

TESTIMONY

SB 633

LATE

From: F [mailto:F@hawaii.edu]
Sent: Thursday, February 26, 2009 8:31 PM
To: WTLTestimony
Subject: Senate for Senate Bill SB 633

WTL TESTIMONY

To whom it may concern,

My name is Noah Freeman. I've been farming for 15 years. My family and I grow Organic Papaya's. I am a Homestead farmer and a MIS user. I support Bill SB 633. The seats on the Advisory Board should be 2/3 homestead farmer and a MIS user as found in the Hawaiian Homestead Act of 1920. This is why I support Senate Bill 633.

From: Faith Tuipulotu [auli@hawaii.edu]
Sent: Thursday, February 26, 2009 8:22 PM
To: WTLTestimony
Subject: Senate for Senate bill SB 633

LATE TESTIMONY

To whom it may concern,

My name is Faith Tuipulotu. I have been farming for 10 years. My family and I grow Organic Papaya's and Tongan Yams. I am a Homestead Farmer and a MIS user. I support Bill SB 633.

I believe those seating on the Advisory Board be 2/3 homestead farmer and a MIS user as found in the Hawaiian Homestead Act of 1920. For this reason I support Senate Bill 633.

From: Viola [tippy@sandwichisles.net]
Sent: Thursday, February 26, 2009 10:13 PM
To: WTLTestimony
Subject: SB 633

LATE TESTIMONY

The Senate
The Twenty-Fifth Legislature
Regular Session of 2009

Committee on Water, Land, Agriculture, and Hawaiian Affairs
Senator Clayton Hee, Chair
Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE: Friday, February 27, 2009
TIME: 2:45 PM
PLACE: Conference Room 229
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

**SENATE BILL 633
RELATING TO WATER**

I, Viola K. Mundrick-Wichman, am a homestead farmer and I have been farming for 10 years and I support Senate Bill 633. It is only right that those serving on the MIS advisory board be 2/3 homestead farmers to coincide with our 2/3's right to the water per our Hawaiian Homes Act of 1920. For that reason I support Senate Bill 633.

Respectively submitted – Viola K. Mundrick-Wichman

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 26, 2009 10:26 PM
To: WTLTestimony
Cc: almurak67@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB633 on 2/27/2009 2:45:00 PM
Attachments: 2009 02 27 SB 633 testimony.docx

LATE TESTIMONY

Testimony for WTL 2/27/2009 2:45:00 PM SB633

Conference room: 229
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Alan T. Murakami
Organization: Native Hawaiian Legal Corporation
Address: 1164 Bishop Street #1205 Kailua, HI 96734
Phone: 808-721-3070
E-mail: almurak67@gmail.com
Submitted on: 2/26/2009

Comments:

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AGRICULTURE AND HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

RE: SB 633

February 27, 2009, 2:45 PM

State Capitol Room 229

LATE TESTIMONY

I SUPPORT this bill.

The complexity of the Moloka'i Irrigation System (MIS) and the trust duties associated with running the MIS truly mandate a revolutionary degree of reform to cure all the past problems encountered by Hawaiian homestead farmers. Ultimately, if the DHHL were truly acting as an advocate for these farmers, it would immediately take over the MIS from the Department of Agriculture. The history of the operation of the MIS under both the DLNR and the DoA is truly tragic and disastrous. Moreover, the political interests in favor of the status quo have succeeded in covering up the extent of the mismanagement and violation of trust duties that have plagued the operation of the MIS for decades.

It is undisputed that the MIS was built specifically to address the irrigation water needs of homestead farmers on the island. Over time, however, many public officials have forgotten the trust duties they owe beneficiaries of the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act. This neglect and refusal to observe the priority of water use for homesteaders has masked the serious injuries the responsible administrators have inflicted systemically and chronically on the homesteaders affected. The priority owed homesteaders must be respected.

Thus, this modest proposal to turn over 4/7 representation on the Moloka'i Advisory Committee is an extremely modest response to the record of mismanagement and neglect of the interests of homesteaders over the past 4 decades. It is a minimal step on the road to reform of the system's operations and management. By statute, homesteaders are entitled to the first right to 2/3 of the water provided by the MIS. Proportionate representation on this advisory committee is a foundational prerequisite for the less than ideal scheme for governance of the system.

For all of the above reasons, I ask you to PASS this bill.

Alan T. Murakami
Native Hawaiian Legal Corporation
1164 Bishop St. #1205
Honolulu, HI 96813

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, February 27, 2009 6:18 AM
To: WTLTestimony
Cc: agres@maui.net
Subject: Testimony for SB633 on 2/27/2009 2:45:00 PM
Attachments: SB633.doc

LATE TESTIMONY

Testimony for WTL 2/27/2009 2:45:00 PM SB633

Conference room: 229
Testifier position: comments only
Testifier will be present: Yes
Submitted by: Dean Okimoto
Organization: HFBF
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: agres@maui.net
Submitted on: 2/27/2009

Comments:
Request current language be replaced with that in SB828



LATE TESTIMONY

TESTIMONY

**Senate Committee on Water, Land, Agriculture and Hawaiian Affairs
SB 633 Relating to Water**

Chairman Hee, and members of the Committee:

Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation is Hawaii's general agriculture advocacy organization. We represent commercial farmers and ranchers across the State. HFBBF provides comments to SB633 which which requires that at least four members of the Molokai irrigation system water users advisory board be Hawaiian homestead farmers who are MIS water users, residents of the island of Molokai and active general excise tax licensees.

