by Senator Mazie Hirono on February 14th, 2024, it's concerning that she has accepted substantial contributions totaling \$50,100 and allocated millions of dollars annually from Hawai'i's tax coffers to the Israeli military. Furthermore, a disheartening revelation from opensecrets.org unveils that several politicians representing Hawai'i, including Tulsi Gabbard, Ed Case, Jill Tokuda, Kai Kahele, and Neil Abercrombie, have received funding from pro-Israel organizations. This nexus of financial ties raises questions about the alignment of interests and priorities. The recent Democratic Caucus on March 6th, where an unprecedented 29% of voters chose "Uncommitted", underscores the growing unease and desire for change among Hawai'i's electorate. It's time for our representatives to heed the call for justice, to reevaluate their allegiances, and to stand firmly for peace and human rights, both locally and globally.

The widespread public support for a ceasefire in Palestine is unmistakable and underscores the urgency of ending the ongoing violence in Gaza. Since October 2023, numerous public protests have erupted globally and in Hawai'i, with voices from all corners of society demanding an end

to the bloodshed and suffering endured by Palestinians. Notably, on January 28th, over 3,700 peaceful protestors, predominantly Hawai'i residents, gathered to convey a powerful message in the streets of Waikiki: it's time to halt the war on Palestine. Their collective call for peace resonated deeply, highlighting the empathy and solidarity felt by individuals worldwide toward the plight of Palestinians. This support has been further reflected in our community through the organization of advocacy groups like Hawai'i For Palestine, Rise For Palestine, and the Hawai'i chapter of Jewish Voice for Peace. It is imperative that policymakers heed the resounding demands of the public and take immediate action by supporting this resolution to secure a ceasefire, ensuring the safety and well-being of all Palestinians affected by genocide in Gaza.

Mahalo for your support,

Maezel Baria

LATE

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 10:36:25 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Barbara Polk	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please pass SCR13 calling on our Congressional delegation to support a resolution in Congress calling for a cease fire in the Israel/Gaza war. The US funding of Israel in this war, which costs Hawaii taxpayers a thousand dollars or more apiece, is clearly immoral and risks the possibility of a wider war in the Middle East as the US has begun bombing surrounding countries.

Not only have more than 30,000 Palestinians been killed and their cities and towns destroyed, but there are reports from aid agencies that **more than 17,000 wounded children no longer have any living relative!** The US is losing, or has lost, credibility throughout the world due to our funding of 65-80% of the war. PLease pass this resolution!

LATE

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 10:39:08 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Spencer Kelly	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I have been devastated by the scale of violence and destruction I've witnessed over the past 4 months of the US and Israel's genocide in Gaza. To say that this all started on October 7th is ignorant of the history of domination and oppression of Palestinians at the hands of Israel's illegal occupation of their land. Israel is now a pariah state in the world, due to its status as an apartheid government, the illegal expansion of settlements, the illegal military blockade of Gaza, and its routine bombardment of the Gaza strip to name a few. This is a genocide and ethnic cleansing of the Palestinian people by a right-wing extremist government, which is representative of a violent nationalist Jewish supremacist population in the state of Israel. To watch as our government aids them in their genocidal campaign, sending them billions of dollars a year of OUR tax money and military equipment to bomb innocent Palestinians, is outrageous. I will not lose my faith in humanity, but I must say, that this situation has pushed me to my limits.

- Almost 30,000 people have been killed.
- Including 12,300 CHILDREN have been killed.
- War crime: the use of white phosphorus on a civilian population
- War crime: Bombing and assault of every hospital in Gaza.
- War crime: Bombing and assault of Aid stations.
- War crime: Bombing and assault of schools.
- War crime: Bombing and assault of refugee camps.
- War crime: Bombing and assault of mosques and churches.

We now watch as the aid getting into Gaza is blocked by Israel and radicalized Zionists. We are watching as hundreds of thousands of Palestinians starve to death or die of disease in the Gaza Strip. I demand that my government stands up for humanity in this moment.

I URGE MEMBERS OF HAWAII'S CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO SUPPORT THE CEASEFIRE IN GAZA RESOLUTION INTRODUCED BY THE UNITED STATE SCONGRESSWOMAN CORI BUSH.

Mahalo for your time,
Spencer

LATE

Aloha Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Elefante, and to the members on The Committee of Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs:

I, Nikki Son Nakamura am a resident born and raised in Honolulu, Hawaii, a descendant of plantation workers on my fathers side, and a Korean immigrant mom, with quarter indigenous blood. I am submitting this letter in support of the resolution, SCR13. The crisis in Gaza has shaken me to the core and activated a new sense of urgency within me to take action and speak truth to power and call for our elected officials to do better. I am incredibly discontent with the current allocations of my tax dollars being used to fund the genocide of the people of Palestine. This cycle of violence must be stopped and the US needs to call for a permanent ceasefire. I voted undecided on March 6th because I wanted to send a clear message to the Biden administration and all the Democratic Party elected officials that this is unacceptable. I refuse to vote for anyone who is perpetuating hate and imperial violence and will continue to speak out and use my platform to spread truth and activate others to follow suit. The USA is the most deadly threat to humanity and my home, Hawaii, is complicit in funding the violence in the Middle East.

