

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
Governor

SYLVIA LUKE
Lt. Governor



State of Hawai'i
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & BIOSECURITY
KA 'OIHANA MAHI'AI A KIA'I MEAOLA
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SHARON HURD
Chairperson
Board of Agriculture & Biosecurity

DEAN M. MATSUKAWA
Deputy to the Chairperson

**TESTIMONY OF SHARON HURD
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE AND BIOSECURITY
BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT**

**MONDAY, MARCH 16, 2026
3:00 P.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 224**

**GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 510
SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE MOLOKA'I
IRRIGATION SYSTEM WATER USERS ADVISORY BOARD, GUBERNATORIAL
NOMINEE, FAITH TUIPULOTU, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 06-30-2030**

Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Richards, and Members of the Committee:

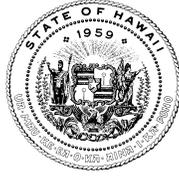
Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Governor's Message No. 510 nominating Faith Tuipulotu to the Moloka'i Irrigation System Water Users Advisory Board.

The department supports her nomination to serve as the Moloka'i – Lana'i soil and conservation district member. Ms. Tuipulotu is retired from the University of Hawai'i College of Tropical Agriculture & Human Resources (CTAHR) Cooperative Extension Service in Hoolehua, after 25 years of employment. She is the current President of the Moloka'i Homestead Farmers Alliance and the Moloka'i Lana'i Soil and Water Conservation District Board.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
STATE OF HAWAII
*Ke Kia'āina o ka Moku'āina 'o
Hawai'i*

SYLVIA J. LUKE
LT. GOVERNOR
STATE OF HAWAII
*Ka Hope Kia'āina o ka Moku'āina
'o Hawai'i*



KALI WATSON
CHAIRPERSON, HHC
Ka Luna Ho'okele

KATIE L. LAMBERT
DEPUTY TO THE CHAIR
Ka Hope Luna Ho'okele

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS

Ka 'Oihana 'Āina Ho'opulapula Hawai'i

P. O. BOX 1879
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96805

TESTIMONY OF KALI WATSON, CHAIRPERSON,
HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION
BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT
MONDAY, MARCH 16, 2026 AT 3:00PM IN CR 224

**GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE (GM) 510, SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND
CONFIRMATION TO THE MOLOKA'I IRRIGATION SYSTEM WATER USERS
ADVISORY BOARD, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, FAITH TUIPULOTU,
FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 06-30-2030**

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Richards, and members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in **support** of GM 510, the nomination of Faith Tuipulotu to the Moloka'i Irrigation System Water Users Advisory Board (MISWUAB).

The Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL) is certain that Ms. Tuipulotu will serve her community well on the MISWUAB because of her diverse skill sets, collaborative work, and education in everything from farm and greenhouse management to water advocacy. Ms. Tuipulotu has served at the University of Hawai'i's College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources – Cooperative Extension Service for over 20 years and the Office of Hawaiian Affairs as an Agricultural Technician in Ho'olehua, Moloka'i, as well as the Outrigger Hotels and Resorts in Waikīkī, O'ahu. An aloha 'āina oriented worker and homesteader, Ms. Tuipulotu has kept her hands, work, and heart in the lepo (dirt, earth) as she has harvested everything from crops to data. Ms. Tuipulotu is best known for her work as President of the Molokai Homestead Farmer's Alliance and DHHL is confident that in this role on the MISWUAB, she will continue to plant and propagate the ideas, plans, and advocacy necessary to secure and maintain water supply and water allocations for Hawaiian Home Lands and the people of Moloka'i-Nui-a-Hina.

Mahalo for this opportunity to provide testimony.



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March 16, 2026

HEARING BEFORE THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

TESTIMONY ON GM 511

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Moloka'i Irrigation System Water Users Advisory Board, Gubernatorial Nominee, FAITH TUIPULOTU, for a term to expire 06-30-2030

Conference Room 224 & Videoconference
3:00 PM

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Richards, and Members of the Committee:

I am Brian Miyamoto, Executive Director of the Hawai'i Farm Bureau (HFB). Organized since 1948, the HFB is comprised of 1,800 farm family members statewide, and serves as Hawaii's voice of agriculture to protect, advocate, and advance the social, economic, and educational interests of our diverse agricultural community.

