

**COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI**

# **GOVERNMENT RELATIONS, ETHICS, AND TRANSPARENCY COMMITTEE**

September 17, 2021

**Committee  
Report No. \_\_\_\_\_**

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

Chair and Members:

Your Government Relations, Ethics, and Transparency Committee, having met on August 31, 2021, makes reference to County Communication 21-42, from Council Chair Alice L. Lee, relating to nominations to boards, committees, and commissions.

By correspondence dated August 10, 2021, and received on August 11, 2021, the Mayor transmitted a proposed resolution, entitled "RELATING TO THE APPOINTMENT OF SPENCER LAU TO THE COST OF GOVERNMENT COMMISSION FOR THE COUNTY OF MAUI," with a completed application for the nominee.

The purpose of the proposed resolution is to approve or disapprove the Mayor's nomination of Spencer Lau to the Cost of Government Commission, for a term expiring on March 31, 2024, to fill a vacancy due to the resignation of Michelle Del Rosario.

Your Committee notes general appointment procedures for boards, committees, and commissions are outlined in Section 13-2, Revised Charter of the County of Maui (1983), as amended ("Charter"), and Chapter 2.41, Maui County Code.

Your Committee further notes specific provisions for the Cost of Government Commission are located in Charter Section 3-9.3.

The Council must approve or disapprove the nomination by October 10, 2021, or the nomination will be deemed approved.

Your Committee discussed the nomination.

**COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI**

# **GOVERNMENT RELATIONS, ETHICS, AND TRANSPARENCY COMMITTEE**

Page 2

**Committee  
Report No. \_\_\_\_\_**

A representative from the Office of the Mayor said Mr. Lau is a self-employed insurance agent who resides in Makawao. He was also an Executive Assistant for Councilmember Mike White from February 2013 to July 2016.

The representative said Mr. Lau's business background will enable him to provide recommendations to promote the service and efficiency of County operations. He also noted the Cost of Government Commission was the only County board Mr. Lau applied for. If approved, this will be Mr. Lau's first time serving on a County board.

Your Committee expressed concern with possible conflicts of interest and wondered about his views on County grants to the Maui Visitors Bureau, considering his past association with the tourism industry and the County's past record of making multi-million-dollar annual grants to the organization.

Your Committee requested Mr. Lau be present at the virtual September 17, 2021, Council meeting to address these issues.

Your Committee also commended Mr. Lau for his interest in using his skills to serve the public in a volunteer board position and voted to recommend adoption of the resolution approving his nomination.

Your Committee voted 6-2 to recommend adoption of the proposed resolution approving the nomination. Committee Chair Molina, Vice-Chair Rawlins-Fernandez, and members Johnson, King, Lee, and Sugimura voted "aye." Committee members Paltin and Sinenci voted "no." Committee member Kama was excused.

Your Government Relations, Ethics, and Transparency Committee **RECOMMENDS** that Resolution \_\_\_\_\_, attached hereto, entitled "RELATING TO THE APPOINTMENT OF SPENCER LAU TO THE COST OF GOVERNMENT COMMISSION FOR THE COUNTY OF MAUI," be **ADOPTED**.

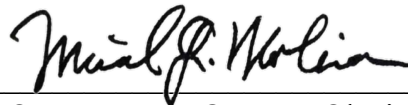
COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI

# GOVERNMENT RELATIONS, ETHICS, AND TRANSPARENCY COMMITTEE

Page 3

**Committee  
Report No.** \_\_\_\_\_

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



---

MICHAEL J. MOLINA, Chair

great:cr:21002(20)aa:ske

# Resolution

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

RELATING TO THE APPOINTMENT OF SPENCER LAU TO THE COST OF  
GOVERNMENT COMMISSION FOR THE  
COUNTY OF MAUI

WHEREAS, by correspondence dated August 10, 2021, Mayor Michael P. Victorino notified the Council he nominated Spencer Lau to the Cost of Government Commission for the County of Maui for a term expiring on March 31, 2024, to fill a vacancy replacing Michelle Del Rosario, pursuant to Sections 3-9.3 and 13-2, Revised Charter of the County of Maui (1983), as amended ("Charter"); and

WHEREAS, Charter Section 13-2, requires the Mayor's nominee to be approved by the Council; and

WHEREAS, Charter Section 13-2(17), requires the Council to approve or disapprove the nomination within sixty days after the Mayor submits the name of the nominee to the Council because of the death, resignation, or removal of a member; now, therefore,

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

1. That it approves the appointment of Spencer Lau to serve on the Cost of Government Commission for the County of Maui for a term expiring March 31, 2024;
2. That the Council expresses its gratitude and appreciation to Spencer Lau for his willingness to be considered for public service and actively participate in County government; and
3. That certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Mayor, the Managing Director, and the Corporation Counsel.

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY

/s/ Mimi Desjardins

MIMI DESJARDINS

Department of the Corporation Counsel

County of Maui

2021-0029

2021-08-10 COG Lau replace Del Rosario