



LATE

Re: HR 94/HCR99– Support the Resolution

Good Afternoon, Representative Mark Nakashima, Chair; Rep. Scot Matayoshi, Vice Chair; and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs

My name is Claire Tamamoto and I am speaking on behalf of the ‘Aiea Community Association. Our community association is known for their patience and perseverance. The issue of feral chickens first started appearing on our agenda and minutes in September, 2019. At that time, it was reported that the City and County’s Department of Consumer Affairs was informed of our growing concern for the feral chicken population in the area around Aiea’s new state library in July of 2019. In October 2019, it was reported that 70 feral chickens were caught by the county’s contracted exterminator. This contract is no long funded. We have discussed possible area solutions ranging from having a contest with prizes for catching the most chickens by individuals or organizations, buying chicken trap cages, setting up home traps and researching possible solutions on social media only to have our efforts thwarted by the Humane Society no longer accepting trapped chickens at their site.

In the years that ensued, our feral chicken population has only grown and along with it, the community’s concern for negative effects of having undomesticated animals in the neighborhood and around the children. **The Aiea Community Association strongly supports House Committee Resolution 99/House Resolution 94.** Steps and solutions must be taken now before our communities become overwhelmed by the feral fowl population. Unless effective solutions are implemented, the frustrations of the human population will boil over, leading to inhumane and violent actions. Our ‘Aiea community is not unique. This issue is a growing concern for the entire State’s urban populations. The City and County of Honolulu and the State Department of Health need to implement existing and future policies to address the physical and mental health issues that arise from this feral population. These animals congregate around water sources that could lead to bacteria pollution in the water navigating throughout our neighborhoods and ultimately entering into our ocean/harbors. In addition, these fowl gather in populated areas near food sources where “non owner” neighbors feed them. An educational campaign should go hand in hand with any physical eradication efforts, creating an awareness for the health and safety issues of feeding any feral animal population.

Some of the effects of our feral chicken population are the noise of uncontrolled and untimely crowing, chickens aggressively approaching our young children and aging kupunas, fueling the cockfighting roster population, dead carcasses rotting in the neighborhood and the vehicular near misses of cars swearing or killing chicken who want to “see what’s on the other side of the road”. Do you remember the pigeon problem the zoo had years ago? It grew out of kindness and the “cuteness” of feeding them. We support a human, effective way of dealing with our fowl uncontrolled overpopulation. Every effort must also be made to enforce the ordinances we currently have on the government books. Let’s not wait until we have no alternatives to deal with this problem and **support HR94** to find a wholistic solution for this issue.

Thank you for your time and if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (808) 429-1282 or by email claire2164@gmail.com.

Claire Tamamoto
‘Aiea Community Association

“Building A Sense of Community”

HR-94

Submitted on: 4/4/2022 2:31:57 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/5/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Gerard Silva	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The Chickens are not the Problem the Goernment is the problem they wast thr Taxe payers Money on stuff like this. They just Egnor the Real problems!!

April 4, 2022

RE: HR94 and HCR99

Aloha House Committee on Agriculture who are hearing testimony for HCR99, Relating to Fowl. Specifically the Feral Rooster/Chicken populations in Aiea.

I am a resident of Aiea, and my family lives above the new Aiea Library, which is located at the Old Sugar Mill location. To say the least, the last few years has been a living nightmare due to the increasing feral rooster/chicken population in our neighborhood. This is a health issue, from all the droppings and fleas from the fowl; a safety concern for cars dodging the fowl as they are on our streets; and a physical, as well as emotional stress from all the crowing at all hours of the day and night!

This started becoming a major problem about 3+ years ago when the feral population became present in our neighborhood, and has subsequently increased. We were told that this began partially when an elderly neighbor was raising chickens in his garage, and many had escaped. The population established, and then exploded along the Aiea stream corridor (which was exasperated by people feeding, as they still are, along the stream), and from there the fowl began to spread to the C&C lot, then the Aiea Library, and then throughout the neighborhoods....

There have been several nests in our front and backyards, as well as our surrounding neighbors yards that we have had to remove; and the excrement is beyond describable! I have also personally seen some extreme safety issues with people walking along Hakina St. almost being hit from cars swerving to miss chickens on the road! Additionally, fleas have greatly increased in our domesticated dogs and cats from the increase in fowl.

Even more disturbing and disrupting is the content clucking of the chickens, and especially the crowing of the roosters at all hours of the day and night! As many of us are now working from home due to COVID 19, this is almost indescribable! The rooster crowing is not the Old McDonald Nursery rhyme; it is high pitch scream like yell at times at all different octaves and sound levels. At night we are constantly, awoken between 11pm-7am! We have even had to invest in double pane windows, and sleep sound machines so we could at least try and mitigate the sound levels of the crowing. The nightly/earlier morning crowing has also developed a hardship for my family. Our 12 year old son is a Type 1 Diabetic, and the constant interrupted sleep cycles from the roosters has negatively affected his blood sugar levels, as well as his schooling from being tired most mornings!

A year and a half ago we saw some relief from the sponsored pest control irradiation of the fowl, but when the funding ended, the fowl along with the associated negative aspects have exponentially increased. I urge you to pass this legislation in order to help to bring back our quiet fowl free community in Aiea

Mahalo for your consideration with this matter,



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