From: Betty Bewak <bbewak@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Friday, April 19, 2019 2:08 PM

To: EDB Committee

**Cc:** Betty

**Subject:** RE: Maui County Budget Hearings - I support fair tax rates

Dear Committee Chair Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez and Economic Development and Budget Committee Committee Members,

I am writing in favor of fair and reasonable tax rates for the vacation rental industry.

My mother had come to her condo in Maui, that she used as a short term rental, every year for two weeks since the mid 1970's. She loved Maui, and came to her condo for the last time for two weeks when she was 90 years old. She passed away two months before her 98th birthday. This is our second "home", and three generations later our family is still enjoying a portion of it every year. It's NOT a time share, and NOT a hotel.

Short Term Rentals are currently taxed at \$9.28/\$1000, the third highest only exceeded by Hotel and Resort and Time Share rates. Increasing the Short term rental rate too extreme puts an unfair burden on the individual owners of these properties, and the guests to these properties, and can only move to harm the small businesses that depend on the vacation rental industry.

We have a blossoming vacation rental industry on Maui, subject to appropriate restrictions and standards, and a fair existing permitting and taxing process. Short term rentals already comprise 25% of the \$319,516,547 of real property tax revenue compared to 11% for time share, and 7% for hotel and resort. The purpose of the industry is to allow for varied accommodations and experiences for visitors, and to allow small businesses to benefit from tourism.

I am supportive of the Economic Development and Budget Committee Committees efforts to find a fair and equitable solution for taxing the vacation rental industry that limits any negative implications for the community. Right now short term rentals brings in \$79,500,00 in direct taxable revenue, and has created thousands of jobs for our island as well.

Thank you for considering my testimony and I hope you will think about it as you continue to craft this bill.

Sincerely, Betty R. Bewak

From: Brett Folkman < brettfolkman@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Friday, April 19, 2019 12:43 PM

To: EDB Committee; Keani N. Rawlins; Kelly King; Riki Hokama; Tasha A. Kama; Alice L. Lee;

Mike J. Molina; Tamara A. Paltin; Shane M. Sinenci; Yukilei Sugimura

**Subject:** Opposition Testimony to proposed Short-Term Rental Property Tax

I just became aware today that there is a proposal to increase short-term rental property tax by 60%. As an owner of a condo in Makena Surf, where we spend several months a year until I can retire and rent it the other times, this proposed enormous increase is shocking to me personally. About 40% of any rents I get go to local residents for management, housekeeping, repairs, etc. supporting the local economy. A proposed 60% increase in taxes in one year is unconscionable. Rather than articulate a lengthy opposition to this, I will make it very simple - image your personal property tax increased 60% in one year? Personally, how would you respond? It's absolutely no different for someone who owns a short-term rental, who also lives here part-time, which is generally case for owners that I know. It's putting an unfair tax burden on an entire category of owners who made purchasing decisions based on existing property tax rates. Hiking them up 60% is beyond any financially modeling I did before purchasing. PLEASE reject this proposal and support people like me, who own and enjoy time in beautiful Maui and are only able to do so by renting when not in personal use. Thank you for your service and taking my testimony seriously.

Warmest Regards, Brett Folkman

From:

Kelly King

Sent:

Friday, April 19, 2019 10:14 AM

To:

**EDB** Committee

Subject: Attachments:

Fw: New Budget Discussion Property Tax Rate Increase.docx

With Aloha,



Office of Council Chair Kelly T. King

South Maui Residency Office: 808.270.7108 200 South High Street, 7<sup>th</sup> Fl

Wailuku HI 96793 mauicounty.us

From: Chantelle Davidson < chantelledavidson@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Thursday, April 18, 2019 6:52 PM

To: Lisa McCarrel; Kelly King; Riki Hokama; Tasha A. Kama; Alice L. Lee; Mike J. Molina; Tamara A. Paltin; Shane M.

Sinenci; Yukilei Sugimura; Keani N. Rawlins

**Subject:** New Budget Discussion

Dear Mayor, City Counsel, and Budget Committee,

I kindly urge you to take the time to read my attached letter, where I share my thoughts about the proposed **short-term rental** tax increase for the proposed budget. I intend to make the argument that it is bad for local business, and ultimately will decrease our cities overall tax base revenues.

Kindest Personal Regards, Lahaina Home Owner, Chantelle Davidson Dear Committee Chair Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez and Economic Development and Budget Committee Members,

I fear you are making a grave mistake. Unintended consequences have been observed time and time again in recent political moves. I encourage you to investigate the unintended consequences of targeting a silent minatory population of home owners whom you may think are fleecing your city, and profiting while absent. You would be largely mistaken. Most of the short-term rental properties are dedicated Hawaiian kindred. They love Maui, their homes, and they are fighting to afford and invest in our city. They are everyday people, perhaps hoping to retire full time in their second homes. They are not corporate millionaires, cruise ship operators, and they are **not hotels**, they are *people* who have chosen to invest in and better *your community*.

Targeting specific populations (for any reason) sends a bad message to your voter pool. Whenever any one population is ruled more harshly against another, it will create anger, bad publicity, and I predict over time will culminate in decreased revenues for your city. At the end of the day, not matter the nature of bad news, most people just want to be 'treated fairly'. Singling out a small group of people is not fair, even if many affected cannot vote to elect you to your next term. As a second home owner on the mainland, I am a registered voter here in Maui. I am a part of your next election, and I too want to be treated fair. What if the next time you find a way to target me? I don't want any council members who are quick to make a buck off a silent minority of tax payers. I will make every effort to let my fellow voters know which members think it is okay to target the silent little guy.

Who's next? The small business owners? Which other niche parts of the tourism industry will you decide 'could be paying more'?

