

# **BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**Council of the County of Maui**

## **MINUTES**

**May 11, 2016**

### **Council Chamber**

**CONVENE:** 9:01 a.m.

**PRESENT:** Councilmember Riki Hokama, Chair  
Councilmember Mike White, Vice-Chair  
Councilmember Gladys C. Baisa, Member  
Councilmember Don Couch, Member  
Councilmember Stacy Crivello, Member  
Councilmember Don S. Guzman, Member (in 9:08 a.m.)

**EXCUSED:** VOTING MEMBERS:  
Councilmember Robert Carroll, Member  
Councilmember Elle Cochran, Member  
Councilmember Michael P. Victorino, Member

**STAFF:** Michele Yoshimura, Legislative Analyst  
Shelly Espeleta, Legislative Analyst  
Yvette Bouthillier, Committee Secretary

Ella Alcon, Council Aide, Molokai Council Office (via telephone conference bridge)

Denise Fernandez, Council Aide, Lanai Council Office (via telephone conference bridge)

Dawn Lono, Council Aide, Hana Council Office (via telephone conference bridge)

**ADMIN.:** Sananda Baz, Budget Director, Office of the Mayor  
Jeffrey A. Murray, Fire Chief, Department of Fire and Public Safety  
Lance Hiromoto, Director, Department of Personnel Services  
Duke Sevilla, Recreation Specialist, Department of Parks and Recreation  
Jeffrey T. Ueoka, Deputy Corporation Counsel, Department of the Corporation Counsel

**OTHERS:** Warren Kaleo Crivello (Molokai Council Office via telephone conference bridge)  
Diana Custer  
Shane Dudoit, Fire Fighters Union (BF-38(56))  
Mike Moran  
Tiare Lawrence

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Keola Brown  
Jeff Meadows  
Mike Sparling  
Kekai Brown, Ocean Safety Officer, Department of Parks and Recreation  
Cameron Layer  
Trinette Furtado  
Jasen Garguilo  
Richard DeLeon  
Duane Pagan, Ocean Safety Officer, Department of Parks and Recreation  
Kaipo Garcia, Ocean Safety Officer, Department of Parks and Recreation  
Rick Patrizio  
Monty Downs  
Mel Puu, Board of Directors for Bargaining Unit 14, Hawaii Government  
Employees Association (HGEA)  
John Hoogsteden, Treasurer, Bargaining Unit 14, HGEA  
Ralph Goto, Hawaiian Lifeguard Association  
Wayne Axelson  
Keith Regan, Managing Director, Department of Management  
Ian Takashiba, Field Administrator, HGEA  
Andrew Bayron, Deputy Sheriff, Maui Division  
Archie Kalepa  
Howard MacPherson, Ocean Safety Officer I, Department of Parks and  
Recreation  
Brandon Martin, Water Ocean Safety Officer II, City and County of  
Honolulu  
Dino Miranda  
Harry Brown  
John Grant  
Others (20)

**PRESS:** Akaku: Maui Community Television, Inc.  
Melissa Tanji, *The Maui News*  
Susan Halas, *Maui Watch*

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CHAIR HOKAMA: . . . *(gavel)*. . . The Council's Committee on Budget and Finance shall come to order. This is our meeting of May 11, 2016. Present at this meeting today is our Vice-Chairman Mr. White.

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: Good morning, Chair.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Good morning. And Committee Members, Ms. Baisa.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Good morning, Chair.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Good morning. Mr. Couch.

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COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Aloha, good morning, Chair.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Good morning. And Ms. Crivello.

COUNCILMEMBER CRIVELLO: Aloha, Chair.

CHAIR HOKAMA: We excuse Mr. Carroll, Ms. Cochran, Mr. Guzman and Mr. Victorino. So, Members, we have two items on the agenda today. We shall take public testimony first on each item. So, anyone would like to give testimony this morning our rules are very simple. Make yourself known. When your name is called, please come forward to the podium, introduce yourself. If you represent an entity, we request you share that information with us. By rules of this Committee, you have three minutes and three minutes only to speak on the item. We shall assist you with your time. When you begin, the green light goes on, 30 seconds remaining, the yellow light goes on and like any intersection, when you see the red light, you will stop. Also, once your name is called, if you are not present, we will continue to go through the remaining names that have, of those that have requested to testify. If you are called and you are not present, you will not be recalled. Also, decorum of this Chamber is you will keep all noise-making devices either off or on vibrate mode. We shall enforce this rule of decorum in this Chamber. With that, we're gonna be slightly different, Members, since we already know we have people at District Offices. So before we ask testimony in the Chamber, we're gonna go to Molokai and ask Ms. Alcon, good morning, Ms. Alcon, do you have anyone wishing to provide testimony on Molokai, please?

MS. ALCON: Good morning, Chair. This is Ella Alcon on Molokai and I do have one testifier, Kaleo Crivello.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you.

**. . .BEGIN PUBLIC TESTIMONY. . .**

MR. CRIVELLO: Good morning, Councilmembers. Aloha. Good morning.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Good morning.

MR. CRIVELLO: County Chair Mike, Mr. Hokama and Vice-Chair Mr. White, my name is Kaleo Crivello and I humbly thank you for this time to share my manao. I kindly respectfully ask each and one of you to please support bill BF-6, Cost Item Proposal HGEA, Unit 14 and this is why. I'll just share something from my heart you guys. I have past experience and respectfully these Ocean Safety lifeguards are dear to my heart as well and they do a good job. I had experiences with these guys working on Oahu, the City and County of Honolulu and Maui County. I only ask you folks just like you folks, you folks work tirelessly and I appreciate all you folks' work and I know how hard it is to handle the County Budget...well, I don't know how hard it is because I haven't been in your guys' shoes, but I can just only imagine. But I respectfully, respect you folks job as well. I ask all the Ocean Safety Officers to also show our true colors of love and aloha and also show you folks what we truly are in our hearts and

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what we do, our tourists, our beach, the safety of the public and everybody else. And I aloha you folks from the bottom of my heart the same way I aloha these Ocean Safety and State law enforcement. I appreciate this time to let me share my manao with you folks and thank you very much for this time.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Mahalo, Mr. Crivello. Members, any questions for Mr. Crivello? Mr. Crivello, thank you for sharing your manao this morning. We're gonna ask Hana Office, is there anyone wishing to provide testimony, Ms. Lono?

MS. LONO: This is Dawn Lono at the Hana Office and there is no one waiting to testify.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you. On Lanai, Ms. Fernandez, anyone wishing to provide testimony?

MS. FERNANDEZ: Good morning, Chair. This is Denise Fernandez on Lanai and there is no one waiting to testify.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you, Ms. Fernandez. Okay, Members, we'll start with the Chambers. We'll ask Diana Custer, following Ms. Custer will be Shane Dudoit.

MS. CUSTER: Good morning, Chair Hokama and Council. Thank you for all of your diligence as our representatives. My name is Diana Custer and today I will speak for myself and read a statement from my husband Richard, known as Gramps to the surfing community, our small business repair surfboards and ocean equipment for the ocean-going public. I ask you today to approve resolution BF-6 entitled Approving Cost Items for Unit 14, Ocean Safety Officers for Fiscal Years 2015 through '17. I know this request goes against the grain of concern that the County of Maui has not prepared to pay the retirements of County employees and employee cost must be held in check. Yet this expense falls outside of that criteria. If one was to think of Maui as a car, the Ocean Safety Officers are the tires on that car. No matter how desperate the books are, tires must be bought and, likewise, Ocean Safety Officers must be compensated for their lifesaving and frequently dangerous work. Maui is just a tiny blip of land surrounded by the vast and often dangerous Pacific Ocean. Multitudes of tourists come here for blissful time and all too frequently find themselves in deep trouble caught unaware by the power of our seas. The Ocean Safety Officers are there for them and us residents to the best of any man's capabilities, male and female officers alike. They have to hold, they have to leave the safety of the land and enter the sea despite ocean conditions, no holding back. These brave officers push their fears aside and save people. Please pass resolution BF-6 and finally compensate these officers as it is too long overdue. And now here is Richard's, aka Gramps, testimony. Please approve BF-6. I'm a Maui resident in November, I became a Maui resident in November, 1986. Being a surfer, I was to become a part of the North Shore surfing community and come to know the lifeguards at Hookipa and Baldwin Beach and all other locales they patrolled. These people devote their lives to helping and saving people. They do everything from putting on a bandage to performing CPR. These lifeguards provide a safety net for the thousands of tourists and locals that enter the



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ocean daily. We could never pay them enough. Please pass this resolution. Richard St. Gaudens.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you very much, Ms. Custer. Members any questions for Ms. Custer? Thank you very much for your presence. Okay. Shane and following Mr. Dudoit will be Mike Moran.

MR. DUDOIT: Good morning, Council Chair Hokama, Vice-Chair White and the rest of the Councilmembers. I thought I was too loud. Unfortunately, President Bobby Lee is unable to attend this meeting and I'd like to read a letter on his behalf. My name is Robert H. Lee and I am the President of the Hawaii Fire Fighters Association (HFFA), Local 1463, IAFF, AFL-CIO. The HFFA represents more than 2,000 professional and 800 retired fire fighters throughout the State, which includes approximately 300-plus active-duty and 110 retired members of the Maui Fire and Public Safety Department. We are in strong support of BF-38, which provides the required funds for the projected premium pay and operational shortfalls for Fiscal Year '16. As you know the Maui Fire and Public Safety Department, as have most County departments, experienced budget cuts over a number of years. While the Council has provided increased funds in Fiscal Year '15 and '16, the Fiscal Year '16 Budget does not have the sufficient resources to support the Fire Department to complete this fiscal year. A review of the documents provided at the last Budget Committee hearing by Councilmember White focuses his opinion of the MFD's value to Maui communities on the number of callouts or incident responses. In February, 2016, the Kahikinui Fire consumed more than 5,600 acres of brush and the crews were on scene for days to monitor the fire and conduct cleanups. To be clear, that fire is considered one-incident response. The Fort McMurray, Alberta fire which began on May 1<sup>st</sup> and continues to burn displacing more than 80,000 residents, destroying 2,400 structures and more than 565,000 acres is also one-incident response. Not to mention the 1980 MGM Grand Hotel fire, which killed 85 people and injured more than 700 people, again, one-incident response. And maybe closer to home as Mr. White can appreciate as the General Manager of the Kaanapali Beach Hotel, if a fire completely burned that hotel to the ground, the resulting devastation would be classified also as a one-incident response. The statistics presented seriously underscores the entire scope of the firefighter's responsibilities. It is inherently unfair and short-sighted to determine the public safety value of the Maui Fire and Public Safety Department specifically by call volume. The challenges that HFFA members face in the community mixed with residents and visitors alike are enormous. Co-responses with other public safety entities along with emergency management services are all part of the fire service profession. I'll finish since I only got five seconds. HFFA strongly supports the BF-38 and asks for your favorable action on this budget request.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Perfect, Mr. Dudoit. Any questions for Mr. Dudoit on testimony presented? Mr. White.

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Your testimony mentions budget cuts over the last couple of years, but if you look at the Budget, salaries and wages, salaries and

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premium pay have actually increased by 7.5 million since 2013, so that's not exactly a cut. So, I just wanted to point that out. Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. Thank you. Questions for Mr. Dudoit, please, Members? Okay. Mr. Dudoit, thank you very much for your testimony.

MR. DUDOIT: Thank you.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Mr. Moran, if you would come join us, please, and following Mr. Moran would be Tiare Lawrence.

MR. MORAN: Aloha, Chair Hokama and Members.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Good morning.