While doing my research on this matter it's come to my attention that members of our local reps; Tulsi Gabbard, Ed Case, Jill Tokuda, Kai Kahele, and Neil Abercrombie, have received funding from pro-Israel organizations. How is this okay? This is clearly corruption and it's no secret that our political system is broken. I attended a house city council meeting last year in regards to the topic of "affordable housing" and the harm it has on our local housing market. At the meeting all but one (yay Augie 🙌) of the elected house reps had taken upwards of thousands of dollars from developers. AUWE!

Millennials rank in at 22% of the population of Oahu and I know my younger peers in the Gen Z age bracket share the same sentiment of discontent with our governing body. We were raised in a time where we have access to the internet and have the ability to connect with the world and access information across various platforms. Using our tools, millennials and Gen Z are prepared to leverage our voting power to hold our government accountable. I have very little trust in working with the current corrupt officials and will be actively engaged this political season to elect representatives who have shown they value people over profits through committed actions.

Returning to the matter of Gaza, our locals have taken to the street and shown this is a matter that holds significant weight in the minds and hearts of our community. I once again use my voice to say: enough is enough! Permanent ceasefire NOW!

Mahalo for reading my testimony,
Nikki Son Nakamura

LATE

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 10:40:42 AM
Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Yurika Hatsumura	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hello,

I would like to support a ceasefire in the conflict going on in Gaza. The amount of death the regular civilian people, men women and children, have gone through uninterrupted for long enough. Lets fix our problems without violence.

Thank you,

Yurika H

LATE

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 10:44:38 AM
Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jasmine Umeno	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of SCR13. Since October 7, 2023, an unprecedented degree of death and suffering has befallen the Palestinian people, with the majority being women and children. In addition to a staggering estimate of 40,000 casualties, Palestinians are facing a extreme lack of bare essentials including food, water, medical care, and shelter, leading to more and more preventable death from famine, disease, and the harshest of living conditions on top of the violence they face on a daily basis.

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Gaza Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel’s system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

Despite Hawai’i being on the other side of the world from Palestine, the complicity of the United States in this humanitarian crisis and the use of federal funds to provide weapons to Israel obligates us to act. Passing SCR13 will demonstrate that Hawai’i, with our own painful history of settler colonialism, does not condone the ethnic cleansing and genocide of an indigenous civilian population.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony on this crucially important bill.

LATE

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 10:45:06 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sydney Lynch	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I thank you for taking time to read what I am about to say.

I don't do formalities well, nonetheless in this landscape. So I will speak plainly, but with respect.

What are we doing?

This whole world is suffering. I know many from Hawai'i too has recently suffered as well. I am by no means native to Hawai'i but I did spend the first 4 years as a baby in Honolulu. I also am indigenous from South America, born into a family who lost their connection to our culture because of colonization. Right now we have a chance to put an end for others trapped in such demonic violence, violence that our all of ancestors and our very spirits know in some way, shape, or shadow. We all have a choice right now to help prevent any more suffering, even if it's a short time, we and you all, have that choice.

So what are we doing?

I don't need to give specifics because we know them. We know what the Isreali government is doing is unjustified and it is absolutely a strategic genocide. It is evident and without a doubt.

Please, for the sake of all of us who know this violence, rise above and do what is right and push for a permanent ceasefire resolution. I do not claim to understand politics at all, but all I know is that those who have been given power is being called to walk in justice and do what is needed to break this cycle. Please.

Sincerely,

Sydney Lynch

LATE

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 10:48:34 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Juliana Sebben	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

My name is Juliana Sebben and I am testifying in strong support of SCR13. I have watched in horror the past four months as Israel has responded to the threat of Hamas with unprecented and unparralled violence against the Palestinian people. Every time I think it can't get worse, it does - some 40,000 Palestinians murdered since October 7th, so many of them children; millions displaced with no hope for return to homes which have been reduced to rubble; hundreds of thousands facing death by starvation as a famine forced upon them by Israel devastates the land. Israel has committed war crime after war crime, has violated one international law after the next in its targeted attacks against unarmed civilians, the disabled, children, journalists, and medics -- and has done so for many years prior to the October 7th attack by Hamas. Israel acts with the vehement terrorism and nightmarish violence that it does because it knows it is protected and supported by the United States of America. We as Americans have the blood of the Palestinian people on our hands, and a responsibility to stand up for them that has gone for much too long ignored.

SCR13 is a first and necessary step towards remedying the situation in Gaza. An immediate ceasefire will allow for hostage negotiations, enable agencies to get life-saving aid into Gaza, and will allow for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes that have been committed by all parties.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict by dismantling Israel's devastatingly violent system of oppression and apartheid imposed upon Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. The rest of the world has stepped up to condemn Israel for its atrocities. The United States, as a country supposedly committed to justice and freedom for all, must now take a stand as well.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 10:50:45 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Olivia Robert	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of SCR13. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on

Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

LATE

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 10:55:52 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jason Monson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am submitting testimony regarding the escalating crisis in Gaza and Israel. Since October 7, the situation has rapidly deteriorated, resulting in a significant loss of life and widespread suffering. It is imperative that we take immediate action to address this crisis. I implore you to advocate for a ceasefire to halt the violence and ensure the safety of civilians. Additionally, we must prioritize the delivery of humanitarian aid to those in desperate need.

