Resolution

No. 24-168

URGING THE COST OF GOVERNMENT COMMISSION TO CONDUCT A STUDY AND PROVIDE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR COST SAVINGS AND EFFICIENCY IN COUNTY BOARDS, COMMITTEES, AND COMMISSIONS

WHEREAS, in its 2010-2011 Annual Report, the Cost of Government Commission published its report of findings and recommendations for Commission Term 2010-2011, including an executive summary of its Boards and Commissions Subcommittee; and

WHEREAS, the Subcommittee identified 13 Maui County boards, committees, and commissions for study with the goal of providing recommendations to eliminate or refocus those entities; and

WHEREAS, the criteria for investigating these 13 boards, committees, and commissions were based on the initial perception that those entities either:

- did not perform a function vital to running County government,
- represented an opportunity to increase County revenues, efficiency, or both by their elimination or change of focus,
- duplicated services offered by not-for-profit or private sector entities, or
- no longer served a relevant function; and

WHEREAS, the Subcommittee also compared the Maui County entities with those in other jurisdictions, including the City and County of Honolulu and the County of Kaua'i; and

WHEREAS, the Subcommittee concluded that enacting its recommendations would represent an estimated savings to the County of $2.9 million over five years, or $580,000 per year; and

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WHEREAS, in May 2021, the Chair of the Cost of Government Commission transmitted to the Maui County Charter Commission correspondence entitled "Proposed Charter Amendments and Recommendations Concerning the Cost of Government Commission and Other Boards and Commissions"; and

WHEREAS, in the May 2021 correspondence, the Commission recommended that:

- the Cost of Government Commission members' terms be modified so that they are staggered as required by Charter Section 13-2;

- the Charter Commission review all board and commission terms and reconcile them with their respective enabling legislation and Charter Section 13.2; and

- Charter Section 3-9.3 be amended to grant the Cost of Government Commission authority to issue stand-alone reports to the Mayor, County Council, and County Auditor; and

WHEREAS, at its meeting of September 24, 2024, the Council's Government Relations, Ethics, and Transparency Committee discussed the recommendations in both the 2011 Annual Report and the May 2021 correspondence to the Charter Commission; and

WHEREAS, during the meeting, the Committee acknowledged that the number of boards, committees, and commissions has increased, and new concerns have arisen since the 2011 and 2021 documents were drafted; and

WHEREAS, the Committee members expressed their desire for updated recommendations from the Cost of Government Commission to increase fiscal responsibility and efficiency, efficacy, and transparency in County processes; now, therefore,

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

1. That it urges the Cost of Government Commission to conduct a study and provide recommendations for cost savings and efficiency in County boards, committees, and commissions; and

2. That certified copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Cost of Government Commission; Lance T. Taguchi, CPA, County Auditor; and the Honorable Richard T. Bissen, Jr., Mayor of the County of Maui.

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INTRODUCED BY:

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