MR. MORAN: Mike Moran testifying as an individual this morning. As a resident with limited resources and income, I'm most appreciative that you prudently watch government spending as we once again see the County income from the visitor industry take a one-way trip to Oahu and manini trickles back here, leaving those living here to finance the County spending, so prudence is required. However, as a frequent ocean swimmer and so far that's free, I see the dire need to support our OSOs. A long time ago, I was a certified lifeguard in New Jersey, but that was a completely different job for obvious reasons. As the ocean temperature at its warmest in early September was generally cooler than Maui's coldest, lifeguarding was a temporary summer job. In addition, on the busiest summer day, the scope of that task was caring for swimmers restricted to a small, roped-in area of the ocean. Later in life living in a beach town in Southern California, while the air temp was milder than the East Coast, the ocean was generally colder so ocean users were similarly limited to a few months of the year. Thus, it's unreasonable to compare wages in the vast majority of other areas of the country to our guys. To be clear here, I am not testifying for KCA this morning, but it is factual to note that the KCA so values our OSOs and their work on jet skis that the KCA donated one to the South Maui team when theirs was running poorly due to over use. These are our and those visitors' first responders, our life and limb savers who endanger their own lives and...their own limbs and lives daily, so this is not a place to save money. This is where I want my tax money to go, where it is deserved and needed. I ask you in this Committee to support the OSOs as well. Mahalo.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you, Mr. Moran. Any questions for the gentleman? Thank you for being here this morning, Mike. Tiare Lawrence, please. Following Ms. Lawrence will be Keola Brown.

MS. LAWRENCE: Aloha, Councilmembers. My name is Tiare Lawrence. I'm sure you guys are pretty familiar with...I'm here to testify in support of BF-6 because increasing our lifeguard's pay is long overdue and the 16 percent increase is long overdue. I as a child I grew up, I wanted to become a lifeguard. That was like something that I always dreamed about doing but it became unrealistic when I realized how much they got

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paid and I'm in strong support. I think our lifeguards have the highest risk and yet are the lowest paid across the nation. It's fundamentally unfair and that is just not right. And Mr. Hokama, I understand there is a budget that needs to be balanced, but our friends, our neighbors, deserve better and like ourselves, they have families, they need to provide housing and food for. I am proposing this idea to everyone here in this room today to help alleviate the cost in the future because that seems to be an issue. And I am urging every single one of us in this room including our Councilmembers to contact our State legislators and urge them to give the counties their fair share of the TAT, the Tourism Authority Taxation Fund. Majority of the rescues performed across the State, roughly 75 to 80 percent of the rescues are visitor related and our counties Statewide only receive \$103 million and it is estimated the tourism industry will bring in \$475 million next year in the Tourism Authority Taxation Fund. Our counties receive less than a quarter and right now, our counties are spending more money than they receive from the TAT Fund on visitor-related expenses and it's just not right. We deserve more. Our counties deserve more, so, I wanted to propose that idea and urge everyone to get State legislators to support our counties because they've been fighting for more money for TAT for a long time and increasing the County's share of the TAT is an issue that comes before legislative money committees annually. And before I end because I have three minutes, I just wanted to share this quick story. When I worked at, on Maluaka Beach in Makena, I was doing canoe tours at the time and there was this gentleman yelling, screaming bloody murders, help, help, help, help and I jumped on my standup board and I raced over there and I helped him. And the first responders there was our lifeguards and had the lifeguards not have been there, it would have turned out very differently and they deserve more. Mahalo.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you, Ms. Lawrence. Members, any questions for Ms. Lawrence this morning? Thank you for your testimony. And just so everyone knows, your Members have been fighting hard during this past session at Oahu for Maui's fair share of TAT revenues that the Maui County generates, so we appreciate more support for that request, Ms. Lawrence, thank you so much. Mr. Brown, welcome.

MR. BROWN: Aloha. Aloha, Council, my name is Keola Brown and I'm here in regard to BF-6, Bargaining Unit 14 contract. First and foremost, Bargaining Unit 14 members is the least paid first responders in the State and these men and women risk their lives for others every day that they put their uniforms on. It's very disappointing that we have to be here today to ask for your support in funding this contract. Hawaii lifeguards is the best in the world and the least paid. So, I humbly ask you to please support Ocean Safety and Bargaining Unit 14 so we can keep Maui no ka oi. Thank you.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you, Mr. Brown. Members, any questions for the gentleman on testimony presented? Thank you for being here. We'd like to request Jeff Meadows, if you would come forward and following Mr. Meadows will be Mark [sic] Sparling.

MR. MEADOWS: Aloha, Council. Thank you for hearing us today. My name is Jeff Meadows. I'm an Ocean Safety Officer for the County of Maui. I've been doing this job for 25 years now and I've been a Captain for 18 years on Maui. I want to thank you



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guys for hearing us today and I want to thank you for the job that you guys do as well. I know it's hard to manage a budget, you know, you save the County money. You know, we as Ocean Safety Officers save lives and that's what we do. In my 25 years' experience, I've seen a lot of positive changes in this Department. You know, we started out with little biddy towers and now we have nice towers. And we started with 14 guards and now it's in the 60s. And the guys that we have now in this department is unbelievable, so professional and they do a great job for this community. There's a reason why that Maui gets voted number one island over and over again is because of people in this room, you know, with the fire, police and all these lifeguards. You know, the lifeguards, to me, are the ambassadors of this island. When people come here, they see us first on the beach. They come to Maui to come to the beaches and we're the first person they talk to. We warn them of the dangers of Maui offers because the airlines don't do it and the tourist industry really doesn't do it, so we're the first line. We're also the first link in the survival chain. You know, I can share a little story about what happened last couple weekends down in Makena, you know, they had two spinals back to back. They had CPRs and without the, you know, Zach and Lyle, Captain down there and his crew, you know, these guys would have died and when you read the newspaper, you hear about the EMS saving the man's life, but it was actually the lifeguards saving the man's life. We go unnoticed every day. We have no PR person for us, so, everything we do every day goes unnoticed, but that's okay for us because we're not here for the glory. We're here to do a job. We save lives. The reason why I became a guard is because I have passion for the job and I love the ocean and I want to make a difference in the community. Also, I want to share another personal story that always goes unnoticed, you know. Officer Kekai Williams here, we had a shark sighting down in Makena and she responded very rapidly. She got there quick, there was a three-generation family down there and the shark had bumped one of the people and she got them to shore safely and it could have changed drastically if we weren't there. And that's the job that we do on a day-in and day-out basis. Eighty-five to 90 percent of the guards on Maui are family people. They're family-oriented. We have families. And you know the cost of living here is expensive, so, you know, we just want to be compensated for what is rightfully ours and that's it.

CHAIR HOKAMA: We appreciate your testimony, Mr. Meadows. Members, any questions for Mr. Meadows on testimony presented? We thank you for your presence this morning.

MR. MEADOWS: Thank you.

CHAIR HOKAMA: We recognize Mr. Guzman to the meeting.

COUNCILMEMBER GUZMAN: Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Mike Sparling, please, following Mr. Sparling will be Kekai Brown.

MR. SPARLING: Good morning, Council. Alright. Thank you very much. Yes, my name is Mike Sparling. I'm a Ocean Safety Officer III for the County of Maui. I've been employed by the County for 14 years, just made 14 years. So in the past 14 years, a lot has changed and it's all been for the better for Ocean Safety, our training, our



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certifications have just elevated, elevated, elevated. So we're doing more, but we're not being compensated for doing more. So I'm here to ask you to move forward with BF-6 to help us get there. Like I said, I've been here 14 years, I worked here 14 years. I've been a jet ski operator for 12. That job doesn't go out, doesn't go without a lot of extensive training, physically, mentally, classroom work, all that so when you see these Ocean Safety Officers out in the water, it's just not a guy on a jet ski cruising around. There's a lot underneath that. There's a lot of training. There's a lot of experience. There's a lot of knowledge going around on that jet ski. Just an example to give you of the demands that are asked of us, you know, you can imagine getting a call and your blood pressure goes like that, super exciting. But, then, you find out you gotta go eight miles as fast as you can in 30-mile-an-hour winds because on the other end of that there's five people that are blown out a mile off shore and they can barely be seen any more. So imagine that pressure coming out communicating with helicopters, communicating with the Fire Department that's on the shore, getting out to that situation, triaging the situation, finding out who's the most critical, all these things, all these things we're trained for. We have all these skills to do that. So to be able to control that situation, make the right calls, all that has come with years of experience all these jet ski operators have and they're well worth it. Sorry, I'm running out of time here. So, more than that, you know, we wear a lot of hats. Just an example, we had a shark sighting or a shark attack two or a week ago in Makena. The first people on scene, we weren't even called to the scene because the guy was out of the water, but our jet skis were there in ten minutes. You can't get any, you can't get a quicker response than that after a shark attack to get people out of the water. So, we are quick to respond and I just want to leave you with this. If you remember Ocean Safety was furloughed and we had all our step movements frozen and we did it to help the County out and now we're asking for your help so, thank you for your time.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you for your testimony, Mr. Sparling. Any questions for the gentleman? Thank you for being here this morning.

MR. SPARLING: Thanks.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Kekai Brown, please, to be followed by Cameron Layer.

MS. BROWN: Aloha, Council. My name is Kekai Brown. I'm the Training Captain for Ocean Safety. I've been working for 20 years. I am humbly asking for your support for BF-6, Bargaining Unit 14. First of all, we all know that visitors from all over the world travel to our island Maui for our beaches. We also know that when these tourists see a lifeguard tower, they have a sense of security knowing that they are safe. Not only do we protect our visitors that swim in our ocean, but our local families, too. All of the beaches we guard are all different in one way or another that I believe we are essential to work at. When tourists or locals come to our beaches, we are the ambassadors of Hawaii. Kanaha, Hookipa and Baldwin are impacted greatly by windsurfers, kite surfers, board surfers, divers, sometimes by the thousands a day. Makena just had three spinal injuries in one day due to hazardous conditions and our West District is constantly being dispatched to 911 calls by their rescue ski. And along our South Coast condominiums run down South Kihei Road making our Kamaole Beaches

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packed, which without preventative actions from our guards would be caught in the rip currents that the strong trades produce while swimming, kayaking or standup paddling. We are the first responders. We are the public agency that gets physically trained every year so we can do our job. We are the ones who respond within seconds to someone who needs a simple first aid to as serious as an unconscious person who needs CPR. I believe that the guards should get the pay that they deserve. Our tourist industry is growing, which means our Ocean Safety section needs to grow as well. Haven't you noticed the significant number of shark attacks we've had at this time and in the past of couple of years? There are way more people in the water than ever before. Our office that we work at isn't a controlled environment. We depend on our equipment when faced with all nature's elements and hazardous conditions. If you're interested in seeing what we do day-in and day-out, I would be more than happy to take you out either in the ocean or to our towers so you have a better understanding of our importance. Thank you for your time.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you for your testimony. Any questions for the lady? Thank you, Kekai, for being here. Cameron Layer, followed by Trinette Furtado.

MR. LAYER: Good morning, Councilmembers and Staff members. Thank you for being here today.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Good morning.

MR. LAYER: I'm an Ocean Safety Officer and I'm here in support of BF-6, the pay for Ocean Safety Officers and for State law enforcement officers. I just want to remind you guys and share my viewpoint on how valuable we are to the community and the resources that we provide. How we are a vital link in the chain of survival for our visitors and our residents. The other day on the front page that individual who had the spinal injury and whatnot, our Ocean Safety Officers in Makena were the ones who provided the CPR that brought that individual to life. And the fact is that they were there to witness and to provide high quality, life-saving support for that individual. We operate our jet skis in very rough conditions, high-surf advisories, high-surf warnings. We go from Kanaha to Jaws, from the West Side, all the way up to Honolua Bay and into the channel to save all of our visitors and our residents. And I just ask your guys' support and recognizing how valuable we are and thank you for your time today.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you for being here this morning, Mr. Layer. Any questions for the gentleman? Again, thank you for your presence. Trinette Furtado, please, followed by Jasen Garguilo.