Targeting local home investors sends the message that this city is not a good business venture, and their investment dollars are not welcome here. Owning a second property takes a lot of time and financial dedication. Rental income (in my opinion) is not often worth the hassle of management, maintenance, long distance communication barriers, etc. Short term rental "investors" are second home owners. Targeting the 'little' investor, would also be targeting your business community. These "investors" recommend beloved local shops and small restaurants to their guests who stay at their homes. Their guests support our local community. These home owners are involved in their communities, and enrich the city through the guests they bring. These home owners are not large hotel corporations that can offset these costs elsewhere, or dodge their fair share of taxes through loopholes. These are everyday people that from time to time rent out their home to help offset the enormous costs of carrying their slice of paradise. We need these investors, they purchase homes, keep the real estate market strong, bring money to remodel, pay for community upgrades, and already pay their fair share of property taxes. They should be treated like all the other home owners.

In my situation, I do not rent out my home when I am away. From time to time I feel guilty because I this beautiful property sits vacant, selfishly taking up wonderful coastline for no one to share. My home vacancy does not bring taxable rental revenue, my home vacancy does not bring tourist's discretionary vacation income. When my home sits empty, the vacancy is a drain on the business health of our city. I am not here to spend and support local business, nor are potential

renters. I ask, how many home owners will choose vacancy over the hassle and diminishing returns of short-term rentals?

Furthermore, as summarized by recent data:

Short Term Rentals are currently taxed at \$9.28/\$1000, the third highest only exceeded by Hotel and Resort and Time Share rates. Increasing the Short term rental rate too extreme puts an unfair burden on the individual owners of these properties, and the guests to these properties, and can only move to harm the small businesses that depend on the vacation rental industry.

We have a blossoming vacation rental industry on Maui, subject to appropriate restrictions and standards, and a fair existing permitting and taxing process. Short term rentals already comprise 25% of the \$319,516,547 of real property tax revenue compared to 11% for time share, and 7% for hotel and resort. The purpose of the industry is to allow for varied accommodations and experiences for visitors, and to allow small businesses to benefit from tourism.

I am supportive of the Economic Development and Budget Committee Committees efforts to find a fair and equitable solution for taxing the vacation rental industry that limits any negative implications for the community. Right now short term rentals brings in \$79,500,00 in direct taxable revenue, and has created thousands of jobs for our island as well.

Thank you for considering my testimony and I hope you will think about it as you continue to craft this bill.

Sincerely,

Chantelle Davidson

Second Home Owner

151-1 Pualei Drive, Lahaina Maui.

From:	Chris Geng <chris@mauiresortrentals.com></chris@mauiresortrentals.com>
Sent:	Friday, April 19, 2019 2:51 PM
To:	EDB Committee
Subject:	Vacation Rental Tax Basis increases

### Dear Committee,

It with respect and concern that myself and team at Maui Resort Rentals urge the legislature to strongly consider opposing the proposed measure which targets the Vacation Rental business and vacation rental owners in Hawaii. Recognizing the need for the state to fund its budget, this would place unfair burden on those that have invested in Hawaii when Hawaii was in need. The 100 or so owners we serve invested in ownership here in Hawaii during the recovery from the Great recession. They contributed to the overall recovery and sustainability of the Hawaii tourist economy. A facet of the tourist economy that happens to be the fastest growing in the hospitality sector in Hawaii and globally. With our employee staff of nearly 40, we urge a more responsible approach to the Real Property Tax basis that has been proposed.

Chris Geng R"B"
Founder/CEO
<a href="mailto:chris@mauiresortrentals.com">chris@mauiresortrentals.com</a>

808-792-1582 Direct 855-808-MAUI (6284) Toll Free 855-754-6641 Fax LIC RB-20582

Maui Resort Rentals 30 Halawai Drive Suite B-5 Lahaina, Maui, Hawaii 96761

LIC RB- 22264

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From: Dan Hartley <danlhartley@aol.com>

**Sent:** Friday, April 19, 2019 2:03 PM

**To:** EDB Committee

**Cc:** Hartley Linda; marci@aliiresorts.com

**Subject:** Proposed Tax increase on short term rentals

Dear Council Members,

I am opposed to the proposed tax increase for short term rentals. I have owned here for 40 years, including one condo I rent full time and another I rent only in the summer. The current tax is already substantial, and the county revenue has benefitted by the increased value, and thus tax evaluations, of our condos over those years. An increase in tax can have the following negative effects:

- (1) Lowering demand for purchasing condos (the tax rate is always a consideration in purchasing a condo) which will in turn lower property values and thus decrease revenue to the county.
- (2) Encourage many to stop renting their condos. I will certainly stop renting the one I live in half the year because the new tax will make it unattractive for potential income.
- (3) Increase the risk of foreclosure on condos because many owners barely make enough to pay the expenses of ownership, and they may have other obligations that put them in a serious bind.
- (4) Decrease the overall appeal of Maui as a place to live or invest.
- (5) Decrease tourism because owners will have to increase rents, thus making Maui less attractive for many possible visitors
- (6) Lose jobs because every rental condo requires maids to clean at every turnaround, administrators to handle business, and maintenance personnel to keep the condos operational. Even more, if this drives tourism down then jobs throughout the Maui community will suffer.

I urge you to consider these impacts before you make such an enormous increase in our taxes.

Sincerely,

Dr. Dan Hartley Wailea Elua 2107

From: Diane Pure <dpure@hawaii.rr.com>

**Sent:** Friday, April 19, 2019 1:08 PM

To: EDB Committee

**Subject**: 3rd Saturday Recycling

Diane Pure 2560 Kekaa Dr. C-303 Lahaina, HI 96761

# **3rd Saturday Recycling**

Please allot the full amount of \$118, 220 for the Malama Maui Nui. It's imperative for the 3rd Saturday Recycling to be continued in West Maui. We as a community are encouraged to respect the Aina. If this service is cut back, the side streets and bushes will be an illegal dumping ground yet again, rusted out appliances, etc. as we did before the program was introduced. Just yesterday we saw a double oven by the road behind Foodland Farms. It's a serious issue, with refuse at times finding it's way to the ocean and causing pollution. We're better than that as an island. Please give my comments consideration.

