

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 11:01:07 AM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kami Yamamoto, MPH	Testifying for National Alliance for Filipino Concerns	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

On behalf of the National Alliance for Filipino Concerns, I am testifying in strong support of [SCR13/SR6]. The Filipino and Palestinian people share similar histories of persistence and determination in fighting for self-determination and liberation from oppressive governments. Throughout the periods of occupation by the Spanish, Japanese, and U.S. the Filipino people remained steadfast in their fight to challenge the idea of Philippines dependency and to be a sovereign nation. This bares a striking resemblance to the Palestinian struggle for self determination and liberation against their occupiers, Israel.

Amidst the loss of countless unarmed Palestinian civilians, youth, press, and humanitarian workers, it is a critical humanitarian imperative that we stand in solidarity with Palestine and call for an end to the siege on Gaza, allow the entry of humanitarian aid, create safe zones in Gaza where people can be treated and have access to basic resources, and respect Palestinian rights for self-determination. In the face of colonial violence and widespread suffering, communities will seek justice, defend their land, and fight for their basic human rights. The Palestinians' plight to be treated like humans with dignity, respect, adequate livelihood, and good health instead of animals is their step towards liberation.

I cannot express enough in words that we must push for a ceasefire. Regardless of what side you might see as "right", the indiscriminate killings and violence needs to stop.

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 1:21:54 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." See <https://www.bigislandvideonews.com/2024/03/05/council-peace-resolution-amended-to-include-statement-on-gaza/>

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

**LATE**

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 11:02:04 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



**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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**Abby Simmons**

*Co-Chair, Legislative Committee*

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SENATE RESOLUTION 6  
March 8, 2024  
URGING MEMBERS OF HAWAII'S CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO SUPPORT  
THE CEASEFIRE IN GAZA RESOLUTION INTRODUCED BY UNITED  
STATES CONGRESSWOMAN CORI BUSH

I OPPOSE SR6 for the following reasons:

While I am empathetic towards the human suffering in Gaza, the cease fire would prohibit the ability of military personnel to eradicate the terror group Hamas.

According to the U.S. State Department, the United States has imposed sanctions on eight Hamas officials and facilitators for their actions representing the group's interests abroad and managing its finances. This is the fourth round of sanctions that we have imposed since Hamas's October 7 horrible attack.

Hamas brought a tragic war to Gaza and has compounded and perpetuated the suffering of people in Gaza at every step of the crisis it created.

The U.S. State Department closely coordinated this action with the United Kingdom, which is concurrently targeting several key Hamas officials with sanctions. The United States and our allies and partners are steadfast in our commitment to dismantling networks that support Hamas funding streams as part of our continuous effort to prevent and deter its terrorist activity.

The Department of the Treasury is taking these actions pursuant to Executive Order 13224, as amended. For more information on this designation, see Treasury's press release.

Source: <https://www.state.gov/designating-hamas-officials-and-supporters/>

I respect the efforts made by U.S. Congresswoman, Cori Bush to end human suffering in Gaza. I oppose war and human suffering. I pray that Hamas is eradicated swiftly by military personnel while protecting innocent lives so that aid can be provided to the people of Gaza.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony opposing SR6.

Respectfully submitted,

Jamie Detwiler  
President, Hawaii Federation of Republican Women  
Constituent, Senate District 17

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 2:16:19 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.**

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 2:50:33 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, unafraid of the risks, to look for your family.

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."

This is Gaza. This is genocide.

As a Palestinian with family who escaped Gaza, I 100 percent support this resolution.

Save my family.



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.



**LATE**

**Senate Committee on Public Safety and Intergovernmental and Military Affairs**

**Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action (HAPA) Supports: SR6**

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

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

HAPA strongly supports SR6, 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 Israel<sup>1</sup>, 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 SR6 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 positioned below the text 'Respectfully,'.

Anne Frederick  
Executive Director

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<sup>1</sup> 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>





# 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**

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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."<sup>1</sup> 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,<sup>2</sup> which has now reportedly deprived displaced residents and children of the minimal amounts of water needed for survival.<sup>3</sup> Contamination from military actions also threatens to destroy regional water sources and deprive future generations of access to clean

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

<sup>2</sup> 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>.

<sup>3</sup> 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.<sup>4</sup> 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.”<sup>5</sup> This policy statement is likewise contravened by the active military violence taking place in Gaza, including the indiscriminate<sup>6</sup> deployment of tens of thousands of bombs<sup>7</sup> and as well as the apparent use of highly toxic white phosphorous<sup>8</sup> 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.”<sup>9</sup> 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.<sup>10</sup> 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

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<sup>4</sup> 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#>.

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

<sup>6</sup> 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>.

<sup>7</sup> 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>.

<sup>8</sup> *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/>.

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

<sup>10</sup> 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.”<sup>11</sup> 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.<sup>12</sup> 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.<sup>13</sup>

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.

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

<sup>12</sup> 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>.

<sup>13</sup> 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/>.

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/5/2024 4:36:23 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
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.

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/5/2024 4:46:54 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jaime	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 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.

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/5/2024 5:19:50 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

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/5/2024 5:40:49 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Patricia Blair	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Absolutely Hawaii's Congressional should be signed on in support of a ceasefire in Gaza. Where is their conscience? Israel should be condemned for its actions toward the Palestinians, and any support to Israel ceased.



**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/5/2024 6:32:25 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jeffrey Cheyenne Cary	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Aloha kakou, my name is Cheyenne Cary and I am a nursing student at UH Hilo. I support this measure in the strongest possible terms as the atrocities being committed in occupied and besieged Palestine are an affront to our shared humanity. The genocide must stop. The state of Israel must withdraw its military and police forces from Gaza and the West Bank and end its illegal settlements and territorial expansion. Palestinians must be allowed to rebuild and recover and live without threat of recurrence of these crimes against humanity.

The Zionist military has targeted hospitals, health care workers and the sick and wounded, and even assassinated minors in hospital beds. For decades before the current assault on Gaza, Israel severely restricted medical care and the availability of medications for Palestinians causing intentional suffering and premature deaths. Neither the current genocide nor the pre-2023 status quo are acceptable, and we must support the start of a new era of Palestinian safety and sovereignty.

Free Palestine

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/5/2024 6:46:43 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 SR6.

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



**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/5/2024 6:50:20 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
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

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/5/2024 7:13:01 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 SR6. 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, and think about humanity. Mahalo ā nui.

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/5/2024 7:24:34 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Giulia Marengo di Moriondo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I Giulia Marengo di Moriondo am in full support of an immediate ceasefire in Gaza. What is occurring in Gaza at the hands of the Isreali army is immoral and must be immediately put to an end.

Thank you,

Giulia Marengo di Moriondo

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/5/2024 7:34:40 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
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.



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.

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/5/2024 7:43:44 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
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!

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/5/2024 7:52:26 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Wallace Engberg	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 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 sit idly by as our tax dollars are funding the murder of thousands of innocent people. We must take a stand to end this violence. To use our voices to tell the white house we do not condone, approve or simply choose to ignore this violence perpetrated by Israel on behalf of the US against Palestinians.

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/5/2024 8:02:02 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Juju Juju	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The US is complicit in a holocaust and genocide that is being livestreamed into livingrooms around the world. We are watching countless incidents of children being buried under rubble, losing their parents and entire families, and starving to death. We are seeing hundreds of kidnapped Palestinians being stripped naked, tied up, mocked, sexually abused, and tortured by IDF soldiers who proudly film themselves committing these atrocities. Israel is currently holding over 10,000 Palestinian's hostage (as prisoners), including women and children. We are watching Israel bomb hospitals, schools, and residential buildings, and kidnap and shoot doctors, journalists, and humanitarian aid workers. This is not a war against Hamas. It is clear to the world that this is a war against Palestinians. This is a holocaust and genocide of a people. Please stop sending weapons to Israel! Please call for an immediate and permanent ceasefire and the entry of aid into Gaza!

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/5/2024 8:32:42 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Colleen Rost-Banik	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of SR6. 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

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/5/2024 8:46:23 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Noel Shaw	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 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.

Choose humanity!