MS. FURTADO: Aloha mai kakou, Chair Hokama and Members of the Budget and Finance Committee. I'm sure many of you are already familiar with me. I am Trinette Furtado, ma Hamakualoa and I've driven in from very rainy Haiku to ask you to support and fund this arbitration agreement that is BF-6 on your agenda. The pioneer program started more than 15 years ago and it may be longer, I'm not quite sure, that places jet skis and experienced operators into our ocean to assist and rescue visitors and residents alike is no longer a pioneer or pilot program. We've seen the benefits year

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after year of lives being saved due to the bravery and skill of our Ocean Safety Officers. The amount required to fund this arbitration award for our lifeguards is less than the amount you approved for the Maui Visitor's Bureau in next year's Budget. Are our lifeguards to infer that perhaps the Maui Visitor's Bureau will begin to fund them? Are they to understand that the visitor industry is more important to the Council than the services these people provide to those visitors enticed by MVB advertising to visit Maui? Could Members of this Council who balk at this amount be doing so because of outside pressure? Could there be a conflict of interest for Members of this Council who may have strong ties to the visitor industry? If it is true that Maui could hold up this binding arbitration agreement for the entire State or for other counties, you must ask yourselves why this budget item is an issue for you but the MVB one isn't. State lawmakers and even the City and County of Honolulu have approved funding the legal and binding arbitration award with all the graft made known in this Administration, just look at the pCard issue for example, it is obvious that some departments and services have too much money. I find it difficult to believe that a necessary and crucial service just can't be funded by our Council. I want to leave you with this fact I found in today's *Civil Beat* article regarding this issue. Maui lifeguards took 163,079 preventative actions and made 438 rescues last year alone. If that's not a figure to move you to fund this vital service, I don't know what is. What about the cost of a visitor who is injured or dies, has family who will sue the County? It'll be much more than this award. Think about that. In addition, I do hope that you will never have to worry about if this service will be available for you or your ohana in the future should rescue or assistance be necessary. Mahalo for your time and the work you do for our County. I hope that you will seriously consider supporting agenda item BF-6 and pay our Ocean Safety Officers what they truly deserve. Thank you.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you for your testimony this morning. Any questions for the lady? Thank you for being here this morning. Jasen, you know, I'm going to let you pronounce your last name and he's to be followed by Richard DeLeon.

MR. GARGUILO: Aloha, good morning.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Good morning.

MR. GARGUILO: My name is Jasen Garguilo.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you.

MR. GARGUILO: I'm an Ocean Safety Officer II for the County of Maui. I've been in the job for the past seven years. Just here to ask you to support us for the item BF-6. My one question is, how much is a life worth? We put our lives on the line daily. People mentioned jet ski responding. We respond in not just high winds, not just far distances, but also high surf, 30-foot surf and we have families at home, so a 30-foot wave can and may kill us. What do I have left for my children, you know, dealing with wild life, sharks. Most importantly on a daily basis, I'd ask, you know, what I have to leave for my kids if I'm attacked or eaten or permanently injured? So, just trying to say, we ask for your support man, please. It's hard enough making a living out here.



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I'd like to leave a house, just basic necessities for my children and at the pay that we get now, it's not possible. I work four jobs. Not only am I an Ocean Safety Officer, I work as a waiter at a luau at night; I work security for one of the bars and I work side jobs for production companies. That's just to barely make it. I'd love to be able to just do one and spend time with my family and I appreciate your time, thank you. Thank you for hearing me.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you for your words this morning. Any questions for the gentleman? Okay. Richard DeLeon, please, following Mr. DeLeon would be Duane Pagan.

MR. DeLEON: Aloha kakou, Councilmembers --

CHAIR HOKAMA: Good morning.

MR. DeLEON: --Mr. Chair. I'm testifying here on BF-6 on our safety officers as well as for the Fire Department because I had two incidents. When I was 10 years old, Makaha, Cornet Store, my brother and I got caught in a rip tide. If wasn't for the lifeguards, I would not be here today. I wouldn't be here with three children and six beautiful grand babies. Last week or last month my brother had a heart attack in Kona, collapsed at the airport. If it wasn't for those Fire Departments, my brother wouldn't be here today. He had called, he had what they call a widow maker, no survivors, but because he was clinically dead for ten minutes, it was them who put oxygen in his brain that survived. There was no brain damage which the doctors thought that he had because they clinically dead for ten minutes. So, I ask you to honor these people. That's all they asking, to honor so they can live like a human being. I call them keahi i ke kai keahi o ka moana, these are the numbers of the waters and the ocean. They are the guardians. Honor them. They deserve it. Thank you very much.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you for your testimony, Mr. DeLeon. Any questions for the gentleman? Again, thank you for being here. Mr. Pagan, following will be Kaipo Garcia.

MR. PAGAN: Kinda nervous.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Take your time. Take your time.

MR. PAGAN: Aloha, County Council. My name is Duane Pagan. I work Ocean Safety for 16 years. Been volunteering on the ski for 14, it's all good. Free. We all like free. Canoe races, conventions, programs for kids, high school, preschool, elementary, kids with autism. It's good to give back. You know, it feels good. Plenty rescues, I lost count, but I just asking for your guys' support. Thanks. Thanks for your time.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you for being here. Any questions for the gentleman? Okay. Thank you very much, Mr. Pagan. Kaipo Garcia, please, following Mr. Garcia will be Rick Patrizio.

MR. GARCIA: Aloha, Chair and Councilmembers.



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CHAIR HOKAMA: Good morning.

MR. GARCIA: My name is Kaipo Garcia and I'm a Ocean Safety Officer for the County of Maui. I humbly ask for your support to fund our Unit 14 arbitration award. Our duties are not just putting Band-Aids on abrasions, splinting a dislocated shoulder, putting a tourist on a backboard because he or she has a spinal injury or even diving down 50 feet underwater to recover drowned victims. We are pillars in this, in our community. We are, we use our expertise on and off duty. Our professional line of work, public safety, doesn't stop at 4:45 p.m. when we shut our towers. We use our medical and ocean rescue skills wherever we are in this Maui community whether we're at Maui County's Third Friday event or Maui Agriculture Fair and/or even Lanai's Pineapple Festival events. So in conclusion, I just politely ask that, Chair, Councilmembers, please support our Unit 14 arbitration award. Mahalo.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you for your testimony this morning. Any questions for the gentleman? Mr. Garcia, thank you for being here.

MR. GARCIA: Yeah. You're welcome.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Rick Patrizio, followed by Monty Downs.

MR. PATRIZIO: Good morning, Chair --

CHAIR HOKAMA: Good morning.

MR. PATRIZIO: --Council. My name is Rick Patrizio. I'm the Unit 14 Chair as well as the negotiator for this unit. I am here in front of you to support the men and women of this unit to help move this BF-6 forward. I also represent the law enforcement side of this unit, the Sheriff and DLNR Officers, that would be affected by this contract as well. I have over 3,000 petitions here from the community. I would like to thank the OluKai event. I would like to thank Keith Regan and his wife for supporting us at that event and helping us get this petition. I know you folks have received it. I have the signatures here if you need to see them again of just the community outreach for this movement to move forward. I would like to take this opportunity and time to also thank Bob Carroll, the Hana community for our support and his dedication to always providing added funding to get the lifeguards out there in Hana to support the Summer PAL Program, the Junior Lifeguard Program out there and all his dedication to our housing and funding just to get us there year after year regardless of the budget cuts we go through every year. He makes it one of his priorities, so, I'd like to personally thank him even though he's not here to support us today, he's probably on a well deserving vacation. I'd like to thank also Mike Victorino, even though he's not here for all his continuous support with HGEA. I had the honor of serving his members at a town hall dinner and I just want to thank Mr. Victorino because I know he's an HGEA supporter, even though he's not here to support us in person. I'd like to also take this time to thank Mike White for supporting the Hawaii Lifeguard Association Conference we have several years, every other year we host it and thank

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him for his, you know, generosity as the General Manager at Kaanapali Beach Hotel where we host it. Appreciate your support there. I hope we can continue that relationship as we move forward with this agenda. I just like, I got about 38 seconds to say, you folks do a wonderful job. You're here to support the community and save the community money, but as you heard what we do day-in and day-out, you know, we're helping you folks save money just with the lawsuits. Over the years that you've heard testimonies here, how many years we've been operating the jet skis for you folks, you know, we're the only island that isn't compensated for operating and providing that service to the community. So with that I'm about ten seconds away, I appreciate your folks' time. I have a plane to catch to go to the General Assembly now, which is the highest powering body union conference so I thank you guys for your time.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you, Mr. Patrizio. Any questions for the gentleman on his testimony, Members? Thank you very much for being here this morning. Monty Downs and following Mr. Downs will be Mel Puu.

MR. DOWNS: Good morning.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Good morning.

MR. DOWNS: My name is Monty Downs. I'm ER doctor on Kauai and also president of an outfit called the Kauai Lifeguard Association. And I came over today to testify on this Ocean Safety bill. On Kauai, well, our Kauai Lifeguard Association is a nonprofit whose mission is to try and figure out somehow to reduce drownings on Kauai and we also work Statewide which is part of the reason I'm here today. And we have quite a problem on Kauai. We have 10 lifeguard towers and 65 white sand beaches, so you can do the math and see that we needed to figure out some way to expand our program from typical mainland program where a lifeguard comes and sits in a tower and has a roped off area, swim within these boundaries. So fortunately our lifeguards themselves over the last 20 years undertook an incredible change in their job description, took on the jet ski program that you've heard about already from other people and their, and ATVs which rove up and down not only their beaches but adjacent beaches. They're become an integral part of the 911 system and whenever a emergency call goes out, they're on the line right away scrambling their jet ski to go to wherever the help needs to be done. All of this without a commensurate increase in pay of any significance for all these years so, because of that, we've worked hard, a number of us in this room to create Bargaining Unit 14 and hoping to find some mechanism for the lifeguards to be able to get an increase in pay. I ask you to please honor the agreement that HGEA and Bargaining Unit 14 have reached. I need to tell you as an emergency room physician, I love lifeguards. I love the work they do. I get to see the work that they do. A lot of the rescues they make never make it to the emergency room. They're discharged on the beaches and they're doing fine. But I get to see the ones that were really close calls, that required CPR and you know, when I go to work in the ER, I've got my nurses and my equipment and everything's all there in front of me. Lifeguards are out there in wild and wooly mother nature doing these same things. They're the lowest paid of all healthcare service providers, emergency

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service providers and I think it's, I ask you to also love and support our lifeguards by acknowledging this HGEA agreement. Thank you.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you, Dr. Downs, for being here. We appreciate your testimony this morning. Any questions for the gentleman? Thank you again for being here.

MR. DOWNS: Thank you.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Mel Puu, please and following Mr. Puu is John Hoogsteden.

MR. PUU: Good morning, Councilmembers --

CHAIR HOKAMA: Good morning.

MR. PUU: --and Budget Chair Riki Hokama. My name is Mel Puu. I am the State Director for Bargaining Unit 14. Bargaining Unit 14 members came from Bargaining Unit 3 and 4. They were a minority in this unit of over 13,000 members. I think our number was closer to 580. We are about 4.3 percent of the membership, so we had no real representation. So, that's why Bargaining Unit 14 was created and it was supported by the legislators and signed into law by Governor Neil Abercrombie. I've been a lifeguard for 32 years and in the past it's been really hard to just get equipment to save a life. It was just really hard to get the funding. So when Bargaining 14 was created, we fell into an impasse and therefore, we were directed into arbitration by law under Chapter 89 of Hawaii Revised Statutes. Arbitration was completed and the decision was handed down, but in my personal opinion, the amount of the settlement is not what we should be talking about. What we should be talking about is does the people in charge really appreciate or understand what we do for Hawaii and for the visitors and for the local people alike? We are the number one at-risk lifeguards in the world bar none and we are the number one lowest paid lifeguards outside of any third-world country. The jet ski program that you see out there continuously comes with added responsibilities and added risk, but we are ready to stand forth and do what is right; so, I am here to urge the County Council and the Budget Chair to please sign, support and fund BF-6 in its entirety for the Maui County lifeguards. Mahalo.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you, Mr. Puu. Members, any questions of Mr. Puu on his testimony? Again, thank you for being here this morning.

MR. PUU: Thank you.

CHAIR HOKAMA: John Hoogsteden, sorry if I'm mispronouncing your name, to be followed by Ralph Goto.

MR. HOOGSTEDEN: Good morning, Council.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Good morning.



