

COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI
BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

September 5, 2008

**Committee
Report No.** 08-106

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 August 18, 2008, makes reference to County Communication No. 08-166, from the Prosecuting Attorney, transmitting a copy of a Grant Award letter dated June 10, 2008, from the State Department of Budget and Finance for the Defendant/Witness Trial Program for the period of July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009. The Grant Award letter notifies the Prosecuting Attorney that funds are available to reimburse the County for defendant and witness expenses incurred in accordance with Sections 621-7, 621-9, and/or 836-3, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

At its meeting, your Committee met with the Assistant Budget Director, Office of the Mayor; the Director of Finance; the Prosecuting Attorney; the Administrative Officer, Department of the Prosecuting Attorney; the Victim Witness Director, Department of the Prosecuting Attorney; and the First Deputy Corporation Counsel.

There was no public testimony.

The Director of Finance stated that the grant reimburses the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney for qualified defendant and witness expenses. The Director further stated that the estimated reimbursement of \$150,000 is included under the Defendant/Witness Trial Program in Appendix A of the Fiscal Year 2009 Budget.

Your Committee noted that the letter from the State Department of Budget and Finance does not indicate the amount available for reimbursement to the County.

The Director of Finance stated that the amount to be reimbursed to the County depends on the amount appropriated by the State Legislature and the amounts actually requested by the County. The Director further stated that any reimbursement received is deposited into the General Fund.

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The Prosecuting Attorney stated that the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney spent approximately \$150,000 for qualified defendant and witness expenses in Fiscal Year 2008.

Your Committee voted to recommend filing of the communication.

Your Budget and Finance Committee **RECOMMENDS** that County Communication No. 08-166 be FILED.

Adoption of this report is respectfully requested.

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