The current situation in Gaza is dire. Over a million Palestinians are trapped without access to safe shelter, while civilian casualties continue to mount. The destruction of critical infrastructure has exacerbated the humanitarian crisis, leaving millions at risk of starvation and lacking basic necessities like clean water and medical assistance.

To address these urgent issues, I urge you to support the following demands:

- Publicly call for an immediate and lasting ceasefire, emphasizing the importance of de-escalation and restraint by all parties involved.
- Advocate for the unhindered delivery of humanitarian aid into Gaza, including essential items such as food, water, and medical supplies.
- Call upon all parties to adhere to international humanitarian law, ensuring the protection of civilians and respecting the rights of all individuals affected by the conflict.
- Prioritize diplomatic efforts to secure the immediate release of all hostages and detainees, promoting dialogue and negotiation as a means of resolution.
- Address the root causes of the conflict by advocating for an end to the occupation and working towards a future where Israelis and Palestinians can coexist peacefully, with their rights and security guaranteed. Having studied in Jerusalem, I've witnessed firsthand the hardships faced by Palestinians for decades, and it deeply troubles me.

Your leadership and support are crucial in bringing about a resolution to this crisis and alleviating the suffering of innocent civilians. I urge you to stand in solidarity with those affected by this conflict and to use your influence to promote peace, justice, and humanitarian assistance.

Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 10:57:34 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Megan de Castro	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of SCR13/SR6. The indiscriminate and unyielding attacks by Israel on the occupied Gaza Strip have taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza. At the same time, Israel holds no value for their own civilians, as some 200 Israeli hostages have been threatened by the massacre and others were killed by the IDF. Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has deliberately blocked the entry of goods, including water, food, and fuel--leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. Children are withering away due to malnutrition. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only continue to get worse if we fail to put a stop to these atrocities immediately. A ceasefire would halt the unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza, and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water, and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel, and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards. A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities. Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

The people of the world are counting on you. Permanent ceasefire now.

LATE

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 11:04:49 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sydney de Castro	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of SCR13/SR6. The indiscriminate and unyielding attacks by Israel on the occupied Gaza Strip have taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza. At the same time, Israel holds no value for their own civilians, as some 200 Israeli hostages have been threatened by the massacre and others were killed by the IDF. Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has deliberately blocked the entry of goods, including water, food, and fuel--leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. Children are withering away due to malnutrition. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only continue to get worse if we fail to put a stop to these atrocities immediately. A ceasefire would halt the unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza, and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water, and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel, and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards. A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities. Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

The people of the world are counting on you. Permanent ceasefire now.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 11:13:21 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dylan Sollenberger	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of SCR13/SR6. The indiscriminate and unyielding attacks by Israel on the occupied Gaza Strip have taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza. At the same time, Israel holds no value for their own civilians, as some 200 Israeli hostages have been threatened by the massacre and others were killed by the IDF. Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has deliberately blocked the entry of goods, including water, food, and fuel--leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. Children are withering away due to malnutrition. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only continue to get worse if we fail to put a stop to these atrocities immediately. A ceasefire would halt the unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza, and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water, and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel, and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards. A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities. Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

The people of the world are counting on you. Permanent ceasefire now.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 11:26:43 AM
Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kathryn Kane	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Members of the Committee,

I am testifying in strong support of [SCR13/SR6]. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza. Even more people of Gaza are suffering from the embargo on food, clean water, and aid. This situation is a humanitarian and moral disaster.

Though I am concerned that 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups are held in Gaza and remain in danger, this does not justify Israeli actions. Furthermore, the ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk and destabilizes the region.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards. A ceasefire would provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

LATE

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 11:28:23 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ranyah Lycka	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

Thank you for scheduling this important resolution, and for giving the community the chance to testify. With all my heart, I am in full support of a permanent ceasefire.

Over the past few months, your constituents have organized dozens of rallies across the archipelago in all four primary counties, multiple teach-ins, and a thousands-strong march through Waikiki. They have sent thousands of emails and made thousands of calls to elected officials at both the federal and state level - including all of you - making it known that Hawaii stands with Palestine.

As I have watched my family suffer overseas in Palestine for the last several months I have seen the people of Hawaii take a firm stance in solidarity with the Palestinian people. If the Hawai'i State Legislature were to adopt this resolution, it would send a signal to the congressional delegation and the Biden Administration that Hawai'i and its people demand an immediate end to the indiscriminate killing of Palestinian civilians in Gaza, the West Bank and throughout Occupied Palestinian Territories.

Today is International Women's day please consider the overwhelming death toll on the civilians in Gaza has been on women and children, and the rate of civilian casualties is unprecedented in the 21st Century.

