

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR
STATE OF HAWAII

JOSH GREEN
LT. GOVERNOR
STATE OF HAWAII



WILLIAM J. AILA, JR.
CHAIRMAN
HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION

TYLER I. GOMES
DEPUTY TO THE CHAIRMAN

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS

P. O. BOX 1879
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96805

TESTIMONY OF WILLIAM J. AILA, JR, CHAIRMAN
HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION
BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS
HEARING ON MAY 13, 2020 AT 3:00 PM IN CR 016

IN SUPPORT OF

GM622

for consideration and confirmation to the Hawaiian Homes Commission,
Gubernatorial Nominee, **ZACHARY HELM**,
for a term to expire 06-30-2024

May 13, 2020

Aloha Chair Shimabukuro, Vice Chair Kahele, and members of the Committee:

It is an honor to provide this testimony in support of Governor Ige's nomination of Mr. Zachary Helm to continue to serve on the Hawaiian Homes Commission (HHC). Mr. Helm has served on the Commission since 2018.

Through Mr. Helm's extensive work experience with the County of Maui, Department of Parks and Recreation, Maui and Molokai Districts for 30 years; he brings professional and administrative experience, where he honed his analytical skills, and prepared and maintained budgets for a variety of projects. Responsibilities he felt most important were listening to staff and community concerns, and implementation of programs for all age groups that were responsive to the community. He uses this same approach on the Commission while he listens, and gives thoughtful consideration to presentations, testimony, and decision-making. Growing-up and living on Molokai, his roots are in farming.

Mr. Helm's service on several community boards including the Kalama'ula Hawaiian Homestead Association, Friendly Island United Way, Molokai Catholic Community Council, and Molokai Little League Association further evidence his commitment to community service.

We respectfully ask your committee to advise and consent to this nomination, and we thank you for your consideration of our testimony.

Senator Maile S. L. Shimabukuro, Chair
Senator Kaiali'i Kahele, Vice-Chair
COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Pauline Nakoolani Namuo
Hawaiian Homes Commissioner
Email: pnamuo@gmail.com
Cellphone: (808) 292-2610

HEARING DATE: Wednesday, May 13, 2020
TIME: 3:00 p.m.

Support for:

GM 621 Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Hawaiian Homes Commission, Gubernatorial Nominee, MICHAEL KALEIKINI, for a term to expire 06-30-2021.

GM 622 Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Hawaiian Homes Commission, Gubernatorial Nominee, ZACHARY HELM, for a term to expire 06-30-2024.

GM 623 Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Hawaiian Homes Commission, Gubernatorial Nominee, RUSSELL KAUPU, for a term to expire 06-30-2023.

GM 624 Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Hawaiian Homes Commission, Gubernatorial Nominee, RANDY AWO, for a term to expire 06-30-2023.

Dear Senator Shimabukuro, Chair
and Senator Kahele, Vice-Chair

I am Pauline Nakoolani Namuo, a current Hawaiian Homes Commissioner. I have had the privilege of serving with all of these individuals and I strongly support their nominations to the Hawaiian Homes Commission. Their varied ages and backgrounds lend a diverse perspective to our conversations and I believe our discussions will be much more lively as we push to find action oriented solutions to our current economic situation. We need to have a stable and courageous Commission now, and we need to work with YOU to do that.

I humbly ask for your support in supporting these outstanding individuals.

Mahalo,

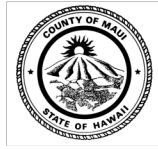
Pauline Nakoolani Namuo
Hawaiian Homes Commissioner

Council Chair
Alice L. Lee

Vice-Chair
Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez

Presiding Officer Pro Tempore
Tasha Kama

Councilmembers
Riki Hokama
Kelly Takaya King
Michael J. Molina
Tamara Paltin
Shane M. Sinenci
Yuki Lei K. Sugimura



Director of Council Services
Traci N. T. Fujita, Esq.

COUNTY COUNCIL
COUNTY OF MAUI
200 S. HIGH STREET
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793
www.MauiCounty.us

May 12, 2020

TO: The Honorable Maile Shimabukuro, Chair
The Honorable Kaiali'i Kahele, Vice-Chair
Honorable Committee Members
Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs

FROM: Keani Rawlins-Fernandez
Council Vice-Chair

SUBJECT: **TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF GM622**

Mahalo for this opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of GM622, confirmation of Mr. Zachary Helm as the Molokai representative on the Hawaiian Homes Commission ("HHC").

