

**TESTIMONY**  
**GM 234 & GM 235**  
**LATE**

LINDA LINGLE  
Governor



# LATE TESTIMONY

SANDRA LEE KUNIMOTO  
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

DUANE K. OKAMOTO  
Deputy to the Chairperson

State of Hawaii  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
1428 South King Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814-2512

## WRITTEN TESTIMONY OF SANDRA LEE KUNIMOTO CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
WATER, LAND, AGRICULTURE, AND HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS  
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2010  
2:45 P.M.  
ROOM 229

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NOS. 234 AND 235  
SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE COMMISSION  
ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, WILLIAM D.  
BALFOUR JR., FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 6-30-2010 AND 6-30-2014

Chairperson Hee and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of the confirmation of William Balfour Jr. to the Commission on Water Resource Management.

I've known Mr. Balfour for over 12 years. I met him when he was establishing a banana farm. He shared his plans for laying out the farm, best management practices, disease management, quality control, harvesting and marketing. I saw first hand the application of his vast experience and knowledge of agriculture and water systems as the plans were implemented and the farm became a viable business.

Adding to his decades of agricultural experience as a manager at Oahu Sugar and in diversified farming, he then turned to public service. As Director of Parks and Recreation of the City and County of Honolulu, he managed and developed the County's park system. He then gave service as the Oahu Civil Defense Administrator to lead the County in response and recovery in case of disasters. Mr. Balfour understands the importance and responsibility of serving in a public capacity.

I believe these qualities make Mr. Balfour a good candidate to serve on the Commission. Agriculture is often not well understood by the general public so his experience will be a valuable asset to bring that perspective into CWRM discussions. His devotion to public service will assure that he will fairly consider the issues that come before the Commission. It is for these reasons that I strongly urge this Committee to affirm the nomination of Mr. Balfour. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

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Fred E. Trotter  
2802 Oahu Avenue  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96822

February 17, 2010  
2:30 p.m.  
State Capitol

**TESTIMONY ON STATE WATER COMMISSION APPOINTMENT OF WILLIAM BALFOUR**

Senate Committee on Water, Land, Agriculture and Hawaiian Affairs  
Honorable Clayton Hee, Chair

Honorable Chair, and Committee Members:

My name is Fred Trotter. I am a long time friend and associate of Mr. Balfour. I am here today to speak in support of his appointment to the Commission on Water Resource Management.

Mr. Balfour is an experienced and highly capable person with many years of very valuable experience in agriculture especially in the sugar business. He has served in many capacities as an employee, manager and consultant and as such he has valuable knowledge that would be extremely helpful to the commission. He also understands the business of water use and water allocation and has had direct experience in this important field of resource management.

In his years of service for the City & County of Honolulu, he has important understanding of the demands on our precious water resource and is able to contribute to the current commission immediately. Mr. Balfour is also an excellent farmer.

Thank you for the privilege of testifying for my good friend and I will be happy to answer any questions that you may have.

Respectfully,

*Fred E. Trotter*

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# LATE TESTIMONY

February 17, 2010

To: The Honorable Clayton Hee  
Chairman, Committee on Water, Land, Agriculture, and Hawaiian Affairs  
State Senate  
415 S. Beretania Street #228  
Honolulu, HI 96813  
Phone 808-586-7330; Fax 808-586-7334  
e-mail [senhee@Capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:senhee@Capitol.hawaii.gov)

From: Mary Jean Castillo-Barkley  
Mother Earth Foundation Environmental Charities  
P.O. Box 37063  
Honolulu, HI 96837  
(808) 275-7127

**Re: GM 234 and GM 235 In Support of William Balfour Jr.  
Nomination to the Commission on Water Resource Management**

Dear Senator Hee and Committee members:

I, Mary Jean Castillo-Barkley, founder of a local environmental charity, strongly support William Balfour's nomination to the Commission on Water Resource Management.

My passion for a green, sustainable earth is exhibited in over a decade of community service and involvement toward **protecting our aina**. The charity that I founded in 1998 called Mother Earth Foundation Environmental Charities (MEFEC) is designed to preserve and protect Hawaii's waterways, highways, schools, neighborhoods, and communities. The organization is dedicated to cleaning, protecting, and preserving the environment from human-induced stresses through various outreach programs and educational forums. We work to promote changes in human behavior with a view to bring an end to activities that degrade and destroy the environment. We envision an environmentally conscious and responsible public in Hawaii, where people and communities at-large are aware of their individual and collective environmental responsibilities.