LATE

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 11:29:59 AM
Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michelle Young	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support actions like a permanent ceasefire, restored humanitarian aid to Gaza, international enforcement of humanitarian laws, and stopping funding Israeli military or sending weapons. It seems like Israel is being indiscriminate with who they bomb in Palestine and I'm concerned for all civilians but especially the children who have no part in terrorism yet are being traumatized daily while the world watches and the USA supports.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 11:35:57 AM
Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lily Gavagan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

There is no denying that hundreds upon thousands of innocent civilians in Palestine are facing one of the most serious challenges humanity has seen. Thousands of children, women, and men are being massacred each day we stay complacent in this matter and things will only get worse the more we stand still. We can not sit on the sidelines, we must rise up to protect our fellow human beings who are being denied all basic necessities, housing, and protection. They need a ceasefire now.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 11:44:57 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Catarina	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of SCR13/SR6. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on

Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 11:45:32 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kaleiheana-a-Pohaku Stormcrow	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha mai kākou,

I am writing in strong support of SCR13, calling for a permanent ceasefire in Gaza. The civilian death toll is overwhelming, and the US government is the only thing that can make this stop. Most of those killed have been women and children, and many of those that survive will be permanently disabled and traumatized. This has been allowed to go on for far too long. Please make it stop.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

ke aloha,
Kaleiheana Stormcrow

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 11:49:34 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mara Hanson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the Public Safety and Intergovernmental and Military Affairs Committee!

I am submitting testimony in strong support of SCR13/SR6. The atrocious escalation of the violence and cruelty toward Palestinian civilians in Gaza is unconscionable. The number of civilian casualties in unprecedented in modern times, and the targeting of hospitals, refugee camps, residences and other necessary infrastructure by Israeli forces is beyond atrocious and criminal. We are now seeing the bodies of children who have starved to death because of the cruel practice of closing the border crossings into Gaza that Israel has inflicted as collective punishment against women and children and other innocent civilians caught up in the conflict.

At the same time, a greater number of the Israeli and other international hostages that Hamas took in their attack on October 7th have been killed in the hostilities than have been saved.

A ceasefire, with the opening of boarder crossings for a far greater number of aid deliveries to get through to the Gazan civilians, would put a stop to the deaths and cruelties inflicted on everyone involved.

Thank you for taking this brave step to call for a ceasefire in Gaza. Seeing Hawaii officially stand with the native and displaced people of Palestine is the absolutely correct move, bearing our own state's history in mind. I support this action with my whole heart, and only wish I had heard about this action sooner so that I could have gotten my testimony in earlier.

Mahalo and I look forward to the prompt passage of this resolution!

LATE

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 11:50:59 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Vince Kana`i Dodge	Testifying for `Ai Pohaku- The Stone Eaters	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha legislators and representatives of the people of Hawaii!

The war in Gaza is a slaughter of primarily women and children- Noncombatants. Surely you will join myself, our Ohana and business partners in supporting peace and justice for the Israelis and the Palestinian peoples by supporting a permanent and immediate cease fire in Gaza. On behalf of my Ohana and business Partners please support SCR 13.

We have been witnessing the destruction of Gaza and it's inhabitants over the last five months and it's like watching 300 Lahaina wildfires. It's horrific. It's traumatic. So much loss of life and destruction. And it affects us deeply- just like the Lāhainā wildfire because whether we believe it or not, we are all connected.

We live here in the land of Aloha. It is a gift and it comes with Kuleana. We must stand for justice and peace, for life and the well-being of all people and all `Aina. We cannot support the slaughter of over 30,000 Palestinians- Plausible genocide, and the calculated starvation of the people in Gaza. We stand for an immediate permanent cease-fire, release of all the hostages, both Israeli and Palestinian, a path for both peoples to live in peace.

If violence is the solution to the conflict between the Israelis and the Palestinians, then their conflicts would've been solved long ago. Obviously violence does not/will not work. We must convince President Biden of this. We must stop sending military aid to Israel. The US is the biggest supporter of Israel's military, and as such, we are ready have much blood on our hands. No more blood on our hands. No more military aid to Israel.

Supporting SCR 13 is important. It is a message of aloha. Aloha for Justice. Aloha for life. Aloha for the one home that we all share- Mama `Aina- Mother Earth.

Please support SCR 13.

Aloha Nui!

Vince Kana'i Dodge

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 11:51:08 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kyla Smith	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hello Members of the Committee,

I, as a concerned citizen, am testifying in strong support of SCR13.

Since October 7, 2023 tens of thousands of civilians in Gaza have been killed, the majority of them women and children. Thousands more have been wounded and even more are still missing and unaccounted for under the rubble of Gaza.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food, and fuel leaving the two million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's sixteen-year-long illegal blockage on the occupied Gaza strip will only worsen if the fighting doesn't cease immediately.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of the hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations into the war crimes committed by all parties to take place.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

Thank you for your time, and I urge you as members of Congress to use your power to support the resolution for a ceasefire in Gaza.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 11:55:19 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Harmony Laufou	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha member of the committee,

My name is Harmony Laufou, and I would like to voice my full support on SCR13. What is happening in Palestine is devastating, to say the least, and has been going on for far too long. Hundreds, if not thousands, across the state of Hawaii have shown their support for Palestine by way of protests, rallies, concerts, and calling our state officials - it's time we call for a ceasefire *now*. This is no war, this is actual genocide.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 11:56:54 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jamie Nicole Echols	Individual	Support	In Person

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of SR6. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

The things I've witnessed live from Gaza should have everyone with any humanity screaming cease fire.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes

committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

Mothers, infants, and children are being bombed while out in the desert while freezing and starving in tents! This is beyond cruel and inhumane and zionist sooldiers are laughing cheering and making memes.

