

COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI

GOVERNMENT RELATIONS, ETHICS, AND TRANSPARENCY COMMITTEE

September 1, 2023

**Committee
Report No.** _____

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

Chair and Members:

Your Government Relations, Ethics, and Transparency Committee, having met on August 1, 2023, and reconvened on August 2, 2023, makes reference to Resolution 23-185, entitled “APPROVING FOR INCLUSION IN THE 2024 HAWAII STATE ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES LEGISLATIVE PACKAGE A STATE BILL RELATING TO COMMERCIAL USE OCEAN PERMITS.”

Resolution 23-185’s purpose is to approve for inclusion in the 2024 Hawai‘i State Association of Counties (“HSAC”) Legislative Package a proposed State bill, attached as Exhibit “A,” entitled “A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO COMMERCIAL USE OCEAN PERMITS.”

The purpose of the proposed State bill is to give the State of Hawai‘i, Department of Land and Natural Resources, Division of Boating and Ocean Recreation (“DOBOR”) discretion with issuing commercial ocean use permits and permit renewals to lessen the impacts of commercial use ocean vessels and activities.

The Department of Parks and Recreation expressed support for the proposed bill because it will enable DOBOR to have authority over the commercial use ocean permits process, which may help to improve public safety in the ocean.

After receiving testimony and discussing the different needs of Maui, Kaua‘i, and Hawai‘i counties, and the City and County of Honolulu, your Committee agreed to include the proposed State bill in the Maui County Council Legislative Package instead of pursuing its inclusion in the HSAC Legislative Package.

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Your Committee voted 7-0 to recommend filing of Resolution 23-185. Committee Chair U'u-Hodgins, Vice-Chair Paltin, and members Cook, Kama, Lee, Rawlins-Fernandez, and Sinenci voted "aye." Committee members Johnson and Sugimura were excused.

Your Government Relations, Ethics, and Transparency Committee RECOMMENDS that Resolution 23-185 be FILED.

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



NOHELANI U'U-HODGINS, Chair

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