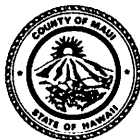


Council Chair
Alice L. Lee

Vice-Chair
Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez

Presiding Officer Pro Tempore
Tasha Kama

Councilmembers
Riki Hokama
Kelly Takaya King
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Tamara Paltin
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COUNTY COUNCIL
COUNTY OF MAUI
200 S. HIGH STREET
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793
www.MauiCounty.us

October 16, 2020

Director of Council Services
Traci N. T. Fujita, Esq.

RECEIVED

2020 OCT 16 AM 11:12

OFFICE OF THE
COUNTY CLERK

The Honorable Alice L. Lee
Council Chair
County of Maui
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793

Dear Chair Lee:

**SUBJECT: URGING THE STATE OF HAWAII TO CONDUCT A
FULL PUBLIC DISCUSSION THROUGH THE STATE'S
CERTIFICATE OF NEED REVIEW PROCESS TO
EXPLORE THE CONSEQUENCES OF KAISER
PERMANENTE'S PROPOSED PLANS TO CLOSE THE
GASTROINTESTINAL AND AMBULATORY SURGERY
SERVICES AT WAILUKU CLINIC (PAF 20-278)**

May I request the attached proposed resolution, entitled "URGING THE STATE OF HAWAII TO CONDUCT A FULL PUBLIC DISCUSSION THROUGH THE STATE'S CERTIFICATE OF NEED REVIEW PROCESS TO EXPLORE THE CONSEQUENCES OF KAISER PERMANENTE'S PROPOSED PLANS TO CLOSE THE GASTROINTESTINAL AND AMBULATORY SURGERY SERVICES AT WAILUKU CLINIC," be placed on the next Council meeting agenda.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tamara A. M. Paltin".

TAMARA PALTIN
Councilmember

paf:wai:20-278a

Enclosure

COUNTY COMMUNICATION NO. 20-528

Resolution

No. _____

URGING THE STATE OF HAWAII TO CONDUCT
A FULL PUBLIC DISCUSSION THROUGH THE
STATE'S CERTIFICATE OF NEED REVIEW
PROCESS TO EXPLORE THE CONSEQUENCES
OF KAISER PERMANENTE'S PROPOSED PLANS
TO CLOSE THE GASTROINTESTINAL AND
AMBULATORY SURGERY SERVICES AT
WAILUKU CLINIC

WHEREAS, Kaiser Permanente is among the State's largest health maintenance organizations, covering more than 250,000 members with approximately 23 percent market share for groups and 40 percent of the individual market across the State of Hawaii and nearly 60,000 members within Maui County; and

WHEREAS, Kaiser Permanente Hawaii Region's parent entity, Kaiser Foundation Health Plan, reported a total net worth of over \$38.6 billion as of June 30, 2020, with second quarter net income in 2020 of over \$4.5 billion; and

WHEREAS, Kaiser Permanente's subsidiary that runs the Maui Health System received over \$17.2 million in federal bailout money through the CARES Act; and

WHEREAS, in August 2020, Kaiser Permanente announced plans to close the Gastrointestinal and Ambulatory Surgery services at its Wailuku Clinic, citing budgetary constraints; and

WHEREAS, the closure of services would eliminate several operating rooms from Maui County's healthcare system and increase dependency on operating rooms at Maui Memorial Medical Center; and

WHEREAS, the proposed closure of services at Wailuku Clinic raises questions about the impact to Maui County's healthcare system, including wait times for patient procedures and treatments; and

WHEREAS, this closure would force patients to have to relocate to a different facility and receive treatment from different care providers, raising concerns for the continuity of care for Maui County's people; and

Resolution No. _____

WHEREAS, in 2016, Kaiser Permanente and State of Hawaii entered into an agreement detailing Kaiser Permanente's transition of operations for Maui Memorial Medical Center, where Kaiser Permanente promised to improve continuity of care and reduce wait times for Maui residents' health care; now, therefore,

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

1. That it requests that the State of Hawaii conduct a full public discussion through the State's Certificate of Need Review Process to explore the consequences of Kaiser Permanente's proposed plans to close the Gastrointestinal and Ambulatory Surgery services at its Wailuku Clinic;
2. That until such review has taken place, it requests that the State of Hawaii and State Department of Health intervene to stop Kaiser Permanente from unilaterally making these changes; and
3. That certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Honorable Dr. Libby Char, Interim Director, Hawaii State Department of Health; the Honorable Serafin "Jun" Colmenares, Administrator, State Health Planning & Development Agency; the Honorable David Y. Ige, Governor, State of Hawaii; the Honorable Scott Saiki, Speaker, Hawaii State House of Representatives; the Honorable Ron Kouchi, President, Hawaii State Senate; Maui County's delegation to the State Legislature; and the Honorable Michael P. Victorino, Mayor, County of Maui.