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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE STATE SNAIL.

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

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

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



1 endemic family remaining in Hawaii. The pūpū kuahiwi have a  
2 zigzag color pattern, reminiscent of kike'eke'e, a Hawaiian kapa  
3 pattern. This endangered snail is important for the  
4 preservation of native ecosystems and the Hawaiian culture.

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

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

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

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

18 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

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



S.B. NO. 2714  
S.D. 1

**Report Title:**

State Snail; Pūpū Kuahiwi

**Description:**

Designates pūpū kuahiwi as the official state snail. (SD1)

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