Mr. Helm was appointed and confirmed as the Molokai Commissioner in 2018, after the previous commissioner resigned half-way through his term. I have been really impressed with Mr. Helm's performance and service to our Molokai community. He is responsive to the community's needs and goes out of his way to be helpful.

He's a strong advocate for our community, who ensures Molokai is provided the resources needed to be successful. I personally seen him work with homesteaders to help them move forward on long overdue projects. We are truly fortunate that he is willing to continue serving the community in this capacity.

For these reasons, I strongly urge you to confirm Mr. Helm today. Mahalo for continuing your important work to our State during these unprecedented times!

Me ke aloha,

Keani Rawlins-Fernandez

KEANI RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ
Council Vice-Chair
Council Member, Molokai Residency

KALAMA'ULA

Homesteader's Association

P.O. Box 1025 Kaunakakai, Hawaii 96748

(808) 658-6615

May 09, 2020

Senator Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Chair

Senator Kaiali'i Kahele, Vice Chair

Re: Support for Commissioner Helm's reappointment

Aloha,

On behalf of Kalamaula Homesteaders Association Board of Directors and membership, we fully support the reappointment of Commissioner Zachary Helm to the HHC til June 30, 2024.

He has the desire to serve the beneficiaries of the HHCA on all islands. He is an outstanding person with a big heart for his Hawaiian people and with his experience and determination, he will help lead DHHL in the right direction.

We feel fortunate that he is willing to serve and look forward to working with Commissioner Helm on issues that arise.

Mahalo

Stephanie Lauifi

Stephanie Lauifi, KHA BOD President

May 6, 2020

Senator Maile S. L. Shimabukuro, Chair
Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs
Hawaii State Capitol, Rm 222
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96815

Re: Reappointment for ZACHARY Z. HELM for the position of DHHL COMMISSIONER
FOR ISLAND OF MOLOKA'I

ALOHA....

We are the Moloka'i Hawaiian Home Lands Kupuna Committee and we are proudly giving our support and recommendation to have Zachary Z. Helm continue as our island's Commissioner.

There are so many outstanding qualifying factors why we offer our support of this man. His past experiences as the District Superintendent for the County of Maui on Moloka'i and also his position on Maui under Charmaine Tavares, former Mayor of Maui, in a higher similar position makes him more than qualified to be our Commissioner!

After 30+ years of work and now retired; he is an active Leasee and Farmer. Zach is well respected and has done an exemplary job as our Commissioner for the past four years and he has made us proud... he's very friendly, intelligent, knowledgeable and has a wonderful rapport with out homesteaders here.

Zachary Helm is perfect for this role; he has a great insight to the needs of our Native Hawaiian Community and of our people on Moloka'i. We wholeheartedly want him to continue to service on the DHHL Commission for the betterment of Moloka'i beneficiaries, as he truly exemplified the unique qualities of having the "heartbeat" of our people.

Mahalo nui for offering us this opportunity to support this man...Zachary Zane Helm,
Kamaula, Moloka'i.

MOLOKA'I HAWAIIAN HOMELANDS KUPUNA COMMITTEE
P. O. Box 703
Kaunakakai, HI 96748
(808) 658-9316

GM-622

Submitted on: 3/12/2020 9:32:47 AM

Testimony for HWN on 4/7/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Doreen Gaspar	Testifying for Napualei o Hina	Support	No

Comments:

GM-622

Submitted on: 3/11/2020 1:36:15 PM

Testimony for HWN on 4/7/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Victor K. Ramos	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

He's a good man.

GM-622

Submitted on: 3/11/2020 4:00:01 PM

Testimony for HWN on 4/7/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Liliana Napoleon	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I humbly ask to support the re-appointment of Zachary Helm. His commitment to the Molokai DHHL district and the community as a whole is exceptional. The island of Molokai and its people are highly fortunate to have Zachary Helm serve as the Molokai Commissioner.

GM-622

Submitted on: 3/13/2020 9:27:29 AM

Testimony for HWN on 4/7/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Doreen Gaspar	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

March 15, 2020

Maile S.L Shimabukuro, Chair

Kaiali'i Kahele, Vice Chair

Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs

SUBJECT: Testimony in Support of Zachary Helm, GM 622

Aloha Chair Shimabukuro, Vice Chair Kahele, and committee members,

I support the reappointment of Zachary Helm as our Hawaiian Homes Commissioner for Molokai. Commissioner Helm has been very committed to our homesteaders by serving as a conduit between us and the department. He is diligent in making sure our voices are heard, listening to us, and ensuring accountability from the DHHL.

