

Resolution

No. 22-252

URGING THE STATE LEGISLATURE AND THE GOVERNOR OF THE
STATE OF HAWAII TO PROVIDE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE
PROPOSED WEST MAUI HOSPITAL AND MEDICAL CENTER

WHEREAS, West Maui is home to several of Maui County's largest residential communities and renowned as one of Hawaii's premier visitor destinations but has no acute care hospital or related medical campus; and

WHEREAS, West Maui has an estimated population of 31,410 residents, with approximately 55,000 daily visitors; and

WHEREAS, unprecedented projected rates of growth will substantially increase healthcare demands for an already underserved West Maui population; and

WHEREAS, West Maui's distance from Maui Memorial Medical Center and challenging traffic conditions along Honoapi'ilani Highway have often resulted in injured and sick residents and visitors having to endure ambulance drive times of more than an hour, posing life-threatening dangers; and

WHEREAS, Newport Hospital Corporation acquired a 14.99-acre site on Kaka'alaneo Drive in the Kaanapali 2020 Development for a proposed West Maui Hospital and Medical Center; and

WHEREAS, Newport Hospital Corporation has obtained the required off-site infrastructure, water and sewer entitlements, and critical certificate of need for the facility; and

WHEREAS, the land value of the West Maui Hospital and Medical Center site is approximately \$30 million, including sites for an acute care hospital, medical clinic, and assisted living facility, all of which will be privately funded by Newport Hospital Corporation; and

WHEREAS, Newport Hospital Corporation will provide the site on a long-term land lease to West Maui Hospital Foundation, Inc., a nonprofit foundation that will build, own, and operate the West Maui Hospital and

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Medical Center with a 24-hour emergency room, operating rooms, radiology, lab, pharmacy, and inpatient and outpatient services; and

WHEREAS, to provide needed construction funding to the West Maui Hospital Foundation for the West Maui Hospital and Medical Center, potential private and public financing entities have requested governmental financial participation in the construction phase—specifically, building and infrastructure—of this project; and

WHEREAS, the Council has been informed that construction of this project can proceed upon receiving \$7 million from the State of Hawai‘i’s Capital Improvement Funds; and

WHEREAS, establishment of the West Maui Hospital and Medical Center would further a number of Maui County General Plan policies and objectives, including:

- “In cooperation with the Federal and State governments and nonprofit agencies, broaden access to social and healthcare services . . .” (*Countywide Policy Plan, page 54.*);
- “. . . facilitate the establishment of new healthcare facilities . . .” (*Countywide Policy Plan, page 54.*); and
- “Support the immediate development of a critical access hospital in West Maui.” (*Maui Island Plan, page 6-59*); now, therefore,

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

1. That it urges the State Legislature and the Governor of the State of Hawai‘i to provide funding for the establishment of the proposed West Maui Hospital and Medical Center; and
2. That certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to West Maui Hospital Foundation, Inc.; the Governor of the State of Hawai‘i; the Hawai‘i State Senate President, the Hawai‘i State Speaker of the House, Maui County’s delegation to the State Legislature; and the Mayor of the County of Maui.

INTRODUCED BY:

Jamara A. M. Balvin