

**PROCLAMATION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF IMPERIAL
HONORING WILLIAM "BILL" I. DuBOIS SR. AS FARMER OF THE YEAR**

Resolution No. 2008-068

WHEREAS, William "Bill" Irving DuBois was born September 25, 1916 in Orcutt, California and is the son of John Lamnot DuBois and Isabelle Oakley; and

WHEREAS, Bill graduated from Central Union High School in the Class on 1934 and attended Cal Poly State University and received his degree in 1943; and

WHEREAS, in 1946 Bill married his wife Mary Ellen at the Cal Poly Chapel and were blessed with four beautiful children; Katy who was 2 years old when Bill and Mary Ellen were married, soon came daughter Isabelle in 1947, daughter Lois in 1949 and son Bill Jr. in 1954; and

WHEREAS, over the years Bill and his family farmed up to 2,000 acres of safflower, soybeans, alfalfa, barley, cotton, flax, sugar beets, onions, onion seed, hemp, citrus and at one time was the largest hog rancher in the Imperial Valley with 4,000 head in 1966; and

WHEREAS, in 1970 Bill stopped farming, leased out his ranch and moved to Sacramento to be the State Farm Bureau's new Director of Natural Resources and represented California's farmers before the legislative and executive branch of state government; and

WHEREAS, after 20 years he "retired" but continued consulting in Sacramento until 2005 and Bill is known as the state's "water guru" and is still sought for advice and history about the state's water laws; and

WHEREAS, he worked on numerous issues of statewide importance such as the peripheral canal and state laws requiring EIRs and also for Imperial County such as the 160 acre limitation and Colorado River issues as a state liaison; and

WHEREAS, Bill has served on numerous Board of Directors for community and industry groups during his lifetime and has been president of organizations such as Imperial County Farm Bureau, CA Irrigation Institute, and Southwest Flax Association, to name but a few, and

WHEREAS, he has served on the boards of organizations such as Imperial Hay Growers Associations, Imperial Valley Dairy Producers Corp, CA Agricultural Water Management Council and many more; and

WHEREAS, William "Bill" Irving DuBois, Sr. at age 93 has been a Farm Bureau member for more than 6 decades and has been honored with the California Farm Bureau's Distinguished Service Award in 2004, the organization's highest honor, and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT PROCLAIMED that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Imperial do hereby
Honor William I. DuBois, Sr. as Farmer of the Year in Imperial County

PRESENTED, on this 23rd day of October, 2008 by the County of Imperial Board of Supervisors.



GARY WYATT, Chairman
Imperial County Board of Supervisors