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COUNTY COUNCIL
COUNTY OF MAUI
200 S. HIGH STREET
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793
www.MauiCounty.us

February 12, 2021

Director of Council Services
Traci N. T. Fujita, Esq.

RECEIVED

2021 FEB 12 AM 11:55

OFFICE OF THE
COUNTY CLERK

The Honorable Alice L. Lee
Council Chair
County of Maui
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793

Dear Chair Lee:

SUBJECT: **URGING THE GOVERNOR TO CREATE A TASK FORCE TO ESTABLISH PROTOCOLS TO SAFELY RESUME ORGANIZED SPORTS AND RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES IN HAWAII** (PAF 21-034)

May I request the attached proposed resolution, entitled "URGING THE GOVERNOR TO CREATE A TASK FORCE TO ESTABLISH PROTOCOLS TO SAFELY RESUME ORGANIZED SPORTS AND RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES IN HAWAII," be placed on the next Council meeting agenda.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez".

KEANI N.W. RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ
Council Vice-Chair

paf:nas:21-034b

Enclosure

COUNTY COMMUNICATION NO. 21-106

Resolution

No. _____

URGING THE GOVERNOR TO CREATE A TASK FORCE TO ESTABLISH PROTOCOLS TO SAFELY RESUME ORGANIZED SPORTS AND RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES IN HAWAII

WHEREAS, on March 4, 2020, Governor David Y. Ige issued a proclamation declaring a state of emergency to support ongoing State and county responses to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on the same day, Mayor Michael P. Victorino issued an emergency declaration for Maui County; and

WHEREAS, both the Governor and the Mayor have issued numerous supplemental directives as the emergency remains in effect; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 continues to pose a severe risk to communities and requires all residents of Hawai'i to follow recommended precautions and adapt the way they live and function in light of this ongoing risk; and

WHEREAS, additional guidance is required to provide a safe environment for organized sports and recreational activities; and

WHEREAS, American Academy of Pediatrics' website states that "re-engaging in sports activity with friends has both physical and psychological health benefits for children and adolescents," which "allows youth to improve their cardiovascular health, strength, body composition, and overall fitness"; and

WHEREAS, the same guidance noted that "youth may experience benefits from the increased socialization with friends and coaches and return to a more structured routine"; and

WHEREAS, according to the World Health Organization's website, "sedentary behaviour and low levels of physical activity can have negative effects on the health, well-being, and quality of life of individuals," and "quarantine can also cause additional stress and challenge the mental health of citizens"; and

WHEREAS, the WHO recommends 150 minutes of moderate-intensity or 75 minutes of vigorous-intensity physical activity per week, or

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a combination of both, and relaxation techniques that can be valuable tools to help people remain calm and continue to protect their health during the pandemic; and

WHEREAS, on December 14, 2020, California's Department of Public Health posted guidance to its website on returning to outdoor and indoor youth and recreational adult sports; and

WHEREAS, on December 31, 2020, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention updated its website to include considerations for youth sports administrators, providing further guidance on engaging in sports during the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, the same guidance could be used as a model for the State of Hawai'i; and

WHEREAS, on January 27, 2021, the Honolulu City Council adopted Resolution 21-18, CD-1, urging the creation of a stakeholder group to discuss restrictions imposed on sports and recreational activities under the Honolulu Reopening Strategy in Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic; and

WHEREAS, on February 1, 2021, *Hawai'i Prep World* noted Lieutenant Governor Josh Green sees the potential for opening prep sports by May 1 of this year if the vaccine timetable goes according to schedule; now, therefore,

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

1. That it urges the Governor to create a task force to establish protocols to safely resume organized sports and recreational activities in Hawai'i;
2. That it urges the Governor to work with the State Department of Education to loosen restrictions and formulate reasonable health-related conditions on the use of County parks and recreational facilities for school-related sports and recreational activities for students, particularly at those County parks and recreational facilities where such activities were permitted prior to the COVID-19 pandemic; and
3. That certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Honorable Brian E. Schatz, United States Senator; the Honorable Mazie Hirono, United States Senator; the

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Honorable Kaiali'i Kahele, United States Representative; the Honorable Ed Case, United States Representative; the Honorable Scott Saiki, Speaker, Hawaii State House of Representatives; the Honorable Ron Kouchi, President, Hawaii State Senate; Maui County's delegation to the State Legislature; the Honorable David Y. Ige, Governor, State of Hawai'i; and the Honorable Michael P. Victorino, Mayor, County of Maui.

paf:nas:21-034a