Noel

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/5/2024 9:49:37 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:</p><p>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.</p><p>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!&nbsp; Do what's right. FREE FREE PALESTINE!!</p><p>Please, please I implore you to vote for and pass SCR13/SR6 legislation.</p><p>Thank you and respectfully,</p><p>Darasay Raksinh</p>

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/5/2024 9:51:38 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Sorcha McCarrey	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

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.

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/5/2024 10:01:24 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
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 SR6, 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

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/5/2024 10:06:50 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
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.

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/5/2024 10:48:52 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
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.

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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.

Mahalo,

Rik Masterson

Hilo

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/5/2024 10:55:26 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



**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 12:22:42 AM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Reyna Johnson	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.

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.

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 3:11:56 AM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
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 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.

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.

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 3:18:02 AM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
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!

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 7:46:50 AM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Meghan van Bergeijk	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of congress,

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 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.

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 8:46:34 AM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Reis Nakamura	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

he who saves saves one life saves the world.

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 9:08:15 AM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
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.

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 9:32:45 AM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Oumoussa	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

As residents 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 stance on this matter, we contribute to the collective efforts for a more just and peaceful world.

Sofia Oumoussa



**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 9:30:19 AM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Regina Gregory	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

strong support

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 9:46:23 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 **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.

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 9:56:42 AM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
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 introducers. Please pass SR6 to put further pressure on Hawai'i's congressional delegates to support a ceasefire now.

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 10:09:49 AM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
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.

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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.

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

RE: Testimony to the Hawai'i State Legislature in Support of SR6

Honorable Members of the Hawai'i State Legislature,

I am writing to urge your support for SR6, 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 SR6, 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 SR6 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 long horizontal line extending to the right.

Laith Enani, MD

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 10:31:57 AM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
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.



**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 10:33:15 AM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jordan Smith	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.

**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.



**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 10:43:15 AM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Alia Jeraj	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha kākou,

I am writing in strong support of SR6. 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

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 10:49:51 AM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kyle K Kajihiro	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hawai'i must speak out against genocide. I urge you to support this resolution to call for a cease fire in Gaza. Thank you.

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 11:28:16 AM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Valerie Weiss	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha.

It is imperative that our Hawaii Congressional delegation support this measure. A full ceasefire is past due with 40,000 Palestinian deaths.

The people are sick and starving. Hospitals have to perform surgeries and amputations without anesthesia.

The US is complicit in war crimes and atrocities being done with weapons that we have long contributed to Israel. It must stop. Please help us stop this from getting even worse.

Mahalo.

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 11:29:08 AM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Napua Canales	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of SR6. The unparalleled escapation 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 imputiny, 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.

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 11:36:41 AM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
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.



**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 11:44:01 AM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
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 SR6.

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

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 11:53:26 AM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Meagan Harden	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support calls for an immediate and unconditional ceasefire.

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 12:00:33 PM

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 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. 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.

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 12:00:54 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
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.**

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 12:03:06 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
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.

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 12:07:51 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
CJ Kee	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support SR6! Calling for a ceasefire is the bare minimum.



**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 12:19:59 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jessica Kawamura	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Committee Members,

I am writing in strong support of SR6. As a faith leader, citizen, and voter, I am horrified that our country continues its complicity in 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

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 12:25:03 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 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 **support** this measure.

Mahalo,

Emily Sarasa



**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 12:52:04 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Nancy Dela Cruz	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear members,

I am in support of SR6. 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.

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 12:58:54 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
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 SR6. 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 SR6.**

**Mahalo,**

**Rachel Tjoeng**

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 1:24:16 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Wren Patton	Individual	Support	In Person

Comments:

Aloha member of the committee -

I am testifying in strong support of SCR13. We need a permanent ceasefire in Gaza. My heart breaks daily seeing the images of civilians being killed, through direct violence and now through starvation and dehydration.

I'm part of an organization, the Democratic Socialists of America, who has been calling for a ceasefire since October and we're joined by people of conscious all over the world calling for the same thing. I honestly can't believe that our leaders are not listening to our pleas because this movement for a ceasefire is huge and we've been applying sustained pressure through boycotts, blockades, marches, resolutions, speaking truth to power, voting uncommitted like I did in the Hawai'i Democrat Party's presedential primary this week, and that kind soul Aaron Bushnell gave his life to draw attention to what is being done to Palestinians. We've been at this for months and we will not stop until it ends.

Israel is an apartheid state that has illegally blockaded and occupied the Gaza Strip for decades and now they're using the tragic events of October 7 as cover to exterminate Palestinians, some 40,000 civilians have been killed so far and another 70,000 wounded and scarred for life by what they have endured. And it weighs so heavy on my conscious that it is my government and my tax dollars funding this genocide, it is my government with the power and leverage to stop what is happening and those with the power to do something are not acting. I implore you to pass this resolution.

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 2:14:01 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Molly J Cunningham	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am testifying in support of SR6. 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.

Israel's senseless destruction of land and people directly opposes the Hawaiian practice of caring for our communities from the ground up. Palestinian liberation is aligned with liberation of Indigenous and oppressed people on a global scale, including those in Hawaii. Our state must stand with Palestine and stand against the oppressor.

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 2:32:07 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
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

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 2:35:12 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

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 2:42:32 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Dyson Chee	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in strong support of SR6!

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 2:44:17 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
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 SR6. 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 oppourtunities 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 SR6.

Mahalo Nui Loa

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 2:45:26 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kayla Marie	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The state legislator has a responsibility to demand a cease fire and urge a stop to the genocide that is happening in Palestine

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 2:46:24 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Vai Alefosio	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

My name is Vai Alefosio and I am writing in support of Resolution SR6. 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 SR6. 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!

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 3:19:13 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Giada Colombo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**Honorable Senators,**

**I am writing to express my strong support for Senate Resolution 16, which urges members of Hawaii's congressional delegation to support the Ceasefire in Gaza Resolution introduced by United States Congresswoman Cori Bush. As a concerned citizen deeply troubled by the ongoing conflict in Gaza, I believe our representatives must take a stand for peace and humanitarian aid in the region.**

**The situation in Gaza has reached a critical juncture, with thousands of innocent lives hanging in the balance. The loss of human life, including a significant number of civilians and children, is unacceptable and demands immediate action. The indiscriminate targeting of non-combatants violates the most basic principles of international humanitarian law and must be condemned unequivocally.**

**It is heart-wrenching to witness the suffering of the Palestinian people, who endure unimaginable hardships due to violence, restrictions on essential supplies, and the denial of basic human rights. The need for a permanent ceasefire and the swift delivery of humanitarian aid cannot be overstated. Lives are at stake, and every moment of delay exacerbates the humanitarian crisis unfolding in Gaza.**

**I urge members of Hawaii's congressional delegation to stand on the right side of history by supporting Senate Resolution 16 and advocating for the principles of peace, justice, and human rights. By calling for an end to the violence in Gaza and promoting diplomatic efforts to achieve a just and lasting peace, we can honor the dignity of every human life and uphold the values of compassion and solidarity that define us as a nation.**

**Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter. I trust that you will take decisive action to support the ceasefire in Gaza and ensure a brighter, more hopeful future for all who call the region home.**

**Sincerely,**



**Giada Colombo**

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 3:53:58 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
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.

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 4:15:31 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Tatsuki Kohatsu	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am testifying in strong support of SR 6. The level of casualties in the contnied conflict between Israel and Hamas is unprecedented. Since October 7th, the armed violence has killed so many lives that should not just become numbers. The majority of them are women and children. They all have their life stories and these stories continue to vanish as long as the violence goes on.

In addition to the armed violence, 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 the years of blockade on the occupied Gaza Strip will only get worse if the fighting doesn’t stop immediately.

A ceasefire could prevent the death toll in Gaza from further increasing 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 need.

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.

Above all, tackling the root causes of this conflict, by crtically taking into account the Israel’s system of oppression imposed on Palestinians, is now more urgent than ever. That cannot be accomplished as long as the armed violence in Gaza continues.

