

ASSOCIATION OF HAWAIIAN CIVIC CLUBS

A RESOLUTION

No. 2019 - 7

HONORING HULU KUPUNA THOMAS HASHIMOTO OF HĀ‘ENA, KAUA‘I FOR HIS UNSELFISH AND UNWAVERING SERVICE TO HIS ‘OHANA (FAMILY) AND HIS KAIĀULU (COMMUNITY) - LEAVING A LEGACY OF ALOHA FOR THE GENERATIONS TO COME

WHEREAS, Thomas Hashimoto was born on July 13, 1934, in Hā‘ena, Kaua‘i, Hawai‘i to his parents, Joseph Mahiula Hashimoto, Sr. and Dora (Poe) Hashimoto; and

WHEREAS, Thomas Hashimoto was preceded in death by his parents; his brothers, John (Jack) Hashimoto, George (Gabby) Hashimoto, Joseph Mahiula Hashimoto, Jr.; sister Violet Hashimoto Goto; sisters-in-law, Florence Kaala Hashimoto and Helen Hashimoto; son-in-law, Howard “Kachi” Yokotake, Jr. and nephew, Thomas Kaina Hideo Hashimoto; and

WHEREAS, Thomas Hashimoto is survived by his wife, Annie (Tai Hook) Hashimoto; children, Thomasine Leilani Romas, Valerie Ann Leolani Yokotake, Haven Iwalani Dawbarn, Taryn Nalani Hashimoto, Dancette Lani Green, Kimberly Wailani Tai Hook and Shann Anolani Hashimoto; fifteen grandchildren; twenty great-grandchildren; and nieces, Junedale Ualani Hashimoto and Jodi Keala Hashimoto-Omo; and

WHEREAS, since he was nine years old, Thomas Hashimoto farmed with his father in Hā‘ena and took care of the lo‘i kalo which is now known as Hā‘ena State Park, a place filled with ancient lo‘i that produced food for the families of Hā‘ena for over 600 consecutive years and the average corm would measure over 18” long and 10” in diameter; and

WHEREAS, in 1950, Thomas Hashimoto worked as a private caretaker for Mrs. Juliet Rice Wichman and ‘Ohana estates in Hā‘ena, Līhue, and Kōke‘e until her passing in 1987; and

WHEREAS, in 1951, Thomas Hashimoto enlisted in the Hawai‘i Army National Guard and served for 18 years, in 1968 was called to active duty stationed at Schofield Barracks on O‘ahu, and worked his way up to Artillery Sergeant specializing in calculating the angle and ordinal direction it took to loop a shell into a distant target; and

WHEREAS, in 1954, Thomas Hashimoto married Annie (Tai Hook) Hashimoto; and

WHEREAS, in 1962, Thomas Hashimoto's bartending career began at the original Happy Talk Bar in the Hanalei Plantation and also served up drinks at the Anchorage in Hā'ena, the Lanai Bar and Restaurant in Princeville and in 1994, he ended at the Happy Talk Lounge at the Hanalei Bay Resort; and

WHEREAS, in 1969, Thomas Hashimoto began his employment with Limahuli Valley, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, in 1998, Thomas Hashimoto was integral in organizing the Hui Maka'āinana o Makana, a non-profit organization that connected with the native community in Hā'ena that lived there prior to 1955 called Hui Kū'ai 'Āina, and its mission statement stated their dedication to perpetuating and teaching skills, knowledge, and practices of our kupuna through the interpretation, restoration, care and protection of the natural and cultural resources that are located within the Hā'ena State Park; and

WHEREAS, in 2009, Thomas Hashimoto retired as Foreman from National Tropical Botanical Garden - Limahuli Garden and Preserve with 40 years of hard work and dedication; and

WHEREAS, in 2013, the 'Aha Moku Advisory Committee was confirmed pursuant to Act 288, Session Laws of Hawai'i 2012, and Thomas Hashimoto was selected to serve as the Kaua'i Po'o for Moku o Manokalanipō; and

