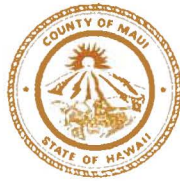


RICHARD T. BISSEN, JR.
Mayor

JOSIAH NISHITA
Managing Director



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
COUNTY OF MAUI
200 SOUTH HIGH STREET
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793
www.mauicounty.gov



July 16, 2026

Honorable Richard T. Bissen, Jr.
Mayor, County of Maui
200 South High Street
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793

For Transmittal to:

Honorable Alice L. Lee, Chair
and Office of the County Clerk
200 South High Street
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793

Dear Chair Lee and County Clerk:

**SUBJECT: A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 2.56,
MAUI COUNTY CODE, TO ESTABLISH PROHIBITIONS
CONCERNING NEPOTISM**

I am transmitting a proposed bill entitled "A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 2.56, MAUI COUNTY CODE, TO ESTABLISH PROHIBITIONS CONCERNING NEPOTISM" and respectfully requesting direct referral to the GREAT Committee. This request is time sensitive, given the upcoming July 28, 2026, GREAT meeting, at which this initiative is scheduled to be discussed.

The purpose of this nepotism ordinance is to ensure that hiring, supervision, promotion, and other employment decisions within the County of Maui are based on qualifications, ability, and equal opportunity, rather than family relationships or favoritism. This ordinance is intended to promote integrity, accountability, and public confidence in County government by:

APPROVED FOR TRANSMITTAL

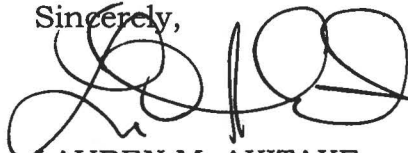
Richard T. Bissen, Jr.
Mayor
7-17-26
Date

Alice L. Lee, Chair
July 16, 2026
Page 2

- 1) Promoting fairness, merit-based employment practices, ensuring that hiring, promotion, supervision, and other employment decisions are based on qualifications, ability, and equal opportunity, thereby maintaining public trust in County government;
- 2) Preventing actual or perceived conflicts of interest, favoritism, and preferential treatment that may arise from family relationships and could compromise the integrity, impartiality, and accountability of County operations; and
- 3) Fostering a professional, ethical, and effective workplace by promoting consistent employment practices, protecting employee morale, reducing the risk of disputes or claims of unfair treatment, and ensuring that decisions are made in the best interests of the County and the public.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Should you have any questions, please contact me at (808) 270-8081 or lauren.m.akitake@co.maui.hi.us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'LAUREN M. AKITAKE', with a stylized, cursive flourish.

LAUREN M. AKITAKE
Board of Ethics
Executive Director Legal Counsel

Attachment

cc: Josiah Nishita, Managing Director
David Raatz, Director, OCS