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MR. HOOGSTEDEN: Aloha and thank you in advance for approving the funding needed for, for the much needed lifeguard pay raises. Again my name is John Hoogsteden. I'm a 29-year veteran of the Honolulu Ocean Safety Division, currently serving as a Lieutenant on the North Shore of Oahu. Other than the legal implications of binding arbitration, why should this increase be funded? In the 29 years I've been on the job, being a lifeguard has become exponentially more difficult. The dramatic increase in tourism, social media drawing people into dangerous situations, higher standards of training, more complex equipment such as jet-powered watercraft, ATVs, defibrillators are just a few of the factors that have contributed to this. We expect our lifeguards to maintain fitness qualifications higher than any other County or State agency. Rigorous timed performance standards must be met annually with no breaks for...I don't like to say "old," but with, for no breaks for veterans like me. Just last week I was involved in a search and rescue of three novice kayakers, one of whom was swept half a mile from shore in a rip current. Thankfully, we were able to locate the woman and return her to her hysterical husband's side. The week before that, I had an 80-year old woman who had a hip replacement in very small, she went downhill on the beach to the shore break and she, without any assistance she would have drowned. She was not able to navigate the soft sand at the water's edge. Our duties put people in life-threatening and injury-causing positions every day. I personally know of five of my colleagues who have had their necks or backs broken in recent years. Twenty years ago...and that's in the line of duty. Twenty years ago, my salary was roughly on par with other first responders like the fire department. After two decades of neglecting water safety professional compensation, there is now a pay gap of up to 50 percent between comparable positions for lifeguards, fire and police. Given the extreme demands of this job and our competitive salaries, we are simply not able to recruit and retain the quality and quantity of people we need to keep our beaches safe. Your support for the arbitrated increases sends a message to both current lifeguards and prospective recruits. It says we recognize that lifeguards are highly trained professionals whose work is an essential service to our community. Mahalo for your support.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you very much for your testimony. Any questions for the gentleman? Thank you for being here. Ralph Goto, please, following him will be Wayne Axelson.

MR. GOTO: Good morning, Chair Hokama --

CHAIR HOKAMA: Good morning.

MR. GOTO: --Vice-Chair White, Members of the Council. Ralph Goto representing the Hawaiian Lifeguard Association, which represents 450 lifeguards across the State, here in support, strong support of County Communication 16-50, from the Mayor, requesting approval of budget items concerning Ocean Safety Officers on Maui. Mr. Puu gave you some history about the formation of the bargaining unit. I'd just like to add that it was a first bargaining unit added to HGEA in over 30 years and was a result of I think the recognition of the Legislature, the union and the Labor Board of the public safety nature of lifeguards in the State. As Mr. Puu mentioned, lifeguards



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were considered, not considered but covered in Unit 3 and 4 which is primarily secretarial and clerical employees and after 30 years of...you know during the 30 years were not really able to negotiate as public safety officers which we feel they are. I recently retired after a few years with the City and County of Honolulu and during that 30 years, we lost many, many very good employees to the Honolulu Fire Department, simply because better salaries, better wages, better benefits. And we feel that working with the agencies, that we improve the professionalism as you noted today and training and are really proud of what has accomplished here in the State and that's including the lifeguards here on Maui. There's some concern about the significant increase in the salaries. I'd just like to add that this is a first real significant raise that Ocean Safety Officers have got in 30 years, so the 16 percent reflects an analysis of comparable agencies in the United States and also, the fact that they were underpaid, woefully underpaid for 30 years. I understand your Committee's concern for budget, for the balancing of the budget and certainly support the need for fiscal controls. The Board of HLA strongly and respectfully recommends your Committee approve and fund the raises for County lifeguards. Hiring and retaining world-class lifeguards will help ensure the safety of visitors who enjoy Maui's world-class beaches. Thank you.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you, Mr. Goto. Any questions for Mr. Goto? Thank you. Wayne Axelson, please, and he's going to be followed by Keith Regan.

MR. AXELSON: Good morning, Council.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Good morning.

MR. AXELSON: My name is Wayne Axelson and I'm here this morning to speak in support of proper funding and support for our lifeguard systems that we have in the ocean. I am one of the three novice kayakers that John spoke about just a few moments ago. I, my family were on Oahu on the North Shore celebrating, supporting my son's wedding. It was to happen on the, 5 o'clock on Saturday. In the morning, my daughter, her husband and myself went to the beach to enjoy ourselves and the waves there. We took some kayaks and went out. I made it through a number of waves coming in. It looked exciting. It was exciting for a while. After a little bit, I capsized, no problem, I'm a swimmer, swimming for a while, I got tired. I lost the grip on the kayak. I called my daughter in to help me and she navigated about and there was one funny thing. We were trying to catch waves. She caught a beautiful wave as she came in to help me and blew right past; then, she circled about and I got a hold of the back end of her kayak and I was quite the drag on her kayak and we were an unstable combination and she tipped and I lost the kayak. So now, we're both in the water. So she's swimming for hers, I'm swimming for mine, I was a total of 45 minutes in the water. My daughter is the one who got eventually swept out a half mile. She was an hour and a half in the water. If it wasn't for the Ocean Safety Officers, I heard they're coming to the beach and it was an encouragement to me because I had been paddling towards the beach and it didn't seem like I was making much progress. Eventually I made some progress. An officer on a surfboard came and got me the final distance to shore, then he proceeded to go out in a jet ski to rescue my hysterical son-in-law, who had gone out as a novice to help save his wife; so, the second person saved was him.

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And at this point, there's such confusion on the shore, they didn't realize my daughter was still in the water. When that was made clear, they immediately went out, got her, brought her in. If it wasn't for them, I would have been celebrating as best I could the wedding of my son on the same day I lost my daughter, but thankfully, that did not happen. Thank you.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you for your testimony. Any questions for the gentleman? Thank you very much for being here. Mr. Regan followed by Ian Takashiba.

MR. REGAN: Good morning, Chair Hokama.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Good morning.

MR. REGAN: Good morning, Members of the Budget and Finance Committee. Aloha. My name is Keith Regan, Managing Director for the County of Maui and I'm here this morning on behalf of the Mayor as well as the County Administration. And unfortunately, the Mayor couldn't be here because he's traveling, but felt it was important to come down here and express our support for what you have before you. In fact, I'm here to humbly ask for your support of BF-6. Day-in and day-out our Ocean Safety Officers put their lives on the line to protect our residents and our visitors alike. They put themselves in harm's way so that others may live. They stand guard, vigilant, prepared, ready to act and react at a moment's notice. They have incredible knowledge of our beaches and ocean that only comes with tremendous experience and understanding. We're appreciative, sincerely appreciative of their hard work, dedication and commitment that they have, these men and women who make up our Ocean Safety Officers. The Administration humbly asks that you please support the cost items before you today, support our Ocean Safety Officers and please pass this item. Mahalo.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you, Mr. Regan. Any questions for Mr. Regan on testimony presented? Thank you very much for your comments. Ian Takashiba? He will be followed by Andrew Bayron.

MR. TAKASHIBA: Good morning, Chair Hokama.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Good morning.

MR. TAKASHIBA: My name is Ian Takashiba and I am the Field Administrator for the HGEA responsible for field service operations Statewide, which does include negotiations and bargaining for all of the HGEA contracts. Before I get started, I just wanted to thank all of our members that came out to testify today in support of their contract. And you know, this is all part of the process and why we are here today, so thank you guys for showing solidarity and support. I'm here in strong support of the funding for the arbitration award for Bargaining Unit 14. I had originally planned to come here and testify and explain to all of you what the Ocean Safety Officers do, but you can clearly see that I would not know what I am talking about. And we have the experts here today and what an amazing opportunity to be part of the history and to, for them to

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share their knowledge of the day-to-day work that they do. As was previously mentioned, the creation of Bargaining Unit 14 took many, many, many years and in 2013, the Legislature through Act 137, created Bargaining 14 for State Law Enforcement Officers and State Water Safety and Ocean Safety Officers, which also included the County employees. Shortly after and for, you know, a little bit of the bargaining history, shortly after the creation of the unit, the work for developing the first Unit 14 contract started. It was a complicated process being that this was a first contract and it took a lot of hard work. There was research. There was creativity. There were many, many meetings, long nights and even some weekends. No doubtedly, there were some fights between the employers and the unions, but no matter what, we always focused on what was the priority, the employees, the members, the interest of the employer, the union and ultimately the public. The union team was represented by Field Services Officer Sanford Chun, who is an employee of the HGEA, he was the lead spokesperson for Bargaining Unit 14, and also representatives from all of the county jurisdictions. So four of the county jurisdictions were represented and there's also, a member of the State. For the employer, the employer team was made up of a representative from the State of Hawaii and also four county jurisdictions. The State is at the table, just for, the State is at the table, I think was previously mentioned by Chair Rick Patrizio because Unit 14 also has Law Enforcement Officers who are Deputy Sheriffs and DOCARE Officers. The County of Hawaii has employees in the Water Safety Officer class. At the end, there were 43 articles that we were able to agree to and there were 5 unresolved issues that were submitted to the neutral arbitration panel. One, the panel is made up of 3 people. One from the union, one from the employer and a neutral party member. I will, again, urge all of you to support the funding of the arbitration award, Hawaii Revised Statute, Chapter 89...Chair can I?

CHAIR HOKAMA: Yeah, conclude.

MR. TAKASHIBA: Chapter 89 Hawaii Revised Statute clearly outlines the rules. We expect Maui County to fulfill its obligation to fund the arbitrated award. Final and binding means just that, there is no reneging. There is no going back to the table. We are both parties, union and employer are bound to the terms and conditions of the agreement. As you may know, the, most of the other legislative bodies have funded or are on their way to fund and we fully expect that Maui County will fulfill its obligation to fund the arbitration award for Bargaining Unit 14. And in my final closing, I would like to just say as was mentioned, Randy Perreira could not be here today because of, there is a State Board of Directors meeting and also our 23<sup>rd</sup> Biennial General Assembly, which is the highest governing body of the HGEA. And I think that it would be most appropriate or the best kick-off to our convention if we could report back to them tomorrow that Maui County Council is well underway to funding the arbitration award for Bargaining Unit 14. Thank you very much for your time and the opportunity to testify before you.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. Thank you for your comments, Mr. Takashiba. Any questions for the gentleman? Mr. Guzman?



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COUNCILMEMBER GUZMAN: Thank you, Chair. Just for clarification for our constituency, the five items that were sent for arbitration are what exactly?

MR. TAKASHIBA: The five articles that were sent were salaries, compensation adjustments, differentials, temporary hazard pay and uniform and equipment adjustments increases. A lot of the issues were, based on the final decision, a lot of the issues were focused on the law enforcement side or on the State Deputy Sheriffs and DOCARE Officers.

COUNCILMEMBER GUZMAN: Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. Any other questions for the gentleman? Thank you very much for your testimony this morning.

MR. TAKASHIBA: Thank you.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Andrew Bayron, please, followed by Archie Kalepa.

MR. BAYRON: Good morning, Councilmen. I'm part of Unit 14. My name is Andrew Bayron. I'm Deputy Sheriff II for State of Hawaii. I've been on, my gray hair, I've only been on two years with Deputy Sheriffs. I'm humbled that the 19 of us which they are all working right now, they chose me to come out and talk to you guys. My journey started 2 years ago with approximately 1,500 souls trying to become Deputy Sheriffs for the whole entire State, whittled down to only 3 or 4 of us who actually went to the County representing Maui. I've been a Maui resident 24 years. I've been a lifeguard at the YMCA. I've been a small business owner. I know Don Couch for 15 years. He's a good man, by the way...just saying. After six months of a recruit class I had to spend on Oahu away from my family, I became a Deputy Sheriff. Let me tell you something. I love my job. I do it for the pay I have right now, but it doesn't make it fair or right to keep that pay. Sixteen percent we're getting across the board still leaves us at least 30 percent behind MPD and the rest of the county police departments. Every day we handle the dregs of society walk into our cellblock, from pedophiles to murderers to meth heads. We have our hands on 'em every day. I was a police officer in New York. I'd never been around so many criminals in my life other than this job as a Deputy Sheriff every day. We also set up court on Molokai, Lanai. I fly little prop planes which is dangerous in itself. I protect the judges. I have their back. I also do \_\_\_\_\_. I do arrests in...I was running down Kaunakakai couple months ago, chasing someone down who had a warrant. No one knows where we are because there's only 19 strong for Maui County, but we're half of, oh, just about little bit half of Unit 14. We got it separated out because we were being treated like administrators, like not even administrators, this is a bad word, but a secretary. We were like pens and papers, I don't have, I have a pen, but I do a lot more than secretarial work. I do a very hands-on dirty job that I love. Please pay us appropriately. I've been like I said a lifeguard. I did ten years in resorts. I know how resorts work. I have an eclectic background, but pay us. That's the right thing. I don't know what binding arbitrator means, unless it's binding. Pay us. Thank you.



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CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you for your testimony. Archie Kalepa, following Mr. Kalepa would be Howard MacPherson.

MR. KALEPA: Good morning, Chair.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Good morning.

