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OFFICE OF THE  
COUNTY COUNCIL

January 18, 2019

To: Committee Chair Mike Molina  
Maui County Council

Re: GET-1(2) (Confirmation of Patrick Wong as Corporation Counsel)

It is with great enthusiasm that I submit this letter in support of the confirmation of Patrick Wong as Corporation Counsel. I have worked as a deputy in the Department of the Corporation Counsel since September, 2011. As you are aware, our department represents the County in a variety of venues regarding many areas of Hawaii and Federal law. This makes the department an unusual law firm in that its attorneys are required to be competent in so many areas of the law. Further, within the County, our department litigates for, and provides guidance to, the Mayor's Office, this County Council, all of the County departments, and all of the Boards and Commissions County-wide. I am often amazed at the sheer volume of legal issues that come through our office in any given week. Keeping track of everything makes Pat's position a challenging one. For the last eight years, he has done his job well.

I believe that Pat has a strong understanding of our role as a department and its obligations under the Charter. In the matters to which I have been assigned, Pat has offered keen insights into litigation strategies and has advised me well regarding the delicate balance that the County must take in balancing the interests of Maui's diverse citizenry. As an environmentalist and believer that good governance plays an important role in how our community works, I know that the County of Maui is in good hands with Pat. I hope that you will confirm him as Corporation Counsel. There is no question that he is eminently qualified.

Sincerely yours,



Thomas Kolbe