

COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI

# HUMAN SERVICES AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

August 3, 2001

Committee

Report No. 01-128

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

Chair and Members:

Your Human Services and Economic Development Committee, having met on July 17, 2001, makes reference to the following:

1. County Communication No. 01-61, from Councilmember Wayne K. Nishiki relating to the lack of available, affordable housing, and transmitting an article from the January 4, 2001 issue of *The Maui News* entitled, "OH, GIVE ME A HOME..."; and
2. County Communication No. 01-163, from the Director of Housing and Human Concerns, requesting an opportunity to present the Department's Housing Strategy 2010.

By memorandum dated June 28, 2001, the Chair of your Committee transmitted a proposed resolution entitled "SUPPORTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND HUMAN CONCERNS' HOUSING STRATEGY 2010". The purpose of the proposed resolution is to support the initiatives in Housing Strategy 2010 proposed by the Department of Housing and Human Concerns to comprehensively address Maui County's affordable housing needs.

At its meeting, your Committee met with the Director of Housing and Human Concerns and a Deputy Corporation Counsel.

Your Committee received one letter and heard oral testimony from two people commenting on the proposed resolution.

Your Committee received a partial overview of the proposed resolution and a ten-year housing plan from the Director of Housing and Human Concerns. The Director of Housing and Human Concerns distributed a printed version of her overview which encompassed initiatives addressing the critical need for affordable housing. Your Committee discussed various concerns relating to the

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proposed initiatives listed in the proposed resolution, including the possibility of requiring a stated percentage of affordable housing to be required in all housing developments.

Your Committee voted to refer four housing initiatives to the Budget and Finance Committee.

Your Human Services and Economic Development Committee **RECOMMENDS** the following:

1. That the matter of first-time homebuyers earning up to 120 percent of the median income with a down payment loan of up to \$10,000 for ten years be REFERRED to the Budget and Finance Committee;
2. That the matter of addressing the acute housing shortage for the homeless and low-income families in West Maui by partnering with Maui Economic Concerns of the Community, Inc. (MECC) to develop a homeless shelter and affordable housing units by 2002, be REFERRED to the Budget and Finance Committee;
3. That the matter of addressing the combined need for affordable housing units for seniors and a centralized Housing Division Office by constructing a complex for these purposes, be REFERRED to the Budget and Finance Committee; and
4. That the matter of improving the Section 8 program in a variety of ways, including proposing an ordinance that will provide Section 8 landlords with a real property tax exemption of up to \$50,000, be REFERRED to the Budget and Finance Committee.

Adoption of this report is respectfully requested.

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**PATRICK S. KAWANO** Member

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**JO ANNE JOHNSON** Vice-Chair

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**MICHAEL J. MOLINA** Member

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**G. RIKI HOKAMA** Member