MR. KALEPA: Budget Committee. I retired from the lifeguard service 31 years and 8 months. I think one of the biggest attributes that lifeguards have is knowledge and as human beings we all starve for knowledge. And there's a few gentlemen in this room besides myself, we've had the great opportunity to travel around the world to share our knowledge with different countries, different states and Hawaii lifeguards take great pride in the work that they do. I don't think, not one or any lifeguard has put themselves in a life or death situation more than once. The thing is that we need to look at ways that we can begin to fund the lifeguard operations Statewide and it begins with each and every one of us. The importance of the decision that you're gonna make today or in the next coming weeks regarding this BF-6, Unit 14, 16 percent raise for the lifeguards is very critical and crucial to the livelihoods of their families, first and foremost, and the lives that they protect every single day. And, you know, it's, I look at these guys, I've been around for a long time, and it gives me great pleasure to look back and see where they've been and where they are now. And I just want to urge and encourage all of you to please support this needed increment raise for the lifeguards, not only for Maui County, but for the whole State of Hawaii. Thank you.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you. Any questions for Mr. Kalepa? You will look good on TV this morning, Archie. Howard MacPherson, please.

MR. MacPHERSON: Good morning.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Good morning.

MR. MacPHERSON: My name is Howard MacPherson. This is my daughter Kiana. I'm here to humbly ask for your support with Bargaining Unit 14, BF-6. I'm one of the Ocean Safety's newest members and I've already had multiple responses to ocean-related incidents. I'm honored, extremely honored to have this position. I'm proud to go to work every day. I get to work. Everyone in this room are my heroes, so, you know, to be a part of that group is really special to me and so I'm really thankful to have this position and I know that none of the men and women in this room are here because for the money. They all do it because they're passionate about helping people and I think all that we're asking in return is that our families are taken care of and that we can support them. Thank you guys so much for your time, appreciate it.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you, Mr. MacPherson. Any questions for the gentleman, Members? Thank you for being here, Kiana.

MR. MacPHERSON: Thank you. Say thank you, Kiana.

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MS. MacPHERSON: Thank you.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Is there anyone else who would like to give testimony? Make yourself known at this time, we'll be happy to give you an opportunity to speak. Yeah, come forward, please. And after you share your testimony, if you can fill out the form for us, we'd appreciate that, please.

MR. MARTIN: Aloha, Councilmembers. My name is Brandon Martin. I'm a Water Safety Officer No. 2 from Honolulu, City and County of Honolulu. I work District IV, from Iroquois Point all the way to Kaena. We cover Makaha. This past winter was by far one of the worst winters in a long time. We had this one incident where this guy got ran over by another surfer and we had to do CPR on him and he made it after, you know, a couple weeks. He was in the hospital. He came out. He's alright. He came down, thanked all of us and we not only save lives on, you know, 25-foot waves, 20-foot waves, we save lives by walking down to people and telling them, the surf is too big for you, stay out of the water. So, with this increase in our pay, it won't only...oh, wow, it won't only help out the lifeguards that get it, it will also help out the public 'cause now we can get back other people that went to fire, you know, we can bring them home where they belong. They don't belong being a fireman. They don't belong being a sheriff. They belong being a lifeguard. They belong saving lives. They belong in the water. You know, we need the quality and we can get it with this increase and, also, we put our, you know, our lives in danger every single day from drowning in 20-foot waves, from getting cut and getting a staph infection. We do all of that so thank you for your time, just asking you to support this bill. Mahalo.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you very much for, thank you for flying in. We appreciate your presence. Okay. Is there anyone else wishing to provide testimony? Okay. This is the last call for testimony by the Chair. After this, we're gonna conclude testimony. Dino Miranda, following Mr. Miranda will be Harry Brown.

MR. MIRANDA: Aloha, Chairman.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Good morning.

MR. MIRANDA: I'm not a lifeguard, but I'm a world long board champion and, you know, I travel around the world and seen a lot of lifeguards in action and, you know, I've learned a lot from Archie, this, saving lives myself as being a professional surfer. I'm in the water day-in and day-out and I see a lot of people get in trouble and a lot of 'em are, of course, unfortunately, tourists. So, me being there and learning a lot from all these lifeguards here, I put myself into action and actually save lives, too. So, you know, this, it doesn't matter what it takes to get these guys for what they need and what they, you know, what they deserve, to get paid for, it's like he said, like a lot of you guys say, you know, when it comes to life and, you know, you, as yourself would jump in the water and save somebody. But these guys are here day-in and day-out saving lives, you know, and saving lives on a daily basis. All I say is that these guys deserve what they ask for and I think that not only for, you know, the County of Maui,

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County of all the, the whole island needs to step it up and just, you know, support our, their cause. Thank you very much.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you very much for your testimony this morning. Harry Brown, please, and following Mr. Brown is John Grant.

MR. BROWN: Aloha.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Good morning.

MR. BROWN: My testimony is in support of this bill. I am not a lifeguard. I am not a waterman. I don't belong to any law enforcement agency. I'm not a politician. I'm simply an average dude. I'm a makaainana. I'm a commoner. And this morning, I just, we just moved from the North Shore of Oahu back home to Maui and this morning, I turned the TV on and I saw Mr. Kalepa, along with Brian Keaulana asking that we support those that can; so, I got my son ready and we came just because I felt that this was the right thing to do. I have no other support basis to tell you, no experiences to tell you, simply because I think and feel strongly that it is the right thing to do. We are the only County outside that haven't yet supported these lifeguards. I hope never to have to use their services really, but I believe all that they do is really, really important. And so I woke up and Mr. Kalepa said, if you have yellow, I don't have yellow, this was my only, this is my work shirt. I go outside work in the yard since I'm recently retired, but I wanted to come to support. I couldn't find parking. I don't know how to get here. This is the first time I ever showed up in this place. It's a scary experience to have to come before a Council, but I'm motivated simply by the fact that it is important and it is right and I ask for you to do the same in supporting them as well. Thank you.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Can you please identify yourself for the record?

MR. BROWN: Yeah. I'm sorry. My name is Harry Brown.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you, Mr. Brown, for being here this morning.

MR. BROWN: Thank you.

CHAIR HOKAMA: We appreciate your presence. John Grant, please.

MR. GRANT: Howzit.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Good morning.

MR. GRANT: Good morning. My name is John Grant and I stand with those men and women. I came to Maui first time in 1990 and my first week here, one of those guys saved my ass in Kanaha. I broke down and I was way off shore and one of those guys came and got me, but that is not why I'm here. I think it's demeaning that you ask those men and women with respect the days of their lives keeping fit, working to keep

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the County people safe, working to keep the guests and visitors safe and you ask them to come down here and tell you why you need to pay 'em what they earned? The county...I was a 30-year government employee in California. I was 10-years president of a governor's union...government union, employees union in California. We had binding arbitration. What's the issue here? You lost, they won. They are right. You're wrong. But I see it's a pattern in this Council which is why it's gonna change. You didn't enforce the GMO ban either. Okay. I'm telling you now, I'm an old man, I'm a rich old man and I'm dying. I have a lot of money and you gonna, your opponents are gonna get so well-funded in this election, you're not gonna know what hit you. Politics has changed in Maui. You guys vote right this time. You gonna get, you need the votes that they're gonna have. You need to vote for these guys. Thank you.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you for your testimony this morning. Anyone else would like to give testimony? Having none, we'll go to the District Offices and ask, Ms. Lono, in Hana, anyone wishing to provide testimony?

MS. LONO: The Hana Office has no one waiting to testify, Chair.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you. Ms. Fernandez, anyone on Lanai would like to give testimony?

MS. FERNANDEZ: There is no one waiting to testify at the Lanai office.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you. Molokai, Ms. Alcon, anyone wishing to provide testimony?

MS. ALCON: There is no one here on Molokai waiting to testify.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you very much, ladies. Members, with no objections we shall close testimony for today's meeting.

COUNCILMEMBERS: No objections.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay, so ordered.

**. . .END OF PUBLIC TESTIMONY. . .**

CHAIR HOKAMA: We'll take a mid-morning recess, Members. We shall return at 10:40.  
. . .(gavel). . .

RECESS: 10:25 a.m.  
RECONVENE: 10:43 a.m.

**ITEM 38(56): AMENDMENTS TO THE FISCAL YEAR 2016 BUDGET**  
**(DEPARTMENT OF FIRE AND PUBLIC SAFETY, PROJECTED PREMIUM**  
**PAY AND OPERATIONAL SHORTFALLS) (CC 15-164)**



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CHAIR HOKAMA: . . .(gavel). . . Okay. We shall come back to order, Members. We have two items before the Committee this morning. The first item is BF 38(56). This is an amendments being proposed to the Fiscal Year 2016 Budget regarding the Department of Fire and Public Safety, projected premium pay, operational shortfalls. This is by County Communication 15-164 and this morning we first gonna ask, Budget Director Baz, if he has any comments he'd like to share with the Committee.

MR. BAZ: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Yeah, this budget amendment is presented for your review and approval. We have brought this item up before. We are here to answer any questions you might have regarding this item. Thank you.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. Thank you very much, Mr. Baz. Good morning, Chief. Any comments you'd like to share with the Committee at this time?

MR. MURRAY: Aloha, good morning, Chair and Members. Thank you for this opportunity for us to come up and talk about our budget amendment. Before I start I wanna say that we wholeheartedly support BF-6 and no more said. My comments are, if I may, I provided testimony in writing for you.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you.

MR. MURRAY: But I will read this out. The number of incidents has increased 5,000, from 5,982 incidents in FY '06 to 10,716 to FY '15. As of May 10, 2016, the total number of incidents in FY '16 is 9,473. Why is this significant? The call volume has almost doubled in 10 years, yet you are asking us to reduce our budget and reduce our ability to serve our community. Although our call volume has almost doubled, we have only been given an additional 28 positions in the last 10 years. And considering the level of training and quality of firefighters within our Department, an increase of 12-plus million in our budget in the past 10 years should not indicate irresponsible expenditures of public funds in any means. With an increase of responsibility this large, you would expect the Department whose sole responsibility is to serve and protect our community that we live in and be supported by our elected officials and not have to fight for every penny that we need to keep this Department running. We are not asking for extra items or money that can pad our budgets just because we want it. We are asking for things that our Department is in dire need for in order for us to provide the public with the service that they require. The men and women of the Maui Fire Department have responded to over 81,900 calls in 10 years. Why is this significant? Every call that we respond to has the ability to change a person's life, just like our brothers and sisters of Ocean Safety. They would not have called us if they didn't need help. When we respond, there is always a danger of loss of life, whether it be the patients or ours. This is not to be taken lightly, that 81,000 calls in the last 10 years that our firefighters have put their lives on the line for our community. We have a decrease in calls every year. So in 2006, we had 820 fire calls, now we have 480. Why is that significant? This indicates the number of things, including increased public and community education, increased enforcement and stricter fire codes in plans reviews that have made that difference. An increase in EMS rescue calls from 3,138 in FY '06 to 6,554 in FY '15, again, why is this significant? The increase in EMS

