

Resolution

No. _____

EXTENDING CONDOLENCES TO THE FAMILY OF THE LATE JANET "JAN" MILLER DAPITAN

WHEREAS, Janet "Jan" Miller Dapitan, a tireless leader for environment and social causes, passed away on December 30, 2019, at the age of 84; and

WHEREAS, Jan Dapitan was born on August 10, 1935 at Mitchell Dam, Alabama; and

WHEREAS, her commitment to community action began with the Birmingham bus boycott sparked by the December 1955 arrest of Rosa Parks, where, refusing to cross picket lines, she instead chose to walk a considerable distance to her teaching job and proudly march in protests with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.; and

WHEREAS, after teaching at Kamehameha Schools on O'ahu, Jan Dapitan arrived on Maui in 1966 and spent several years teaching physical education and health at Henry Perrine Baldwin High School before being named the County's Director of Parks and Recreation by Mayor Elmer Cravalho; and

WHEREAS, she also served the County as program planner, volunteer action coordinator, and in 1983, was named Parks Department Employee of the Year; and

WHEREAS, during decades of government service she coordinated and supervised numerous major projects and programs, including the Wailuku Community Center (later renamed the Velma McWayne Santos Community Center) and the Kihei Community Complex, comprised of the Kihei Youth Center, Kihei Community Library, and Kihei Arts Council, and created Maui Youth Theatre and Adopt-A-Park programs, among others; and

Resolution No. _____

WHEREAS, Jan Dapitan was instrumental in creating Hawaii's Environmental Court, one of only two State environmental courts in the United States, and was honored for her efforts in April 2017 with the dedication of a bench, made entirely of recycled plastic, at Hoapili Hale, Second Circuit Court, Wailuku, Maui; and

WHEREAS, her leadership, unwavering commitment, and dedication to public service has not gone unrecognized, having received numerous awards during her lifetime, including the 2015 Mrs. Lyndon B. Johnson Award, Keep America Beautiful's highest volunteer honor; and

WHEREAS, the people of the County of Maui have benefited from Jan Dapitan's leadership, whose life is a model worthy of emulation; now, therefore,

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

1. That it hereby extends its condolences and deepest sympathy to the family of the late Janet "Jan" Miller Dapitan; and
2. That certified copies of this resolution be transmitted to her children, Kela Murchison and Kalani David Dapitan; stepdaughters, Charlotte Dapitan Figueroa, Ellen Dapitan Kaililaau, Kehau Dapitan Samudio, Kina Dapitan, and Luka Dapitan Ladera; stepsons, Charles Dapitan, Jr., George Dapitan, and Aukake Dapitan; and her sisters, Barbara Davis and Jeannine Wingard.