Diane Pure (808)793-2661

From: Don Pyne <donpyne@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Friday, April 19, 2019 10:06 AM

**To:** EDB Committee

Cc: Keani N. Rawlins; Kelly King; Riki Hokama; Tasha A. Kama; Mike J. Molina; Tamara A.

Paltin; Shane M. Sinenci; yukilei.sugimura@mauicount.us

**Subject:** Maui County Budget Hearing

RE: Maui County Budget Hearings - I support fair tax rates

Dear Committee Chair Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez and Economic Development and Budget Committee Committee Members,

I am writing in favor of fair and reasonable tax rates for the vacation rental industry. I own a second home (condominium) in Lahaina and spend as much time as I am able. However, when not personally used we do rent our home out to vacationers. We took great care in selecting Maui/Lahaina as our second home site and hope to make it our retirement residence in the next few years. Our real estate taxes have risen dramatically since our purchase in 2015. It will be a challenge to afford to make it our retirement residence with additional and increasing real property taxes.

Short Term Rentals are currently taxed at \$9.28/\$1000, the third highest only exceeded by Hotel and Resort and Time Share rates. Short term rental rate on part time residents puts an unfair burden on the individual owners of these properties, and the guests to these properties, and can only move to harm the small businesses that depend on the vacation rental industry.

Maui's vacation rental industry, subject to appropriate restrictions and standards, needs a fair taxing process that doesn't penalize individual owners. I am informed that short term rentals already comprise 25% of the \$319,516,547 of real property tax revenue compared to 11% for time share, and 7% for hotel and resort. The purpose of the industry is to allow for varied accommodations and experiences for visitors, and to allow small businesses to benefit from tourism. Part time residents are individuals and not large organizations that can more easily pass on their increasing costs to our visitors.

I am supportive of the Economic Development and Budget Committees efforts to find a fair and equitable solution for taxing the vacation rental industry that limits any negative implications for the community. Right now short term rentals brings in \$79,500,00 in direct taxable revenue, and has created thousands of jobs for our island as well.

Thank you for considering my testimony and I hope you will think about it as you continue to craft this bill.

### Respectfully,

Don & Marsha Pyne 2560 Kekaa Drive, L301 Lahaina, HI 96761

From:

**Sent:** Friday, April 19, 2019 10:20 AM

**To:** EDB Committee

**Subject:** Fw: Maui County Budget Hearings

Kelly King

With Aloha,



Office of Council Chair Kelly T. King

South Maui Residency Office: 808.270.7108 200 South High Street, 7<sup>th</sup> FI Wailuku HI 96793 mauicounty.us

From: Gary Wetsel <gary@mauisunrise.net>

Sent: Friday, April 19, 2019 6:35 AM

To: Kelly King

Subject: Maui County Budget Hearings

April 18, 2019

Economic Department and Budget Committee Maui, Hawaii (By email)

RE: Fair and Reasonable Tax Rates for Vacation Rental Industry

Dear Ms King:

My wife, Leslie and I have owned our unit in Puamana since 9/11/2001. We stay in our unit 3-4 times a year. This has also been the location for a family get together with our daughter and her family and our son who lives on Maui.

Since the County of Maui approved Puamana's short-term rentals we have rented our unit when we are not there. When the County ruled that Puamana could have approved short-term rentals our property taxes increased from approximately \$11,000 to over \$24,000. Our property assessment has increase 11% since 2016. Further to the tax increase, almost every other operating expense has also increase; maintenance, insurance, housekeeping, etc. We have barely been able to absorb these increases, the largest of with was an almost 50% in property taxes. This proposal would create another 66% increase or over \$26,000 for us. I certainly understand the increasing cost of County benefits and amenities. It is clear that the major source to finance these cost is through various local taxes.

However fairness is a critical key in this message. It is my understanding that the currently proposed budget by the Mayor suggested only a 3% increase in property taxes over last year, congratulations! However now there is a proposal to increase Hotel and Short-term Rentals to \$15.41/\$1000 the same as time-share. Short-term rentals currently compose 25% of Maui's real property taxes compared to 11% for time-share and 7% for hotels and resorts. Renters and owners enjoy the same amenities as everyone. Plus I would be happy to bet that renters spend more money per capita than others, therefore more sales tax, etc. Yet it seems that the property tax burden is not fairly distributed between the Short-term rentals and everyone else. Property assessments should help to equalize taxes along with rates. This latest proposal seems to be arbitrary and does not consider this ingredient.

In short as I understand it the Mayor's proposal seems fair and equitable However, I believe the recommendation of the Committee Chair fails to consider all variables and therefore becomes a bit arbitrary.

Please reconsider the Mayor's proposal or another more equitable solution; short-term rentals are paying more than their fair share already.

Respectfully Submitted

Gary Wetsel Owner 150-3 Pualei Drive Lahaina, Maui

From: Kathy and Jeff Dale <kjdale244@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Friday, April 19, 2019 11:41 AM

To: EDB Committee

**Subject:** Proposed Property Tax Increases

#### Dear Committee:

I am writing in objection to the proposed tax increases that appear to be falling almost exclusively on Hotel/Resort and Short Term Rental properties. While I understand the need for additional revenues to the county there must be a more equitable way that this could be achieved. Such a dramatic increased expense on our rental (tourist) properties would most certainly be reflected in increased rental rates. In turn this would result in a chilling of the tourist volume that is the chief source of income for the entire island economy.

I would ask the committee to reconsider this proposal and look for alternatives that would achieve your goals without dampening the tourist/rental trade.

Thank you for your time,

Jeffrey Dale KJ Maui Partners. LLC 2695 S. Kihei Road Unit 10-404 Kihei, HI 96753 508-735-8832

From: John Peterson <jhpeterson3@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Friday, April 19, 2019 1:20 AM

To: EDB Committee
Cc: John Peterson

**Subject:** Maui County Budget Hearings - I am a property owner and support fair tax rates

Dear Committee Chair Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez and Economic Development and Budget Committee Members,

I am writing to you today in favor of fair and reasonable tax rates for the vacation rental industry.