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 4:25:37 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Ashlie McGuire	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in full and complete support of this ceasefire resolution, and would want to see it expanded to a permanent ceasefire, demanding the federal government stop sending weapons and/or money to Israel!

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 4:27:48 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Nathan Abril	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

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 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 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

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 7:08:49 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
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 SR6 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.

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 7:32:24 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Lauren Taijeron	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of SR6. 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 SR6



**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 7:47:20 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Cory Harden	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, strongly support! Cory

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 7:49:14 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 SC6**, 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

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 8:39:22 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
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.

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 8:42:59 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jacqueline Chico	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To the members of the committee,

I am submitting testimony in strong support of SR6. This conflict between Israel and Hamas and other groups has escalated and has brought devastation to civilians living in Gaza. Too many have suffered and over 40,000 civilians have been killed. Many whom are women and children. Entire families have been taken left in some cases children alone to fend themselves. Over 70,000 have been wounded. In all of this the 200 hostages that are still there are also in danger. Now 6 months into this conflict many civilians have no access to aid, clean water and no food. Israel tightened siege of Gaza, has blocked the entry of goods including food, medicine, fuel leaving millions of people in Gaza to struggle to survive. The humanitarian catastrophe stemming from Israel's 16 year long blockade on the occupied Gaza strip will only get worse if there isn't an immediate stop to this fighting. We need a ceasefire now and find a better a solution to this conflict.

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 8:45:53 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jessica Nakamura	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I am testifying in strong support of SR6. 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.



**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 8:58:55 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
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.



**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 9:50:22 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 SR6. 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.

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 10:59:12 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
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 SR6, 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

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 11:13:05 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
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

Senator Glenn Wakai, Chair  
Senator Brandon J.C. Elegantly, Vice Chair  
Committee on Public Safety & Intergovernmental and Military Affairs

Ellia Borba  
831-331-3855

Friday, March 8, 2024  
Support for SCR13 & SR6, Ceasefire in Gaza Resolution

My name is Ellia Borba and I am a student at the University of Hawai'i and Kaimukī resident. I am testifying in support of the permanent ceasefire in Gaza and the necessity of standing up for what is morally right in the midst of a genocide.

The unnecessary loss of life and inhumane conditions created by the Israel government has killed over 40,000 Palestinian civilians since October 7th. The genocide has left the 2 million people who reside in the Gaza strip struggling to survive, facing hunger, dehydration, and little medical care. The conflict between Israel and Hamas can be solved peacefully. Innocent civilians, women, and children should not be subjected to the horrific violence of the genocide.

The United States government and the Biden Administration have willingly been complacent as millions of people are living in a humanitarian crisis. Continuing the support of the Israeli government and massacring of civilians in Gaza can no longer be tolerated.

It is imperative that the voices of the people in Hawai'i are recognized as we continue to support permanent ceasefire and freeing Palestine. Supporting SCR13 & SR6 is essential to the permanent ceasefire in Gaza. Thank you for the opportunity to voice my concerns in our community.

Senator Glenn Wakai, Chair  
Senator Brandon J.C. Elefante, Vice Chair  
Committee on Public Safety and Intergovernmental and Military Affairs

Tuesday, Mar 6, 2024

Support for S.R. 6, URGING MEMBERS OF HAWAII'S CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO SUPPORT THE CEASEFIRE IN GAZA RESOLUTION INTRODUCED BY UNITED STATES CONGRESSWOMAN CORI BUSH.

The United States is a first world country. The leader of the free world. Hawaii Congressional delegation is the driver and living proof of what makes things happen in our nation, our community and our world. I strongly support SC13/S.R. 6, Urging members of Hawaii Congressional Delegation to Support the Ceasefire in Gaza Resolution, introduced by United States Congresswoman Cori Bush.

Ceasefire is necessary in Gaza. This resolution supports the people of Gaza that are facing a crisis currently. According to the British Red Cross, more than 2 million face food insecurity. This entire support will help to create a ceasefire. A ceasefire will create better humanitarian access as Gaza is seeing malnutrition now. If there is an unsupported more devastation and political outcry will happen.

In expanding the options for the State of Hawaii, I believe the state must stay true and promote a ceasefire for the protection of the people of Gaza. We urge the committee to pass SCR13 / S.R. 6. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 12:50:49 AM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Alexander Muth	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying to support SR6. 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

**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](mailto:junshinbusiness729@gmail.com)

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 6:48:21 AM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
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 SR6 because the families of my Palestinian friends deserve to live. 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 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.

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 7:13:41 AM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
KATHERINE ROSEGUO	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Stop the genocide that our tax dollars are paying for. Support permanent ceasefire and rebuilding. I do not want my tax dollars to be used for the forced starvation and massacre of the Palestinian people. **DO THE RIGHT THING! THIS IS NOT ABOUT HAMAS, IT IS ABOUT STEALING TERRITORY!**

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 8:04:23 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.

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 8:11:22 AM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
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 a UN ceasefire resolution, 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.

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 8:15:24 AM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Keoni Shizuma	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support a ceasefire in Gaza.

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 8:17:04 AM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kristen Young	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha committee members,

I am testifying in strong support of SR6. 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 SR6

Thank you!



Kristen Young  
Honolulu resident

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 8:21:19 AM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jennifer Shiiba	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of SR6. 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

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 8:23:13 AM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Saturnino Doctor	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 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.

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 8:39:10 AM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Emily Kandagawa	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am testifying in very strong support of 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.

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 8:34:08 AM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Donna Au	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support SR6 calling for a ceasefire in Gaza.

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 8:56:39 AM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Cheryl Rzonca	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

All efforts and attention of our government should be focused on Maui and the people of Hawaii especially right now. Stay focused!

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 8:58:11 AM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
tara bowman	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please stand by those working for peace



**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 8:58:35 AM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
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 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

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 9:02:19 AM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
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:

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## 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 genocide<sup>1</sup>; 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 Gaza<sup>2</sup>  
~~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

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.icj-cij.org/sites/default/files/case-related/192/192-20240126-pre-01-00-en.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> <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

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 9:16:34 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 SR6** 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 SR6.**

**#CeasefireNow**

Me ke aloha 'āina,

Kylie Akiona

kylieakiona2@gmail.com

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 9:23:48 AM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Robin Martin	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and 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.

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





RE: Testimony of Kasey Ines  
Strong Support for SR6: 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 SR6. 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  
94-553 Loaa St.  
Waipahu, HI 96797

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 9:41:32 AM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
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 SR6. 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 U.S. 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

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 9:47:03 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

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 9:48:48 AM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jane Au	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

END THE GENOCIDE NOW!

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 9:52:29 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 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. **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



**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 10:25:51 AM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Corinne Foley	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 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,

Corinne Foley

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 10:40:34 AM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
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!!!**

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 10:44:41 AM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Anya Hubbard	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support SR6 for obvious reasons.

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 10:46:17 AM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Clare Sullivan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support SR16/SCR13 because it is of moral imperative to stop human cruelty.

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 10:54:34 AM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jodi Robinson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support all resolutions and efforts to call for a ceasefire in Gaza. Mahalo.

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 11:13:01 AM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Janice Staab	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I am writing in strong support of SR6/SCR13. Israel's seige of Gaza has blocked the entry of food and water leading to a humanitarian catastrophe. Some 40,000 civilians have been killed, most of whom are women and children. We cannot allow this to happen any longer. As a mother I am horrified. Hawai'i needs to stand up and say enough is enough!