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rescue categories include medical calls, ocean and mountain rescues, car accidents and other incidents, many of which are either we are the first on scene or the sole department responsible to save that person's life. The number of calls that our department responded to has doubled in 10 years. Decrease in number of acres burned from 1,753 acres in 2006 to 451 acres in 2015. As of May 10, 2016, our acres burned this fiscal year is well over 6,000 acres with approximately 90 percent of that acreage being attributed to the Kahikinui fire. Again, we ask why is this significant? The increase in training and preparation of our firefighters, coupled with the quality of our trucks, equipment and effective utilization of our helicopter service has increased our ability to efficiently fight brush fires before they get out of control. Brush fires are never completely preventable and with the closure of HC&S and their additional 36,000 acres of land, that will increase the probability of brush fires occurring. We need to be prepared for large-scale incidents as spoken by our union and taking away money from our budget cripples our ability to stay prepared and may I repeat, stay prepared. Some of the statistics in Maui County, estimated population for Maui County has increased by 24,758 people in the last 10 years. The rapid increase in population has added to the size of our community that we serve and is big reason why our call volume has increased by double. Estimated persons over 65 has increased by 5,042 in just 4 years. There are now over 24,000 persons over the age of 65 in our community and that is attributed to the baby boomers. So, statistically and logistically, we are looking at these items and we are preparing for them. And I need you to understand that there's a lot of homework that goes into how we prepare our budgets. Why is this significant? Our kupuna play a very important of our community and we as first responders know that they are a demographic that is more susceptible to falls, accidents, medical issues. For that reason, our Department has, making additional efforts to participate in programs to help our kupuna including the SAM Program, which is our Smoke Alarm Program. We go into homes. We put those items in along with the electrical union. We have a Project Lifesaver Program that helps with Alzheimer patients that are very active, we're able to track them down a lot quicker. And we sit on the Board for Fall Prevention and all of you know, if your parents are older and I just lost my parents in the last three years, both of 'em and they sustained falls. We did everything we could in our home with our whole family trying to prevent those issues, but they just don't happen. We just cannot prevent everything. So that's a personal story for that. We need the money in our Fire Prevention Bureau. They have the responsibility and the majority of our community outreach and education and we know that 65 and over demographic grows and increases as the calls are also expected to be. Number of housing units and these are not just single-family dwellings. These are housing units, has increased by 1,088 in just 3 years. Why is this significant? Our Fire Prevention Bureau is charged with plans review and all new construction projects. That means that our 2 plans reviewers reviewed plans on the average of 272 housing units a year, in addition to their other duties. An increase in the number of housing units also increased the number of calls because the increase of number of homes that we are supposed to respond to. Total estimates of visitors for Maui County has increased from 2,092...2,092,000 in 2010 to 2,500,000-plus in 2015, that's an additional 435,000 visitors that we were responsible for in 2015. Why is this significant? We all know that tourism is our highest grossing industry in our community. Without our visitors

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coming here and enjoying our County, we would not economically survive. We need to protect our visitors just as much as we protect our residents. If there were 2,000,527 [sic] visitors in 2015, that means that every month we had an on an average additional 210,000 people to protect. Decreasing our ability to respond to their needs will decrease the appeal of our community. They need to feel safe when they visit our islands. It's not just about aloha spirit. It's about our responsibility, and in closing, I appreciate the opportunity for us to come back to talk stories about our budget amendment in this current year, but also moving forward in our Fiscal Year '17, there should be more discussion and I appreciate the opportunity. Thank you.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you, Chief. Members, any questions for Chief? Ms. Baisa, any questions?

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: No, thank you.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Mr. Couch? Ms. Crivello? Mr. White?

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: No questions, thank you.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Mr. Guzman? We have a proposed bill from Mr. Baz. Okay. Let's see. One, he's increasing Carryover/Savings from the General Fund by 1.5 million; decreasing appropriations under Department of Fire and Public Safety Admin Maintenance by 130,000; decreasing appropriations under Training Program by 175,000; decreasing appropriation under Fire Prevention by 95,000; increasing the appropriations under Rescue Operations Program by 1.9 million. And we also have a Certification of Revenues dated April 22, 2016 from the Administration for 1.5 million in Carryover from the General Fund. Also as stated in the earlier meeting, Members, to get this additional cash, Administration had to decertify two requests. One, we have decertified funds for the repricing of Unit 3 clerks as well as decertifying funds for the Homeless Project and that is how they are coming up with the 1.9 million of cash. Any questions? Also, as part of the legislation, as we have reviewed the proposal, I'm gonna ask you if you feel to pass this out today, that we allow the Staff to make any nonsubstantive changes, revisions, including the revisions to total. Since Council already has taken, the Committee has already taken action on the last few weeks, on additional CIPs that we are gonna make adjustments to the total revenues and expense sheets, worksheets, regarding total appropriations and total revenues. Any questions to the Chair on that item? Okay. Mr. Couch, you had a question?

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Yeah, Mr. Chair. Where was the information on the decertification of funds?

CHAIR HOKAMA: That was given to us when we brought it up last week in Committee or the week before in Committee. I think Ms. Sato was the one that responded to the question of how did the Administration come up with the cash and I believe that was the response.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Okay.



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CHAIR HOKAMA: We can ask Mr. Baz if he would. . .

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: That's fine. Thank you.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. Thank you. Any other questions for the Chair or the Chief Murray at this time or his Fiscal Officer or any of his staff? Make the request known at this time and we'll be happy to request their presence for your needs. Okay. Having none, the Chair is open to a motion to move forward to Council with a recommendation of passage on first reading be ordered to print A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2016 BUDGET FOR THE COUNTY OF MAUI AS IT PERTAINS TO ESTIMATED REVENUES; DEPARTMENT OF FIRE AND PUBLIC SAFETY; TOTAL OPERATING APPROPRIATIONS; AND TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS (OPERATING AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS); filing of all appropriate communications; as well as to make nonsubstantive revisions including revisions to totals.

COUNCILMEMBER CRIVELLO: So move, Chair.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Second.

CHAIR HOKAMA: I have a motion made by Ms. Crivello, seconded by Mr. Couch. Members, any discussion? Ms. Crivello any comments you'd like to share? Any comments as the maker of the motion?

COUNCILMEMBER CRIVELLO: I recognize that the shortfall does bring adjustments to our budget, Chair, and however, as you all know, I'm a strong advocator for public safety and I would like to continue that mantra and the efforts that you have made to decertify and how we're gonna find other funding I think still falls upon all of us. And, you know, I believe that the, it's, their expenses are all in this spreadsheets, so I thank Mr. Baz for giving us a better overview on so we can continue to support our women and men in blue and white as they try and perform what is necessary to provide safety in our community. So, I thank them also and, of course, we are gonna try and ask them to try and be more if at all possible, to try and control some of the premium charges that we're tasked with in adjusting our budget because there's other shortfalls for other needs that we have. But that being said, I ask my colleagues to support this motion. Thank you.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you, Ms. Crivello. Any other discussion? Mr. White?

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Chair. And, you know, I would, I'm not in support of this motion. I would be supportive of the motion if the amount were lower. My concern is that we have a Department that is expending a significant amount of overtime and I believe that there are ways that they can reduce the overtime without reducing E/Ps. And I think, just as a comparison, we're talking about the Ocean Safety Officers today and the Ocean Safety Officers on average, I believe, get about \$2,400 in overtime per year. The firefighters with the budget request at about \$15,000 per year. As the other Members know, I have a concern with the rank-for-rank recall provision in the

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Department because it provides, actually the cost to the County for this Fiscal Year 2015 is about \$2.3 million and that's \$2.3 million that would have covered other things. But that cost to the County provides no additional coverage and I appreciate the stats that the Chief has provided with us. I think all of us want to make sure that we're providing a very safe environment for our community and especially those that are elder, for our visitors, for the kids, everyone wants the community to be safe. There are many, many communities across the nation that have found ways to maintain high levels of safety with other, you know, other means of doing so. And I'm not suggesting that we want to go down that road, but there are across the Country, 87 percent of the fire departments are either all volunteer or mostly volunteer and so, we asked the Department to come back with some adjustments to their costs. They responded by making no cuts, even though as discussed in our last meeting, the amount of money that we are spending on an item such as our HAZMAT crew, you know, in the Police Department, you've got the SWAT Team. They come together when there's a major incident that they need to address to keep the community safe. We have a, they don't have a full-time SWAT Team. They come together when the need arises. That's the way we used to operate our HAZMAT response. We now have 24/7/365, 5 people assigned to that. In looking at the numbers over a 22-month period there were 29 incidents that HAZMAT responded to. You can make the argument that a lot of them didn't require HAZMAT to respond. It could have been handled by an engine company. But, yet, we have spent over that same 22-month period about \$4.3 million and we have had 79,000 man hours of time spent manning that post for an incident man-hour count of about 113 hours; so, again, you know, I feel that there are ways that the costs could be trimmed down. When we sit here and listen to the OSOs feeling that they haven't been paid well enough, I tend to agree with that. When I, we sit here and listen to nonprofits come in and say no one's gotten an increase in four years, three years, five years, six years, you name it, they've had a real tough time making ends meet; so, for me, the issue is that we have a way of reducing the overtime cost. I don't think the Department has made much of an effort to move in that direction and, you know, they've got their job to do, I've got my job to do, so, I'll respectfully vote no on this measure. Thank you. Chair.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay, thank you very much for your comments. Anyone else wishes to provide comment on the motion before the body at this time? Okay. Having none, all in favor of the motion please say "aye."

COUNCILMEMBERS: "Aye."

CHAIR HOKAMA: Oppose say “no.”

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: "No."

CHAIR HOKAMA: Motion passes with five “ayes,” one “no,” Mr. White. Mr. Carroll excused, Ms. Cochran excused and Mr. Victorino is excused from the vote.

**VOTE:**       **AYES:**       **Chair Hokama, and Councilmembers Baisa, Couch, Crivello, and Guzman.**

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**NOES: Vice-Chair White.**

**ABSTAIN: None.**

**ABSENT: None.**

**EXC.: Councilmembers Carroll, Cochran, and Victorino.**

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**ACTION: FIRST READING** of bill by C.R.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you, Chief.

MR. MURRAY: Thank you.

CHAIR HOKAMA: You'll be around for the next one, too, so...

MR. MURRAY: Oh, yeah. I'll be here. Thank you for the opportunity.

**ITEM 6: COST ITEM PROPOSAL (HAWAII GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION, BARGAINING UNIT 14)**

CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. We're going to bring up BF-6 at this time, Members. This is under the heading of Cost Item Proposal (HGEA, Bargaining Unit 14). We have a County Communication 16-50, from Mayor Arakawa, transmitting a resolution, excuse me, a proposed resolution entitled Approving Cost Items for Unit 14, Ocean Safety Officers. We also have with us the summary of cost items and this Committee is reviewing and will be recommending to Council proposed issues that relates to cost for Bargaining Unit 14 contract. We have Mr. Hiromoto from Department of Personnel Services, along with Mr. Baz. So, Mr. Baz, any opening comments at this time?

MR. BAZ: Thank you, Mr. Chair. No, no opening comments.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. Thank you. Mr. Hiromoto, opening comments?

MR. HIROMOTO: Good morning, Chair, Members. No opening comments at this time. Thank you.

CHAIR HOKAMA: So, just for the public record, let first say, March 18<sup>th</sup> of this year is when this Committee received this proposal through the Council. On the 29<sup>th</sup>, 11 days later, this Committee already posted and heard this item for the first time. We had no union representation at that meeting to speak on this item. We had no Administration representation to speak on this item. We had one employee from Ocean Safety who



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stood up and spoke her mind and what she thought about the proposal to the Committee. That was it, one employee. After the Committee's discussion, we had no response, either from the union, the Administration, departments, regarding the Committee's concern. Also at other Budget Committee meetings, that same individual showed up multiple times to share her thoughts with us regarding the Unit 14's contract. That was the only public statement we got on this item up 'til April 13<sup>th</sup> then, we started getting communications regarding this item; so, I will first say this Committee has been responsible in posting timely, we have brought forth our concerns during that original meeting. And again, Members, certain things the Chair is aware, this is not the arena for certain things. But I don't have a problem with the Committee Members stating their concerns regarding process, regarding how we've arrived at this point and any comments on how we might want to improve how we deal with this type of negotiations, arbitrations or awards. But there's a purpose why each legislative body is given the authority to either approve or reject proposals and we go also by interestingly enough, the Deputy Attorney General's opinion of what happens should it not be approved. But with that, I'm going to ask Mr. Hiromoto at this time, regarding those issues the Committee brought up at the earlier meeting, that will have to wait 'til next year when the contracts reopen again, Mr. Hiromoto?

MR. HIROMOTO: Chair, I'm sorry. I cannot recall at this time what the specific issues were?

CHAIR HOKAMA: One of the issues the Committee had was exposure of liability both, for the County, its employee and the potential victims or how would I say, those that need service from Ocean Safety.

MR. HIROMOTO: Chair, I think that would probably be a legal question that would be best answered by our attorneys.

CHAIR HOKAMA: So you're gonna pass it to Mr. Ueoka? Mr. Ueoka, you ready to give us a comment at this time? I know we're putting you in a difficult place, so if you choose not to, we can understand.

MR. UEOKA: If I may, Chair, I guess in regard to liability, there's current State legislation that always has a sunset date on it regarding County lifeguard liability for certain matters and I believe everyone, including the lifeguards, are often supportive of that measure at the State Legislature. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you. Ms. Baisa, any questions for Mr. Hiromoto, Mr. Baz? We also have Fire Chief Murray, which is the receiving Department and is anybody from Parks? Oh, we have Mr. Sevilla from Parks Department, that could represent Parks, and that's the departing Department.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: No, Chair. Thank you very much. We have received tons of material on this and I think that I have the information I need to make a decision. Thank you.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you. Mr. Couch?