My family and I have owned real estate in West Maui since 1976. We spend time there each and every year and as often as schedules permit. I have watched Maui grow and flourish and seen the benefits my tax dollar have on our community. My home is not a hotel or a time share and should not be taxed at that rate.

Short Term Rentals are currently taxed at \$9.28/\$1000, the third highest only exceeded by Hotel and Resort and Time Share rates. Increasing the Short term rental rate too extreme puts an unfair burden on the individual owners of these properties, and the guests to these properties, and can only move to harm the small businesses that depend on the vacation rental industry.

We have a blossoming vacation rental industry on Maui, subject to appropriate restrictions and standards, and a fair existing permitting and taxing process. Short term rentals already comprise 25% of the \$319,516,547 of real property tax revenue compared to 11% for time share, and 7% for hotel and resort. The purpose of the industry is to allow for varied accommodations and experiences for visitors, and to allow small businesses to benefit from tourism.

I am supportive of the Economic Development and Budget Committee Committees efforts to find a fair and equitable solution for taxing the vacation rental industry that limits any negative implications for the community.

Short term rentals brings in \$79,500,000 in direct taxable revenue, and have created thousands of jobs for our island as well.

Thank you for considering my testimony and I hope you will think about it as you continue to craft this bill.

Sincerely,

John H. Peterson III

From: Kelly King

**Sent:** Friday, April 19, 2019 10:19 AM

**To:** EDB Committee

**Subject:** Fw: Ka lpu Kukui Fellows Additional Budget Material

Attachments: County Budget - FYE 2020 Ka Ipu Kukui.pdf; Ka Ipu Kukui Successes and

Contributions.docx

### With Aloha,



Office of Council Chair Kelly T. King

South Maui Residency Office: 808.270.7108 200 South High Street, 7<sup>th</sup> FI Wailuku HI 96793 mauicounty.us

From: Logan McBarnet < logan.mcbarnet@gmail.com>

Sent: Thursday, April 18, 2019 10:10 PM

To: Kelly King

Subject: Ka Ipu Kukui Fellows Additional Budget Material

Aloha Kelly,

I wanted to ensure that you had as much information about our program as you consider our budgetary ask of \$34,000. I've attached the budget that we just submitted to OED. I've also attached our Annual Report of Fellow Success and Contributions that was prepared in 2017. Since this document was prepared, we have had 30 more Fellows complete the program and our 18 current fellows will graduate next month. After our May graduation, 159 Fellows will have gone through the program over the last 12 years.

An important part of our budget is devoted to building our alumni program. This program will allow for continued networking and education for our alumni, while providing the organization a way to stay connected to our Fellows and a sustainable fundraising avenue. We will update our Fellow Success and Contributions Report with the information from this outreach, showing the broadening impact that the program has had on Maui Nui.

Please visit our new website at: <a href="https://kaipukukui.com">https://kaipukukui.com</a>. If you have any questions, please reach out to me or any of our board members.

Ka Ipu Kukui Fellows | developing future leaders... planning for Maui Nui's future

kaipukukui.com

Each month, the program's content focuses on the multiple perspectives of Maui's different challenges. Through these monthly learning opportunities known as Halawai, participants develop a holistic appreciation and understanding of these unique challenges, ultimately arriving at a more informed framework and a more enhanced network to better address Maui Nui's challenges in the future.

Mahalo for your service to Maui County and your support of the Fellows,

Logan McBarnet Vice-Chair, Board of Directors

# 2019 ORGANIZATIONAL ANNUAL BUDGET

GRANTEE NAME: Ka Ipu Kukui Fellows

OPERATING BUDGET

OPERATING BUDGE		
DEVENUE (Describe LITA )	AHOUNT	N (5 - 1 - 5 417) (5 - 4 - 4 - 4 - 4 - 4 - 4 - 4 - 4 - 4 -
REVENUE (Describe - HTA, ):	AMOUNT	Names of Funding Sources (HTA, State, etc.)
County Grant	34,000	
Tuition	22,500	
Private/Foundation	3,000	
TOTAL REVENUE	59,500	
EXPENSES (Describe)		
Executive Director (OR EQUIV)		
Other Employees		
Fringe Benefits (employer tax/healthcare)		
TOTAL PAYROLL COST	0	
OPERATING EXPENSES BY CATEGORY		
Facilitator (contracted)	16,800	
Transportation (Oahu, Lanai, Molokai)	18,000	Travel and hotel expenses for Halawai's held on Molokai, Lanai, and Oahu
Halawai Sessions (including materials)	5,500	Cover cost of 10 month leadership program, 11 Halawai's (2 days/Halawai) and Fellows Graduation; Curiculum materials
Strategic Planning	3,500	Annual Board strategic planning meeting (2 days)
Alumni Program Development and Pilot	5,000	e.g. Leadership workshop(s); Special events; Speaker series
Outreach	2,500	Cost of recruiting in Maui, Hana, Lanai, and Molokai; Website expenses
Administrative/Accounting fees	5,000	Fees paid to fiscal sponsor MEDB for accounting and administration of program
Insurance	2,400	
Office supplies	800	
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSE	59,500	
TOTAL EXPENSE	59,500	
NET INCOME/LOSS (Revenue Minus Expenses)	0	
		L

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE

DESCRIPTION OF ITEM	AMOUNT
TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURE	

Signature:	 	
Print name of signer:		_

# Ka Ipu Kukui Fellows

developing future leaders and planning for Maui Nui's future

# Annual Report of Fellows Success and Contributions to Maui County Updated April 2017

The Ka Ipu Kukui Fellows Program exposes participants to various topics and encourages them to get actively involved in Boards and Commissions. The following are just a few of the various Boards and Commissions Fellows are involved on in Maui County.