He demonstrated his commitment to the community a few months ago when Nā'iwa Homestead Association planned a meeting to get the department moving forward on the \$1.5 million allocated for the completion of the subdivision, before it was set to lapse this year. When I informed Commissioner Helm of this meeting, without even asking him to, he called DHHL's Project Manager and requested that they send someone over to Molokai to attend. Along with Jeffery Fujimoto, Commissioner Helm eagerly came with the willingness to get us on the path to figure out what was needed and where to go from there. Even after the meeting, he continued to follow up with the department to make sure that things were moving forward, keeping us on the emails that he sent.

I have never been so pleased with the performance of Molokai's commissioner. So with that said, I strongly urge you to reappoint Zachary Helm to this position.

Mahalo,

Faye L. Wallace

EVERETT R. DOWLING

March 16, 2020

Senator Maile S.L. Shimabukuro
Chair
Hawaiian Affairs Committee
The Senate of the State of Hawaii
Hawaii State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: Gubernatorial Nominee to the Hawaiian Homes Commission

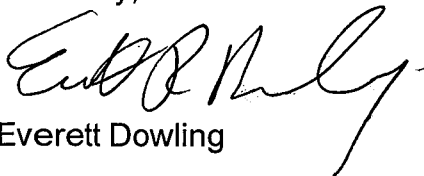
Dear Chair Shimabukuro and Members of the Senate Hawaiian Affairs
Committee,

I am writing in support of the nomination of Mr. Zachary Helm, to serve on the
Hawaiian Homes Commission. Mr. Helm shares a strong desire to serve the
beneficiaries of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands. His experience will
enable him to offer valuable input and guidance to the director and staff of DHHL.

DHHL's beneficiaries and the State of Hawaii as a whole are fortunate that
Zachary is willing to serve on the commission. I wholeheartedly support the
nomination of Mr. Zachary Helm to serve on the Hawaiian Homes Commission.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Everett Dowling", written in a cursive style.

Everett Dowling

GM-622

Submitted on: 3/18/2020 11:54:06 PM

Testimony for HWN on 4/7/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kilia Purdy-Avelino	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am urging the reappointing of Mr. Zachary Helm as our Hawaiian Homestead Molokai Commissioner. In my years of involvement and service on Hawaiian Homestead related boards and our Ho'olehua Homestead Agriculture Association, I have not had the privilege of witnessing a more dedicated representative for our Molokai beneficiaries than Commissioner Helm. He listens to his constituents, carrying the voices of our people to the forefront, and assuring accountability.

My families personal request that has gone to commissioners every year for more than 20 years is finally seeing progress just this year because of Commissioner Helm's persistent actions and communication with the department and our family. There is some light at the end of a 20-year tunnel thanks to a commissioner who is committed to his duties and his constituents.

I believe our Molokai people have waited a long time for an active Hawaiian Homestead Commissioner, representative of our island. We need continuity and our family supports Mr. Zachary Helm.

mahalo nui loa,

Purdy 'Ohana, Lot #4 Lihi Pali Avenue, Ho'olehua, Molokai

GM-622

Submitted on: 5/8/2020 12:49:46 PM

Testimony for HWN on 5/13/2020 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kama Hopkins	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

GM-622

Submitted on: 5/8/2020 1:03:30 PM

Testimony for HWN on 5/13/2020 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lon Paresa	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support Zach Helm for Commissioner of Hawaii Home Lands.

GM-622

Submitted on: 5/10/2020 5:16:45 PM

Testimony for HWN on 5/13/2020 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rosie F Davis	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

I support the re-appointment of Zackery Helm for Hawaiian Homes Commission. I reside in Kalamaula, Molokai, Hawaii.

COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS
Senator Maile S. L. Shimabukuro, Chair
Senator Kaiali'i Kahele, Vice-Chair

HEARING DATE: Wednesday, May 13, 2020
TIME: 3:00 p.m.

Support for **GM 622** Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Hawaiian Homes Commission, Gubernatorial Nominee, ZACHARY ZANE HELM.

Aloha Madame Chair and Senators of the Hawaiian Affairs Committee,

I write to strongly support Zachary Helm's nomination as the Gubernatorial Nominee for Commissioner to the Hawaiian Homes Commission.

I work for the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands, but today I am testifying as an individual. I am a native Hawaiian, raised on a homestead in Hoolehua, Molokai.

