

Resolution

No. _____

EXPRESSING APPRECIATION TO COUNCILMEMBER ALIKA ATAY

WHEREAS, Councilmember Alika Atay will be leaving office on January 2, 2019, having served on the Council from the Wailuku residency area for the 2017-2019 term; and

WHEREAS, Councilmember Atay was born and raised in Hāna, Hawai`i, and attended St. Anthony's Elementary School in Wailuku; and

WHEREAS, in the 7th grade, Councilmember Atay moved from Maui to Honolulu, boarded at Kamehameha Schools' Kapālama campus, and graduated in 1972; and

WHEREAS, after high school, Councilmember Atay attended Hastings College in Hastings, Nebraska, where he received his Bachelor of Arts in 1977; and

WHEREAS, Councilmember Atay moved back to Maui after graduation and had three children, Po`ohala Atay, who passed away in 2012, Moani Tiare Atay, and Matahi Atay; and

WHEREAS, Councilmember Atay currently lives in Waiehu with his wife, Maile Arensdorf Atay, and their two children; and

WHEREAS, in his time back home, Councilmember Atay has worked as a youth crisis outreach counselor and a teen suicide responder, served as Maui Economic Opportunity's Youth Division Director and Kihei Youth Center's Executive Director, and coached youth in the sports of football and outrigger-canoe racing, reflecting his dedication to help the County's youth thrive and succeed; and

WHEREAS, Councilmember Atay remains committed to Aloha `Āina and has worked to perpetuate indigenous natural farming methods by practicing natural farming himself, assisting and educating other farmers in indigenous natural farming methods, and participating as a founding member of the Hawaiian Indigenous Natural Agriculture Organization; and

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WHEREAS, Councilmember Atay has also given back to Maui's farming community by serving as a mentor in the first cohort of the Farm Apprentice Mentoring program and participating as a founding member of the Mauna Kahalawai chapter of Hawai'i Farmers Union United; and

WHEREAS, Councilmember Atay served as the Chair of the Water Resources Committee during the 2017-2019 Council term; and

WHEREAS, as the Chair of the Water Resources Committee, Councilmember Atay has advocated for water conservation and water protection, notably helping to pass a resolution to forward to the Lanai, Maui, and Molokai planning commissions a bill to establish a Wellhead Protection Overlay District to protect the County's aquifers from contamination events; and

WHEREAS, during his time on the Council, Councilmember Atay advocated for youth, agriculture, environmental protection, infrastructural improvements, and protecting the community's sense of place; and

WHEREAS, Councilmember Atay's dedication to public service and tireless efforts have helped to improve the lives of our citizens now and for generations to come; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the County of Maui:

1. That it hereby expresses its appreciation to Councilmember Alika Atay for his leadership and dedicated service on the Maui County Council, and for his outstanding public service to the people of the County of Maui and the State of Hawaii; and
2. That certified copies of this resolution be transmitted to Councilmember Alika Atay and his wife, Maile Arensdorf Atay; his mother, Fely Atay; his daughter, Moani Tiare Atay; his son, Matahi Atay; the State's delegation to the United States Congress; the Honorable David Y. Ige, Governor, State of Hawaii; the County's delegation to the State Legislature; and the Honorable Alan M. Arakawa, Mayor, County of Maui.