- Board Member Adaptations Dance Theater
- Na Koa Manu Conservation Executive Director & 3 Board Members are Ka Ipu Kukui Fellows
- County of Maui Cost of Government Commission
- County of Maui Grants Review Committee
- Board of Directors for Big Brothers Big Sisters of Maui, President
- Steering Committee Member for Sustainable Living Institute of Maui
- The Maui Farm, Board of Directors and Fundraising Committee
- Board of Directors, Hui O Wa a Kaulua, Secretary
- Maui Recycling Group, President
- Board of Directors, Maui Humane Society
- Slow Food Maui, Founding Member and Educational Co-Chair
- Maui Nui Marine Resource Council
- Cultural Resources Commission, County of Maui
- Maui County Coral Reef Recovery Taskforce
- Maui Non Profit Directors Association, Vice President
- Na Hele O Maui, President
- Persons with Disabilities Commission Member
- Seabury Hall Alumni Association Board, Director & Treasurer
- Vice President/President Elect, Maui Young Business Roundtable Board of Directors
- PBS Hawaii Community Advisory Board
- Pono Project
- Maui Conservation Alliance vice-chair, secretary and chair are all Ka Ipu Kukui Fellows this year
- Maui County Arborist Committee Chair
- Lahaina Restoration Foundation Board member
- Hawaii Housing Finance Development Corporation
- Maui Lanai Islands Burial Council Council Member
- Ka Ipu Kukui Fellows Steering Committee members
- Hawaii Society of Professional Engineers, Maui Chapter, President and Secretary (two Fellows)
- Maui Fair Alliance, Director and Gym Exhibits Coordinator

- Community Work Day Program Board President, and Board Vice President
- Maui Nui Botanical Gardens Board Vice-President and other Board members
- Sustainability Association of Hawaii Board Member
- Director of Sustainable Operations Mountain Rider's Alliance
- Women in Lodging and Tourism Member
- Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action (HAPA) Board Member
- Maui County Childrens' Justice Committee
- Na Leo Kako'o o Maui, President
- Pa'ia School PTA Co-President
- Urban Design Review Board, Chairperson
- Commercial Round Table of Maui- President
- J. Walter Cameron Center, Member Board of Directors
- Wailuku Rotary Member
- County of Maui Civil Service Commission Member
- Hui Malama Learning Center Member and Board Vice President
- Hawaiian Outrigger Canoe Voyaging Society, Board Member
- AlA Maui Chapter President
- Maui Young Business Roundtable, Board of Directors
- UHMC Health Center Advisory Board Member
- Health Planning Council, Tri-Isle Subarea, Board Member
- Head Coach of the Kihei Canoe Club Na Opio program
- Board of Directors Kihei Canoe Club
- Board of Directors/Co-Founder of Na Wahine Ho`omana (The Empowered Women), a new nonprofit with a vision of providing a women's wellness center on Maui
- Hawaiian Canoe Club Coach
- Maui Chapter Surfrider Foundation Board of Directors
- Hawaii Ecotourism Association Board of Directors
- 'Ahihi Kina'u Natural Area Reserve Advisory Board Member
- Maui Filipino Chamber of Commerce, (vice president)

Events: Golf Scholarship program, Maui FilAm Heritage Festival, Gintong Pamana Leadership Awards, educational seminars to empower small-businesses

- Maui Karate Association, Instructor
- Primary and General elections voter assistance official
- Fil-Am Young Leaders Program, Chairman of the Board
- Co-founder, Start Fresh Maui Aquaponics
- Board Member for Ka Hale A Ke Ola Homeless Shelter
- Alternate trustee for the Cooke Foundation, Limited
- Maui Non Profit Directors Board Secretary
- Iao United Church of Christ Council Assistant Treasurer
- Iao United Church of Christ Witnessing & Reconciling Comm. Co-Chair

- Maui Pride Board Treasurer
- Save Honolua Coalition President
- West Maui Soil & Water Conservation District, Board Member
- Kiwanis Club of the Valley Isle Board Member
- Native Hawaiian Chamber of Commerce Board Member
- Mālama Maui Nui Board Co-President, and Board Members
- Impact HUB Honolulu (ProtoHUB Honolulu) founding member and Wisdom Council
- Hawai'i Green Growth Measures Project Core Team
- Na Koa Manu Conservation Inc., Executive Director
- Maui Rapid Ohia Death Working Group, Chair
- Hawaii Island Land Trust Maui Island Council and MalamaKipuka Fundraiser Auction Chair
- · Maui Young Democrats, Vice President
- Democratic Party, District Chair

The Fellows are also encouraged to stay connected and to work on needed projects within the County. Some projects the Fellows have initiated since their involvement with Ka Ipu Kukui are stated below.

- Featured in Maui No Ka Oi Magazine as one of five Environmental Heroes for 2012 (Kuhea Paracuelles) 2013 (Malia Cahill and Pomaikai Kaniaupio-Crozier)
- Annual Volunteer Day at Olowalu tending to the Taro Fields and encouraging discussions of Food Sustainability on Maui
- Volunteering for the Hawaii Coastal Land Trust Annual Fund Raiser bringing awareness to the preservation of coastal lands in Hawaii
- UH Maui College Culinary program re-organized its "Leadership Structure" utilizing many principles of the 7 Habits of Highly Effective People program shared from the session on Leadership
- Developed and Delivered Curriculum Applied Math in the Culinary Arts initiated through relationship building with DOE partners
- Personal voter registration drive, 600 new registered voters
- Coordinated Annual Paddle for Life Voyage to Lanai raising money for the Pacific Cancer Foundation raising over \$30,000
- Coordinated with Community Work Day to establish an Annual Clean Up and Green Up at Maliko Gulch
- Through networks acquired, expanded organizations involvement with West Maui Mountains Watershed Partnership to complete one of the first truly mauka to makai conservation projects in the Honolua Watershed. This partnership assisted

