

Ethnicity: Japanese Place of Birth: Fukishima, Japan

**Party Affiliation**: Democratic **Highest Elected Position**: US Senate (2013-now)

## Other Positions:

US House of Representatives, 2nd District (2007-13); Lieutenant Governor of Hawai'i (1994-2002); Hawai'i House of Representatives (1980-94)

Dylan Nishi (SFSU 2021)

## Mazie Keiko Hirono (b. November 3, 1947)

Mazie was eight years old when she fled Japan with her mother and brother to start a new life in America. Her college years opened her eyes to advocacy and public service. In 2013, Mazie became the first elected female senator in Hawai'i and the first APIA woman elected to the Senate. She has championed civil rights policies for underrepresented communities, Native Hawaiian education, early child nutrition programs, and healthcare. Mazie founded the Patsy T. Mink Political Action Committee in 2004 to support other women running for office, and she led the movement to establish January 30 as the "Fred Korematsu Day of Civil Liberties and Constitution." In April 2021, Mazie introduced a bill to decrease hate crimes against Asian Americans that was passed by the Senate.