Mahalo,

Janice Staab

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 11:18:21 AM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Corinne Solomon	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Here is my Resolution:

WHEREAS, a ceasefire existed on October 6, 2023; and

WHEREAS, Hamas uses civilians as human shields, placing them in schools, hospitals, and mosques, which is in violation of the laws of warfare, and it is blatantly FALSE for you to claim in SR6 that non-combatants are being targeted by Israel; and

WHEREAS, Hamas does not distinguish between civilians and Hamas terrorists when reporting casualty numbers, and casualty numbers reported by Hamas are historically altogether unreliable; and

WHEREAS, Humanitarian aid has been consistently delivered (more food by tonnage is entering Gaza than before the war) and the distribution of aid is controlled by Hamas, thus the humanitarian aid works to continually resupply Hamas allowing them to continue their terror war and hampering Israel’s war objectives; and

WHEREAS, the majority of Palestinians support Hamas and their charter to wipe Israel and the Jewish people from existence, it is Hamas and the Palestinians who elected them in a landslide who want genocide of the Jews, it is not Israel that is committing genocide; and

WHEREAS; nowhere in SR6 do you call for the return of the hostages and for Hamas to surrender, upon which the war would end and there would be a ceasefire on the Israeli side, even though Hamas and the 75% of Palestinian people do not want peace, they want an October 8 massacre, and an October 9, 10, etc until all the Jews are murdered and have stated so publicly; now, therefore,

**BE IT RESOLVED that the Hawaii legislature uphold their duty to the citizens of Hawaii and focus on issues that concern Hawaii, such as the cost of living and crime, and not bring shame to this legislative body by parroting disinformation from the far-left anti-Israel Democratic members of Congress, otherwise known as the “Hamas Caucus”.**

**Your resolution is a disgrace.**





**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 11:23:40 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,

Thank you for scheduling this important hearing. With all my heart, I stand in full support of SCR13/SR6 calling for a CEASEFIRE!

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.

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!

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 11:28:40 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

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 11:31:57 AM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
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

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 11:37:03 AM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
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



**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 11:38:35 AM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Myles Yoshimoto	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This is Not a Hawaii Problem. Israel has right to defend it own borders.

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 11:39:02 AM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Lana Bilbo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in **STRONG** support of SR6.

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, including a group of us from Kauai. 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.

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 11:46:58 AM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Echo Hirata	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee, I am Echo Hirata, a UH Hilo World History Student and I am testifying in strong support of SR6. As someone who grew up in and was raised in Hawaii for 21 years, I strongly urge Hawaii to support the ceasefire for Gaza. The escalation of Israel's actions is no longer about defense, no longer about keeping the peace, Israel is starving Gazans. Over 40,000 men, children, and women have been killed, another 70,000 people are wounded in Gaza. Do not let these numbers fool or numb you, there shouldn't be any numbers at all. 200 Israeli hostages are still in Gaza as well, under the constant indiscriminate rocket fire from Israel. Israel has been blocking aid trucks, food, water, and fuel from coming into Gaza, how is this defense? Starving dying people who just want to live. It is vile, it is a genocide. Hawaii supporting the ceasefire for Gaza could be life-changing for the families and people in Gaza, so I urge you, committee, to please pass SR6 and help Palestine. We are not free until Palestine is.

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 11:48:42 AM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
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).

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 11:51:38 AM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Dylan Pilger	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support the ceasefire in Gaza resolution introduced by Congresswoman Cori Bush and call for an end to the bloodshed now.

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 12:01:45 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
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.

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 12:02:40 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
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.



**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 12:07:29 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Michelle Caron	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support an immediate ceasefire. The people of Gaza deserve our support.

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 12:25:06 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?**

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 12:27:24 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Sam Peck	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

It is of the utmost importance that this body stand against genocide by calling for a ceasefire in Palestine. Failing to do so is being complicit in ethnic cleansing and fascism.

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 12:29:37 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.**

**PLEASE choose Aloha and not War Crimes.**

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 12:31:21 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Ewa Moscicka	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The famine, massacre and atrocities being committed in Gaza must stop now.

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 12:37:02 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Lauren Kamalei Stovall	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 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



**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 12:43:40 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Monica Stone	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support a call to ceasefire now!

mahalo,

Monica Stone, Kailua-Kona, HI 96740

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 12:43:41 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
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 SR6. 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 SR6. 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.

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 12:43:52 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

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 12:47:49 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
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



**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 12:52:54 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
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



**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 12:55:09 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
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.

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 12:59:04 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
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 SR6. 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



**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 1:00:58 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Cassandra Antonell	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I urge Hawaii's congressional representatives to support an immediate and permanent ceasefire in Gaza

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 1:11:28 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
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

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 1:20:02 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
tlaloc tokuda	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.

tlaloc tokuda

Kailua Kona, HI 967440

**Testimony of  
TALOFA FE'A  
Student, University of Hawaii at Manoa**

**Before the Senate Committee on  
PUBLIC SAFETY AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND MILITARY AFFAIRS**

**Friday, March 8, 2024  
3:00 PM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 225 & Video Conference**

**In support of  
SENATE RESOLUTION 6  
URGING MEMBERS OF HAWAII'S CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO SUPPORT  
THE CEASEFIRE IN GAZA RESOLUTION**

Senate Resolution No. 6 urges support for the Ceasefire Now Resolution introduced by United States Congresswoman Cori Bush. It calls on members to insist that the Biden Administration call for a ceasefire in Gaza, to facilitate the de-escalation of hostilities, to promptly send humanitarian assistance into Gaza, and to initiate negotiations for peace. **I am Talofa Fe'a, and I support this resolution.**

The plea for an immediate and permanent ceasefire in Gaza is more than a humanitarian gesture. It is an acknowledgment of the shared responsibility to prevent the repetition of historical injustices. By endorsing this resolution, Hawaii's congressional delegation can contribute to a global effort to break the cycle of violence and promote peace in regions grappling with the consequences of geopolitical conflicts.

I stand in solidarity with people of all faiths and backgrounds who call for peace, de-escalation, the safe return of hostages, the delivery of humanitarian aid, an end to the killing of innocent civilians, and the global proliferation of the aloha spirit. I humbly ask the Senate committee to stand with us and decide in favor of the ceasefire resolution.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of a measure that can actively shield the people, place, and cultures currently suffering from further harm.



**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 1:26:26 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Alexa Coules	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

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

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 1:29:13 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Tomoko B Yokooji	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Representatives and Senators,

My name is Tomoko Yokooji, I'm a resident of Oahu where my family and I reside on the Windward side in Kailua. I am asking for the Hawaii Congressional Delegation to 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 cosponsor the ceasefire resolution, House Resolution 786, introduced by Representatives Cori Bush and Rashida Tlaib. Furthermore, I ask that our Senators introduce a Senate Resolution calling for a ceasefire, similar to the one in the House.

It is untenable for me to continue to bear witness to the genocide that is occurring in Palestine. The large scale of death and violence inflicted on the youth of Palestine is horrific. As a mother, as a teacher, as a human invested in the rights of all, please call for an immediate ceasefire and allow for humanitarian aid to enter Palestine.

Mahalo,

Tomoko Yokooji

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 1:44:25 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Dr. Durany Mohammed	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha esteemed committee members,

I am testifying in strong support of SR6. 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. And 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.

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 1:47:07 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
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

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 1:50:58 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jonathan Simonds	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of SR6. 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 SR6 and help bring an end to the violence and destruction.

Sincerely,

Jonathan

Kapa'au, HI 96755

**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**

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 2:01:47 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
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.



**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 2:02:58 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Mike	Individual	Comments	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

It's important for local politicians to prioritize issues that directly impact their constituents, such as infrastructure and community affairs. While some involvement in international affairs may be necessary, excessive focus on these matters at the local level could divert resources from addressing pressing local needs. It's essential for local politicians to allocate their time and effort effectively to serve their communities best.

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 2:04:06 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Derek Petroselli	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To whom it may concern,

I'm in support of the SR6 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

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 2:06:23 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
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

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 2:10:15 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Stella Caban	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing in 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.

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

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 2:10:38 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
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.)

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 2:14:14 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Anna Chua	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 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.

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 2:16:13 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
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.

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 2:24:57 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
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.

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 2:32:49 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
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 SR6.

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 join its constituents in calling for an immediate and permanent ceasefire in Gaza.

Thank you for your time.

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 2:33:29 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
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.

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 2:34:34 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
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.



Testimony by Dr. Clay Trauernicht IN SUPPORT of SCR 13/SR 6, Urging Members of Hawaii's Congressional Delegation to Support the Ceasefire in Gaza.

For the hearing on March 8<sup>th</sup>, Conference Room 225

To Senators Glenn Wakai and Brandon Elefante, Chair and Vice-Chair, respectively and the Members of the Committee on Public Safety and Intergovernmental and Military Affairs:

I am submitting testimony in strong support of SCR 13 and SR 6.

