

PIA Committee

From: kate griffiths <djmaumama@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, September 05, 2016 1:39 PM
To: PIA Committee
Subject: I support the short-term Real Estate Transfer Tax

Aloha,

I support this short-term Real Estate Transfer Tax, because there is a real affordable housing crises.

Even though my family household income is @\$65,000 we are struggling to live here due to the outrageous rental prices.

I publish a local magazine (community based, not profit driven), but may be forced to give it up so I can generate more income to keep a roof over my family's head, instead of serve my community. I recently had to move to a new rental after the house we were renting got sold to a couple from Northern Carolina, so I know first-hand that the housing struggle is real.

I also am acutely aware as families contact me at The Mauimama, desperate, looking for a place to live, single moms living in their car, the shelter, or families relying on friend's hospitality/couch. I often hear stories of working class families having to leave the islands or worse the financial stress breaks families up, mothers are forced to go to work instead of stay home to raise their children, and people are forced to live in substandard housing, just to have shelter, that they can afford.

It is now common that a 2 bedroom is @\$2,000 or more in Haiku!

It is not sustainable. At this rate Maui will just be for those who already own homes, the rich and the privileged.

I have lived here 20 years and am so saddened by what is happening to our community.

I hope you take the time to consider this solution being presented.
It will not solve the problem, but at least it is a start.

Mahalo,
Kate

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