- in the acquisition of a \$60,000 grant from the National Fish & Wildlife Foundation and NOAA.
- Providing support and guidance to interns sponsored and funded through MEDB's Ke Alahele Program
- Involved as an APEC trainer for Hawaiian Culture and Hospitality for Maui County
- Enrolled in UH MC's Sustainability 4-Year Degree Program
- "The Governance Halawai empowered me to participate in the local legislative process providing testimony to the County Council in person versus emailing comments"
- Partnership with MHLA (Maui Hotel and Lodging Association) for the Kaanapali Makai Watch Program and development of a new program to facilitate reef stewardship with hotels across the state
- The facilitation of Composting Toilets placed at Honolua and Waihee to assist during restoration projects
- In partnership with DOH and CDC acquired a grant to create twelve school and community gardens
- Involvement with the Junior Lifeguard Program and incorporating 7 Habits leadership components within the curriculum
- As Director of the Cameron Center and the acquisition of a \$1.5 million grant for infrastructure rehabilitation – emphasis was placed on greening the complex with PV, energy efficient air conditioning and lighting, saving over 140,000 KW's per year.
- Speaker at the Making Waves Lecture Series Pacific Whale Foundation.
   Ma'alaea, March 15, 2012.
- \$5000 grant from Patagonia for port-a-potties, summer 2012
- Organized new location for the annual International Coastal Cleanup Day in Olowalu, as a Partnership between the Maui Nui Marine Resource Council and the Community Work Day Program
- Co-founder and organizer of the Maui Roi Round-up, which is celebrating its fifth year!
- Expanding the protection of Maui's native ecosystems through a perpetual conservation easement over 3,721 acres of East Maui Irrigation lands, making The Nature Conservancy's Waikamoi Preserve the largest private nature preserve in the State
- Led a forum at the 2014 Hawaii Conservation Conference on the use of contractors for natural resource management in Hawaii
- Founded TriLanai LLC not-for-profit focusing on health and fitness in its 6<sup>th</sup> year; providing \$30,000 in 2013 directly to charitable organizations that benefit the people of Lanai.

- Makai Watch Coordinator for Department of Land and Natural Resources'
   Community Fisheries Enforcement Unit (CFEU), a first-of-its-kind enforcement model for Hawai'i.
- 2014 Maui County Women of Excellence Award
- Passed law banning tobacco at our beaches and parks for Maui County
- Maui Invasive Species Committee project of the University of Hawaii Pacific Cooperative Studies Unit - Coqui Frog Response and Control Team received first place for the Research Corporation of the University of Hawaii's annual outstanding employees award
- Maui Forest Bird Recovery Project
- Interim Coordinator for the West Maui Kumuwai project, part of the West Maui Ridge 2 Reef Initiative
- Creation of Na Wahine Ho`omana (The Empowered Women) is to have a
  nonprofit women's center in south Maui to serve as a clearinghouse of resources
  and services for women needing support, guidance, and assistance. Na Wahine
  Ho'omana strives to offer an all-inclusive, low-cost women's resource center run
  by women, offering a safe and welcoming environment. Aiming to provide
  education on health and wellness, support through groups and shared meeting
  space, along with guidance to help women become empowered, better able to
  make life-enhancing choices, and to flourish to their greatest potential."
- Awarded 2014 Paddler of the Year honor at Kihei Canoe Club
- Forged a partnership between the West Maui Mountains Watershed Partnership and MEDB to integrate watershed protection information into MEDB's WaterStory and conduct this educational session with groups throughout the community.
- Sharkastics Founder
- Banning Polystyrene (aka "styrofoam") Committee (Involving three Ka Ipu Kukui Fellows from various years)
- Maui Matsuri scholarship fundraiser booth by Japanese Cultural Society of Maui
- Volunteered for Maui Go Red for Women by American Heart Association
- Hope Ball, American Cancer Society
- Developed MauiCounty.us to increase county council business awareness and communication
- Participated in citizen engagement panel for Hawaii Digital Government Summit
- Working on empowering the Hawaii State Association of Counties' untapped potential in the state legislature.
- Led efforts to State Acquisition of 244 acres at Honolua, Secured Right of Entry permit to Honolua property and grant to care take the area from April – September 2014
- Maui County Mayoral Candidate in the General Election
- Led efforts to bring Brown Water issues due to development to the attention of the State Department of Health and County Public Works department leading to a Stop Work order (January 2015) until issues of downstream negative effects are addressed

- Conducting Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) Sustainability Reporting training around the country
- Developed and published a first-ever global whitepaper on the linkage between Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) and LEED for use by corporate social responsibility (CSR) and sustainability professionals
- Conducting GRI-LEED Linkage workshops around the country
- Growing the field and practice of impact investing and sustainable and responsible investing (SRI) in Hawai'i through advising large Hawai'i institutions and agencies
- Shaping Hawai'i's social entrepreneurship and sustainable business community through serving as a founding member and Wisdom Council member for Impact HUB Honolulu
- Served as Hawai'i Green Growth Measures Project core team member for developing statewide sustainability indicators for the Aloha+ Challenge Sustainability Dashboard
- Guest presenter on sustainability reporting and management in Hawai'i for the UH Sustainability in Higher Education Conference, Hawai'i East-West Center, Accounting and Financial Women's Alliance (AFWA), UH Manoa Sustainable Business Course, UH Maui College Sustainable Business Courses, and more
- Presented at the 2014 US Green Building Council (USGBC) Annual Global Greenbuild Conference in New Orleans on the linkage between GRI and LEED
- Represented Hawaii at the 2016 ESRI GeoDesign Summit in Redlands, CA.
- Represented Hawaii in the International Small Islands Studies Association "Islands of the World XIII at Penghu National University, Taiwan.
- Developed Certificate of Competence with GIS in Ecosystem Management creating jobs for 30% of program graduates.
- Developed First Annual World Water Day for Maui County Save Water, Drink Beer in partnership with Maui Brewing Company benefiting local water conservation organizations.
- Developed Rain Garden Demonstration site at Kalepolepo Beach
- Coordinated pre-event of the 2016 IUCN World Conservation Congress on Maui Indigenous Crop Biodiversity
- Developed Statewide K-12 GIS curriculum for MEDB STEMworks.
- Developed Smokefree UH Maui College Policy in collaboration with Coalition for a Tobacco Free Hawaii
- Created Arch-i-Sketch encouraging use of hand drawings for design and detailing.

Although we have an impressive list of Fellows with outstanding backgrounds and varied experiences, many Fellows have indicated the huge impact the program has had on their lives not only with regards to the knowledge gained, but with the social networks that are developed. Many Fellows have expanded their job responsibilities and some have taken on new leadership positions.

- Community Work Day, Executive Director
- Koi Award from the Native Hawaiian Chamber of Commerce for Hana Pono, LLC "New Native Hawaiian Owned Business Award"
- Kihei Charter School, 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Instructor
- King Kekaulike High School Job Shadowing Program & Senior Project Panelist
- Baldwin High School's Bear Affair Career Day & Career Mentorship Program
- Holaloha Ekolu, dba Old Lahaina Luau, Aloha Mixed Plate, Star Noodle, Leodas Kitchen and Pie Shop, General Manager
- Hale Akua, Assistant Farm Manager
- Ed Lindsey Award for Support in Hawaiian Culture and Environment
- The Hookipa Learning Center on Maui, Oahu, and the Big Island, Developer/Director
- Founder, Director TEDxMaui since 2012
- Co-Host for TEDxMaui for past three years
- New West Maui Mountains Watershed Partnership Program & Data Assistant
- Maui Nui Marine Resource Council, Executive Director
- UHMC EdVenture as Creative Designer and Program Promoter
- Became a Certified Program Planner through LERN
- MBA in Sustainable Management Presidio Graduate School
- Maui Huliau Foundation Executive Director
- Founded TEDxMaui, which is now in its third year. TEDxMaui features Hawaii's best and brightest. Two of our talks have been featured on TED.com which collectively has over 2 million views.
- Hawaiian Cultural Director Grand Wailea
- Sun Power Corporation Regional Sales Manager for Hawaii
- Olinda Community Association Board Member
- GIS Educational Specialist for UH Maui College coordinating an inter-island effort to offer a GIS certificate program
- Cultural Surveys Hawaii Archaeologist
- Entrepreneurial plans to open a Maui Brewery
- Took ownership of The Neighborhood Farm, Maui's largest Pastured Poultry egg farm
- Community Service Projects coordinator/teacher for Kihei Charter School

- RevoluSun General Manager of the new RevoluSun Smart Home division.
   Added a collection of energy efficiency, comfort and home automation products to offer a more holistic approach to making customer's homes a more economical, healthy and comfortable place to live.
- Maui Electric Company as their Community Relations Specialist. Working closely
  with communities across Maui County and involved with diverse company
  initiatives, as well as activities related to the proposed merger with NextEra
  Energy.
- Catering Director at the Four Seasons
- Susty Pacific, Chief Responsibility Officer
- GIS Educational Specialist at UH Maui College
- Founder of the Makalii Group GIS and Project Management Consulting Services
- Coordinates South Maui Marine Turtle Stranding Network
- Created <u>www.Hihawksbills.org</u> raising awareness to the endangered Hawaiian Hawksbill Sea Turtle
- AIA Maui Chapter's Annual Lego Building Competition
- Hawaii Construction Career Day

From: Kelly King

**Sent:** Friday, April 19, 2019 10:13 AM

**To:** EDB Committee **Subject:** Fw: raising taxes

### With Aloha,



Office of Council Chair Kelly T. King

South Maui Residency Office: 808.270.7108 200 South High Street, 7<sup>th</sup> Fl

Wailuku HI 96793 mauicounty.us

From: Melanie Howard <melnesia@comcast.net>

Sent: Thursday, April 18, 2019 6:45 PM

To: Kelly King

Subject: raising taxes

April 17,2019

### Kelly King, Council Chair,

It has come to my attention that the County Council is planning on increasing the Vacation Rental taxes of homeowners who own condos in the hotel classification. We currently pay 9.37% and on top of that we pay a hotel tax too. Your board has proposed to raise our Vacation Rental tax to 15.43%

My husband and I own a condo in the Lahaina Shores Beach Resort. It is our vacation property and when we are not there we rent it out to tourists. This helps us, the owner and it helps the tourists who come spend their money in Maui. Our condo is decorated and maintained to our specifications and the tourists who have stayed in our condo request our unit all the time. We are very proud of the work we have done.

That being said I would like to ask you to reconsider this plan to raise our taxes. We already pay a large amount to the county. We'd like to continue to offer our home away from home to the frequent tourists to Lahaina.

Now I would like to give you an alternative plan. I know you are trying to balance a budget and need money in order to balance your budget. Here is my alternative plan: There are many home owners in Lahaina who are not paying their fair share. They live in homes worth more than \$1 million dollars. The owners of the houses on the hill, Launiupoko have somehow managed to get their homes classified as "Agricultural" which is a total

scam. A definite loop hole that needs closing ASAP. Many of these homeowners are renting their homes at intravals as VRBO's and they do not pay the hotel tax, they still just pay the" Agricultural tax". These millionaire homeowners are paying about half the county taxes as the blue collar worker who lives in one of the homes in Lahaina town proper.

I doubt this is news to you people on the board, but in case you have never heard this before I thought I'd be the one to let you know what is going on.

Thank you for your consideration,
Melanie Howard
7345 Pritchard Rd
Sacramento Ca 95828
melnesia@comcast.net

From: Michal Beth Elerding <mbelerding@coastalak.com>

**Sent:** Friday, April 19, 2019 11:47 AM

**To:** EDB Committee

**Subject:** Proposed Property Tax Increase of 66%

### **Dear Committee Members:**

Please take just a moment to picture yourself in your beautiful cabin (second home) on a gorgeous trout lake in Alaska. What feelings would you experience if Alaska decided to single you out to be the one to pay a 66% increase in property tax? Wouldn't you think that this country is not about singling out specific groups or discriminating? You would likely feel you are willing to pay your fair share.

