

## BFED Committee

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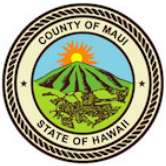
**From:** Kasie M. Takayama  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 13, 2023 9:40 AM  
**To:** BFED Committee  
**Subject:** FW: 0.5% surcharge on GET a bad idea Testimony.

Good morning,

I believe this testimony belongs in the BFED Committee. I tried to call Wayne Hedani but the phone number provided doesn't seem to be active.

Thank you,  
Kasie

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**Kasie M. Apo Takayama**

Senior Committee Analyst  
County of Maui | Office of Council Services  
Email: [kasie.apotakayama@mauicounty.us](mailto:kasie.apotakayama@mauicounty.us)  
Office: (808) 270-7665 | Cell: (808) 281-2717

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**From:** APT Committee <[apt.committee@mauicounty.us](mailto:apt.committee@mauicounty.us)>  
**Sent:** Saturday, June 10, 2023 10:17 AM  
**To:** Kasie M. Takayama <[Kasie.Apotakayama@mauicounty.us](mailto:Kasie.Apotakayama@mauicounty.us)>; Alison N. Stewart <[Alison.Stewart@mauicounty.us](mailto:Alison.Stewart@mauicounty.us)>; Yvette Bouthillier <[Yvette.Bouthillier@mauicounty.us](mailto:Yvette.Bouthillier@mauicounty.us)>; Maria L. Leon <[maria.leon@mauicounty.us](mailto:maria.leon@mauicounty.us)>  
**Subject:** FW: 0.5% surcharge on GET a bad idea Testimony.

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**From:** Wayne <[wnhedani@gmail.com](mailto:wnhedani@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 8, 2023 10:38:58 AM (UTC-10:00) Hawaii  
**To:** APT Committee <[apt.committee@mauicounty.us](mailto:apt.committee@mauicounty.us)>  
**Subject:** 0.5% surcharge on GET a bad idea Testimony.

You don't often get email from [wnhedani@gmail.com](mailto:wnhedani@gmail.com). [Learn why this is important](#)

Aloha Members of the Maui County Council.

Increasing the GET on all people of Maui amounts to a 12.5% increase in everyone's tax burden. Is this really what you want to impose on us in the name of lowering costs of developing new housing?

The last time the powers that be tried to increase Maui's GET by .5% we staged a tea party in Kahului Harbor. The measure was defeated.

The same should happen to the current bill to impose a GET surcharge of .5% on all goods and services purchased by everyone on the island.

Housing costs increase due to government overregulation. Lack of action on appropriate zoning of lands for housing inventory. Government housing is not the answer to Maui's housing shortage. We do not need more low income tenements keeping people in poverty. Allowing the private sector to fill housing demand is the only practical solution. The private sector will do things faster, cheaper, better, smarter and on a much larger scale than the best government project can deliver.

Reduce their infrastructure cost by responsibly developing county infrastructure to meet anticipated demand. Fund new sewage treatment plants and water development without passing those costs on to developers. Existing assessments are intended to create reserves for that purpose.

People who pay the 0.5% increase in taxes may have no involvement in housing demand. Those who need housing should be funding new housing projects as the end user.

The County of Maui has more than enough funding to accomplish what needs to be done. A recent 3% hotel room tax provided that.

Please do not punish everyone for the desires of a few.

Aloha,  
Wayne N. Hedani  
586 Kuikahi Drive  
Wailuku HI 96793  
Ph. 808-281-3686

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

## BFED Committee

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**From:** Jared P. Agtunong  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 13, 2023 10:43 AM  
**To:** Unbelievable; HLU Committee; BFED Committee  
**Cc:** Stacy Takahashi; Bill Snipes; Thomas M. Cook; Dave Taylor  
**Subject:** RE: "NO MORE "GHETTO HOUSING!/OTHERS!"

Good morning:

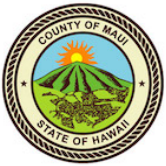
On behalf of Councilmember Cook, mahalo, for providing your comments to our Office re: committee items related to BFED and HLU.

This email acknowledges receipt of your testimony by our Office. In addition, I've CC'd BFED and HLU Committee staff so that your testimony can be included in the record.

Regarding your concern on a Kihei Fire Station within the tidal wave zone; I'd like to note that CM Cook appropriated funds for a feasibility study in FY2024 on this issue.