Zack is a strong advocate for beneficiaries and waitlisters of the Hawaiian Homes trust. He is especially sensitive to issues that affect his rural Moloka'i community. As a lessee of the oldest homestead community in Hawai'i, one of his main concerns is aging homes and kupuna. He takes his kuleana as a Commissioner seriously and tries his best to advocate for those on the waitlist as well. His dedication to homesteaders is not only advocating for them on the Commission, but in the community as well.

I strongly support the confirmation of Zachary Helm to the Hawaiian Homes Commission.

Mahalo, Leah Burrows-Nuuanu
Beneficiary

From: [Glenn Teves](#)
To: [HWNTestimony](#)
Cc: [Zachary Helm](#)
Subject: Zachary Helm
Date: Wednesday, May 6, 2020 1:38:57 PM

Aloha 'e Maile,

I'm in support of Zachary Helm as the Molokai Commissioner. I feel he's doing the best for Molokai. This is not an easy job and I wouldn't want to take it on.

Mahalo,

Glenn

May 5, 2020

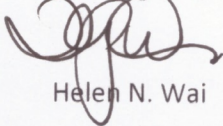
Senator Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Chair
Hawaiian Affairs Committee

Re: Gubernatorial Nominee to the Hawaiian Homes Commission

Aloha Chair Shimabukuro and Members of the Senate Hawaiian Affairs Committee,

As a beneficiary of the Hawaiian Homestead Act, I am writing in strong support for the nomination of Mr. Zachary Helm as a commissioner representing the Island of Molokai. I have witnessed the desire he has and commitment in serving the beneficiaries of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands. As a beneficiary himself he understands the challenges that many of us face. I believe with all his experience he has a lot to offer as a commissioner.

Kind regards,



Helen N. Wai

From: [Stacy Helm Crivello](#)
To: [HWNTestimony](#)
Subject: GM 622
Date: Friday, May 8, 2020 12:47:48 PM

Senator Maile S. Shimabukuro, Chair Hawaiian Affairs
Senator Kaiali'I Kahale, Vice Chair
Committee on Hawaiian Affairs

Stacy Crivello
P O Box 1097
Kaunakakai, HI 96748

Wednesday, May 13, 2020

Support for GM 622, Relating to Confirmation of Mr. Zachary Helm, Department of
Hawaiian Homes Land Commission a term from June, 2020 to June 2024

My name is Stacy Crivello and I am submitting my testimony in support for your consideration and confirmation of Governor Ige's appointment of Mr. Zachary Z. Helm to the Department of Hawaiian Homes Commission, Maui County, Molokai District. Mr. Helm's confirmation will allow his tenure to continue to June 2024.

I am a lifelong homesteader and also Zachary's sister. But, more importantly, my support for Zach's role as a member of DHHL's commission is his sincere commitment to serve us as beneficiaries. He too, is a lifelong homesteader. Born and raised on our homestead lands of Kalamaula, he knows first hands the true meaning of homesteading.

He raised his children on his Kalamaula Homestead and continues to live and farm his homestead.

Accordingly, it is recommended the commission members' blood quantum be that of quarter Hawaiian; Zach's Hawaiian blood lineage is more than 50 per cent Hawaiian.

His leadership capabilities include serving as past president for Kalamaula Homesteaders Association. Mr. Helm also retired as Parks & Recreation District Supervisor from the county of Maui as well as his position as Parks & Recreation deputy director with the county of Maui.

Thank you for your consideration to please confirm Zachary Helm to the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands Commission.

Sincerely,

Stacy Helm Crivello

From: [pakeleki3](#)
To: [HWNTestimony](#)
Subject: Reappointment of HH Commissioner Zachary Helm
Date: Sunday, May 10, 2020 6:45:05 AM

Aloha e ke Komike Kenekoa o Na Kuleana Hawai‘i,

I am a homestead lessee on Molokai and I support the reappointment of Mr. Zachary Helm as our Molokai Hawaiian Homes Commissioner. In his brief term, he has demonstrated and upheld the duties of an honorable Commissioner and we need consistency! He:

- (1) Acts exclusively in the interest of beneficiaries under the Act;
- (2) Holds and protects the trust property for beneficiaries under the Act;
- (3) Exercises such care and skill as a person of ordinary prudence would exercise in dealing with one’s own property in the management of Hawaiian home lands; and
- (4) Adheres to the terms of the trust as set forth in the Act.

Therefore, I ask for your reappointment of Mr. Zachary Helm.

Mahalo nui loa,
Parker English Sr.

Sent from my Samsung Galaxy smartphone.

