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COUNTY COUNCIL
COUNTY OF MAUI
200 S. HIGH STREET
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793
www.MauiCounty.us

August 19, 2020

OFFICE OF THE
COUNTY CLERK

2020 AUG 20 AM 8:09

RECEIVED

Ms. Kathy L. Kaohu, County Clerk
Office of the County Clerk
County of Maui
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793

Dear Ms. Kaohu:

SUBJECT: **CREATING AND EXPANDING WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS TO GET MAUI
COUNTY RESIDENTS BACK TO WORK**
(PAF 20-209)

I am placing the attached proposed resolution, entitled "CREATING AND EXPANDING WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS TO GET MAUI COUNTY RESIDENTS BACK TO WORK," on the next Council meeting agenda.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alice L. Lee", with a small flourish at the end.

ALICE L. LEE
Council Chair

paf:lma:20-209b

Enclosure

COUNTY COMMUNICATION NO. 20-428

Resolution

No. _____

CREATING AND EXPANDING WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS TO GET MAUI COUNTY RESIDENTS BACK TO WORK

WHEREAS, the Countywide Policy Plan states that “Maui County will be an innovative model of sustainable island living and a place where every individual can grow to reach his or her potential” and “will be a leader in the creation of responsible, self-sufficient communities and environmentally sound economic development”; and

WHEREAS, the vision of the University of Hawai‘i Maui College is to “prepare students to respond to emerging challenges in their lives, communities, and the world through compassion, leadership, problem-solving, and innovation”; and

WHEREAS, according to the Section II of the Countywide Policy Plan, “the State’s economy remains service-oriented” emphasizing that our community needs to seek expansion in construction, manufacturing, and agriculture, which currently account for less than 10 percent of wages and salaries”; and

WHEREAS, the Maui Economic Development Board, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, was established in 1982 to lower the County’s dependence upon the agriculture and tourism sectors of its economy, achieve a balanced economy, and provide more rewarding choices to its residents; and

WHEREAS, on September 6, 2018, Moody’s Investor Services assigned a Aa1 rating to Maui County’s General Bond Obligation Bond Series 2018, with one of the rationales being “a very low unemployment rate”; and

WHEREAS, the novel coronavirus 2019, known as COVID-19, has spread globally at a rapid pace; and

WHEREAS, because of the rapid spread of COVID-19, Mayor Michael P. Victorino issued an emergency declaration for Maui County on

Resolution No. _____

March 4, 2020, and Governor David Y. Ige issued an emergency proclamation for the State of Hawai'i on March 5, 2020, with both the Mayor and Governor issuing numerous supplemental directives as the emergency remains in effect; and

WHEREAS, on March 20, 2020, the Governor announced the launch of the Reducing Unemployment Disruption and Driving Economic Regeneration ("RUDDER") program to provide up to \$100,000 of relief to registered and compliant Hawaii businesses for new employees after March 1, 2020; and

WHEREAS, as of August 19, 2020, the State's Workforce Development Division website stated: "Due to the high demand of interest from employers, the RUDDER program has met its program capacity"; and

WHEREAS, Ordinance 5092, effective June 5, 2020, appropriated \$67 million in CARES Act funding to address public health and economic impacts caused by COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the County Budget for Fiscal Year 2021 provides nearly \$139 million for Capital Improvement Projects and the State Legislature this year budgeted more than \$500 million for Capital Improvement projects in Maui County; and

WHEREAS, these projects have the potential for boosting the County's economy by employing local resources and providing jobs to residents who lost their jobs because of the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, according to a press release relating to Hawai'i visitor statistics for May 2020 from the Hawai'i Tourism Authority dated June 29, 2020, visitor arrivals to the State decreased 98.9 percent compared to a year ago and 98.4 percent in the County because of the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, a *Maui News* article, dated July 17, 2020, reported the unemployment rate in the County went from 34 percent in May 2020 to 22.6 percent in June 2020, but remains the highest in the State; and

WHEREAS, on August 19, 2020, this Council adopted Resolution 20-114, resolving the following:

Resolution No. _____

- “That it urges the Governor and the Mayor to hire locally and give businesses in the County of Maui the highest priority for projects and jobs paid for by Federal, State, and County funds; and
- That it urges the Mayor, in allocating the remaining CARES Act funding, to prioritize investments that will stimulate local jobs and businesses”; now, therefore,

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

1. That it urges the University of Hawai'i Maui College to expand its curriculum to include more technology and skilled trades programs, including technical certificates, licenses, and degrees;
2. That it urges construction-related trade unions in the County and the State to work on expanding apprenticeship and other training programs;
3. That it urges the Maui Economic Development Board to create and strengthen workforce development programs to get residents back to return to work in jobs outside of the tourism sector;
4. That it urges the Governor to use CARES Act funding and work with State's Workforce Development Division to expand the Reducing Unemployment Disruption and Driving Economic Regeneration program capacity;
5. That it urges the Mayor to allocate CARES Act funding to programs in the County dedicated to workforce development and training programs during the COVID-19 pandemic; and
6. That certified copies of this resolution be transmitted to construction-related trade unions with offices on Maui and O'ahu; Dr. Lui Hokoana, Chancellor and Chief Executive Officer, University of Hawai'i Maui College; Leslie Wilkins, President and Chief Executive Officer, Maui Economic Development Board; Scott Murakami, Director, Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, State of Hawai'i; the Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Senator, State of Hawai'i; the

Resolution No. _____

Honorable J. Kalani English, Senator, State of Hawai'i; the Honorable Gilbert Keith-Agaran, Senator, State of Hawai'i; the Honorable Lynn DeCoite, Representative, State of Hawai'i; the Honorable Troy N. Hashimoto, Representative, State of Hawai'i; the Honorable Angus L.K. McKelvey, Representative, State of Hawai'i; the Honorable Tina Wildberger, Representative, State of Hawai'i; the Honorable Justin H. Woodson, Representative, State of Hawai'i; the Honorable Kyle T. Yamashita, Representative, State of Hawai'i; the Honorable Michael P. Victorino, Mayor, County of Maui; and the Honorable David Y. Ige, Governor, State of Hawaii..