

June 28, 2016

Mr. Michael Victorino, Chair  
Policy & Intergovernmental Affairs  
Maui County Council  
200 High Street  
Wailuku, HI 96793

Dear Mr. Chair:

The proposal to hire a County Manager is troubling. Citizens elect their representatives to the County Council, just as they elect their Mayor. A County Manager—selected and hired by the County Council—does not appear to be a well thought out plan. First, citizens have no vote on the person hired. Second, it gives the Council more authority than the Charter intends. Third, it undermines the balance of power between the executive and legislative branches by denigrating the office of the Mayor. Frankly, it smacks of pure, mindless politics.

To have a highly paid position—especially one not accountable to the voters—is not in the best interest of Maui's citizens. As challenging as the present situation sometimes is, when paralyzing differences occur between the Mayor and Council, voters can and do make decisions on who best represents their interests. Please do not deprive them of this right by foisting a County Manager on them.

Sincerely yours,



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