Mr. Balfour has a proven track record as a leader in Hawaii's sugar industry including managing the City's Parks & Recreation. His long years of service and dedication to his work show his love for our **aina** as well. With his qualification, good heart, and good intentions, I firmly believe that Mr. Balfour will be an asset to the Commission on Water Resource Management.

I strongly support Mr. William Balfour's nomination to the Water Commission.

Sincerely,  
Mary Jean Castillo-Barkley  
Founder  
Mother Earth Foundation Environmental Charities (MEFEC)  
<http://mefec.org/management.asp>



**LATE TESTIMONY**

**Hawaii Agriculture Research Center**

*P.O. Box 100, Kunia, Hawaii 96759  
Ph: 808-621-1350/Fax: 808-621-1359*

**TESTIMONY BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE  
ON WATER, LAND, AND AGRICULTURE**

**GM 234/235**

**CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT  
of  
WILLIAM D. BALFOUR**

**February 17, 2010**

Chairman Hee and Members of the Committee:

My name is Stephanie Whalen. I am Executive Director of the Hawaii Agriculture Research Center (HARC). I am testifying today on behalf of the center and our research and support staff.

**HARC strongly supports the Consideration and Confirmation of WILLIAM D. BALFOUR to the Commission of Water Resource Management.**

Bill has been and remains a very active participant and supporter of agriculture in Hawaii. He was born and raised in the islands and chose agriculture as his career. He has almost 40 years of experience in agriculturally related businesses. He has more than demonstrated his understanding of the inputs necessary to successfully operate an agricultural business in Hawaii, the most remote landmass on the planet.

He has one of the broadest experiences in water systems in the islands as he was the President and Manager of four different plantations during his career. Each with its own unique water management issues.

I have known Bill for over 20 years not only as a plantation manager but later as a public servant for the City and County of Honolulu. He takes extreme pride in doing the best job he can; he is dedicated and committed and most of all he is a "no-nonsense" kind of guy who figures out how to get the job done.

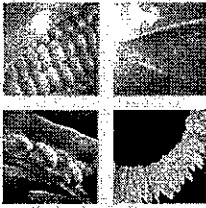
Bill will be a great asset to the commission based on the experience he possesses not only of water systems but about agriculture and its needs. We are extremely pleased he is willing to continue supporting agriculture by continuing his many years of service to the community by participating on this board.

**HARC strongly urges you to confirm WILLIAM D. BALFOUR appointment to the Commission of Water Resource Management.**

# LATE TESTIMONY

## Hawaii Crop Improvement Association

*Growing the Future of Worldwide Agriculture in Hawaii*



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Testimony By: Alicia Maluafiti  
GM 234/GM 235 – Confirmation of Bill Balfour to the  
Commission on Water Resource Management  
The Senate Committee on Water, Land, Agriculture and Hawaiian Affairs  
Wednesday, February 17, 2010  
Room 229, 2:45 p.m.

**Position: Strongly Support**

Aloha Chair Hee, Vice Chair Tokuda, and members of the Committee:

My name is Alicia Maluafiti, Executive Director of the Hawaii Crop Improvement Association. HCIA is a nonprofit trade association representing the agricultural seed industry in Hawaii. Now the state's largest agricultural commodity, the seed industry contributes to the economic health and diversity of the islands by providing high quality jobs in rural communities, keeping important agricultural lands in agricultural use, and serving as responsible stewards of Hawaii's natural resources.

HCIA is proud to offer supporting testimony on the appointment of William D. Balfour Jr. to the Commission on Water Resource Management. Born and raised on the island of Kauai, Mr. Balfour has an appreciation and understanding of the need to balance, protect and enhance Hawaii's water resources. With a bachelor's degree in agriculture and 39 years of work experience in the Hawaii Sugar Industry, he is an icon within the agricultural industry.

Bill Balfour brings strong leadership skills to the Commission. He is known as a common sense, logical and forthright person who operates with integrity, commitment and passion for the task ahead. He is open and honest in his communication and demonstrates genuine interest in just doing the right thing despite the politics.

Hawaii – as well as the island of Oahu – has been a fortunate recipient of Bill's involvement in the public and private sector, and we look forward to working with him again as an important member and valuable asset to the Commission on Water Resource Management.

Mahalo for the opportunity to comment.

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Ewa Beach, HI 96706  
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director@hciaonline.com  
www.hciaonline.com

**TESTIMONY**  
**GM 234 & GM 235**  
**LATE**  
**(END)**