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COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Thank you, Mr. Chair. And yeah, we did get a lot of testimony and some good testimony today. You know, the Ocean Safety Officers do a fabulous job and I feel that they should be compensated for that fairly and this gets them back into range of where they should be compensated. But you know our concerns and Mr. Ueoka kind of went around it and I'm not sure what we can discuss in open session. But that as you mentioned will probably have to be brought up in next rounds of negotiations, so I'm gonna be supportive of this with the caveat of the one liability concern that we have that we really, I don't know if we, how much of it we can talk about in open session or not. I had heard from one member of the union that we're the only County that doesn't have that, I mean, we're the only County with the concern and it's not mentioned for this County in this contract. I'm not quite sure if that's, if I understood him correctly, but all the other counties have the restriction that we're looking for.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Mr. Hiromoto, are you aware of that status with your counterparts?

MR. HIROMOTO: Sorry, Chair, I'm not aware of that issue being brought up as part of collective bargaining.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: At all?

MR. HIROMOTO: At all.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Okay. And I guess it was the concern of the Fire Department that if they said, no, you can't go out, go to work today, that there would be issues with the union pushing back on that. I don't know if we can bring up somebody from the union or I'm not sure if that, if we are, if we have an issue at this point or we can, it can wait until the next...

CHAIR HOKAMA: This is how I would like you to consider this, Mr. Couch --

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Okay.

CHAIR HOKAMA: --at this time. The primary purpose of the resolution is the cost item.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Yeah.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Which is money, okay, comes down to the dollars and cents. We're also concerned about some of the components within the contract which you referring to in your comments. While it has impact on cost eventually, anything with litigation has cost, I would think that this is something we should be talking in another meeting --

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Okay.

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CHAIR HOKAMA: --specifically discuss how Council should prepare and have discussions with our representatives because next year, we go into contract talk for 14 agreements.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Yeah.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Fourteen units' contracts are up for discussion. Okay. And how are we gonna approach 14 contracts? How are we gonna pay for 14 contracts knowing that this County is in a unique situation in time --

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Okay.

CHAIR HOKAMA: --HC&S, Makena, what's going on on Molokai, what's happening on Lanai. We're at a unique situation where we are gonna put resources to a lot of other places because of priority needs of this County. And so, yeah, for your Chair and our, this Council, we should be concerned how we're going to get the funding to pay for all of these things in the very near future. So I prefer that.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: That being said...oh, go ahead.

CHAIR HOKAMA: So that's why I said, I would prefer we just stick with the cost item at this meeting at, for this time.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: And if that's the case, then, I'm fully supportive of this, of these guys, you know. They talked about the jet skis. They're the ones that, you know, invented the carrier in the back and it's used worldwide now, so I mean, these guys are sharp guys. I've paddled with some of them and they know the ocean and I feel they deserve to be compensated for it. Thank you.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you. Ms. Crivello, any comments at this time?

COUNCILMEMBER CRIVELLO: My question for Mr. Hiromoto is or maybe Corporation Counsel is how do we have a say in part of the negotiation before it reaches us here?

CHAIR HOKAMA: Director?

COUNCILMEMBER CRIVELLO: I understand you represent the Administration overall the County, I don't, you know, we have to make the final decision when it comes to the cost and the financial consequences, but we don't have a say in the actual negotiation, so it comes before us like this. So I don't know who can respond to that or it doesn't make any sense to ask such a question.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Director?

MR. HIROMOTO: Chair, Member Crivello, Chapter 89 of HRS clearly says that the Mayor is the Chief Executive Officer and he is a, the person that is negotiating for the County, in our case, for the counties and he allows me to go up and negotiate on his behalf.



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So clearly, Chapter 89 does say that the Mayor is the Chief Executive and the person that's involved and the signator to these collective bargaining agreements. So, I understand your concern, but again, HRS 89 does say that this body does do the, or does appropriate funds for the collective bargaining, either in their agreement that's been ratified or the award that's been given through a arbitration.

COUNCILMEMBER CRIVELLO: Thank you. And how many votes actually do the counties have in comparison with the State negotiators because none of our lifeguards come under State and DLNR that we have, yeah, and the Sheriffs?

MR. HIROMOTO: Chair?

CHAIR HOKAMA: Director?

MR. HIROMOTO: It depends on the bargaining unit that we're...

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Chair?

CHAIR HOKAMA: Mr. Hiromoto, can you speak up a little louder into the microphone, please?

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Thank you.

MR. HIROMOTO: It depends on what bargaining unit we're talking about. For HGEA, for example, for Unit 2, 3, 4 and 13, that we have, the Governor has six votes and the counties all have one vote each. I believe Hawaii Healthcare System has one and Judiciary has one.

COUNCILMEMBER CRIVELLO: Let's talk about 14.

MR. HIROMOTO: Fourteen would be that vote, so the Governor would have six votes and the counties would have one vote each and I believe, I'm not too sure, I think the Judiciary has another vote and I think HHSC.

COUNCILMEMBER CRIVELLO: Okay. Thank you. So I only ask that because what comes to us is of high cost, but I'd like to underscore that I do support our Maui County as well as our, the rest of the counties' Ocean Safety Officers and I would hope we would weave into the rest, what are the, our sister counties have done to support this. But at this same time when it comes time for legislation, I hope our lifeguards and our Bargaining Unit 14 will stand and walk with us in legislation to increase our fair share of TAT and it, we need that kind of funding to support the kind of public safety that actually we're asking of our fine people. You know, what I've learned is that lifeguards do not only respond to the ocean. They're also beach patrollers. I've learned that they have to deal with many incidents that happens on the beach and they have to respond to if there's thievery, if there's some altercations and the list goes on. So, you know, they can be busy doing that, then they have to respond to people who sometimes fail to really respect the water or the ocean that is needed. But I personally would like to

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acknowledge the work that they've done and after 30 years, hopefully, we can agree to offer the significant support that our lifeguards need. So I guess I'm pontificating on behalf of our colleague who's not here today, so. Thank you.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Good job. Mr. White?

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Chair. And I want to say that I want to thank you for the deferral. I know it's put Maui County in maybe a little more of the spotlight that it needed to be, but for me, the deferral was a very important thing because as you've suggested, we have this cost item dropped in our lap with no understanding of how we got here. And so, and as you said, there was no one here from the union except for one individual and there really wasn't any way for us to have a clear understanding of what was, what went into this arbitrated settlement. And I've, thanks to HGEA, they provided me with a copy of the arbitration award. As you can tell, I've gone through it. I didn't go through all the contract stuff in the back, but it makes for interesting reading. It shows how difficult arbitrations can be, but I am comfortable now speaking in full support of the lifeguards getting the increase. I've known all my adult life the important part that they play in the safety of our kids, our families and our visitors, so that's never been a concern for me. The concern that I had when we received it was the significant increase. And with the, although they talked about a 16 percent increase, for Maui it's a much bigger bite because we've not been paying the jet ski premium that we well should have and so I don't consider that part of the increase. It is part of the increased cost and the increased cost for Maui County amounts to about 18,600 per individual, but I'm now having read through everything and listened to the testimony, I'm very comfortable with moving forward. But I'm, I do have to read what I found an interesting piece at the end of the arbitration award, there was a dissent provided by the State's Chief Negotiator. And this is just a cautionary note for all of us and it reads and I'm not going to read the whole thing, so don't worry about it. While I recognize the fact that each bargaining unit is independent of other bargaining units, I am persuaded that this BU 14 award will set a precedent that will undoubtedly shape the expectations of the other units in future negotiations, notwithstanding the arguments that the employers are not required to extend the terms of an arbitrated award to other bargaining units. And, then, later on it talks about, furthermore, Mr. Machida, who is the State's Budget and Finance Chief, an explanation ought not be disregarded that the State must be cautious in its spending for a number of reasons, including the recurring future cost of collective bargaining salary increases and the competing demands such as funding homeless response initiatives, air conditioning in public schools, construction of a new State hospital and prison, which are all competing with finite State resources. With respect to the cost of, the future cost of collective bargaining, all 14 bargaining unit contracts including BU 14 expire on June 30, 2017 and negotiations are scheduled to begin in a matter of months. The reality is that for all bargaining units, each 1 percent across-the-board increase in salary cost has an approximate \$92 million cost impact to General Funds over the biennium, which is for 2 years. So that's a, that is our job here is to watch the finances of the County and as I've shared before, you know, our County employment costs from 2013 to 2017 have increased by almost \$65 million. That's about a 30 percent increase. And my concern is that as these bargaining

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agreements expire and go into negotiations once again, we've got to be mindful of the fact that the County government salaries and wages are growing significantly faster than the private sector that we depend on to generate the taxes to pay for it. To put it in perspective and these are not current figures, but it's the most recent that I can find. It's 2014 numbers. It's a report that came out in September of 2015 and we compared 2007, which was before the recession with 2014. County wages, this is not including in, not including fringes, but County wages have increased by 30.5 percent, the private sector wages have increased by 3.5 percent. So once again, my concern initially with this high cost, although I've overcome it with this bargaining unit, I'm very concerned going forward that we have a significant cost increase that is rising much quicker than the private sector. And the private sector is the main generator of the taxes that we depend on to pay these increases, to pay our unfunded liabilities for ERS and for the healthcare and Retirement Fund. So, I'm very happy to support the item today. I'm very happy to see Ralph Goto come over from Honolulu. He's a guy that I've known for a long time and he's one of the real leaders in this arena and a real icon for Hawaii and it's also nice to see Archie Kalepa again. So, you know, I'm very comfortable moving forward on this item with some significant concerns going forward with the upcoming negotiations and hopefully, Mr. Hiromoto's replacement will be able to deal with that. And of course, I can't complete any statement on this item without suggesting that a little more TAT would help a whole lot. And just to put it in perspective, the increase that we have gotten in TAT over the last 8 years is \$500,000 a year. This cost increase for the lifeguards is double that. So just a reminder for those of you who would like to call your State representatives and level some concerns, Maui generates 135, no, about \$130 million in TAT every year and we get back 23½. For all the counties, it's \$103 million a year and we've gotten an additional 2.2 million over the last 8 years, during a time when our cost for just fire, police and parks have increased in the 4 counties by \$170 million. So the State is largely in control of negotiations. We're the ones that end up picking up the County tab. We generate a lot of taxes for covering visitor expenses and the lifeguards are a prime example of one of those costs that is, I think it's safe to say that they spend more time educating and rescuing visitors than they do locals because we're much more familiar with the currents and the conditions and we're, we know when to stay out of the water. But anyway, with that, I will conclude my remarks and thank you very much for your indulgence, Chair.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you, Mr. White. Mr. Guzman?