At the time that I write this – and as far as it is possible to determine – the war in Gaza has thus far claimed over 30,000 Palestinian lives among which more than 12,000 are children. According to a recently published report by John Hopkins Center for Humanitarian Health, (<https://gaza-projections.org/>), in the absence of a ceasefire in combination with the lack of access to food, clean water, and medical care, the death toll is projected only to accelerate, reaching nearly 100,000 deaths in the coming months.

Regardless of one's political leanings and whether one agrees with the International Court of Justice's ruling that Israel's aggression against the Palestinian people constitutes genocidal acts, there is no moral or ethical ground from which one can justify or rationalize this level of unbalanced violence.

Most importantly, the reality is that the systematic destruction of Palestinian lives and infrastructure is only made possible with direct funding and support from the US government. This therefore compels all of us as US citizens to demand that our leaders do all they can to stop this atrocity by, at the minimum, demanding an immediate ceasefire. I strongly urge you to pass this resolution and push our congressional delegation to support Congresswoman Bush's call.

Sincerely,



Clay Trauernicht

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 2:35:31 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
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.

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 2:36:28 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Shaw Kailaka Pascua	Individual	Support	In Person

Comments:

**Aloha members of the committee,**

**I am testifying in strong support of [SR6] 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.**

March 8<sup>th</sup>, 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 SR6 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 SR6 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 SR6.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this crucial measure.

Naomi Leipold  
Ewa Beach resident

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 2:38:10 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
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

Testimony submitted by: **Daria A. Fand**  
Honolulu, HI  
**Email: [dariafand@gmail.com](mailto: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>



**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 2:47:51 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
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, the World Health Organization and countless other organizations in calling for an immediate and permanent ceasefire in Gaza

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 2:50:01 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
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.

Mahalo

Dawn Adele

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 2:51:14 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Avalon	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Aloha kākou,

I am writing in support of SR6 for an immediate ceasefire of the bombardment occurring in Palestine. We cannot allow these atrocities to continue. Well over 20 thousand civilians have been killed since October of 2023. Please do the right thing and enact a ceasefire now.

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 2:52:17 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mary Lacques	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Members of the Committee on Public Safety & Intergovernmental & Military Affairs,

I am testifying in STRONG SUPPORT of SCR 13 and SR6,

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

Witnessing the intensified U.S. backed genocide of Palestinians by Israeli forces in real time over the last five months has shown the world that what we are observing is not a "war," but a deadly and destructive campaign by an occupying power against a civilian population confined within the Gaza Strip.

The blockade of humanitarian aid of the basic bare minimum-food, water and fuel is nothing new to the Palestinians, but again, thanks to social media, the world is finally understanding why the term "genocide" is aptly applied to this ongoing struggle, and that the aim of Israel's military operations is to make Gaza uninhabitable.

**But another compelling reason to wholeheartedly support the Resolutions are revealed in Wednesday's Wall Street Journal article which should be brought to Senator Schatz and Congressman Case's attention:**

***How the U.S. Arms Pipeline to Israel Avoids Public Disclosure.***



# **The article describes U.S. government arms transfers to Israel designed to avoid Congressional oversight and public scrutiny. The lack of transparency regarding these weapons transfers is appalling.**

Links to copy:

[https://www.wsj.com/world/how-the-u-s-arms-pipeline-to-israel-avoids-public-disclosure-e238de75?reflink=desktopwebshare\\_permalink](https://www.wsj.com/world/how-the-u-s-arms-pipeline-to-israel-avoids-public-disclosure-e238de75?reflink=desktopwebshare_permalink)

[How the U.S. Arms Pipeline to Israel Avoids Public Disclosure \(msn.com\)](#)

TEXT:

The U.S. has sent tens of thousands of weapons including bombs and precision guided munitions to Israel since Hamas's Oct. 7 attacks using procedures that have largely masked the scale of the administration's military support for its closest Middle East ally, according to current and former U.S. officials.

The administration has organized more than 100 individual transfers of arms to Israel but has only officially notified Congress of two shipments made under the major foreign weapons sales process, which are usually submitted to lawmakers for review and then publicly disclosed, U.S. officials said. In both cases, the administration used an emergency rule that avoids the review process.

The rest of the transfers have been approved using less public mechanisms available to the White House. Those include drawing from U.S. stockpiles, accelerating previously approved deliveries and sending weapons in smaller batches that fall below a dollar threshold that requires the administration to notify Congress, according to current and former U.S. officials.

The handling of the weapons transfers underscores the crosscurrents buffeting the White House. It has grown increasingly frustrated by Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's [handling of the war](#) but continues to fend off calls to use the arms pipeline as leverage to press him to reduce civilian casualties and increase humanitarian aid entering Gaza.

Some of the officials and several lawmakers said the limited disclosure points to a broader pattern in which the Biden administration has sought to avoid scrutiny from Congress. Some fellow Democrats want President Biden to use weapons shipments to pressure Netanyahu's government.

The deep U.S. military partnership with Israel, which receives more than \$3 billion in military aid every year from Washington, enabled an immediate surge in [weapons shipments](#) after Oct. 7. There are currently 600 active cases of potential military transfer or sales worth more than \$23 billion between the U.S. and Israel, State Department officials said.

“We have followed the procedures Congress itself has specified to keep members well-informed and regularly brief members even when formal notification is not a legal requirement,” State Department spokesman Matthew Miller said in a statement, adding that “claims that we have split cases so that they fall below established statutory thresholds or failed to appropriately engage partners in Congress are unequivocally false.”

State Department officials informed lawmakers in recent weeks about the full extent of the transfers to Israel, according to a person familiar with the briefings, but there has been no public disclosure of most of the shipments.

“While the State Department has no legal obligation to notify below-threshold arms transfers, using this process to repeatedly end-run Congress—as sales of this quantity suggest—would violate the spirit of the law and undermine Congress’s important oversight role” Sen. Chris Van Hollen (D., Md.), a member of the Foreign Relations Committee, told The Wall Street Journal.

The White House didn’t respond to a request for comment.

The decision to provide the arms in about 100 tranches reflects the administration’s desire to keep the scope of its military support to Israel out of public view as much as possible, critics of the transfers said.

“This stuff is non-transparent by design,” said Josh Paul, a State Department official handling congressional relations who resigned in October in protest of the Biden administration’s policy on the Gaza war.

The U.S.-supplied arms since the beginning of the Gaza war include at least 23,000 precision guided weapons, including Hellfire air-to-ground missiles, drones, and Joint Direct Attack Munition kits, which turn unguided bombs into “smart” bombs, along with other similar weapons, U.S. officials said.

Israel has also received 58,000 155mm artillery shells and munitions for its Iron Dome air defense system, the officials said.

Most of the weapons and systems came out of U.S. stockpiles in the early days of the war. The flow has dropped off in recent months as the Pentagon has run short of munitions it can provide Israel quickly, while also meeting Ukraine’s needs and maintaining sufficient U.S. stockpiles, the officials said. The U.S. has provided 1,000 precision guided munitions and artillery shells in the past month, U.S. defense officials said.

The handling of weapons shipments to Israel stands in contrast to the administration’s approach to arming Ukraine in its war against Russia’s invasion, in which the Defense Department has

regularly published lists of arms that it sends to Kyiv. While not all transfers to Ukraine are made public, the Pentagon provides updates on the total amount of military assistance.

For Israel, the American weapons transfers have allowed the military to sustain the war in Gaza while also staying ready for the possible outbreak of a full-scale war with Hezbollah, a Lebanon-based Shiite militant group with an arsenal of missiles supplied by Iran. The group is considered a more capable adversary than Hamas. Israel and Hezbollah have engaged in a slow-burning cross-border conflict since the war in Gaza began.

The Israeli military has dipped into its own arms stockpiles it maintains on its northern border, but not to an extent that would undermine its ability to fight Hezbollah, said a senior Israeli military official. Israel is concerned that U.S. supplies could taper off if Biden were to apply more pressure to Israel, or threats from China and Russia were to take precedence over the effort to arm Israel, the official said.

“There’s nothing that Israel can say that it has not gotten. Israel got basically what it needed. When you look into the future, I don’t think it’s necessarily going to stay like that,” the Israeli military official said.

Lawmakers and congressional aides say that the administration has broken with decades of government practice by failing to provide, except in a few cases, what is known as an “informal notification” to key congressional leaders of arms deliveries to Israel in which legislators are given weeks to review a potential sale or transfer before the administration sends legally required formal notification.

“There is nothing in the law that prevents the administration from saying ‘this is an emergency and we have to do it. Our national security is at risk,’” said Lawrence Korb, senior fellow at the Center for American Progress. “Usually the executive branch errs on the side of caution.”

Mahalo for your attention to this crucial matter, and for supporting, along with Senator Hirono and Congresswoman Tokuda, in urging the other delegates to call for an immediate and permanent ceasefire.

Aloha,

Mary Lacques

Hale'iwa

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 2:54:14 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Puanani Kanealii	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.

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 2:54:52 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
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.

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 2:56:07 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?**



**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 2:56:15 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
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

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 2:57:19 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Hoolaikahiluonalani Tjorvatjoglou	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

More than 30,000 innocent civilians killed by Israel backed by the US with impunity. More than half are women and children. 20 people killed by starvation. All in 5 months. SUPPORT A PERMINANT CEASEFIRE NOW. END THE OCCUPATION. FREE PALESTINE.

Testimony in Support of SCR 6 – 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 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024

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Dear Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Elefante, and members of the committee,

I am writing to express **STRONG SUPPORT for SCR 6**, 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 7<sup>th</sup> 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 6.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this important measure.

Abbey Seitz

**SR-6**

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

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Shannon Pomaika'i Hennessey	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing in strong support of SR6

**LATE**

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 3:01:31 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Alan R. Spector	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing in opposition to SR6 which urges Hawai'i's Congressional Delegation to support Rep. Cori Bush's resolution for an immediate and permanent ceasefire. While we would all like to see the Israel-Hamas conflict come to an end, Rep. Bush's resolution is inadequate, unrealistic, and has minimal support in the US House of Representatives.

On Oct 6, 2024, there was a permanent ceasefire between Israel and Hamas which was broken by Hamas on Oct 7. On that day, Hamas crossed the border into Israel, brutally murdered 1200 people, and took 240+ people hostage. I remind you that Hamas is classified as a terrorist organization by the USA and many countries. It's stated goal in its covenant is the total destruction of Israel, the establishment of an Islamic Caliphate, and the murder of all Jews worldwide. Oct 7 demonstrated that Hamas is quite serious about its goals. Rep. Cori Bush's resolution for a permanent ceasefire does NOT call for the release of hostages and it leaves Hamas in power over Gaza. Her resolution is a capitulation to Hamas.

The only type of permanent ceasefire that is realistic is one that requires all hostages to be released, immediate humanitarian assistance to the Palestinians in Gaza, the disarmament of Hamas, and the creation of a new government to rule the Gaza Strip.

By supporting this resolution, you are supporting the continued existence of Hamas which committed the worst atrocity against Jews since the Holocaust. I don't believe this resolution is within the purview of the Hawai'i State Senate and ask that you vote no.

Mahalo

Alan R. Spector, Kaneohe

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 3:02:05 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 SR6. 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 grand-children 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. Gazans are further dehumanized. Children are slaughtered.

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

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



**RE:** Support of SC6 - 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

**LATE**

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 3:04:29 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.

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 3:07:58 PM

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



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Larry Duclayan	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**Testimony in Opposition to Hawaii Senate Resolution SR6**

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**To the Honorable Members of the Hawaii Senate,**

[I am writing this testimony to express my strong opposition to Senate Resolution SR6, which urges members of Hawaii's congressional delegation to support the Ceasefire in Gaza Resolution introduced by United States Congresswoman Cori Bush1.](#)

While the intent behind SR6 may appear noble, a closer examination reveals that it does not serve the best interests of the people of Hawaii. Here are several reasons why SR6 should be reconsidered:

**1. Misplaced Priorities:**

- Hawaii faces its own unique challenges, including economic disparities, healthcare access, and environmental concerns. Allocating time and resources to a resolution focused on a foreign conflict diverts attention from pressing local issues.
- Our state should prioritize matters that directly impact our residents, such as affordable housing, education, and infrastructure.

**2. Lack of Direct Benefit:**

- The resolution calls for support of a ceasefire in Gaza, a region thousands of miles away. While advocating for peace is commendable, it does not directly benefit Hawaii's citizens.
- Our representatives should focus on policies that directly improve the lives of our constituents, rather than engaging in international affairs.

**3. Complexity of the Conflict:**

- The Israeli-Palestinian conflict is deeply entrenched, with historical, political, and cultural complexities. A simple resolution cannot adequately address the nuances of this longstanding dispute.
- Hawaii's lawmakers should prioritize issues where their expertise and influence can make a meaningful impact.

**4. Resource Allocation:**

- Supporting the resolution may require diverting resources from other critical areas. Hawaii's limited resources should be channeled toward initiatives that directly benefit our communities.
- We must ensure that taxpayer funds and legislative efforts are used effectively and efficiently.

**5. Local Solutions First:**

- Rather than focusing on international conflicts, our representatives should work collaboratively to find local solutions. Addressing poverty, education, and healthcare within our state should be our primary concern.
- Hawaii's unique culture and diverse population deserve targeted attention from our elected officials.

In conclusion, while advocating for global peace is admirable, Senate Resolution SR6 does not serve the immediate needs of Hawaii's residents. Let us prioritize local issues and work toward solutions that directly benefit our communities.

Thank you for considering my testimony.

Mahalo,

Larry Duclayan

**LATE**

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 3:10:51 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 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,

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**

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 3:17:15 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Michele Yacoub	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 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**

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 3:26:36 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Christina Sanchez	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 families and children. The level of casualties and suffering is unprecedented.

Some 40,000 innocents 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 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. This forced starvation has 1 in 6 Palestinian children under the age of 2 suffering from acute 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 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. If you would not accept a world as it is for your own children, you must not accept it for someone else's. That cannot be accomplished as long as the violence and genocide continues.

In solidarity,

Christina



**LATE**

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 3:29:28 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Mariam Fawaz	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 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**

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 3:34:01 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Georgia L Hoopes	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support SR6

Mahalo,

Georgia Hoopes, Kalaheo

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 3:42:18 PM

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

**LATE**

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
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**

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 3:53:22 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Diane Yang	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 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**

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 3:54:17 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Troy Schacht	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Time to work on peace

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 4:12:42 PM

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:

Aloha, I am asking my hawaii state representatives to support cori bush's ceasefire call, effective immediately, with full unwavering support for a permanent ceasefire as demanded by your constituents. if you are at all like me, you have been feeling absolutely sick to your stomach for the last 5 months as the US has armed Israel and continued to support them 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 Israel's cruel military slaughter. As I offer families massage and fancy teas for pp 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.

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 heath 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 well 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**. Speak up for humanity.

Mahalo! Alysha Higgins

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 4:23:02 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 SR6. 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**

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 4:24:28 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
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!

**LATE**

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 4:26:42 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Tai Demura-Deovore	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

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

My name is Tai Demura-Devore, I am a senior at Punahou School, and I **strongly support** Senate Resolution NO. 6. Hawaii must stand for peace and humanitarian efforts in this brutal conflict.

This explosion of violence has resulted in massive amounts of suffering and the loss of innocent lives. The scenes from this conflict are heartbreaking and demand great action be taken by the international community. As a member of the international community, Hawaii should play a role in the call for this violence to end. This ceasefire is crucial for diplomacy and for humanitarian aid to reach those most in need.

I have grown up in Hawaii, a place of peace and unity. As a diverse and multicultural state, we understand the importance of respecting differences. Supporting this ceasefire is in line with the values I see in Hawaii. Regardless of nationality or religion, peace is something we can strive for, and this Senate resolution is one step we can take toward a more diplomatic and peaceful world.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify,

Tai Demura-Devore

**LATE**

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 4:32:59 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Lorraine Iliya	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 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**

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 5:09:48 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
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.