None of us are free until all of us are free.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 12:07:22 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Elizabeth J. Rago	Individual	Support	In Person

Comments:

Aloha Committee members,

Please accept this written testimony in strong support of SCR13 to support the resolution submitted by Congresswoman Cori Bush to support a permanent ceasefire in Gaza.

Thank you for your consideration.

Elizabeth J. Rago

LATE

RE: Testimony of Sonja Giardina

Strong Support for SCR13/SR6: The Hawai‘i Ceasefire Resolution

Senate Committee on Public Safety and Intergovernmental and Military Affairs

March 8, 2024

Aloha kākou,

Thank you for scheduling this important hearing, and providing an opportunity for receiving community testimony. I am in full support of this resolution.

Over the past few months, your constituents have demonstrated a commitment towards working for a lasting ceasefire in Gaza through organizing rallies, holding teach-ins, and bringing thousands to the streets of Waikīkī in protest. You, and other elected officials have received thousands of emails and calls demonstrating this community's solidarity with Palestine.

On Tuesday, March 5, the Hawai‘i County Council Government Operations and External Affairs Committee unanimously passed an amended Resolution No. 449-24, which was strengthened to call for a ceasefire in Gaza. This resolution was voted on after hearing numerous testimonies from Hawai‘i Island residents expressing the need for a stronger peace resolution and an immediate ceasefire in Gaza in the wake of massive killing and destruction happening because of Israel’s unrelenting assault.

This county resolution calls on the State Legislature to adopt the Hawai‘i Ceasefire Resolution (SCR13/SR6), and we urge that the Hawai‘i State Legislature listen to this call. The Hawai‘i State Legislature should join its constituents in calling for an immediate, permanent ceasefire in Gaza, and negotiations for lasting peace and liberation for Palestinians.


The adoption of this resolution could send a signal to our federal representatives in Congress, along with the Biden Administration that Hawai‘i and its people demand an immediate end to the indiscriminate killing of Palestinian civilians in Gaza, the West Bank, and throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territories and Israel.

We have witnessed unfathomable killing and decimation during this assault on the Gaza strip. People are being killed not only from indiscriminate bombing, but from hunger, dehydration, and a lack of medical infrastructure. I have seen men, women, and children buried beneath rubble and missing limbs, with entire neighborhoods destroyed behind them. We have heard the calls for help from Hind Rajab, a five year old girl who saw her entire family killed around her by Israeli fire, and was later found dead after two weeks along with the dispatchers sent to rescue her. We have seen mothers, fathers, brothers and sisters scream and mourn their loved ones.

For how long can this genocide be live streamed to our devices before we act towards lasting change?

I implore you to pass this resolution to work towards a lasting liberation for Palestinian people.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sonja Giardina". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first letters of each word being capitalized and prominent.

Sonja Giardina

LATE

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 12:53:56 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Teani	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Ano 'ai,

I support SCR 13. We need an immediate ceasefire now.

Thank you.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 12:58:17 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
rose elovitz	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hello, my name is Rose Elovitz. As a witness to the brutal genocide waged against the Palestinians by the settler colonial state of Israel, I am appalled by you, my representatives, and your complacency. You hold a position of power to take action through governance; and hold Israel accountable for its unlawful, violent occupation of Palestinian land.

Instead, you ignore each gazan's cry for freedom from this holocaust.

By not fighting for a permanent ceasefire, you allow for our tax dollars to fund this war machine.

I feel compelled to remind you that it is not in your job description accept bribery money for your campaign funding and dreams of success. it is your duty to serve the people of your community and amplify our voices on the political stage. It is abundantly clear that we do not support the collective punishment of the Palestinian people and refuse to be complicit in Israel's apartheid regime.

Do your job and call for a permanent ceasefire today. We are watching.

Free Palestine

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 1:04:15 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Yasmine Romero	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support SCR13. We need a permanent ceasefire as soon as possible. Too many lives have been lost.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 1:20:17 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Joan Obra	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

As we continue to watch horrors mount in the Holy Land, I have been asking myself this question every day since October: What can I do to hold onto my humanity? Sometimes that means asking Congress to call for a ceasefire, for release of all hostages, for humanitarian aid, and for Palestinian self-determination. Sometimes that means supporting Jewish/Palestinian coalitions on the ground, so when the bombing finally ends, there will be someone left who can lead the healing.