COUNCILMEMBER GUZMAN: Thank you, Chair. I would like to, I guess in my point of view, start from the beginning as well as what you had stated, Chair. When this item first came to the Committee, I agree, there was no union representatives on the floor to answer or relay a explanation, so it left a void in many Members' minds of what exactly were the items that were in the arbitration and what the decision actually stated. And thereafter that meeting, we did receive a copy of the arbitration decision and most of us were able to read through it, had some legal questions to it, but in my mind I basically knew that there was no other alternative but to move forward. It was either move forward or go to the Judiciary. I do agree with the testimony and with all my heart that Ocean Safety is one of our most important public safety entities that we



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have on this island. And I love those guys. I actually two months ago spent a good half day at one of the beaches and went to the lifeguard station, brought my kids, got to go to the tower, checked out the jet ski and I really realized that one of my points that I wanted to advocate was the jet ski operator differentials. I don't know if the public knows that basically we're the only County that does this jet ski operation, goes into the ocean to cover 911 State calls as well as our local calls, into the ocean and still does not get hazardous pay and so to me, that is an injustice. I tried to propose an amendment or appropriations in our Budget, but due to our Corporation Counsel's legal advice, it was premature since there was no contract that was enforced or couldn't do it while it was pending. The other matter is that I also agree, Chair, on your philosophy, I guess I'm trying to, you haven't stated it directly to me, but I'm trying to understand it while you see it on the floor. It's my understanding that there are, in negotiations in the bargaining collective process, so the State has eight votes and the counties have four, so and the counties' votes are all via the Mayors. Now there is no representation of the Council that has the authority to appropriate the monies that actually look after our budget, so when the Mayors go and negotiate and combined with the eight other votes that are non-county which are basically State, are the budgets of this County in consideration, can we afford the additional 16 percent? And as the process goes forward, we don't get a say in anything until the agreement is signed and ratified by the vote and then it comes back, then it comes to the Council ten days later. And says, Council, do you approve or do you reject this agreement? We have no other alternative. If we reject it, it goes back to negotiations and so on and so forth. If it goes back to negotiations and there's an impasse, it then goes to arbitration and then the decision is made and, then, we have no choice at all, the decision is made, period. So when does the Council actually, truly get an authoritative say in how we handle our budget? Do we have enough money in our coffers to cover because it's others, it's eight other votes out there that are the majority that are dictating how we are going to increase the wages. I'm all for increasing the wages. They deserve the increase in wages, but can, but is it going to be rammed down our throat in one big lump, when we have the Fire Department coming in with 1.9 million shortage, we've got HC&S, most of their jobs coming are losing. We've got tremendous economic downfall in our budget, it's crazy. You have nonprofits coming in, haven't been paid for years on years, so how do we take control of this and say, look, we'll give you 16 percent, but can we spread it out, not all not in one big lump because everyone else is coming at us. Everyone else is coming at us. We had no say in how this increase came about. Granted they deserve it, God bless them, they really do deserve it, but we had no say in it. This system is dysfunctional. You have State guys dictating how we pay our County employees. Wow, that's wow, that's just, you know, that's in the world of reasonability, that's unreasonable. We should have had more of a say in how this went down. The Councils of each of these counties are the appropriators of the money. How can the Mayors be the representatives of the county? They don't appropriate the money. And getting back to the first meeting on this item, no representation from either side, the Administration, oh, I laugh at that. Oh, yeah, Keith Regan, the Managing Director, coming down here. Why wasn't he down here in March for the March meeting and explaining this situation to us? And we wouldn't be in this situation if the Administration would've come down at least negotiate or at least spoken to us and explained this to us. We wouldn't be on TV and

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having to handle all this, but enough of my ranting and raving. I am definitely in support of this measure. I am frustrated with how it came about and that's all I have to say. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you, Mr. Guzman, for your comments. Any other questions or comments Members feel to share at this time? Again, Mr. Hiromoto, I know that the comments were directed at you, but I know you're part of the County team and obviously this Committee has its frustrations regarding how the State responds with their, how shall we say it today, level of authority within the statute of negotiations, mediation, and arbitration. And of course...well will state in the Committee report comments from the Members regarding our concern of the process. The Chair will state, though, that as you've heard all of the Members speak, the issue is not with our employees. This Committee is not concerned...I shouldn't say we are not concerned, our basis is of course to take care of our employees, our County employees and be fair with all employees of this County. So, as I stated, as said in my statement earlier to the media, we are very supportive of taking care of our employees. Our issue is the process right now with the State and how things arrive before our desks in a manner of a done deal. So if it's a done deal, then why are Councils given the authority to approve or reject? So that's something that I would say needs to be discussed more at the State Capitol. It's gonna take a bill for an act to revise the State law more than likely and of course we know how 76 people down there may or may not think alike, so. At this time, if there's no further questions for your Chair, Mr. Hiromoto, Mr. Baz, Chief Murray or Mr. Sevilla, I'm gonna recommend that the Chair be open to a motion to send to Council a recommendation for a proposed resolution entitled APPROVING COST ITEMS FOR UNIT 14, OCEAN SAFETY OFFICERS. I would request though, Members, when you look at the resolution on the . . .No. 2 of the "RESOLVED" clause we amend that that after the phrase "Director of Personnel Services," we insert "Budget Director and the Director of Finance." It is your Chair's position that Mr. Baz needs to know what's happening with the contracts, with the numbers to make the appropriate adjustment that he is responsible under the Budget Office. So, is there any objections to the insertion of --

COUNCILMEMBERS: No objections.

CHAIR HOKAMA: --Budget Director on No. 2?

COUNCILMEMBERS: No objections.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. We'll allow Staff to do that and to work with Corporation Counsel to make any nonsubstantive adjustments needed to make this resolution in final form for Council's consideration.

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: So move, Chair.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Second.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay, I have a motion made by Mr. White, seconded by Mr. Couch.

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COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Mr. Chair, does that including filing? I didn't hear you say that.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you. Yes. This is also includes filing of all appropriate communications attached to BF-6. Yes, Ms. Baisa?

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Thank you very much, Chair. I was saving my pontification for the motion and I obviously didn't get the message that this was the moment to do it, but anyway, I do wanna say something.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Sure.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: I wanna say that, you know, the things that I've heard today really resonant with me, couple of things. One is we heard people and Members comment on the fact that while budget was being discussed, some of the people that were being discussed or the departments that were being discussed were not here at the moment; I want to tell these people that I have learned over the years, that if you're not at the table, you're on the menu. And I have been here as long as I can remember when I was at MEO and that seat over there where that gentleman is sitting actually has my name on it because I sat through the entire budget process. It's hard and it's very difficult, but for those who are concerned about what is in the budget, I think it's very smart if you can be here to monitor what is going on. And every day you're given the opportunity before we start to testify. And I think it's really, really important that this gallery needs to be filled during budget. It breaks my heart when we're sitting here hour after hour and we look back there and maybe there's two or three people and sometimes nobody and it just is an opportunity. And I know it's hard and I know we shouldn't have to do that, but that's the system and so if you want to be on the radar screen, you gotta be here and you gotta speak up during the process. The other thing I want to comment on was the suggestion about getting more TAT. I want to tell you that we worked really hard this year on trying to get TAT and I was one of the Members that spent a lot of time at the Legislature, in fact, I missed a couple of budget days because I was in Honolulu trying to help get that money. We can use help. I think that we need to make a bigger circle. We got a little circle going with the Council Chairs, Councilmembers and with the Council of Mayors, but it's not enough. We need everybody to be with us. We need unions, we need advocates, we need everybody, Visitor's Bureau, everybody who cares about this. We need to form a huge coalition and I think that we would show the power to the Legislature if we did that. You know, when we're down there with our Komoda donuts and our Krispy Kremes and our manju, we need a bigger group. We need everybody standing together and saying, give us our money, we deserve it and what has happened here today in my opinion really emphasizes how unfair the distribution is. It's not fair. The County should not be here trying to figure out how do we pay our bills because a lot of this is associated with visitors. It's very, very clear, you know, they get into all kinds of problems and we have to take care of it because we're not gonna let anybody drown or die. And I want to say that I am 100 percent in support of the lifeguard, the change in your salaries. It's overdue and you really deserve it. And I'm really sad that, you



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know, we had to go what we had to go through to get here today, but I think that this is important and we've learned a couple of really good lessons this year in the process. And I, for one, am going to try to work very hard in my remaining time here with HSAC to try to get a lobbying plan together and to broaden our group and I hope everybody will volunteer to come aboard. And, again, for those that are gonna be back here next year during the budget process, please, pay attention and come. We need your input and we need your help. Poor Chair Hokama, you know, he takes a lot of stuff from us because he drives us hard and we're tired and, you know, he's tough and doesn't like to give anybody any money. And so we sit here, you know, giving him all kinds of stuff about we want our money, we need it for our district, we need it for our department, we need all this stuff and he tries to guide us through the process and keep us under control and I think he does a yeoman's job. Even though, you know, he's a task master, but in the end we get through it. It's not an easy job to be Budget Chair, but I think we honor the process by participating and we gotta do it upfront and not when it's all over. So, Chair, I am really happy to support this motion and I want to say, it's been tough, but I think the decisions we're making today are good. Thank you.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you. Mr. Couch, any comments? Ms. Crivello?

COUNCILMEMBER CRIVELLO: No, Chair. Thank you. I want to thank you and Mr. White for bringing up awareness of the fiduciary responsibility that we have and I sincerely would like to thank the people in yellow and red and people in blue and white for following the mantra of public safety. And I echo our stateswoman when she says, when it comes we need to, you know, enlarge our circle. When we go down to the State Legislature, we will need all of your support to increase the TAT monies or actually, to actually pay us fairly and to join us, help us to join our hands together, so, mahalo.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you. Mr. White, any comments?

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: No, Chair. Thank you.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Mr. Guzman, anything else you'd like to share? Thank you. The Chair would just quickly say, yes, additional TAT money will ease the burden on the residential tax base. Again, when we don't have the...and it's interesting, I would say it's a perspective thing and an attitude thing 'cause I see it in a different manner from our 76 colleagues at the Capitol. We're asking them to return the money we've generated within the County that our businesses, our residents work at, to return the money that has been generated on Maui, back to Maui to further improve services, programs, departmental requirements, equipment, infrastructure. It is not that we asking the State to give us something that it's from them. This is our money we asking them to return back to the County and that's what we need to make clear. We asking for the money we've generated back to us. And so, without that, it becomes unfair because then this Council is placed in a position to ask the community to further subsidize visitor requirements when the visitor is already paying 9-plus percent in taxes that the State is not returning back to us that we've generated. So, for me, you know, I take a different view of how the State's viewing this TAT as

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their money. I don't necessarily view it in that manner. But, yes, Mr. White, I know that something's chomping at your...

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: Yeah. You touched on one of my hot buttons on this...

CHAIR HOKAMA: I'm sorry.

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: But, you know, this is, the TAT is a visitor specific tax and initially for about the first 15 or 16 years of its existence, the counties got the vast majority of it.

CHAIR HOKAMA: That is correct.

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: And so, you know, if you go back in time, we started, we got up to about \$100 million in 1997. Since then, we moved from 100.3 million to 103 million, that's a real manini move when we're the ones that pay the vast majority of General Fund monies to take care of visitor service and so, having a visitors specific tax go to the State and not get, make its way back to the counties is just simply wrong. And, you know, we've as I've said before, my wife couple of months ago looked at me and said, you know, you've been battling this TAT issue for over 20 years. I feel like you're a little gerbil on a wheel. You just keep running and running and running and the view never changes. I said, well, that's a real frustration. It hasn't changed, but that doesn't mean we stop running. So, I'll continue to be the gerbil on the wheel, along with Ms. Baisa and the rest of you as long as it takes to get some of this money back to the County that generates it. So, anyway, everyone knows my feelings and it would make decisions like the ones we've made today a lot easier to make. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. Thank you. Anyone else? Last call. Okay. What is before you is to send to Council a amended proposed resolution regarding Unit 14 Ocean Safety Officers. With no further discussion, all in favor of the motion please say "aye."

COUNCILMEMBERS: "Aye."

CHAIR HOKAMA: Oppose say "no." Motion passes with six "ayes," three excused Mr. Carroll, Ms. Cochran, and Mr. Victorino.

<b>VOTE:</b>	<b>AYES:</b>	<b>Chair Hokama, Vice-Chair White, and Councilmembers Baisa, Couch, Crivello, and Guzman.</b>
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<b>NOES:</b>	<b>None.</b>
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<b>ABSTAIN:</b>	<b>None.</b>
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<b>ABSENT:</b>	<b>None.</b>
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<b>EXC.:</b>	<b>Councilmembers Carroll, Cochran, and Victorino.</b>
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**MOTION CARRIED.**

**ACTION:**    **ADOPTION** of revised resolution and **FILING** of  
communication by C.R.

CHAIR HOKAMA: There being no further business before this Committee, this meeting is  
adjourned. . . .(gavel). . .

ADJOURN: 11:51 a.m.

APPROVED:



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RIKI HOKAMA, Chair  
Budget and Finance Committee

bf:min:160511:jb

Transcribed by: Joanne Bista



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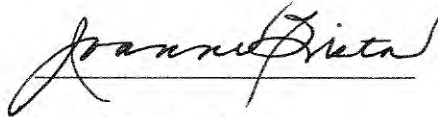
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CERTIFICATE

I, Joanne Bista, hereby certify that the foregoing represents to the best of my ability, a true and correct transcript of the proceedings. I further certify that I am not in any way concerned with the cause.

DATED the 6<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2016, in Kahului, Hawaii

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Joanne Bista", written over a horizontal line.

Joanne Bista