HFBBF comes before you today in support of our commercial agricultural operations on Molokai. They have worked with Department of Agriculture to address the long term needs of agriculture on the island. The result was a roadmap – by a grassroots effort and SB828 that was proposed by the Department of Agriculture.

We respectfully request that this measure be amended to reflect the contents of SB828. Thank you for this opportunity to provide our opinion on this matter.

Harry K. & Marlene K. Purdy III
Db: Na Hua o ka `Aina
P.O. Box 84
Ho`olehua, Moloka`i, HI 96729
Phone 808-567-6601



COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND AGRICULTURE, AND HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS
Senator Clayton Hee, Chair
& Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Vice Chair

TESTIMONY OF SUPPORT FOR SB 633

Aloha Senator Hee, Senator Tokuda and Committee Members:

We, the Purdy Ohana are homestead farmers and users of the Moloka`i Irrigation System (MIS). We are in support of SB 633.

The initial intention of the Federal Government was to construct the MIS for the beneficiaries of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands. The MIS was to supply water to the Moloka`i homesteaders that held agriculture land leases of 2 to 40 acres parcels in Ho`olehua. Eventually, the water ratio usage agreement was changed to 2/3 for the homestead farmer and 1/3 to other farmers. This ratio should be used for those that sits on the MIS advisory board, 2/3 homestead farmer and 1/3 other farmers.

A recent audit by the State's lead auditor Ms. Marion Higa recommended that the Department of Agriculture use the 2/3-vs-1/3 ratio for those appointed to the MIS advisory board. We urge you to follow Ms. Higa's recommendation and take action to approve SB 633.

Mahalo,

Harry K & Marlene K Purdy
Owner, Na Hua o ka `Aina
Ho`olehua Homestead Farmers
Members of the Ho`oleua Homestead Agriculture Assn.

Mele

From: Mele [muspencer@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Friday, February 27, 2009 10:04 AM
To: 'WTLTestimony@Capitol.hawaii.gov'
Subject: HEARING on Senate Bill 633, February 27, 2009

WTL TESTIMONY
 FEBRUARY 27, 2009

Keaukaha Panaewa Farmers Association
 P. O. Box 6844, Hilo, HI 96720-8935
 Tel/Fax: 808-959-5026
 Email: kpfa@hawaii.rr.com

TO: Senator Clayton Hee, Chairman, Water, Land, Agriculture and Hawaiian Affairs (WTL) Committee

FROM: Keaukaha Pana'ewa Farmers Association

SUJECT: SENATE BILL 633 RELATING TO WATER, Hearing on Friday, February 27, 2009 at 2:45 p.m.

The Keaukaha Pana'ewa Farmers Association, comprising of 200+ Hawaiian Home Land farm lessees, supports, in part, Senate Bill 633, relating to the composition of the Molokai Irrigation System Advisory Board. If in fact, the Hawaiian Homesteaders are entitled to two-thirds of the water rights from the Molokai Irrigation System, then the board composition should be representative of those homesteaders.

The fact that Hawaiian Homesteaders are being denied water, for any reason, is unconscionable to us and should be to you. We have seen many instances of Hawaiians, homesteaders or not, being denied the most basic element, water, on all the islands. This includes our Island of Hawaii, and we fail to understand how these situations go unfettered.

in all good conscience, we hope your committee and our legislators will do the right thing and support the Molokai homesteaders recommendation to have two-thirds of the MIS Advisory Board comprised of Hawaiian Homesteaders.

Mele Spencer
 President
 Keaukaha Panaewa Farmers Association
 P. O. Box 6844
 Hilo, HI 96720-8935
 Bus/Fax: 808-959-5026
 Email: kpfa@hawaii.rr.com
 or muspencer@hawaii.rr.com

Also faxed to: (808) 586-7330

OFFICERS 2009-2010:

Mele U. Spencer, *President*; Ian Lee Loy, *Vice-President*; Luahiwa Namahoe, *Secretary*; Florence Pua, *Treasurer*;
Directors: Randy Ahuna, Ed Bumatay, Louella Gramberg, Louis Hao, Kenneth Lee, Milnor Lum, Maile Lu'uwai,
 Patrick Kahawaiolaa, Jerryl Mauhili, Eric Reff, Robert Yamada II

COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AGRICULTURE, AND HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Senator Clayton Hee Chair

Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Vice Chair

Hearing: February 27, 2009, 2:45 pm.

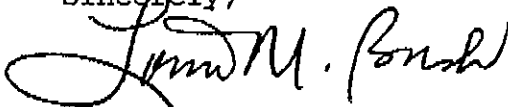
LATE TESTIMONY

**SENATE BILL 633
RELATING TO WATER**

Aloha Kakou,

As the president of the Ahupua'a (Mokupuni) O Moloka'i, who represents seven community associations/organizations: Kamiloloa/One Ali'i Homestead Association; Kapa'akea Homestead Association; Kalama'ula Mauka Homestead Association; Ho'olehua Ag Homestead Association; Ho'olehua Homesteaders Association; Molokai Homestead Farmers Alliance; and the Molokai Homestead Livestock Association, I would like on their behalf to go on record in support of Senate Bill 633. As homesteaders that are directly affected by this decision, we feel that it is only our right that those serving on the MIS advisory board be two thirds homestead farmer MIS user because we have 2/3's rights to the water per our Hawaiian Homes Act of 1920. For that reason we support Senate Bill 633.

Sincerely,



Louise M. Bush, President
Ahupua'a (Mokupuni) O Moloka'i
P.O. Box 159
Ho'olehua, HI 96729
Phone: 808-560-5460

TESTIMONY

SB 633

LATE

(END)