Today, my humanity calls me to join other Hawai'i voices in strongly supporting SCR13/SR6. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Sincerely,
Joan Obra

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 1:27:54 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kenji Cataldo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support this call for our Hawai'i delegation to support the congressional resolution for a ceasefire in Gaza. We are complicit in the US-backed genocide perpetrated by Israel in Gaza. We must use every avenue to call on our elected leaders to exert their influence in support of a ceasefire and ultimately for peace, deoccupation, and justice.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 1:45:40 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Leah Myerson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To the Members of the Hawai'i State Legislature;

I write today to include my strong support of the urgency for a permanent and immediate ceasefire in Gaza. I write this as a Jewish woman who grew up in the synagogue and was raised to be a Zionist. When visiting Israel on my birthright trip in 2012 I learned about the Palestinians. I learned about the checkpoints and the surveillance. I learned about the constant state encouraged settler violence. I learned about the segregation of roads and their inability to move freely between their segmented land. I learned that I was taught lies about how Israel came to be in 1948. I was never taught about the people violently displaced to make room for the Jewish Homeland. Learning about the struggles of the Palestinian people while standing in Israel looking out over the settlements and being told it was all for us, led me to a profound disappointment and a realization that my people are doing to them what the world did to us. Up until this moment I mindlessly supported Israel. I share this with you because it is so important to understand how controlled our view of Israel is. We are taught to categorize all Palestinians as terrorists and that Israel must be in a constant state of defense and reminders of our history of suffering. We have become so desensitized to bombing children and hospitals as a result of this bias that speaking out against the bombing of children and hospitals has become taboo and now our free speech is being challenged.

I reject the idea that Israel existing makes Jews safe around the world. I have never felt more unsafe as a Jew than I do now that Israel is committing horrifying atrocities in the name of a Jewish homeland. This is not reflective of any of my Jewish values. I am horrified to know that the world is watching Israel ethnically cleanse Gaza, killing families in the most brutal of ways, and forcibly starving the population, while doing nothing. Humanity has been completely lost in the Israeli occupation and it is up to the world and the United States to put an end to the madness.

I implore this body to support an immediate and permanent ceasefire resolution in Gaza, send the message to Washington DC that Hawai'i will not stand by and watch a genocide.

Thank you for your time.

Leah Myerson

LATE

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 1:47:54 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Paul Gracie	Testifying for The Interfaith Alliance Hawai'i	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The Interfaith Alliance Hawai'i supports an immediate cease fire in order to save both Palestinian and Israeli lives. As a community of various faith traditions, including Buddhists, Christians, Jews and Muslims, TIAH advocates for this as a crucial first step, to be followed with the essential next steps of dialogue, commitment to nonviolence while explicitly challenging religious and political extremism. We call on our political leadership to represent our expressed concerns and values immediately in regards to the dire and appalling situation in Gaza. Further, we condemn all physical and rhetorical violence, including targeting by ethnicity or faith tradition, as counter to the spirit of aloha as nurtured and perpetuated in Hawai'i.

Paul Gracie, President, The Interfaith Alliance Hawai'i

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 1:53:08 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ralph Gaston	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I am writing this in strong support of SCR13, and appreciate the opportunity to speak on this issue.

This issue with the devastation and death of the Palestinian people must stop. There can be no solution in the current course that doesn't include, at minimum, an ethnic cleansing of the Palestinian people from those lands.

Likewise, the currently floated idea of a port to be constructed by the U.S. armed forces - to be checked and cleared by Israel defense forces before proceeding - is unworkable, expensive, and will put U.S. troops in harm's way. There is no need to construct a port that will be operational in 6 months when the supplies needed to, at minimum, prevent mass starvation are already at the Rafah crossing.

The voices of the voters has been clear in recent primaries. We want an immediate ceasefire and serious building toward a two-state solution that can give some mesaure of security to both Israel and Palestine. It is time for our elected officials to heed this call from their voters...and from humanity.

Strong Support for SCR13/SR6: The Hawai'i Ceasefire Resolution
Senate Committee on Public Safety and Intergovernmental and Military Affairs
March 8, 2024



Aloha Members of the Committee,

In the last several months, Hawai'i residents have demonstrated their strong and unwavering support for Palestine through rallies, sign waving events, teach-ins, movie screenings, and a march attended by several thousand people. We have called our congresspeople and representatives, and sent emails tirelessly to ask that a ceasefire is called at both the state and federal level.

The rate of casualties is astronomical, with over 30,000 people already dead and thousands more still missing- likely dead underneath the rubble. Given this massive humanitarian crisis, it is imperative that you adopt this resolution in order to push our Congressional delegation, President, and federal government to address the harm that they are helping to perpetuate.

Adopting this resolution would align and support the recent county resolution adopted by the Hawai'i County Council Government Operations and External Affairs Committee. Please join them in demonstrating that Hawai'i and its people are in strong support of Palestine, and demand an immediate end to the indiscriminate killing throughout Occupied Palestine.

Thank you,
Mariko Quinn

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 2:01:03 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kim Compoc	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Good afternoon everyone. My name is Kim Compoc. I teach U.S. history at the University of Hawai‘i - West O‘ahu but my views are my own. Thank you so much to all the members of the committee for holding this hearing today on [SCR13](#) urging members of Hawai‘i’s congressional delegation to support the ceasefire in Gaza resolution introduced by Congresswoman Cori Bush.

This resolution must pass as soon as possible. It’s the very least that we can do given the catastrophe that has been unfolding over the last five months. The list of crimes is long, and the U.S. is paying for all of it: the bombing of schools, hospitals, refugee camps, and news organizations. I am at a loss for words, but luckily we have Palestinians who have been speaking out. We have all the proof we need that genocide is indeed unfolding.