My husband and I have visited Maui for over 30 years and purchased our condo, our second home, 5 years ago. We are struggling with unsettling feelings about our choice to purchase on Maui. We love the people of Maui and the Aloha spirit but this tax increase proposal leaves a bitter taste in our mouths, not to mention a feeling of not being welcome on Maui.

We live on Maui several months each year and our grown children and their children visit Maui at different times of the year as well. I would like to share with you some of what we contribute to the economy and communities on Maui:

- Members of the MACC
- Support St. Theresa's Catholic Church
- Frequent local grocery stores, retail stores, restaurants run by locals, hairdressers, gyms, dry cleaners, tour guides
- Attend local fund raisers
- Rent cars on island, purchase fuel
- Shop at local hardware stores to maintain our property
- Support local contractors, having just completed bathroom remodels
- Taxes: pay sales tax, property tax, bring in GET and TA taxes through our guest rentals
- Help create jobs in the condo management industry as well as the government

I understand that the budgeting process is painful, and I appreciate the work you and your committee members put into the process but this tax increase proposal sends a very bad message to anyone who wants to be a part of the Maui lifestyle and contribute to the Maui communities. Please reconsider this proposal and treat us fairly. Mahalo for your consideration.

Sincerely yours,

Michal Beth Elerding

mb@coastalak.com

From: Kelly King

**Sent:** Friday, April 19, 2019 10:11 AM

**To:** EDB Committee

**Subject:** Fw: Opposition to proposed increases in property taxes for vacation rental property

### With Aloha,



Office of Council Chair Kelly T. King

South Maui Residency Office: 808.270.7108 200 South High Street, 7<sup>th</sup> Fl Wailuku HI 96793 mauicounty.us

From: Peter Konidis <pkonidis1@gmail.com> Sent: Thursday, April 18, 2019 4:32 PM

To: Kelly King; Keani N. Rawlins; Riki Hokama; Mike J. Molina; Shane M. Sinenci; Tamara A. Paltin; Yukilei Sugimura; Alice

L. Lee; Tasha A. Kama

Subject: Opposition to proposed increases in property taxes for vacation rental property

Dear Council Members,

I first visited Maui 10 years ago and immediately fell in love. I worked hard and pinched my pennies and eventually purchased a condominium on the island. Our goal is to eventually retire in beautiful Maui.

The costs to maintain the condo are very expensive and I must rent it to cover costs. I promote my condo and Maui to friends and family and through my efforts increase visitors to the island who then spend money to support the economy. Short term rentals are good for the economy. It supports the number one industry in Maui - tourism.

I was shocked to hear of the proposal to increase property taxes for vacation rental properties. Why?? Why target this part of the market? Vacation rental supports the economy is so many ways. I just don't understand why this is not clearly seen.

I strongly oppose this increase. I currently pay over \$10,000 per year in property taxes. I just won't be able to afford an increase. If the proposal is approved, you will force me to sell my condo. I just can't keep it!!

I am not alone - I have spoken to many other owners and they are in the same boat. Property values will go

down. Mark my words.

Please reconsider if you are for this proposal. Vacation rentals Is Maui's economy.

No to this unfair increase.

Regards,

Peter Konidis

**From:** Richard Eckman < rjeckman@outlook.com>

**Sent:** Friday, April 19, 2019 1:54 PM

**To:** EDB Committee

**Subject:** West Maui 3rd Saturday Recycling

# Aloha

Please consider fully funding the above budget line item. The current amount planned will not allow this to stay a monthly event, and each month we usually fill the container for appliances, and the container for electronics.

Reducing the number of events will only make it harder for residents to remember when the event is, and create a backlog on disposal for appliances and electronics, increasing the risk of roadside and off road illegal disposal.

I thank you for your time and consideration on this matter

### Mahalo

Richard Eckman 50 Puu Anoano St, Apt 905 Lahaina, HI 701-388-7397

From: Steve Campbell <steve@sacampbell.com>

**Sent:** Friday, April 19, 2019 10:58 AM

**To:** EDB Committee

**Subject:** Proposed short term rental property tax increase

# Maui County Council Members

As Maui county property owners and residents we wish to go on record as adamantly opposing the proposed increase in property taxes on condos and homes that are available for short term rental. The tax as proposed will place a crushing burden on those owners who rent their properties. The likely outcome will be the removal of condos and homes from the short term rental market and ultimately the sale of these properties. While beneficial to hotels, this will fundamentally alter the local economy, making Maui a destination only for those wealthy enough to afford \$800 per night hotels.

We cannot overstate our opposition to such an ill conceived tax. Please table this proposal.

Reapectfully,

Steve and Mona Campbell Wailea Ekahi Maui Hawaii

From: Samway1999 <samway1999@aol.com>

**Sent:** Friday, April 19, 2019 9:26 AM

**To:** EDB Committee

**Cc:** jclausnow@gmail.com

**Subject:** Re: Proposed increases in some Property taxes in Maui County

### Dear Sirs and Madams,

As an owner of a condominium in Maui that is used for vacation rentals part time I am very concerned about the proposal to raise property taxes for vacation rental real estate in Maui County.

We as vacation rental owners are already shouldered with the highest rate of property tax as well as TAT and GET. This forces us to pass these expenses on to our renters in order to even break even.

A further increase in the expenses will further raise prices for the tourists coming to our island. It could jeopardize our competitiveness visa vi other tourist destinations and thereby contribute to overall less money for all of Maui. I therefore urge you to vote NO to ant proposal of increased Property tax in Maui County.

Respectfully, Tomas Lindstrom, Kauhale Makai, Unit 607, Kihei