

Na Kamali'i No eae Oke Kula 'O Pali Momi

Representative Joey Manahan, Chair
Representative James Kunane Tokioka, Vice-Chair
Committee on Tourism, Culture, & International Affairs

Jenna Yanke
Pearl Ridge Elementary School
February 9 2009

Support of HB 135 – RELATING TO THE STATE INSECT
Designates the Kamehameha butterfly as the state insect.

I, Jenna Yanke, represent my school Pearl Ridge Elementary 5th grade. We are working together to make the Kamehameha Butterfly also known as the Pulelehua and the Vanessa Tameamea into the Hawaii state insect. I strongly support HB 135-Relating to the state insect designating the Kamehameha butterfly as the state insect.

I have never seen a Kamehameha Butterfly in the wild but in my studies I found it a small but beautiful insect that was little in population and in need of help. The more I learned about this wonderful insects the more I fell in love with it. I believe if it became the state insect it would get more respect and its population will thrive again.

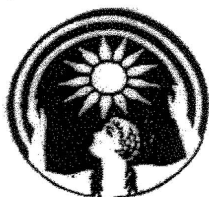
The Kamehameha Butterfly is endemic to Hawaii and pollinates native Hawaiian flora such as the koa tree and the mamakı plant. Its colors are the ones of an ali'i or chief just like the leader it was named after, King Kamehameha. It is also unique because it is very small.

If the Kamehameha Butterfly became our state insect people might relate it to Hawaii and would come to Hawaii to see it in the wild. That would help the economy flourish. The Kamehameha Butterfly also represents King Kamehameha who united our islands. Then the Kamehameha Butterfly will also symbolize unity between the islands.

This butterfly might also prompt people to look at Hawaii's unique history We urge the committee to pass HB 135-Relating to the state insect designating the Kamehameha Butterfly as the state insect. Thank you for this opportunity to testify

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*Pearl Ridge Elementary School
Integrated Enrichment Program For the Potentially Gifted/Talented Student*



Na Kamali'i No eae Oke Kula 'O Pali Momi

Representative Joey Manahan, Chair
Representative James Kunane Tokioka, Vice-Chair
Committee on Tourism, Culture, & International Affairs

Kristi Kimura
Pearl Ridge Elementary School
February 9 2009

Support of HB 135 – RELATING TO THE STATE INSECT
Designates the Kamehameha butterfly as the state insect.

I am Kristi Kimura and I am representing Pearl Ridge Elementary School's 5th grade. I am testifying in favor of HB 135, relating to the state insect designating the Kamehameha Butterfly or the Vanessa Tameamea Butterfly as the state insect.

We were studying the ecosystems of Hawaii. When we got to the forest ecosystems, we noticed that there were a lot of insects. That made us wonder why Hawaii doesn't have a state insect when it has a state sea mammal, state mammal, state tree, and state flower. We decided to pick a state insect for Hawaii.

The Kamehameha Butterfly is only one of two butterflies that are endemic to Hawaii. It is named after King Kamehameha who united our islands. The Kamehameha Butterfly has a small population and is almost endangered.

This shows that if the Kamehameha butterfly becomes the state insect it will show all of our islands are united. When the Kamehameha Butterfly becomes the state insect people might respect it more. Then it would not be endangered. People might recognize it more and want to discover Hawaii's history

I feel the Kamehameha Butterfly is a unique butterfly that will be a great state insect. We urge the committee to pass HB 135. Thank you for this opportunity to testify

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*Pearl Ridge Elementary School
Integrated Enrichment Program For the Potentially Gifted/Talented Student*



Na Kamali'i No eau Oke Kula 'O Pali Momi

Representative Joey Manahan, Chair
Representative James Kunane Tokioka, Vice-Chair
Committee on Tourism, Culture, & International Affairs

Robyn- Ashley Amano
Pearl Ridge Elementary School
February 9 2009

Support of HB 135 – RELATING TO THE STATE INSECT
Designates the Kamehameha butterfly as the state insect.

My name is Robyn- Ashley Amano and I represent Pearl Ridge Elementary School, 5th grade. I strongly support HB 135 designating the Kamehameha Butterfly as the new state insect.

There are 17 different species of butterflies that are found in Hawaii, and of those 17 only 2 of them are endemic to Hawaii. One of them is the Koa butterfly and the other is the Kamehameha butterfly I chose the Kamehameha butterfly because, I think that it further represents the beauty and history of our islands

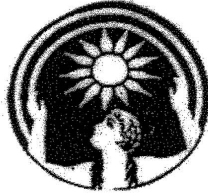
The Kamehameha Butterfly has a reddish- orange wingspan with a black border, which represents the colors of the Ali'i, which is the chief. It also contributes to the beauty of our islands by pollinating our flowers. Lastly It is named after King Kamehameha, the one who brought our islands together.

