

# Resolution

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

## ADOPTING THE PRINCIPLES OF ZERO WASTE AS A WASTE MANAGEMENT POLICY FOR THE COUNTY OF MAUI

WHEREAS, residents and businesses in Maui County are generating an ever increasing volume of solid waste, the majority of which goes to the landfill; and

WHEREAS, the County's current landfill capacity is finite, and the landfill is projected to reach capacity in 2026; and

WHEREAS, the amount of waste generated within the County is projected to grow by an additional 439 tons per day by 2030; and

WHEREAS, disposing of materials in landfills and incinerators can waste natural resources, transfer liabilities associated with these materials to future generations, and be cost prohibitive; and

WHEREAS, waste diversion technologies and strategies have improved over the past decade with a corresponding reduction in the cost of recycling; and

WHEREAS, the increased cost of oil coupled with the geometric increase in global resource consumption have created strong, stable markets for recovered materials; and

WHEREAS, conserving natural resources and reducing the demand for energy required for the production of consumable products is of primary importance both locally and worldwide; and

WHEREAS, zero waste management has been recognized nationally and worldwide as an economically viable, sustainable system to manage our discarded products and materials while protecting and preserving the environment; and

WHEREAS, the ahupua`a system that was passed from kupuna to keiki for generations and utilized through the Hawaiian islands from mauka to makai included zero waste principles and continues as a guide for making sustainable decisions today; and

WHEREAS, an economy based on effective resource management will create and sustain diverse employment opportunities, creating useful products and services; and

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WHEREAS, the State of Hawaii's diversion goal for each county was set at 50 percent in 2000, and the actual County of Maui diversion rate is currently 39 percent; and

WHEREAS, the County of Maui updated its Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan in 2009 and projected various scenarios that could support diversion rates between 60-75 percent by 2042; and

WHEREAS, the zero waste principles promote the highest and best use of materials to eliminate waste and pollution by emphasizing a closed-loop system of production and consumption, moving in logical increments toward the goal of zero waste; and

WHEREAS, adopting a goal of zero waste disposal and pursuing zero waste principles is consistent with and a validation of Maui's commitment to island-wide sustainability; now, therefore,

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

1. That it hereby adopts the principles of zero waste as a waste management policy for the County of Maui and a diversion goal of 70 percent by 2023; and
2. That through legislation, policies, and actions, Maui County shall follow the concepts of zero waste management to the greatest extent possible, and after deliberate consideration of the economic, social and environmental costs, the Council and the Administration shall take steps to incorporate the zero waste principles into the implementation of the Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan; and
3. That it calls on the Administration, all County employees, all branches and levels of government, all residents, visitors, businesses, and the community to follow the concepts of zero waste, and take the necessary steps to incorporate the zero waste principles into their daily lives at home, at work, and throughout the County of Maui; and
4. That certified copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Mayor and the Director of Environmental Management.