

PC Committee

From: Stacy Ellamar <sellamar@prp-hawaii.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 15, 2017 5:32 PM
To: PC Committee
Subject: Testimony: PC-06 PLANNING COMMISSION AND HANA ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Attachments: Testimony_Maui County Code_Planning Commission_Membership Requirements_16 Feb 2017.pdf

Aloha,

PRP would like to submit the attached testimony regarding PC-06 PLANNING COMMISSION AND HANA ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Mahalo,
Stacy

Stacy Ellamar
Government Relations Specialist

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Testimony of
Pacific Resource Partnership

Council of the County of Maui
Planning Committee
Kelly King, Committee Chair
Yuki Lei K. Sugimura, Committee Vice-Chair

A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 2.28, MAUI COUNTY
CODE, RELATING TO PLANNING COMMISSION AND HANA ADVISORY
MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS

Thursday, February 16, 2017
9:00 AM
Council Chamber
Kalana O Maui Building, 8th Floor
200 South High Street
Wailuku, Hawaii

Aloha Chair King, Vice-Chair Sugimura, and Members of the Committee:

Pacific Resource Partnership (PRP) is a not-for-profit organization that represents the Hawaii Regional Council of Carpenters, the largest construction union in the state, and more than 240 of Hawaii's top contractors. Through this unique partnership, PRP has become an influential voice for responsible construction and an advocate for creating a stronger, more sustainable Hawaii in a way that promotes a vibrant economy, creates jobs, and enhances the quality of life for all residents.

We respectfully oppose the proposed bill to amend Chapter 2.28, Maui County Code, Relating to Planning Commission and Hana Advisory Committee Membership Requirements. The proposed amendment will require at least one member sitting on each planning commission and the Hana Advisory Committee to have certain qualifications in conservation and natural resources, and Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices.

There are many resources already available to provide information regarding conservation and natural resources. The State Department of Land and Natural Resources, and if necessary, other experts could provide valuable information with respect to any conservation and natural resources issues.

There are also resources available to provide information regarding native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices. The Maui Cultural Resources Commission may be used as a resource for advising the commissions regarding native Hawaiian practices; the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) may also provide



(Continued From Page 1)

testimony before the planning commissions. Furthermore, the planning commission members are already required to participate in the Native Hawaiian Law Training Course for Boards, Commissions, Councils, and Lawmakers.

For the reasons mentioned, we respectfully request that this proposed bill be held in your committee. Thank you for the opportunity to share our opinion with you.