May 8, 2020

Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs
Attention: Sentaor Maile S.L Shimabukuro, Chair
Senate District 1
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 222

Re: GM622 Reappointment of Hawaiian Homes Commissioner, Mr. Zachary Helm


Aloha mai,

My name is Kilia Purdy-Avelino. I am a fourth generation homesteader of Ho'olehua, Molokai. My great-grandmother moved from Waimea, Hawai'i to Kalama'ula, Molokai with the first wave of pioneer homesteaders, eventually obtaining her own lease in Ho'olehua in 1924, which has now been passed down to my cousin. She was very active in the homesteading movement, leaving us a glimpse of what homesteading was like in their time through her articles she wrote in our Hawaiian Language newspapers.

My father obtained his own lease in 1980 only two lots away. Since then, my parents have always been active in homesteading, both in farming the land and in their homestead associations keeping up with the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL). I first became involved in our homestead associations about six years ago through our Ho'olehua Homestead Agriculture Association as Secretary, which I still hold and then as President of the Ahupua'a o Molokai Homestead Association for one term of three years ending in 2018. In my family's many years of active homesteading and involvement with the DHHL, there has only been a handful of Commissioners who have truly represented Molokai well; Commissioner Helm is one of them. He takes his position as Commissioner professionally, knowing his role is to the beneficiaries. When approached with beneficiary requests or concerns, he listens, he researches, he follows up and follows through till the end. He is committed to the beneficiaries that he serves. We need consistency in our Molokai Commissioner; we need Commissioner Zachary Helm to be reappointed.

It is for these reasons that we, 3 generations of Purdys, sign this letter asking for your support in reappointing Mr. Zachary Helm as our Hawaiian Homestead Molokai Commissioner. And if my grandparents or great-grandparents were still alive, I'm sure they would agree. ☺

Mahalo for your time and consideration,


Kilia W. Purdy-Avelino (4th generation Ho'olehua Homesteader, Lot #4 Lihi Pali Avenue)


Harry K. Purdy III (3rd generation Ho'olehua Homesteader, Lot #4 & Lot # 6 Lihi Pali Avenue)

Wailana Purdy-Avelino
J. Wailana K. Purdy-Avelino (5th generation Ho'olehua Homesteader, Lot #4 Lihi Pali Avenue)

From: [Kilia Purdy-Avelino](#)
To: [HWNTestimony](#)
Subject: Reappointment of HH Commissioner Zachary Helm
Date: Monday, May 11, 2020 1:22:41 AM

Aloha e ke Komike Kenekoa o Na Kuleana Hawai'i,

I am a 4th generation homesteader on Molokai and I support the reappointment of Mr. Zachary Helm as our Molokai Hawaiian Homes Commissioner. In his brief term, he has demonstrated and upheld the duties of an honorable Commissioner and we need consistency! He:

- (1) Acts exclusively in the interest of beneficiaries under the Act;
- (2) Holds and protects the trust property for beneficiaries under the Act;
- (3) Exercises such care and skill as a person of ordinary prudence would exercise in dealing with one's own property in the management of Hawaiian home lands; and
- (4) Adheres to the terms of the trust as set forth in the Act.

Therefore, I ask for your reappointment of Mr. Zachary Helm.

Mahalo nui loa,
Kilia Purdy-Avelino
Lot #4 Lihi Pali Ave, Ho'olehua, Molokai

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Carla Ritte-Hanchett](#)
To: [HWNTestimony](#)
Subject: Reappointment of HH Commissioner Zachary Helm
Date: Saturday, May 9, 2020 9:56:20 PM

Aloha e ke Komike Kenekoa o Na Kuleana Hawai'i,

I am a homestead lessee on Molokai and I support the reappointment of Mr. Zachary Helm as our Molokai Hawaiian Homes Commissioner. In his brief term, he has demonstrated and upheld the duties of an honorable Commissioner and we need consistency! He:

- (1) Acts exclusively in the interest of beneficiaries under the Act;
- (2) Holds and protects the trust property for beneficiaries under the Act;
- (3) Exercises such care and skill as a person of ordinary prudence would exercise in dealing with one's own property in the management of Hawaiian home lands; and
- (4) Adheres to the terms of the trust as set forth in the Act.

Therefore, I ask for your reappointment of Mr. Zachary Helm.

Mahalo nui loa,
Michael & Carla Hanchett

He 'ohu ke aloha, 'a'ohe kuahiwi kau 'ole.
Love is a mist, there is no hill upon which it does not settle.

GM-622

Submitted on: 3/16/2020 8:19:21 AM

Testimony for HWN on 4/7/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rayne	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: