

Resolution

No. 25-93

HONORING WALTER RITTE FOR HIS LIFETIME OF ADVOCACY, LEADERSHIP, AND DEDICATION TO THE PEOPLE AND 'ĀINA OF HAWAI'I

WHEREAS, Walter Ritte, a proud son of Molokai, has dedicated his life to the protection of Hawaiian lands, waters, culture, and people, rising as a powerful voice for Native Hawaiian rights and environmental justice; and

WHEREAS, Walter Ritte was one of the original protectors of Kaho'olawe, risking his life in a movement that awakened a new era of cultural pride, sovereignty, and environmental stewardship in Hawai'i; and

WHEREAS, through decades of grassroots organizing, community education, and direct action, he has remained at the forefront of issues including GMO transparency, clean energy, food sovereignty, ahupua'a restoration and the protection of sacred sites; and

WHEREAS, his work with organizations such as Hui Ala Loa, Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana, 'Āina Momona, and the Office of Hawaiian Affairs has reflected a deep commitment to kuleana, pono leadership, and intergenerational empowerment; and

WHEREAS, Walter Ritte's courage, wisdom, and aloha have inspired countless individuals across Hawai'i and beyond to stand for justice, Aloha the 'āina, and uphold the values of our kūpuna; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the County of Maui:

1. That it honors Walter Ritte for a lifetime of advocacy, leadership, and dedication to the people and 'āina of Hawai'i;
2. That it recognizes Walter Ritte's unwavering dedication and lifelong contributions to the lāhui and the land; and
3. That certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Honorable Josh Green, M.D., Governor, State of Hawai'i; the Honorable Sylvia Luke, Lieutenant Governor, State of Hawai'i; the Honorable Ronald Kouchi, Senate President, State of Hawai'i; the Honorable Nadine Nakamura, Speaker of the

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House, State of Hawai'i; the Honorable Lynn DeCoite;
Senator, State of Hawai'i; the Honorable Mahina Poepoe,
Representative, State of Hawai'i; and the Honorable Richard
T. Bissen, Jr., Mayor, County of Maui.

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INTRODUCED BY:


KEANI N.W RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