**LATE**

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 5:12:37 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 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**

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 5:15:01 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
keanu nordstrom	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.

**LATE**

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 5:15:45 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Rosemary Bearden	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of SR6. The level of civilian casualties in Gaza is unprecedented and horrific. 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. My family is Jewish, and because of this I will never stand for the genocide of any people. Never again means never again for anyone, and what is happening in Gaza is a genocide. We can no longer watch without taking action.

Personally, I have been contacting my representatives near daily since October demanding a permanent ceasefire and an end to the flow of weapons and money the US has been sending Israel, even as we watch Israel commit a genocide. Please, please take this action.

Mahalo,

Rosemary Bearden

Nīnole, Hawai'i 96773

**LATE**

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 5:48:28 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Haylee Watson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Members of the Committee,

I'm testifying in strong support of SR6. 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

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 5:50:10 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,

**LATE**

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 6:11:37 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Madison Ashak	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of SR6. 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.

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.



**LATE**

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 6:42:20 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Erica Yamauchi	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this resolution for a ceasefire.'

**LATE**

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 6:54:26 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
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

**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.

**LATE**

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 7:13:07 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
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

**LATE**

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 7:19:48 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
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 our tax dollars to fund the genocide of the Palestinian civilians!! Immediately allow real humanitarian aid to get to the desperate people of Palestine. Stop killing and starving to death children!!! Support the ceasefire resolution in Gaza!! STOP THE GENOCIDE NOW!!

**LATE**

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 7:33:43 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Maryam Siddiqui	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As a fellow person, I urge you to try your hardest to fight for a ceasefire in Gaza. Innocent people are being tortured and killed. Shouldn't we fight for them? They are suffering! And you are in control of your own actions only. If I were you, I would do what I can. Thank you for reading.

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 8:01:34 PM

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



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Shereen Hamed	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha committee members,

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 SR6 and call for a permanent ceasefire now!

Mahalo,

Shereen Hamed



**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 8:06:34 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 urge you to support SR6 , calling on a ceasefire in Gaza. The atrocities that have been taking place in Gaza, and Israel since Oct 7th , need to stop. We ask that you support a full and immediate ceasefire, facilitate humanitarian aid, and begin negotiations for a lasting peace.

The Green Party of Hawai'i asks that you support SR6.

Mahalo nui,

Susan RobertsEmery

Co chair GPH

**LATE**

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 8:11:56 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
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.

**LATE**

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 8:34:54 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Aaron Donaldson	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 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**

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 8:42:26 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Dylan Fujitani	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support the resolution.

**LATE**

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 8:46:12 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Chalida McCann	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**

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 8:55:26 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
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



**LATE**

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 9:02:01 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jazmine Uyehara	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am testifying in strong support of SR6. 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.

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 9:13:24 PM

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

**LATE**

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Heather Borst	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am testifying to strongly support SR6 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 SR6 in support of a ceasefire.

**LATE**

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 9:14:41 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
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 SR6, 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 SR6 and stand for what the US is supposed to stand for, fairness and justice.

Mahalo,

Dave Mulnix, CoFounder & Statewide Organizer

Our Revolution Hawaii

**LATE**

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 9:23:40 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Gloria Palma	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this measure.

**LATE**

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 9:34:12 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Alec Zarenkiewicz	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 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**

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 9:34:50 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
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."

**LATE**

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 9:51:44 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
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.

**LATE**

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 9:54:15 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Nadia Alves	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Mahalo for scheduling and hearing this important measure.

I stand in **strong support** of SR6/SCR13, 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**

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 9:58:00 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Dianne Deauna	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the Senate Public Safety Committee,

I am writing in strong support of Senate Resolution 6, which urges members of Hawai'i's congressional delegation to support the Ceasefire in Gaza Resolution introduced by US Congresswoman Cori Bush.

**LATE**

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 10:12:35 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
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**

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 10:21:22 PM  
Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
pamela burrell	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Stop the madness death and destruction of innocent peoples lives.

please,

pamela burrell

Kalihiwai, Kaua'i

**LATE**

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 10:57:57 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Pete Doktor	Testifying for Veterans for Peace, Hawai`i Ch. 113	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha e Senate,

Veterans for Peace is in strong support of Cori Bush's resolution as a military veterans organization opposed to the misuse of armed self-defense for political and economic agendas, particularly ones with such a disproportionate number and scale of civilian deaths. VFP stands against all such acts of genocide, military occupation and settler colonial violence as exemplified by the Netanyahu regime. The next biggest tragedy against these crimes against humanity is the fact the USA is arming and enabling this carnage that nothing, not even October 7th, can justify.

This is not self-defense. These are war crimes. Permanent ceasefire now and immediate and unfetterd relief and recovery.

E Mālama Pono,

Pete Doktor

Co-founder, Veterans for Peace, Hawai`i (O`ahu) Ch. 113

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 12:55:16 AM

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

**LATE**

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
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**

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 1:49:23 AM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Momi Nuuhiwa	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support SR6 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 multiateral 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 profitting 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 Palestinian's sovereignty. Palestinians and Planet deserve PEACE.

**LATE**

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 2:11:18 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.



**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/7/2024 3:05:25 PM

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

**LATE**

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.

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 5:15:19 AM  
Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

**LATE**

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Karen Chun	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Well eradicating Hamas is laudable, it is impossible to do without genocide against the Palestinians. There must be a ceasefire. We cannot be responsible for supplying the weapons that fuel a genocide.

**LATE**

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 5:43:10 AM  
Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Teresa Parmenter	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Oppose SR6. YOU ALL should be ashamed of yourselves for focusing on ANY legislation or resolution that does not directly benefit the people of Hawaii. YOU ALL were elected to focus on Hawaii and WE THE PEOPLE

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 6:23:33 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**

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 7:40:18 AM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
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

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 7:55:32 AM

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

**LATE**

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
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.



**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 7:57:43 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 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.

**LATE**

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 9:11:57 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.

**LATE**

I support a ceasefire.

A ceasefire will allow necessary aid to go in and help the people of Gaza. Mainly, the casualties have been the innocent children and women. Many children have been sent to their deaths by starvation. They are lacking water, sustenance, and medical aid. Also to note, many medical professionals and reporters have not been spared of falling victims to the atrocities.

A ceasefire will allow communication so negotiation for the release of the hostages can occur, and for independent international investigations to look into war crimes committed by all parties.

**LATE**

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 9:19:48 AM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
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.

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 9:21:15 AM

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

**LATE**

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
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

**LATE**

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, 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 SR6 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

**LATE**

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 9:58:43 AM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Christopher Boscole	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

No more US aid support for Israel to use US weapons to commit mass war crimes of genocide as well as displacement of almost 2 million people and the worst humanitarian man 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.



**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 10:21:58 AM  
Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

**LATE**

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Joseph Wat	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am horrified by the United States' support of oppression and dispossession of the Palestinian people. Demand a ceasefire and significant aid to support the Palestinians.

**LATE**

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 10:34:20 AM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Hana-Lei Ji	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of SR6. 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

**LATE**

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 10:39:43 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**

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 10:58:57 AM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
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**

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 11:05:31 AM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
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.

**LATE**

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 11:13:57 AM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
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.

**LATE**

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 11:30:03 AM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Catherine Daniels Riveros	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I would like to 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 the profound human suffering endured by its inhabitants. 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.

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 11:31:21 AM

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

**LATE**

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Michael EKM Olderr	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

While Israel has a right to defend itself as a sovereign nation in response to the brutal October 7th led by Hamas, its retaliation on Gaza and her people is horrendous. There have been more civilian deaths in Gazathann in the entirety of the war between Russia and Ukraine. They have engaged in collective punishment, which is a war crime under the doctrines of the UN, and bombed any refuge that civilians may be seeking. If this had been able to the hostages and the brutality of Hamas, Israel could have hit a few targets, sent in a special forces team, and extracted the hostages while eliminating key targets of Hamas. Instead, they have chosen to bombard people who are already living under the terror of Hamas, block all aid and relief, and subject innocent people to continue to live in terror. This is not a war but a slaughter, and the US is complacent in it; we must use our voices to help put it to an end. Gaza has seen enough violence and bloodshed, and countless hospitals, shelters, and religious sites have been destroyed because of this. Israel will listen if the US stops supplying the weapons and enter negotiations. Please do your part and use your voice to ensure peace for those in dire need.



