

COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

September 21, 2004

Committee
Report No.

04-155

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 September 1, 2004, makes reference to County Communication No. 04-191, from the Budget Director, transmitting the following:

1. A proposed resolution entitled "AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF A GRANT OF FUNDS FROM THE STATE OF HAWAII, DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL RELATING TO THE SEX OFFENDER REGISTRATION PROGRAM".

The purpose of the proposed resolution is to authorize the acceptance of a \$62,991 grant from the State of Hawaii, Department of the Attorney General, for the Sex Offender Registration Program.

2. A proposed bill entitled "A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE AMENDING APPENDIX A OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2005 BUDGET FOR THE COUNTY OF MAUI AS IT PERTAINS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY".

The purpose of the proposed bill is to amend Appendix A, Part I, of the Fiscal Year (FY) 2005 Budget, relating to grant revenues, as it pertains to the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney, by appropriating \$62,991 from the State of Hawaii, Department of the Attorney General, for the Sex Offender Registration Program.

Your Committee notes that the Sex Offender Registration Program promotes public safety by requiring perpetrators of specific sex crimes to appear on a public registry, pursuant to a Federal law commonly known as Megan's Law.

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At its meeting, your Committee met with the Budget Director, the First Deputy Prosecuting Attorney, the Administrative Officer in the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney, and the First Deputy Corporation Counsel.

There was no public testimony.

The Budget Director stated that the grant will be used to fund the salary and premium pay for 1.0 Limited Term Appointment (LTA) equivalent personnel, and various nonsalaried expenses related to program activities. A legal assistant will be hired to implement this program.

The First Deputy Prosecuting Attorney informed your Committee that the Federal funds would assist the Department in complying with the Sex Offender Registration Program. He indicated that a website is currently available to law enforcement officials, which provides information on sex offenders. However, before that information can be added to a public registry, the Department will need to file civil suits to obtain the information necessary for the Sex Offender Registration Program. He estimated that there are approximately 160 cases in Maui County for which civil suits would need to be filed. In addition, when sex offenders relocate from the mainland to Maui County, additional suits will need to be pursued.

The Administrative Officer stated that in order to receive the Federal funds, the County must provide 25 percent in matching funds. The Department intends to use savings from vacant positions in the amount of \$20,997 as the County's share. He explained that the County could reapply annually for Federal funds for a maximum of four years.

Your Committee notes that \$92,590 was appropriated in the FY 2005 Budget for County matching funds for Federal grants.

Your Committee voted to recommend adoption of the proposed resolution, passage of the proposed bill on first reading, and filing of the communication.

Your Budget and Finance Committee RECOMMENDS the following:

1. That Resolution No. _____, attached hereto, entitled "AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF A GRANT OF FUNDS

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FROM THE STATE OF HAWAII, DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL RELATING TO THE SEX OFFENDER REGISTRATION PROGRAM”, be ADOPTED;

2. That Bill No. _____ (2004), attached hereto, entitled “A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE AMENDING APPENDIX A OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2005 BUDGET FOR THE COUNTY OF MAUI AS IT PERTAINS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY”, be PASSED ON FIRST READING and be ORDERED TO PRINT; and
3. That County Communication No. 04-191 be FILED.

Adoption of this report is respectfully requested.

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G. RIKI HOKAMA **Chair**

DANNY A. MATEO **Member**

WAYNE K. NISHIKI **Vice-Chair**

MICHAEL J. MOLINA **Member**

ROBERT CARROLL **Member**

JOSEPH PONTANILLA **Member**

JO ANNE JOHNSON **Member**

CHARMAINE TAVARES **Member**

DAIN P. KANE **Member**