

COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI  
**BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE**

August 8, 2008

Committee  
Report No.

08-82

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

Chair and Members:

Your Budget and Finance Committee, having met on July 21, 2008, makes reference to Contract No. G2535, between the County of Maui and the Maui Humane Society, relating to a \$7,500 grant to conduct pet photography workshops.

Your Committee notes that the purpose of Contract No. G2535 is to make funds available to the grantee to conduct workshops on how to photograph pets and incorporate these skills into business opportunities.

At its meeting, your Committee met with the Director of Finance; the Economic Development Coordinator, Office of the Mayor; the Assistant Budget Director, Office of the Mayor; the First Deputy Corporation Counsel; and Jocelyn Bouchard, Executive Director, Maui Humane Society.

There was no public testimony.

The Economic Development Coordinator stated that pet care is a billion-dollar industry. She explained that this grant enabled the Maui Humane Society to coordinate a free workshop for professional photographers and the public on the techniques used to take professional pictures of pets. The workshop was conducted by leading professionals in the field of pet photography.

Your Committee expressed concern that the Office of Economic Development decided to provide a grant for services that would benefit such a limited market. Your Committee inquired into the selection and decision-making process for County grants to ensure fairness.

The Economic Development Coordinator stated that a checklist was used in the selection process with an emphasis on providing grants to agencies who "give back" to the County.

Your Committee voted to recommend filing of the contract.

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Your Budget and Finance Committee RECOMMENDS that Contract No. G2535  
be FILED.

Adoption of this report is respectfully requested.

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