

# Resolution

No. \_\_\_\_\_

## EXPRESSING APPRECIATION TO COUNCILMEMBER GLADYS COELHO BAISA

WHEREAS, Councilmember Gladys Coelho Baisa will be leaving office on January 2, 2017, having served on the Council from the Pukalani-Kula-Ulupalakua residency area for five consecutive terms, the maximum number of consecutive terms allowed by law; and

WHEREAS, born in Paia, Maui, Hawaii, to Thomas and Virginia Coelho, Councilmember Baisa has one sibling and is a third-generation resident of the island; and

WHEREAS, Councilmember Baisa is a 1958 graduate of Maui High School, where she was the class valedictorian; and

WHEREAS, Councilmember Baisa went on to earn a Licensed Practical Nurse certificate from St. Francis School on Oahu and an Accounting Certificate from Maui Technical School; and

WHEREAS, Councilmember Baisa began a distinguished career at Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc., in 1969; and

WHEREAS, she served as MEO's Executive Director from 1984 to 2005, helping to establish and oversee some of the County of Maui's most-cherished and most-needed family and community services; and

WHEREAS, Councilmember Baisa was first elected to the Council in 2006; and

WHEREAS, during her freshman term, she chaired the Planning Committee and led passage of the Bed and Breakfast Home ordinance; and

WHEREAS, during the 2009-2011 Council term, Councilmember Baisa chaired the Land Use Committee and oversaw approval of development entitlements for the new Kihei Police Station; and

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WHEREAS, as Chair of the General Plan Committee in the 2011-2013 term, Councilmember Baisa shepherded adoption of the first Maui Island Plan; and

WHEREAS, she served as Chair of the Maui County Council during the 2013-2015 Council term, a tenure in which she was credited with uniting the counties' mayors, council chairs, and other councilmembers in a combined effort to raise awareness among State of Hawaii officials on the need to take into account the needs of county residents in State legislation and regulations; and

WHEREAS, as Council Chair, she initiated several projects to promote civic engagement, including the launch of the Council's Facebook and Twitter pages and the "Chair's 3 Minutes" weekly column in The Maui News; and

WHEREAS, during the current 2015-2017 Council term, Councilmember Baisa has chaired the Water Resources Committee and has served as the Council's alternate representative to the Hawaii State Association of Counties Executive Committee; and

WHEREAS, Councilmember Baisa has been a staunch advocate for relief for those on the Upcountry Water Meter Priority List and has been instrumental in introducing legislation to assist Upcountry residents in obtaining water meters; and

WHEREAS, Councilmember Baisa has been a member of dozens of boards and organizations, and currently is an active member of Kula AARP, Kula Community Association, Pukalani Community Association, Makawao Community Association, American Association of Retired Persons, Maui Filipino Chamber of Commerce, Rotary District 5000, and Lahaina Honolua Senior Club; and

WHEREAS, Councilmember Baisa has been the recipient of numerous awards, including Outstanding Alumni Award, Maui High School; Person of the Year, Maui Weekly; Lifetime Achievement Award, Association of Farmworker Organizations; 100 Outstanding Centennial Mauians, Maui County Centennial Committee; Grand Marshall, Maui Fair Parade; and Maui United Way Gold and Appreciation Awards; and

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WHEREAS, once retired, Councilmember Baisa is eager to spend time with Sherman, her husband of 51 years; her sister, three children, seven grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren; and many dear friends, including cherished friends in the nation of Mexico; and

WHEREAS, Councilmember Baisa's dedication to public service and tireless efforts to support Maui County residents have helped to improve the lives of our community now and for generations to come; now, therefore,

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

1. That it hereby expresses its appreciation to Councilmember Gladys Coelho Baisa for her leadership and dedicated work on the County of Maui Council, and for her outstanding public service to the people of the County of Maui and the State of Hawaii; and
2. That certified copies of this resolution be transmitted to Councilmember Gladys Coelho Baisa; her husband, Sherman F. Baisa; son Alfred Baisa; daughter Gladys and her husband, Wayne Naleieha; son Sherman Anthony and his wife, Candace Sakugawa Baisa; her grandchildren Sean Baisa, Cory Baisa, Kyle Baisa, Christopher Cabrido, Lacie Rae Cabrido Semivolus-Bullock, Kecia Sakugawa, and Chaz Fernandez; her sister, Virginia Coelho Scheeline; the Hawaii State Association of Counties Executive Committee; the Hawaii Council of Mayors; the County's delegation to the State Legislature; the State of Hawaii's delegation to the United States Congress; the Honorable Alan M. Arakawa, Mayor, County of Maui; and the Honorable David Y. Ige, Governor, State of Hawaii.