

COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

April 2, 2004

Committee
Report No.

04-66

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 March 10, 2004, makes reference to County Communication No. 04-59, from the Budget Director, transmitting a proposed bill entitled "A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2004 BUDGET FOR THE COUNTY OF MAUI AS IT PERTAINS TO THE OFFICE OF THE MAYOR".

The purpose of the proposed bill is to delete the provision under "Grants and disbursements for East Maui Cultural/Economic Development" in the Economic Development Program, Office of the Mayor as follows: "(a) Provided, that \$50,000 shall be for the Kipahulu Community Kitchen and the Hot Dip Treatment for Cut Flowers."

At its meeting, your Committee met with the Budget Director, the Economic Development Coordinator, the Corporation Counsel, and Ray Henderson, Executive Director of Ohana Makamae, Inc.

There was no public testimony.

The Economic Development Coordinator (Coordinator) informed your Committee that the deletion of the proviso is being requested because the Maui Flower Growers Association has been unable to secure a location for the Hot Water Treatment Facility. If the proviso is deleted, funds would be available for other projects in the Hana area, such as the workforce development program of Ohana Makamae, Inc. and the Hana Summerfest.

According to the Coordinator, of the \$50,000 appropriation for grants and disbursements for East Maui Cultural/Economic Development, \$30,000 will be used to complete the Kipahulu Community Kitchen. The remaining \$20,000 is proposed to fund Ohana Makamae, Inc. (\$10,000) and the Hana Summerfest (\$10,000).

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Your Committee expressed concerns that it was not provided with project descriptions or detailed budgets for the funding requests by Ohana Makamae, Inc. and the Hana Summerfest.

The Coordinator noted that it is important to be accountable for taxpayers' dollars, and assured your Committee that she would require detailed proposals from organizations requesting Economic Development grants prior to reaching a decision.

Mr. Henderson described the Hana Summerfest. He stated that the Hana Summerfest was first held in 2003, and the Hana Youth Center will be overseeing the project this year. He noted that the intention is to have four main events in Hana that provide nonprofit agencies and Hana residents with the opportunity for fund raising. The community is planning a winter event in addition to the Hana Summerfest, the Taro Festival, and the Aloha Festival.

Mr. Henderson submitted a copy of the "Ohana Makamae, Inc." newsletter for 2002-2003. The newsletter highlights the projects supported by Ohana Makamae, Inc., the only family resource center in Hana.

Your Committee requested that the Coordinator provide your Committee with the budgets for the proposed funding requests and the results of her review.

Your Committee expressed concerns that certain organizations seem to receive perpetual funding in favor of other new endeavors.

Your Committee recommended that the proposed bill be passed on first reading, and that the communication be filed.

Your Budget and Finance Committee RECOMMENDS the following:

1. That Bill No. _____ (2004), attached hereto, entitled "A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2004 BUDGET FOR THE COUNTY OF MAUI AS IT PERTAINS TO THE OFFICE OF THE MAYOR", be PASSED ON FIRST READING and be ORDERED TO PRINT; and
2. That County Communication No. 04-59 be FILED.

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Adoption of this report is respectfully requested.

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