

ADEPT Committee

From: County Clerk
Sent: Thursday, November 21, 2024 2:55 PM
To: ADEPT Committee
Subject: FW: Written Testimony re Resolution 24-171

From: Germaine Balino <germainebalino@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, November 21, 2024 2:53 PM
To: County Clerk <County.Clerk@mauicounty.us>
Subject: Written Testimony re Resolution 24-171

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Aloha,

In regards to resolution 24-171: I support the resolution with proposed amendments for consideration.

Recognition of Native Hawaiian Rights

- Add to the preamble:

WHEREAS, this ordinance recognizes the rights of Native Hawaiians to perpetuate their cultural and agricultural practices and seeks to prevent the misuse or misappropriation of these practices.

Eligibility and Cultural Protections

- Add to eligibility criteria:

"Eligibility for mobile food truck or trailer permits in the Agricultural District shall prioritize applicants who demonstrate a commitment to perpetuating Native Hawaiian cultural and agricultural practices, ensuring these opportunities directly benefit the local agricultural community."

Add cultural use protections:

"The use of Native Hawaiian cultural symbols, practices, or terminology in any food products, branding, or marketing must be conducted in a manner that respects and honors their cultural significance. Misrepresentation or exploitation of Hawaiian cultural practices is prohibited."

Advisory Role for Cultural Integrity

- Assign an advisory role without enforcement:

"The Department of 'Ōiwi Resources may provide guidance and recommendations to ensure that cultural practices and resources are used respectfully and appropriately in alignment with Native Hawaiian values and traditions."

Prohibition of Exploitation

- Add a clause prohibiting exploitation:

"This ordinance expressly prohibits the use of this opportunity by individuals or entities that seek to exploit Hawaiian culture or agricultural practices for profit without meaningful connection to or respect for these traditions."

Sincerely,

Germaine L. Balino

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"Building with righteousness, measuring with holiness"

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