

COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI
BUDGET, FINANCE, AND ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

November 15, 2024

Committee
Report No. _____

Honorable Chair and Members
of the County Council
County of Maui
Wailuku, Maui, Hawaii

Chair and Members:

Your Budget, Finance, and Economic Development Committee, having met on October 22, 2024, makes reference to Bill 141 (2024), entitled "A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 5.16, MAUI COUNTY CODE, RELATING TO TAXICABS."

Bill 141's purposes are to: 1) increase the rates of fare taxicab drivers, owners, licensees, and operators may charge; 2) authorize a \$10 additional charge for the transport of motorized wheelchairs, large pet crates, bicycles, and surfboards; 3) authorize a \$5 airport pick-up fee; 4) establish a \$20 flat rate when the distance traveled is three miles or less; and 5) provide a 20 percent fare discount for passengers not traveling together but agreeing to share the taxicab to the same destination or along the same route.

Your Committee notes Section 5.16.100, Maui County Code, requires the Director of Finance to submit to the Council a report reviewing taxicab rates of fare and baggage charges by September 1 of each even-numbered year. By County Communication 116-24, dated July 15, 2024, the Director submitted the 2024 report.

At its meeting of August 20, 2024, your Committee discussed County Communication 116-24 under BFED-21(29), relating to taxicab rates. That discussion eventually resulted in Bill 141.

Your Committee received testimony from a taxicab operator who did not support the additional fee proposed for motorized wheelchairs.

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Your Committee acknowledged that persons with disabilities may already face increased financial burdens and instead supported requiring all wheelchairs to be transported free of charge when accompanied by their users. A fee may still be charged for a wheelchair not accompanied by its user.

The taxicab operator also supported deleting provisions relating to signage that must be displayed when taxis are in personal use and not for hire.

A representative from the Department of Finance confirmed the Department had no opposition to the change. Therefore, your Committee supported the amendment.

Your Committee notes that taxicab rates of fare and baggage charges under Chapter 5.16, Maui County Code, have not been amended since 2006. With the changes that have occurred in the vehicle-for-hire industry since that time, your Committee agreed that these adjustments are appropriate.

Your Committee voted 9-0 to recommend passage of Bill 141, CD1 (2024), on first reading. Committee Chair Sugimura, Vice-Chair Kama, and members Cook, Johnson, Lee, Paltin, Rawlins-Fernandez, Sinenci, and U'u-Hodgins voted "aye."

Your Committee is in receipt of Bill 141, CD1 (2024), approved as to form and legality by the Department of the Corporation Counsel, incorporating your Committee's recommended revisions and nonsubstantive revisions.

Your Budget, Finance, and Economic Development Committee **RECOMMENDS** that Bill 141, CD1 (2024), as revised herein and attached hereto, entitled "A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 5.16, MAUI COUNTY CODE, RELATING TO TAXICABS," be **PASSED ON FIRST READING** and be **ORDERED TO PRINT**.

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This report is submitted in accordance with Rule 8 of the Rules of the Council.



YUKI LEI K. SUGIMURA, Chair

bfed:cr:24106aa:jgk

ORDINANCE NO. _____

BILL NO. 141, CD1 (2024)

A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 5.16,
MAUI COUNTY CODE, RELATING TO TAXICABS

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI:

SECTION 1. Section 5.16.080, Maui County Code, is amended to read as

follows:

“5.16.080 Rates of fare and baggage charge. A. No driver, owner, licensee, or operator of a taxicab while operating the same within the County ~~[shall]~~ will charge, cause to be charged, demand, collect, or receive a fare other than as provided in this section. No driver, owner, licensee, or operator of a taxicab ~~[shall]~~ will use or cause to be used for purposes of hire, a taxicab installed with a taximeter not reflecting the current rates, as provided in this section.

B. Initial meter actuation ~~[shall]~~ must equal ~~[\$3.50]~~ \$5 and ~~[shall]~~ will entitle a passenger to ~~[one-tenth]~~ one-eighth of a mile or less, or ~~[one minute]~~ 45 seconds waiting time or less; thereafter, for each additional ~~[one-tenth]~~ one-eighth of a mile or fraction thereof, ~~[thirty]~~ 50 cents; and for each additional ~~[one-minute]~~ 45 seconds of waiting time or fraction thereof, ~~[thirty]~~ 50 cents. Nothing contained in this subsection ~~[shall]~~ may be construed to permit charging mileage or waiting time rates of fare which are different.

C. Whenever, ~~[pursuant to]~~ by a request, it is necessary for a taxicab driver to pick up a passenger, the distance traveled to the point of pickup ~~[shall]~~ must not be added to the distance over which ~~[such]~~ the passenger is actually transported when computing the total amount of fare which may be charged under this section, nor ~~[shall]~~ will the distance a taxicab must travel in order to return after discharging a passenger be included in the mileage for which any fare may be charged.

D. For each piece of equipment or baggage, other than ~~[wheelchairs,]~~ large pet crates, bicycles, and surfboards, handled by the driver in loading, unloading, or both, a charge of ~~[thirty]~~ 50 cents may be ~~[made]~~ added per trip. For each motorized wheelchair unaccompanied by its user, large pet crate, surfboard, or bicycle transported, a charge of ~~[\$3]~~ \$10 may be ~~[made.]~~ added. Motorized

and non-motorized wheelchairs will be transported at no charge when accompanied by their users.

E. An airport pick-up fee of \$5 may be added to the fare.

F. Notwithstanding subsection (B), a flat rate of \$20 will be charged when the distance traveled is three miles or less.

G. Passengers not traveling together but agreeing to share the taxicab to the same destination or along the same route, will each pay the metered rate and receive a 20 percent discount to the fare.”

SECTION 2. Section 5.16.120, Maui County Code, is amended to read as follows:

“5.16.120 Special operation. [A. Additional Passengers.]

[1.] Additional passengers [shall] must not be picked up [without] without the consent of the original (first) passenger. The taxicab [dispatcher] driver may inquire of the original (first) [passengers] passenger if the passenger would be willing to share the [taxi on a pro rata basis.] taxicab at the discounted rate in accordance with subsection 5.16.080(G). The [dispatcher shall] taxicab driver must fully explain the [pro rata share] discounted rate arrangement to all passengers prior to the [taxi’s] taxicab’s departure.

[2.] The taximeter [shall] must be continuously running in its employed position until the final destination is reached[; provided, that each passenger shall pay his pro rata share of the fare as shown on the taximeter when his destination is reached].

[B. Personal Use. Whenever a taxicab equipped with a taximeter is in personal use of the driver and not for hire, the “special” sign shall be affixed to the taximeter.

C. The director shall prescribe the size and specification of the metal sign and the same shall be furnished by the director at cost.]”

SECTION 3. Material to be repealed is bracketed. New material is underscored. In printing this bill, the County Clerk need not include the brackets, the bracketed material, or the underscoring.

SECTION 4. This Ordinance takes effect on approval.

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kristina C. Toshikiyo". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

KRISTINA C. TOSHIKIYO
Department of the Corporation Counsel
County of Maui

bfed:misc:106abill01:cmn

INTRODUCED BY:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Charles R. Lee". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Upon the request of the Mayor.