RICHARD T. BISSEN, JR. Mayor

JOSIAH K. NISHITA Managing Director

AMOS LONOKAILUA-HEWETT Emergency Management Administrator



MAUI EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY COUNTY OF MAUI 200 SOUTH HIGH STREET WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAI'I 96793

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June 10, 2025

Honorable Richard T. Bissen, Jr. Mayor, County of Maui 200 South High Street Wailuku, Hawaii 96793

For Transmittal to:
Honorable Alice L. Lee, Chair
Maui County Council
and Honorable Members of the Maui County Council
200 South High Street
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793

APPROVED FOR TRANSMITTAL

6-17-25

SUBJECT: A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 10.04.30, MAUI COUNTY CODE, RELATING TO AUTHORIZED EMERGENCY VEHICLES

Dear Honorable Alice L. Lee:

I am proposing an ordinance that will amend Section 10.04.030, Maui County Code, as it relates to the authorization of emergency vehicles.

I propose that Section 10.04.30 to include members of Maui Emergency management Agency when they are actively engaged in emergency response activities. This amendment would authorize MEMA personnel to:

- 1. Use emergency sirens and flashing lights on designated emergency response vehicles
- 2. Receive the same traffic ordinance exemptions currently afforded to Fire and Public Safety, and Police emergency vehicles
- 3. Exercise these privileges only when responding to declared emergencies or emergency management activities.

The Maui Emergency Management Agency plays a critical role in coordinating emergency response efforts across Maui Nui, particularly during natural disasters, civil emergencies, and multi-agency incidents. MEMA personnel often serve as incident commanders or coordination officers who must rapidly deploy to emergency scenes to establish command posts, coordinate resources, and ensure effective inter-agency communication, especially in our remote communities such as on Molokai, Lanai, and East Maui.

I respectfully request that the Maui County Council consider this proposed ordinance to amend Section

10.04.030, Maui Code as this would enhance our county's emergency preparedness and response capabilities. Thank you for your consideration of this important matter. I would be happy to provide additional information or answer any questions you have regarding this proposal.

Me Ka' Ha'aha'a,

Amos Lonokailua-Hewett