

EDB Committee

From: Howard Alpert <hdalpert@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Saturday, May 18, 2019 9:42 AM
To: EDB Committee; Keani N. Rawlins
Subject: 66% Proposed Hawaii Property Tax Increase 2019

Aloha,

It has come to my attention that legislators are proposing a 66% Property Tax increase for our Maui condo. Although we live off-Island, we do stay in our Maui home often for extended periods of time. We also rent our condo to independent guests. Our condo is NOT a Timeshare! The guests that we do rent to spend lots of dollars and boost the Maui economy. They rent cars, visit attractions, shop in local stores, see shows, and dine out frequently. They have this opportunity because we can keep our prices reasonable for them to come to Maui. With the competitive market in flights, it is a way to allow new guests to visit our beautiful Island.

A common adage in government is “ You Get More of What You Subsidize and Less of What You Tax”. If you want a friendly environment for tourism (the top industry in the state of Hawaii), you don't tax it out of existence.

Mahalo,

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