



**Testimony on Items on the Agenda Being Considered
on the 2017 Maui County Legislative Package
(PIA-4 (2))**

September 22, 2016

Dear Chair Victorino, Vice Chair Couch &
Members of the Committee,

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony for today. We wanted to ring in on several items on today's agenda that are of particular importance to our membership.

On page 3, item 3, the proposed bill relating to increasing the minimum wage to \$15 per hour in 2019, the Maui Chamber of Commerce opposes this measure as the state has already addressed increasing the minimum wage to \$10.10 per hour beginning January 2018 and we did not and still do not support increasing the minimum wage to \$15 per hour as it is a starting wage and not meant to be a living wage.

On page 4, item 7, the Maui Chamber of Commerce supports the inclusion of a state bill relating to the transient accommodations tax in Maui County's legislative package to change the allocation of the TAT so that Maui County can get its fair share of the TAT.

On page 5, item 12, we all feel that affordable housing is a top priority for our County and we are interested in exploring ways to increase affordable housing, however before looking at increasing taxes, we would first like to understand how much money is in the affordable housing fund as there was a period of time where this money went unused and to better understand the plans and full breadth of options available for creating affordable housing.

While I am unable to be there in person, I will be watching the meeting on television to understand the thinking on the other items being introduced and look forward to sharing more at a later date.

Sincerely,

Pamela Tumpap
President