This resolution is the least we can do, considering how much Palestinians have done to support our land protection efforts in Hawai‘i. I recently saw a 2019 photo of children in Bethlehem showing the Mauna Kea solidarity symbol with their hands. I do not know whether these children are still alive. If current information is correct, there are over 40,000 people dead in Palestine right now. The number of maimed, injured, orphaned, and traumatized is, of course, much larger. 2 million people have been displaced and are being starved to death.

Over 70 cities throughout the US have already passed cease-fire resolutions. People of conscience from all over the world are lifting their voices in solidarity with Palestinians. When we say cease-fire, we mean a permanent fire and a political solution to this crisis. We must push for an end to Israel’s illegal settlements, illegal detentions, and the apartheid system that denies Palestinians basic rights. Again, this is the very least we can do to pass the cease-fire resolution. We must also end US aid to Israel, especially the weapons to Israel that enable this slaughter to continue.

Because today is International Women’s Day, I think it is appropriate that we keep in mind what life is like for Palestinian women who have been systematically abused in Israeli prisons. This quote is from today’s episode of Democracy Now (March 8, 2024):

“U.N. experts are calling for a probe into reports of sexual assault, torture and killing of Palestinian women prisoners by Israeli forces. The Palestinian Prisoner Society says an estimated 240 Palestinian women have been detained since October 7. Some of the released

women have since spoken out on their traumatic experiences. This is Hadeel Al-Dahdouh, who was rounded up and arrested with a group of men in Gaza in December.

Hadeel Al-Dahdouh: “They put me and the young men in a hole in the ground. The young men were sitting opposite me. One of the soldiers took off my hijab. I started to cry. I was afraid. I asked him if I could have it back. He started to laugh at me and refused to put my hijab back on. In that instance, I was afraid and anxious. My husband was beaten. A soldier fired twice in the air and told me, 'I killed your husband.' ... The tank started to throw sand toward me and the men. I was trying to get away while I was handcuffed, but the tank kept getting closer to us. I started crying, asking the soldier what will he do to us. He said, 'I want to bury you alive in this hole and let the dogs eat you.'”

There are so many stories like Hadeel Al-Dahdouh but we must be brave enough to listen and brave enough to act. Once again, this resolution for a ceasefire must pass immediately. We cannot wait any longer. Thank you.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 2:01:28 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Anastacia Narrajos	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha to the committee members,

Thank you for taking the time to read and receive these testimonies. I will keep this brief, as I trust you are well aware of the facts of this horrifying moment that has been plaguing us globally since Oct. 7, and well before. I am testifying in the utmost support of [SCR13/SR6]. The death count in Gaza is over 40,000. That is more than 10 percent of the population of Honolulu. Many of these people are civilians, many are children. Many are families whose legacy have been cut off at the hands of the IDOF.

Israel has had an illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza for 16 years. Currently Israel is blocking food, medicine and aid to the 2 million people who desperately need help. By supporting an immediate ceasefire, hostage negotiations can be conducted and international investigation into the war crimes that have been committed since Oct. 7th can take place. This is the first step in dismantling Israel's system of apartheid on Palestinian land.

America's complicity in this attempted genocide is horrific. Please hear my voice in support of [SCR13/SR6] to call for an Immediate Ceasefire. Thank you for your time.

Mahalo,

Anastacia Narrajos

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 2:04:50 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
barbara o'connor	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of (SCR13/SR6). The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since October 7, 2023, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food, and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of the conflict by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

I do not want my tax payers dollars used to support Genocide!

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 2:19:26 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Aadya Shukla	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of SCR13. The ongoing discriminate fire places the civilians of both Palestine and Israel at a high risk. The amount of civilian lives lost in Gaza alone has reached 35,000 and rising, the majority of which are women and children. 73,000 more people are critically injured and thousands are missing. Currently, all of the 2 million people in Gaza are facing extreme resource depletion with 81% of households lacking access to clean and safe water. Israel has blocked the entry of goods and aid into Gaza, leaving all the civilians in a state of extreme starvation.

This catastrophe stems from Israel's 16 year long illegal blockade and will only continue to worsen if the the attacks are not stopped immediately. A ceasefire would allow the negotiation of hostages to be released as well as independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties. Tackling the root of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestine, is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

Thank you

LATE

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 2:21:25 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mia Ogata	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of SCR13. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

LATE

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 2:22:29 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kinsley McEachern	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of SCR 13. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since October 7th, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightneed siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food, and fuel, leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year long illegal blockage on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinianas is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

Mahalo nui loa,

Kinsley McEachern

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 2:26:30 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Emily Perry	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of [SCR13/SR6]. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented.

Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

LATE

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 2:32:38 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Noel Nepomuceno	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha nui kākou members of the committee,

I am testifying today in strong support of SCR13/SR6. The unfathomable degree of escalation as witnessed in the conflict between Israel and Hamas along with other armed groups in West Asia has resulted in trauma, misery and a severe sense of loss to civilians in this region as well as humanity as a whole.

The toll on human life since October 7th is unprecedented and it continues to rise as each day ends and a new day follows. As of today this March 8th, 40,000 Palestinians at the minimum have been murdered due to Israel's ceaseless and unrelenting missile bombardments upon the Gaza Strip, the majority of casualties being women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded as collateral with thousands more missing, unaccounted for or otherwise buried under the crumbling rubble of Gaza.