If the Kamehameha Butterfly becomes the state insect, people will start to respect it more. Therefore this will decrease its chances of it becoming an endangered species. In addition the Kamehameha Butterfly could help us to remember or learn more about the history of Hawaii.

By making the Kamehameha Butterfly the state insect, it will help to keep our islands of Hawaii, beautiful. I urge the committee to pass HB 135. Thank you for this opportunity to testify

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*Pearl Ridge Elementary School
Integrated Enrichment Program For the Potentially Gifted/Talented Student*



Na Kamali'i No eae Oke Kula 'O Pali Momi

Representative Joey Manahan, Chair
Representative James Kunane Tokioka, Vice-Chair
Committee on Tourism, Culture, & International Affairs
Toshiro Yanai
Pearl Ridge Elementary School
February 9 2009

Support of HB 135 – RELATING TO THE STATE INSECT
Designates the Kamehameha butterfly as the state insect.

My name is Toshiro Yanai and I am representing Pearl Ridge Elementary School. I strongly support HB 135 – relating to the state insect designating the Kamehameha butterfly as the state insect.

The Kamehameha butterfly is named after King Kamehameha and he is the one who brought our islands together. The Kamehameha butterfly also pollinates flowers, which helps keep our islands looking nice. Lastly the Kamehameha butterfly is also close to being endangered so if it becomes the state insect it may not be endangered.

When the Kamehameha butterfly becomes the state insect it will interest people to learn about Hawaii's history. In addition it is a symbol of our islands unity. Lastly it will make more people see how unique our state is.

Other people may think that the happy-faced spider would be a good choice for the state insect. However, two thirds of happy-faced spiders don't have happy faces on their bodies. Also not many people like spiders because it scares them. Lastly the Kamehameha butterfly is prettier and better represents Hawaiian people. The happy-faced spider eats other insects while the Kamehameha butterfly helps pollinate flowers which is like spreading aloha.

In making the Kamehameha butterfly the state insect, I am helping to stop the decreasing amount of Kamehameha butterflies. We urge the committee to pass HB 135. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

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Na Kamali'i No eae Oke Kula 'O Pali Momi

Representative Joey Manahan, Chair
Representative James Kunane Tokioka, Vice-Chair
Committee on Tourism, Culture, & International Affairs

Jennifer Loui
Pearl Ridge Elementary School
February 9 2009

Support of HB 135 – RELATING TO THE STATE INSECT
Designates the Kamehameha butterfly as the state insect.

I am Jennifer Loui, who represents Pearl Ridge Elementary School's 5th grade. I am testifying in favor for HB135 Relating to the State Insect designating the Kamehameha Butterfly as the State Insect.

The Kamehameha Butterfly is a unique butterfly because it is named after King Kamehameha. This butterfly is very helpful because it helps to pollinate flowers so they grow again, keeping our island a greener place. Kamehameha Butterflies usually eat mamake plants, but since there are less mamake plants, there are fewer butterflies.

Its striking color makes it look attractive and it represents unity from King Kamehameha. The other endemic butterfly the Koa Butterfly has brown at the bottom of its wings, which I think doesn't look very nice. When I looked at the Kamehameha Butterfly its colors seemed bright and cheerful. The Koa Butterfly has brown at the edges of its top wings, which looked forbidding. The Kamehameha butterfly would represent Hawaii's beauty and welcoming style much better than the Koa Butterfly

Since it was named after King Kamehameha, it represents unity. When it becomes Hawaii's State Insect, people will respect it. Also, they will make sure that if they come across one, it will come to no harm. When people hear the name Kamehameha, they may become interested in Hawaii's history Also, scientist might want to study them, but since their numbers are few, we must help to protect them.

I believe that the Kamehameha Butterfly would be a wonderful choice as the State Insect. We hope the committee will pass HB 135. Thank you for this opportunity to testify

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Honorable Representative Joey Manahan, Chair
Members of the House Committee on Tourism, Cultural and International Affairs
Hawaii State Capital
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: IN SUPPORT OF HB135, RELATING TO THE STATE INSECT
Hearing: Saturday, February 28, 2009

Dear Chair Manahan, and the House Committee on Tourism, Cultural and International Affairs:

I Alexander Wong SUPPORTS the passage of HB135, which will designates the Kamehameha butterfly as the state insect.

Because the state of Hawaii does not have a state insect and the Kamehameha butterfly gets it's name from King Kamehameha.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony in support of HB135.

Sincerely

Alexander Wong

Alexander Wong

 Aiea, Hawaii 96701

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