BUDGET, FINANCE, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

July 15, 2022

Committee Report No. _____

Honorable Chair and Members of the County Council County of Maui Wailuku, Maui, Hawaii

Chair and Members:

Your Budget, Finance, and Economic Development Committee, having met on June 29, 2022, makes reference to Bill 110 (2022), entitled "A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 3.48.475, MAUI COUNTY CODE, RELATING TO HOMES OF UNMARRIED SURVIVING SPOUSES OF VETERANS WHO DIED WHILE ON DUTY AND TOTALLY DISABLED VETERANS."

Bill 110's purpose is to amend Section 3.48.475, Maui County Code, to allow a real property tax rate of \$150 per year for severely disabled veterans, who are defined as individuals who have been given a 70 percent or higher disability rating by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs.

A representative from the Department of Finance said applicants must certify that they own and occupy the home to qualify for the exemption. Your Committee noted the filing of an annual tax return is not required prior to applying.

Your Committee agreed to amend the bill to change the tax rate from \$150 per year to 50 percent of the minimum real property tax per year.

Your Committee voted 9-0 to recommend passage of Bill 110, CD1 (2022) on first reading. Committee Chair Rawlins-Fernandez, Vice-Chair Paltin, and members Johnson, Kama, King, Lee, Molina, Sinenci, and Sugimura voted "aye."

Your Committee is in receipt of Bill 110, CD1 (2022), entitled "A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 3.48, MAUI COUNTY CODE,

COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI **BUDGET, FINANCE, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

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Committee Report No.

RELATING TO HOMES OF UNMARRIED SURVIVING SPOUSES OF VETERANS AND SEVERELY DISABLED VETERANS," approved as to form and legality by the Department of the Corporation Counsel, incorporating your Committee's recommended revisions and nonsubstantive revisions.

Your Budget, Finance, and Economic Development Committee RECOMMENDS that Bill 110, CD1 (2022), as revised herein and attached hereto, entitled "A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 3.48, MAUI COUNTY CODE, RELATING TO HOMES OF UNMARRIED SURVIVING SPOUSES OF VETERANS AND SEVERELY DISABLED VETERANS," be PASSED ON FIRST READING and be ORDERED TO PRINT.

This report is submitted in accordance with Rule 8 of the Rules of the Council.

KEANI N.W. RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ, Chair

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ORDINANCE NO. _____

BILL NO. <u>110, CD1</u> (2022)

A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 3.48, MAUI COUNTY CODE, RELATING TO HOMES OF UNMARRIED SURVIVING SPOUSES OF VETERANS AND SEVERELY DISABLED VETERANS

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI:

SECTION 1. Section 3.48.475, Maui County Code, is amended to read as

follows:

"3.48.475 Home of unmarried surviving spouses of veterans who died while on duty and [totally] <u>severely</u> disabled veterans. A. Real property owned and occupied as a home by an unmarried surviving spouse of a veteran who died while on duty in military service [shall] <u>must</u> be levied a real property tax of [\$150] 50 percent of the minimum real property tax per year, [provided:] subject to the following conditions:

1. [That the] <u>The</u> death of the veteran was the result of a service-connected injury while on duty in military service[, and that the]. <u>The</u> department of finance may require proof of such determination[;].

2. [That the] <u>The</u> surviving spouse remains unmarried[;].

3. [That only] <u>Only</u> one home for the unmarried surviving spouse [shall be] is eligible[; and].

4. [That the] <u>The</u> unmarried surviving spouse living on premises, a portion of which is used for commercial purposes, [shall] <u>is</u> not [be] eligible [with respect to such] for <u>that</u> portion, but [shall be] <u>is</u> eligible [with respect to] for the portion used exclusively as a home; [provided, that] <u>except</u> any structure, including the land [thereunder, which] <u>on which it</u> <u>stands, that</u> is used for commercial purposes [shall] <u>is</u> not [be] eligible.

B. Real property owned and occupied as a home by a veteran who is [totally] <u>severely</u> disabled while on duty with the armed forces of the United States, or owned by [such] <u>the</u> veteran together with his or her spouse and occupied by either or both

spouses as a home [shall] <u>will</u> be levied a real property tax of [\$150] <u>50 percent of the minimum real property tax</u> per year, [provided:]<u>if:</u>

1. [That such total] <u>The severe</u> disability was the result of a service-connected injury while on duty as a member of the Armed Forces of the United States, and that the department of finance may require proof of [total] <u>severe</u> disability[;].

2. [That the] <u>The</u> veteran remains [totally] <u>severely</u> disabled[;].

3. [That only] <u>Only</u> one home for any [totally] severely disabled veteran [shall be] is eligible [; and].

4. [That the totally] <u>The severely</u> disabled veteran living on premises, a portion of which is used for commercial purposes, [shall] <u>is</u> not [be] eligible [with respect to such] for <u>that</u> portion, but [shall be] <u>is</u> eligible [with respect to] for the portion used exclusively as a home; [provided, that] <u>except</u> any structure, including the land [thereunder, which] <u>on which it</u> <u>stands that</u> is used for commercial purposes [shall] <u>is</u> not [be] eligible.

C. For the purposes of this section, ["home"] <u>unless the</u> context otherwise requires:

"Home" includes the following:

<u>1.</u> <u>The</u> entire homestead when it is occupied by a qualified [totally] <u>severely</u> disabled veteran or unmarried surviving spouse as a home[;].

<u>2.</u> [other] <u>Other</u> real property where the [totally] <u>severely</u> disabled veteran or the unmarried surviving spouse, as owner, sublets not more than one room to a tenant[;].

<u>3.</u> [premises] <u>Premises</u> held under an agreement to purchase the home, where the agreement has been duly entered and recorded prior to January 1 preceding the tax year for which tax treatment under this section is claimed, [whereby] <u>where</u> the [totally] <u>severely</u> disabled veteran or the unmarried surviving spouse, as purchaser, agrees to pay all taxes while purchasing the premises[; and].

<u>4.</u> [the] <u>The</u> home of a [totally] <u>severely</u> disabled veteran or the unmarried surviving spouse, who is confined to a hospital or other care facility, if that home would be the principal place of residence of the [totally] <u>severely</u> disabled veteran or the unmarried surviving spouse were it not for his or her confinement to a hospital or other care facility, [provided that] <u>if</u> not more than one room of the home is rented or leased to a third party who is not a family member.

<u>"Severely disabled" means the individual has been given</u> <u>a 70 percent or higher disability rating by the United States</u> <u>Department of Veterans Affairs.</u>"

SECTION 2. Section 3.48.590, Maui County Code, is amended by amending subsection D to read as follows:

"D. Homes or portions of homes granted an exemption under section 3.48.475 to be levied a real property tax of [\$150] <u>50 percent</u> of the minimum real property tax per year."

SECTION 3. Material to be repealed is bracketed. New material is underscored. In printing this bill, the County Clerk need not include the brackets, the bracketed material, or the underscoring.

SECTION 4. This Ordinance takes effect on January 1, 2023.

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:

KRISTINA C. TOSHIKIYO Department of the Corporation Counsel County of Maui bfed:misc:111abill01:ljcm LF2021-0012 BFED-111 2022-07-07 Bill 110 CD1

INTRODUCED BY:

Mill. Molin MICHAEL J. MOLINA