

## **BF Committee**

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**From:** Sandy Ittner <sandy.ittner@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 22, 2018 8:43 AM  
**To:** Budget.office@co.maui.hi.us; BF Committee  
**Subject:** Tiered Property Tax

Mayor Arakawa  
Budget Director S. Baz  
Budget & Finance Committee

Please, you need to further examine the proposed real estate tax increase for non-residents owning properties valued at over \$1.5 million.

Mr. Arakawa's statement that the "The Group we're planning to increase tax can afford to pay a little extra to help the local economy out" has not been well considered. The targeted group is primarily retired and can ill afford a tax increase. Non-residents, as a group, contribute handsomely to the economy in the goods they purchase, landscaping maintenance, construction, restaurants and medical care. Most of this targeted group also supports your medical and hospital businesses: Interestingly, most of your targeted group also contributes funds to Kaiser Permanente Maui Memorial Medical Center.

At 79 years of age, I am in need of selling our Maui house that we have owned for over 10 years. This is required in order to finance retirement and increased medical costs. Under the current real estate crisis, which keeps reducing the values of expensive homes, your proposed tax increase will only add to the burden to those of us who are in need of selling our homes: Your proposed increase seems unfair to many of us.

The favor of your response is requested.

Respectfully,  
Edward Ittner  
Sandra Ittner

## BF Committee

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**From:** John Shalavi <[john@bcpartnersinc.com](mailto:john@bcpartnersinc.com)>  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 22, 2018 7:45 AM  
**To:** Budget.office@co.maui.hi.us; BF Committee; Mike White; Robert Carroll; Stacy S. Crivello; Alike A. Atay; Elle Cochran; Donald S. Guzman; Kelly King; Riki Hokama; Yukilei Sugimura  
**Subject:** property tax increase for homes over \$1.5m

Dear Budget Director and Council Members,

I have been a Maui property owner for over 20 years. Last month I bought a second property valued at over \$1.5m and am spending \$800k renovating it. I will be employing at least 10 people for the next year to complete this work which results in a multiplier effect in the local economy.

If I had known about this planned tax increase and the fact that the county is now targeting people like me for tax increases, when I am already paying twice as much as residents do, I would not have made this additional investment. The message here is that I should take my investment elsewhere and if thats what your goal is then I will gladly move on to another island where I would be treated fairly.

As you consider this increase I realize that politically it makes sense since people like me are a minority, but economically its stealth impact will be extremely detrimental and others will look back and ask why was such a poor decision made in 2018. I hope you will reconsider.

Thank you

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## BF Committee

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**From:** Michael Gach <mrgach@att.net>  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 22, 2018 10:14 PM  
**To:** BF Committee  
**Cc:** bbb Gach; M R Gach  
**Subject:** Give Biodiesel a Break

Please give Biodiesel a break. It should not be taxed the same rate as other fuel. Biodiesel is an important part of the State's renewables mix and benefits Maui County and the entire state in these ways:

**Biodiesel is locally made**, keeping revenues in the local economy. Creates local jobs right here in Maui County.

**Biodiesel diverts waste oils from the Maui County landfill.** Last year alone in Maui County, our company diverted 284,000 gallons of used cooking oil and 975,000 gallons of grease trap waste from the landfill, recycling this waste product for use in the production of biodiesel.

**Biodiesel is 100% renewable, biodegradable and non-toxic;** it reduces emissions by 86% compared to petroleum diesel and saves Maui County restaurants money.

### **PROPOSAL:**

For Fossil Fuel imported to Maui, we propose that the tax rate you tax for petroleum diesel and gasoline 28% instead of 23%. Drop the Biodiesel tax to 10% because it is contributing to the Maui economy, reducing the landfill and for many more reasons which are stated above.

Give biodiesel a break.  
Thank you for your consideration.

Barbara T. Gach  
Michael Reed Gach, Ph.D.  
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