The Hawai'i Farm Bureau supports the confirmation of Faith Tuipulotu to the Moloka'i Irrigation System Water Users Advisory Board.

Ms. Tuipulotu brings decades of agricultural experience on Moloka'i through her long career with the University of Hawai'i College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources (CTAHR) Cooperative Extension Service in Ho'olehua. During her time as an Agricultural Technician, she worked directly on crop trials, field layout and preparation, irrigation installation, crop management, harvesting, and data collection, and helped present research results to farmers and the community through field days.

Her professional experience also includes work supporting Native Hawaiian agricultural initiatives through the Office of Hawaiian Affairs and hands-on experience in plant propagation and nursery operations. In addition, Ms. Tuipulotu has demonstrated strong leadership in the local agricultural community, serving as President of the Moloka'i Homestead Farmers Alliance and President of the Moloka'i-Lāna'i Soil and Water Conservation District Board.

Reliable irrigation infrastructure is critical to the success of agriculture on Moloka'i. HFB believes Ms. Tuipulotu's extensive agricultural background, technical expertise, and leadership within the farming community will be valuable assets to the Moloka'i Irrigation System Water Users Advisory Board.

Please accept our support for the confirmation of Faith Tuipulotu.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.

THE SENATE
THE THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2026

**HEARING BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON
AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT**

Monday, March 16, 2026 @ 3:00pm
Conference Rm 224
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

Testimony on Agenda item GM 510:

*For consideration and confirmation to the Moloka'i Irrigation System Water Users Advisory Board, Gubernatorial
Nominee:
FAITH TUIPULOTU, for a term to expire 06-30-2030*

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Richards and Respected Members,

– **GM 510 – STRONG SUPPORT for Faith Tuipulotu**

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony. I am a local resident on the island of Molokai and have worked in our island's ag sector for the past 26 years.

The Molokai Irrigation System (MIS), of which the Molokai Irrigation System Water User's Advisory Board (MISWUAB) serves, is the only agricultural water source on our island.

Those of us in the Molokai ag community recognize the MIS' critical role in the continuance and success of agriculture on our island. We are dedicated to working together to keep the MIS operational, affordable and serving its users – as we depend on it.

Having a nominee like Faith Tuipulotu who actively engaged in Molokai agriculture, is critical when it comes to planning and preparing reasonable and responsible advocacy for our only ag water source. Her confirmation will also help this board meet quorum challenges.

FAITH TUIPULOTU has extensive experience with agriculture on Molokai, she has walked the walk for decades. She is a hardworking, respected ag voice who will bring thoughtful, fair and diverse perspectives to serve the betterment of the MIS, and Molokai agriculture.

I am in **strong support of confirming nominee Faith Tuipulotu.**

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Dawn Bicoy
PO Box 1350
Kaunakakai, HI 96748

GM-510

Submitted on: 3/10/2026 4:12:19 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/16/2026 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jill Coombs	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am honored to provide this testimony in support of Faith Tuipulotu's candidacy for membership on the Molokai Irrigation System User Advisory Board. Faith has previously served as a board member and possesses extensive experience in the agricultural community, both from her years at the College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources (CTAHR) and from managing her own homestead farm on Molokai.

Throughout her attendance at meetings as a guest this past year, Faith has consistently contributed valuable insights that reflect the diverse needs and perspectives of our farming community. Her deep understanding of the challenges faced by farmers on Molokai, combined with her hands-on experience, equips her to provide informed and practical recommendations that will benefit all users of the irrigation system.

Faith is not only knowledgeable but also a respected pillar of the agricultural community on Molokai. Her commitment to fostering collaboration and supporting local farmers is evident in her interactions and contributions. We would be fortunate to have her serve on the board, as her viewpoint and expertise are invaluable assets that would enhance our efforts to manage and improve our irrigation resources.

I wholeheartedly endorse Faith Tuipulotu for membership on the Molokai Irrigation System User Advisory Board. Her dedication and experience will undoubtedly strengthen the board's mission and benefit the entire agricultural community.

Thank you for considering this testimony in support of her candidacy.

Sincerely,
Jill Coombs
Non-Homestead User
9808) 658-9849