GOVERNANCE, ETHICS, AND TRANSPARENCY COMMITTEE

June 5, 2020

Committee Report No. ____

Honorable Chair and Members of the County Council County of Maui Wailuku, Maui, Hawaii

Chair and Members:

Your Governance, Ethics, and Transparency Committee, having met on May 19, 2020, makes reference to County Communication 19-28, from Council Chair Kelly T. King, relating to proposed amendments to the Revised Charter of the County of Maui (1983), as amended ("Charter").

By correspondence dated January 3, 2020, Presiding Officer Pro Tempore Tasha Kama transmitted a proposed resolution entitled "PROPOSING A CHARTER AMENDMENT RELATING TO BOARD AND COMMISSION MEMBERS AND NOMINEES."

The purpose of the proposed resolution is to place on the next General Election ballot the question of whether the Charter should be amended, effective January 2, 2021, to: 1) provide for the automatic removal of a board or commission member for cause upon the Mayor's request, unless the Council disapproves the removal within 30 days; 2) provide for the automatic disapproval of a nominee to a County board or commission when the nominee withdraws, dies, or is not eligible; and 3) allow the Mayor an additional 10 days, from 70 to no more than 80 days, to submit to Council the name of a nominee to fill a vacancy.

Your Committee notes Article 14 of the Charter sets procedures related to amending the Charter. The Council, by resolution adopted after two readings on separate days, and passed by a vote of six or more members, may place a Charter amendment question on the ballot at the next General Election.

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Your Committee discussed the merits of the proposal, noting it would address inefficiencies for the Council when removing a member for cause upon the Mayor's request or disapproving a nominee when the nominee withdraws, dies, or is no longer eligible to serve on a board, commission, or committee.

Your Committee discussed whether the change could be implemented as an ordinance amending Section 2.41, Maui County Code, instead of a Charter amendment.

Your Committee agreed to file the correspondence transmitting the proposed Charter amendment, with the understanding a proposed bill for an ordinance with a similar purpose may be considered in the future.

Your Committee voted 9-0 to recommend filing of the correspondence. Committee Chair Molina, Vice-Chair Rawlins-Fernandez, and members Hokama, Kama, King, Lee, Paltin, Sinenci, and Sugimura voted "aye."

Your Governance, Ethics, and Transparency Committee RECOMMENDS that the correspondence be FILED.

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This report is submitted in accordance with Rule 8 of the Rules of the Council.

MICHAEL J. MOLINA, Chair

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