



# The Hawaii County Council

hereby presents this certificate to

***George Balazs***

*On Behalf Of The Citizens Of The Big Island, The Hawaii County Council  
Would Like To Honor The Scientific Contributions That  
Mr. George Balazs, Biologist, Has Given Our Island.*

*In 1971 George Balazs Started As A Junior Researcher For The University Of Hawai'i  
In A Program Involving The Rearing Of Sea Turtles. In 1973 He Dedicated His  
Studies To The Biology And Recovery Of The Sea Turtle In Hawaii And Throughout  
The Pacific. His Work Led To The Successful Placement Of The Hawaiian Green Sea  
Turtle On The Endangered Species List In 1978.*

On March 31, 2005 He Was Presented The National Wildlife Federation's Prestigious National Conservation Achievement Award For His 34 Year Commitment Of Sea Turtles And Especially the Green Sea Turtle.

For Over 37 years George Balazs Has Continued His Commitment to the Study Of The Biology, Ecology, And Recovery Of The Sea Turtle And Has Witnessed The Gradual Recovery of The Sea Turtle Population. He Is Known As the "Honu's" Best Friend.

The Hawaii County Council Recognizes The Contributions That George Balazs Has Given To Our Island And Would Like To Extend A Heartfelt ALOHA And MAHALO NUI LOA.

Burda Ford

Emily Naeve

Donald Akaka

Stanley K. King

H. Lynn Piliya

[Signature]

Wanda Young

County of Hawaii

Certificate No. 3887



Dated this 30 day of August, 2008  
Hilo, Hawaii

[Signature]

Sponsoring Councilmember

[Signature]

Chairman of the Council

[Signature]

County Clerk

## A Resolution of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs

*Honoring and Congratulating George Balazs for his  
faithful commitment and dedicated research to  
preserve and restore populations of sea turtles*

**WHEREAS**, George Balazs began working for the University of Hawai'i, after completing graduate school in 1971, as a junior researcher in an aquaculture program involved with the rearing of sea turtles; and

**WHEREAS**, George Balazs, in 1973, was a self-described "junior scientist" when he first questioned whether or not people in Hawai'i were harvesting Hawaiian green sea turtles faster than the animals could replace themselves. He then turned his full attention to conservation biology of wild sea turtles in Hawai'i and throughout the Pacific; and

**WHEREAS**, George Balazs helped place the Hawaiian green sea turtles on the Federal Endangered Species list in 1978, which means the potential of up to a \$25,000.00 fine and a year in prison for anyone convicted of harming or killing one; and

**WHEREAS**, George Balazs has, for the past 35 years, pursued an array of studies to aid in the understanding and restoring of depleted stocks of Hawaiian green sea turtles; and

**WHEREAS**, George Balazs, on March 31, 2005, was presented with the National Wildlife Federation's prestigious National Conservation Achievement Award for his 34-year commitment to the study and recovery of sea turtles worldwide, particularly the Hawaiian green sea turtle; and

**WHEREAS**, George Balazs, a biologist with the Marine Turtle Research Program within the center's Protected Species Division, has continued to remain faithful to his commitment to the study and recovery of Hawaiian green sea turtles in hopes of seeing the Hawaiian green sea turtle population justifiably removed from the endangered species list before he retires from federal service; and

**WHEREAS**, George Balazs is recognized as one of the world's foremost sea turtle experts in Hawai'i, Japan and other parts of the world inhabited by sea turtles and has been named "a one-man show" and "a pioneer honu researcher." His work has been published in numerous scientific publications and he has served as a scientific advisor on a prestigious list of global turtle conservation groups; now, therefore,

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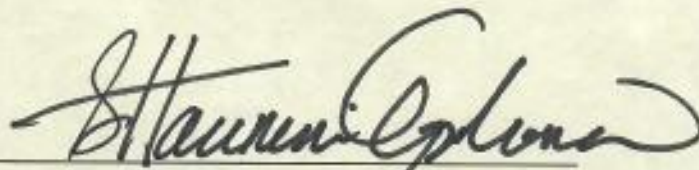
A Resolution of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs

*Honoring and Congratulating George Balazs for his  
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preserve and restore populations of sea turtles*

**BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Board of Trustees of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs that it congratulates George Balazs for his faithful commitment and dedicated research to preserve and restore the populations of sea turtles, particularly the Hawaiian green sea turtle; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to Dr. George Balazs and family.

Signed this 3rd day of July, 2008 in Honolulu, Hawai'i, State of Hawai'i.



**S. Haunani Apoliona, MSW**  
Chairperson, Trustee, At-large

*Walter M. Heen*  
Walter Meheulā Heen, Esq.  
Vice Chair, Trustee, O'ahu

*Rowena Akana*

Rowena Akana  
Trustee, At-large

*Boyd P. Mossman*

Boyd P. Mossman, Esq.  
Trustee, Maui

*Donald B. Cataluna*

Donald B. Cataluna  
Trustee, Kaua'i and Ni'ihau

*Oswald K. Stender*

Oswald K. Stender  
Trustee, At-large

*Robert K. Lindsey, Jr.*

Robert K. Lindsey, Jr.  
Trustee, Hawai'i

*John D. Waihe'e IV*

John D. Waihe'e IV  
Trustee, At-large

*Colette Y. Machado*

Colette Y. Machado  
Trustee, Moloka'i and Lāna'i



Date: July 3, 2008