WHEREAS, in 2013, Thomas Hashimoto was a founding member and an active member along with his wife and other family members of the 'Ahahui Kīwila Hawai'i o Mo'ikeha, a Hawaiian Civic Club on the island of Kaua'i; and

WHEREAS, in 2014, Thomas Hashimoto worked closely with and in collaboration with Kua'āina Ulu 'Auamo (KUA) on the Hā'ena Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area (CBSFA) that was approved by the State of Hawai'i Board of Land and Natural Resources (BLNR) and included a package of fishing rules proposed by Native Hawaiian subsistence fishers for the rural north shore Kaua'i community of Hā'ena to govern fishing in the six square mile area; and

WHEREAS, Thomas Hashimoto shared his passion for his culture by teaching and making throw nets for his keiki, extended 'ohana, and people who befriended him and often he gave his throw nets away manuahi (for free); and

WHEREAS, in 2016, Thomas Hashimoto was formally honored as a living treasure of Kaua'i and Ni'ihau during the annual Kaua'i Museum Nā Hulu Kūpuna Makamae luncheon; and

WHEREAS, in 2017, Thomas Hashimoto was prominently featured in the film, The Hoa'āina of Hā'ena speaking about his work on the Hā'ena State Park lo'i restoration and Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area rules; and

WHEREAS, on February 12, 2019, Thomas Hashimoto peacefully passed away at his daughters' home in Kilauea; and

WHEREAS, on Saturday, July 13, 2019, Thomas Hashimoto's celebration of life "Pa'ina" was held at Wai'oli Hui'ia Church in Hanalei; and

WHEREAS, in 2019, Hui Maka'āinana o Makana, an organization that Thomas Hashimoto founded was awarded the Equator Prize, organized by the Equator Initiative within the United Nations Development Programme to recognize outstanding community efforts to reduce poverty through the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity; and

WHEREAS, the Equator Prize was awarded to Hui Maka'āinana o Makana for their innovation in co-management, co-governance and use of indigenous and local knowledge, and Thomas Hashimoto would have been humbled and honored that the quiet, determined struggle to preserve and pass on the knowledge that resided with him and a number of the founding kupuna of E Alu Pū has been lifted up and recognized globally; and

WHEREAS, the phrase "hana ka lima, 'ai ka waha" (work with the hands, so that the mouth will have food to eat), was a saying often repeated by Thomas Hashimoto, who learned it as a youth, from his father and which saying exemplifies the true character of our kūpuna.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Association of Hawaiian Civic Club at its 60th Annual Convention in Lahaina, Maui, in the malama of Welehu and the rising of Lā'au Pau, this 16th day of November 2019, honoring hulu kupuna Thomas Hashimoto of Hā'ena, Kaua'i for his unselfish and unwavering service to his 'ohana (family) and his kaiāulu (community) - leaving a legacy of aloha for the generations to come; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this resolution be transmitted to 'Ahahui Kīwila Hawai'i Mo'ikeha, Moku o Manokalanipō Kaua'i Council of the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs, Hui Maka'āinana o Makana, 'Aha Moku Advisory Committee, Kaua'i Museum, Kaua'i National Tropical Botanical Gardens, Kua'āina Ulu 'Auamo (KUA), the Hashimoto 'Ohana, as well as the Governor of the State of Hawai'i, President of the State Senate, Speaker of the State House of Representatives, Chair of the State Senate subject matter committee on Hawaiian Affairs, Chair of the State House subject matter committee on Hawaiian Affairs, Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, and all County Mayors.



The undersigned hereby certifies that the foregoing Resolution was duly adopted in the malama of Welehu and the rising of Lā‘au Pau on the 16th day of November 2019, at the 60th Annual Convention of the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs in Lahaina, Maui.

Hailama V. K. K. Farden, President