Should the Councilmember and/or Staff have any follow-up questions, we will be sure to reach out.

Best,  
Jared



**Jared Sam Agtunong, MPP (He/Him/His)**  
*Executive Assistant / Legislative Aide*  
Office of Councilmember Tom Cook  
Maui County Council

Email: [jared.agtunong@mauicounty.us](mailto:jared.agtunong@mauicounty.us)  
Main: (808) 270-7108 | Direct: (808) 270-8018  
Work Cell: (808) 594-2051

Website: <https://linktr.ee/tomcook>

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**From:** Unbelievable <Unbelievable2023@proton.me>  
**Sent:** Saturday, June 10, 2023 1:06 PM  
**To:** Thomas M. Cook <Thomas.Cook@mauicounty.us>  
**Subject:** "NO MORE "GHETTO HOUSING!/OTHERS!"

You don't often get email from [unbelievable2023@proton.me](mailto:unbelievable2023@proton.me). [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Maui County Councilman Mr. Thomas Cook,  
I'm against any funding for low income rental housing. I hope, you can support "Senior Citizen Affordable Rental Housing projects,"instead. I'm against the "County of Maui," giving financial assistance to "Ka Hale A

Ke Ola," for them to purchase the "Anchor Square" property in Lahaina. We don't need more "GHETTO HOUSING," on Maui. Also, I'm against the purchase of "THE HAGGAI INSTITUTE," for not really affordable housing.

We need more new "buses," and more "bus stops." Also, more "public restrooms" at the parks, and beaches that do not have any restrooms now.

Also, a bigger new fire station in "Kihei," that is not located in a "Flood Zone," and in a "Tidal Wave Zone, too."

Haiku needs a "fire station," too.

Thank you, for reading this email, and for "hopefully," your "assistance" in "funding," some of these "better projects."

Sincerely,  
"ANONYMOUS"

Sent with [Proton Mail](#) secure email.

## BFED Committee

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**From:** Jared P. Agtunong  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 13, 2023 10:00 AM  
**To:** Kit Carlan; BFED Committee  
**Cc:** Yukilei Sugimura; Stacy Takahashi; Bill Snipes; Thomas M. Cook; Dave Taylor  
**Subject:** RE: GET Surcharge

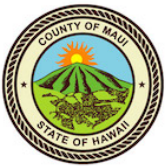
Good afternoon, Mr. Carlan:

On behalf of Councilmember Cook, mahalo, for providing testimony to our Office re: "BFED-74 General Excise and Use Tax Surcharge."

This email acknowledges receipt of your testimony. In addition, I've CC'd BFED committee staff so that your testimony is included into the record.

Should the Councilmember and/or staff have any follow-up questions, we will be sure to reach out.

Mahalo,  
Jared



**Jared Sam Agtunong, MPP (He/Him/His)**  
*Executive Assistant / Legislative Aide*  
Office of Councilmember Tom Cook  
Maui County Council

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Work Cell: (808) 594-2051

Website: <https://linktr.ee/tomcook>

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**From:** Kit Carlan <kit.carlan@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 11, 2023 2:49 PM  
**To:** Thomas M. Cook <Thomas.Cook@mauicounty.us>  
**Cc:** Yukilei Sugimura <Yukilei.Sugimura@mauicounty.us>  
**Subject:** GET Surcharge

Aloha - There are many reasons not to approve the proposed GET surcharge.

1. The new county budget of \$1B (20% increase) includes \$184M for infrastructure.
2. The tax is a progressive tax and will only hurt locals. I have to pay GET twice due to being a consultant. So it equals a 1% tax.
3. The Maui News has provided local input about why it should not be approved.
4. Provide an offset for locals - Lower property taxes for locals.
5. Just because the other counties are taxing more does not mean Maui should.
6. Oahu added the .5% tax to fund the rail project.

6. Everything is so expensive now, this will only hurt the locals.

7. Restrict the number of expensive homes and condos being built. This puts a heavy strain on our infrastructure.

Lets pump the brakes. This legislation is being accelerated and should have more local input. Please have meetings at KCA and advertise the meetings - social media...

Everyone is in favor of building infrastructure for affordable housing, but there must be more input and maybe provide something back to the locals, like no sales tax on food which was also proposed by Gov. Green.

Aloha for now,  
Kit Carlan  
(808) 445-0080