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COUNTY COUNCIL
COUNTY OF MAUI
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November 25, 2015

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COUNTY CLERK

The Honorable Mike White
Council Chair
County of Maui
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793

Dear Chair White:

SUBJECT: URGING COMPETITION FOR INTERISLAND AIR TRAVEL (PAF 15-213)

May I request the attached proposed resolution, entitled "URGING COMPETITION FOR INTERISLAND AIR TRAVEL," be placed on the next Council meeting agenda.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael P. Victorino".

MICHAEL P. VICTORINO
Presiding Officer Pro Tempore

paf:srs:15-213b

Attachment

Resolution

No. _____

URGING COMPETITION FOR INTERISLAND AIR TRAVEL

WHEREAS, the people of Hawaii and visitors alike have long enjoyed the uniqueness that each Hawaiian Island has to offer; and

WHEREAS, the ability to readily travel between the Hawaiian Islands has been vital in allowing residents and visitors to enjoy family gatherings and reunions, cultural activities, sporting events, and educational, entertainment, and business opportunities; and

WHEREAS, interisland travel has also facilitated access to specialized and urgent medical and dental services that may be unavailable to residents on their home islands; and

WHEREAS, since 2008, Hawaii has only had the services of one major commercial airline providing interisland flights; and

WHEREAS, the lack of competition has resulted in airfare prices that are cost prohibitive to many people who wish to travel interisland; and

WHEREAS, the concerns are especially felt in Maui County, which as a multi-island community is even more dependent on affordable interisland travel options than other Hawaii counties; and

WHEREAS, the holiday season highlights the importance of affordable interisland travel as families seek to celebrate together; now therefore,

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

1. That it encourages the governments of the State of Hawaii and the United States of America to assist in offering relief to interisland travelers in Hawaii by encouraging competition for Hawaiian Airlines in order to create lower fares for interisland flights;

Resolution No. _____

2. That it further encourages the State and Federal governments to consider all reasonable incentives to attract new airline carriers in the Hawaii interisland market, including providing promotional marketing funds, waiving interisland landing fees, and offering airfare discounts for residents of Hawaii; and

3. That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the Honorable Barack H. Obama, President of the United States; the Honorable Brian Schatz, United States Senator; the Honorable Mazie Hirono, United States Senator; the Honorable Tulsi Gabbard, Member of Congress; the Honorable David Y. Ige, Governor, State of Hawaii; the Honorable Joseph M. Souki, Speaker, State House of Representatives; the Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi, President, State Senate; the Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, State Senator; the Honorable J. Kalani English, State Senator; the Honorable Gilbert Keith-Agaran, State Senator; the Honorable Kyle Yamashita, State Representative; the Honorable Angus L.K. McKelvey, State Representative; the Honorable Justin H. Woodson, State Representative; the Honorable Kaniela Ing, State Representative; the Honorable Alan M. Arakawa, Mayor, County of Maui; the Hawaii State Association of Counties Executive Committee; and Mark Dunkerley, President and CEO of Hawaiian Airlines.