**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 11:33:50 AM  
Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

**LATE**

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Michelle Young	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support the ceasefire resolution and the restoration of humanitarian aid to people in Gaza. Please urge our federal government leaders to provide real accountability for Israel to respect international humanitarian laws and suspend funding for military equipment until they do.

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 11:46:29 AM

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



<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kaleiheana-a-Pohaku Stormcrow	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha mai kākou,

I am writing in strong support of SR6, 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

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 11:51:34 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.

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 11:55:59 AM

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



<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
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.

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 12:00:07 PM

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



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Harmony Laufou	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I will keep things brief and say that we need to call for a ceasefire. The blatant disregard for human life is apparent in this prolonged genocide and the silence of our government officials, and it needs to end now. I see no benefit in supporting the indiscriminate violence towards and murdering of literally thousands of lives across Palestine. This all needs to end. We need a ceasefire *now*.

**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 letter of each word being capitalized and prominent.

Sonja Giardina



**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 1:07:47 PM

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



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Boyce Brown	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The occupied Kingdom of Hawaii and the Hawaii State Legislature must stand firmly on the side of basic humanity and pass this resolution, with proposed amendments. The amendments include expressions of support for 1) the Boycott, Divestment and Sanction movement against the apartheid zionist entity, 2) initiating article 6 procedures under the United Nations charter to evict the apartheid zionist entity from that body, and 3) a one-state solution.

The indigenous Palestinians have suffered decades of wholesale murder, violence, dispossession, arbitrary detention, ritual humiliation, harassment, destruction and theft of homes, ancient olive groves and other agricultural lands, theft of harvests, and destruction and theft of water resources at the hands of zionist terrorists and colonizers going as far back as the British Mandate period, on through al-Nakba, and up until the present day.

2023 marked the 75th anniversary of al-Nakba (during the so-called founding of the apartheid zionist entity) and the establishment of apartheid in South Africa.

Over 750,000 Palestinians were evicted from their homes and over 15,000 were murdered in dozens of villages by zionist marauders during the immoral and illegal Nakba

Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch and even Israeli human rights organization B'Tselem have all issued reports recently clearly demonstrating that Israel is an apartheid state.

Since a two-state solution based on 1967 borders is a practical impossibility in Palestine, the only path forward is a one-state solution.

Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions, the same strategy that was central to the dismantlement of South African apartheid, must be part of a multi-pronged approach of international solidarity and moral witness to help liberate Palestinians from the river to the sea under a new political regime of one person, one vote.

Lawyers representing South Africa, the Arab League, Turkiye and Zambia before the International Court of Justice have all made it abundantly clear that the apartheid zionist entity is conducting a genocide. Indeed, it is the first genocide playing out daily before our eyes on social media.

As an occupied people, Palestinians have the right to armed resistance under international law. The apartheid zionist entity has absolutely no right to self-defense under international law, if the wholesale slaughter of a defenseless civilian population could even be called “self-defense” The only obligation occupiers have to an occupied people is to end the occupation.

Ku Kia’i Palestina!

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 1:17:59 PM

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

**LATE**

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Aisling Kennedy	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Since October, Israeli forces have killed at least 31,000 Palestinians and wounded at least 72,000. They've have forcibly displaced close to 2 million civilians, the majority of the population of Gaza. They have killed and continue to endanger Israeli hostages. They have bombed hospitals, schools, refugee camps, mosques, and churches. They have killed journalists, healthcare workers and aid workers. UNICEF estimates at least 17,000 children in the Gaza Strip are unaccompanied or separated. Israel continues to block food, water, fuel, medical care and other much needed aid from entering Gaza. Civilians are now being killed not just by Israeli bombs and gunfire, but by starvation and disease. The only viable humanitarian solution is an immediate and permanent ceasefire.

**LATE**

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 1:21:45 PM  
Testimony for PSM on 3/8/2024 3:00:00 PM

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

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 1:27:10 PM

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

**LATE**

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
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.

**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

**LATE**

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 2:02:06 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 SR6 urging members of Hawaii'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.



**LATE**

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 2:21:40 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kinsley McEachern	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am testifying in strong support of SR 6. 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

**LATE**

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 2:29:04 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Tanya Aynessazian	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Tanya Yamanaka aynessazian from Pahoia and I support SR6 wholeheartedly.

60 seconds to comment on the most horrific world conflict of our time, and that is saying something. The US State Dept confirmed last week thirty thousand dead women and children. The targeted eradication of an entire people taking place in Palestine is livestreamed for us all to bear witness. Mothers, babies, aunties and uncles, entire families, hospitals, doctors, aid workers, hundreds of people are dying each and every day on our watch. As we watch.

The targeting of innocent civilians is a not only a violation of international humanitarian law but also of basic morality and human decency. The politics of war and genocide are real. What privilege exists for positional leaders who have diplomatic and community influence who can look away, disassociated from the daily reality of the violence and instabilities of war. What privilege each of us has here today to be able to choose whether or not to stand for peace, or to sit in the shadows, silently condoning war and enabling genocide.

Each of us is here, now, in the paradox of life and death, good and evil, privilege and purpose, for a reason. This is where the path of war and violence, separation and hate has led us. When will we say no to this insanity? Who will stand for peace?

Tanya Yamanaka Aynessazian

Pahoia, HI

**LATE**

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 2:34:11 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.

**LATE**

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 3:20:10 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**

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 3:21:15 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
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.

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 3:28:26 PM

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



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ellen LaPenna	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

Thank you for receiving my testimony. I have been very upset by my country's support of this war which has continued without restraint. This is not retaliation, this is genocide! Below these taking points is also something I wrote a few months ago.

- 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.

This is something personal I wrote in the realm of poetry or prose:

The Black Pig



This morning, the forest bright, crickets stream their fountains of sound into the air as I watch the big flatbed shuffle down the driveway holding a big black boar.

The hunter came, no warning text on his arrival, and the bullet shot through the air, shot through nerves and bone and black rough hair. My dog, who had faithfully sounded the alarm at 4:30, and every few minutes thereafter, quietly dove under the bed, while I shuttered – a migraine rocking in my head like heavy river stones.

Minutia, like the mashed, purple sweet potatoes I cannot eat now because I added expired coconut milk. A little was OK but when I added more, I felt the mass of deep lavender loveliness turn. My taste buds, greedy and still grasping to lick the spoons and bowls, rewarded me with a palpable vice.

A little trouble is OK but not this much. So many things are canned and out of date. My own somnambulance is what woke me just before the dog, just before the pig was caught in the trap.

It was minutia, made of recipe regrets and Black Friday purchases, in contrast to the open air soup that is Gaza, boiling in its extermination.

The last time I looked, 8,000 were people dead, which is the population of the largest district in Hawaii where I live. Yesterday, my friend told me it's 15,000 now, almost double the number of men, women and children living in the 922 square miles of Ka'u, which is more than six times the size. . . . I get lost in facts and figures. . . my head, booming.

So, the pig. I see it lying on its side now — open mouth and tusks, broken from previous battles —bloody. They always look so peaceful after they die and today is no different, but the timing – the seeing of all the ways I distract myself and think I can escape the realities of that many dead children.

Someone said, the smallest caskets are the heaviest but there are no caskets and some of the potential atrocities are beyond even my courage to write.

To speak of these things is not anti-Semitic — it is human to look and to witness. Halfway around the world is still my world and today a sacrifice was made, so that I could see — once more, at least see.

Thank you.

Thank you and aloha,

Ellen

**SR-6**

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 4:14:04 PM

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

**LATE**

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Peggy Kwi-Suk Hong	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

A Gazan child dies every 10 minutes. How many will die at the hands of USA bombs while we debate?