Similarly, an estimated 200 Israelis who have been abducted and held in Gaza by Hamas and other armed groups continue to remain in danger. On-going and indiscriminate rocket fire into Israel by these groups places its own civilians along with these hostages at the risk of retaliatory strikes in kind.

Israel's besiegement of Gaza has blocked the entry of direly needed aid for the Palestinian people including water, food and fuel, condemning 2 million civilians in the Gaza Strip to suffer from dehydration, famine and disease. The humanitarian calamity stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on occupied Gaza will only become more catastrophic should Israel and Hamas continue to ignore civilian life and persist in their grievances against one another.

A total and immediate ceasefire would bring an end to these unlawful attacks committed by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable various aid agencies to ensure life-saving food, water and medical supplies to enter the Strip, reach the very people who need them and address the staggering levels of human suffering that is present. It will also allow for hospitals to at last receive desperately needed medicine, fuel and equipment they have been vocally pleading for throughout these past months to be able to adequately treat their patients and repair damaged wards.

A total and immediate ceasefire would as well provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international organisations to investigate and

scrutinise the war crimes committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which if not addressed has a great likelihood to breed further atrocities in the future to come.

Proactively seeking out and bringing to justice the root causes of this conflict and of this genocide by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on the Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. This cannot be accomplished so long as the violence continues and the people who have either the authority or the ability to call for an end to this regression of human life and human values remain complicit, silent and unmoving to the very people who are recording their own demise in real-time.

Mahalo nui for your time and consideration.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 2:43:50 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Miya DeVogd	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am submitting testimony in strong support of this bill. The USA is currently aiding in the genocide of Palestinians. Not watching or doing nothing, but AIDING through funding, vetoing, not putting enough pressure or restrictions on Israel, etc. Hawai'i citizens are in support of Palestine, as proven by the marches of thousands, and by the Hawai'i Uncommitted votes for president (highest percentage in America, so far). We must do the right thing, and save as many innocent lives as possible. We cannot be complicit.

Mahalo, Miya DeVogd 96815

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Basia Leahy	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The people of Hawai'i will not sit in silence as genocide occurs. I support the resolution organized by Congresswoman Cori Bush.

LATE

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 3:13:02 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Genesia Paolo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

We must call for a ceasefire in Gaza. Countless innocent lives are being lost and Hawai'i plays a part through our support or opposition of these war crimes. We must actively speak against murder. We must actively speak against inhumanity. We must actively fight for life. Calling for a ceasefire means protecting both human life and all other life in Gaza. Ceasefire now.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 3:19:21 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Wai'ala Ahn	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of SCR13/ SR6. The unparalleled escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups has taken a devastating toll on civilians. The level of casualties is unprecedented. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed since Oct 7, and the majority of them are women and children. Another 70,000 have been wounded, and many thousands more are missing under the rubble of Gaza.

At the same time, some 200 Israeli hostages taken by Hamas and other armed groups and held in Gaza remain in danger, and ongoing indiscriminate rocket fire into

Israel places its own civilians at risk.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

Israel's tightened siege of Gaza has blocked the entry of goods, including water, food and fuel leaving the 2 million people in the Gaza Strip struggling to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16-year-long illegal blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn't stop immediately.

A ceasefire would put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties, halt the mounting death toll in Gaza and enable aid agencies to get life-saving aid, water and medical supplies into the Strip to address the staggering levels of human suffering. It will also allow hospitals to receive life-saving medicines, fuel and equipment they desperately need and to repair damaged wards.

A ceasefire would also provide opportunities to negotiate the release of hostages detained in Gaza and for independent international investigations to take place into the war crimes

committed by all parties in order to end long-standing impunity, which will continue to breed further atrocities.

Tackling the root causes of this conflict, by dismantling Israel's system of apartheid imposed on Palestinians is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence continues.

Mahalo for your Support in this Bill.

LATE

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 3:22:24 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Barryn Chun	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Can you imagine if 35,000 people (and really countless others over the course of 75+ years) were systematically murdered here in Hawai`i? No one would stand for this. We would be taking up arms. My position does not change even if it's for people in the Middle East, in Palestine, and even when it's the US who is responsible. I am in full support of this measure.

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 3:23:02 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Aria Orr	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Committee members!

I support this resolution for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza. I believe that no American Taxpayer dollars should be used to fund Israeli military efforts. Friends don't let friends commit genocide. We cannot be on the side of the oppressors. I have been contacting my local and federal congresspeople for months regarding this issue, and am so grateful for this opportunity to voice my support in this forum.

Mahalo!

Aria Een Orr

Laie resident

LATE

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 3:34:39 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nikhil Khurana	Individual	Support	In Person

Comments:

The US is actively funding genocide in Gaza. Every person killed in the bombing, the starvation, the gunfire from the Israeli army is being actively condoned by the president and the leadership of the United States of America. This is genocide and should not be endorsed by anyone! We must call for a ceasefire.

LATE

SCR-13

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 4:12:00 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Peggy Kwi-Suk Hong	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

WE MUST SUPPORT INTERNATIONAL LAW AND DEMAND IMMEDIATE AND PERMANENT CEASEFIRE IN GAZA. We as citizens of Hawai`i need to do better than go along with USA positions.