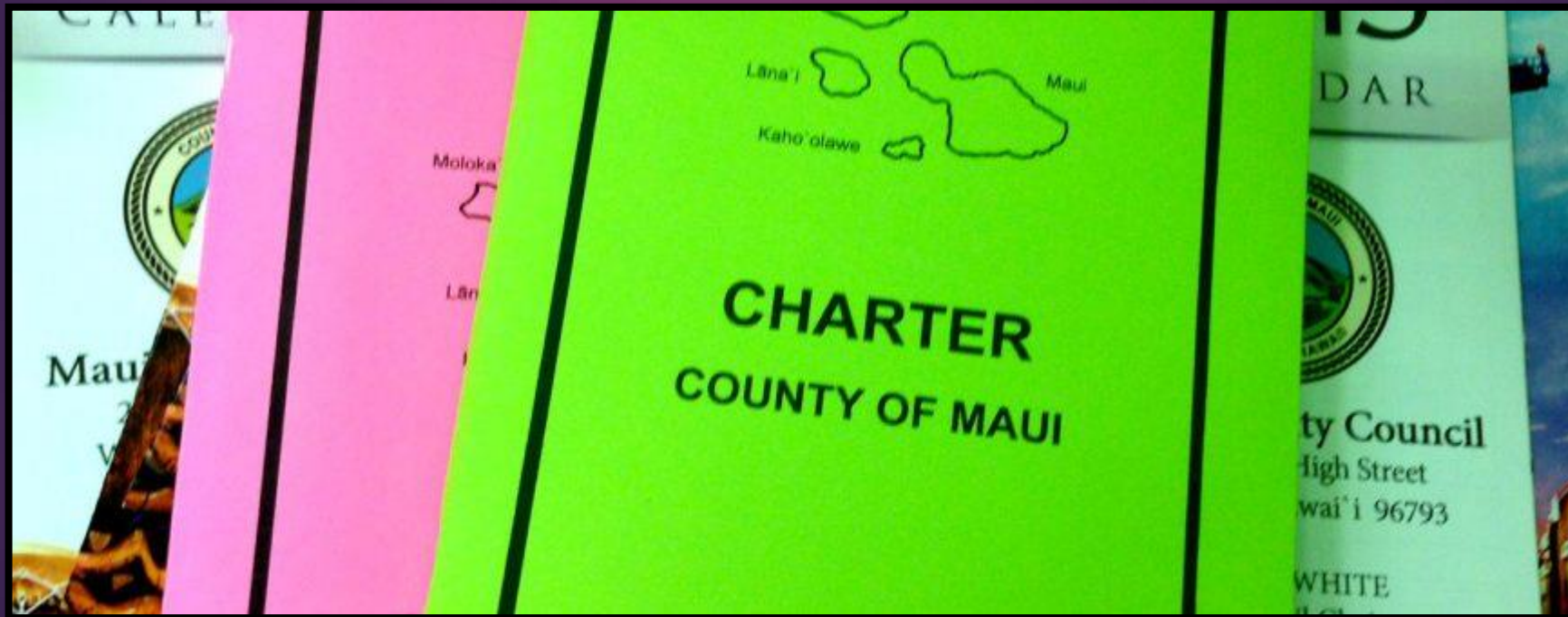


Laws Relating to the Work of the County of Maui Charter Commission



County of Maui Charter, Section 14-3

- ▶ **Duty and Function:** You may propose amendments to the charter or draft a new charter. The amendments or new charter are approved by voters of the county “at any general or special election as may be deemed by the commission.”
- ▶ **Deadlines:**
 - ▶ Amendments or a new charter “must be submitted to the county clerk within sixteen months after the commission has been appointed, after earlier review by the council, if required by state law.”
 - ▶ “The commission must publish not less than forty-five days before any election at least once in the news paper of general circulation within the county a brief digest of amendments or new charter and notice to voters...”

Chapter 50, Hawaii Revised Statutes

▶ **Rules & Procedures (HRS 50-5)**

- ▶ The commission may adopt its rules and regulations at its first meeting because Chapter 91, HRS (administrative rules) does not apply to it.
- ▶ A majority of the commission is a quorum.

▶ **Duties (HRS 50-6)**

- ▶ “study and analyze the existing governmental structure of the county for the purpose of securing information that will enable it to draft a proposed charter adapted to the requirements of the county and designed to provide for the people of the county, a more efficient and responsible form of government.”

▶ **Powers (HRS 50-7)**

- ▶ The charter commission “shall hold public hearings and sponsor public forums and in general provide for the widest possible public information and discussion” regarding its work.
- ▶ The commission may, with the approval of Council, “appoint staff members and consultants as it deems necessary.”

Submission of Amendments to Council (HRS 50-8)

- ▶ **Initial Submission to Council.** Within one year of your appointment, you must submit a report in writing on your activities, findings, and recommendations to the Council with a draft of the proposed charter or charter amendments.
- ▶ **Alternative Proposals.** The commission accepts or rejects any alternatives and reports rejections to the Council.
- ▶ **Council May Recall Rejections.** If the Council recalls any of its rejected alternatives, the commission submits its version and the alternative version to the Clerk, and the voters choose between them.

Tenure, Compensation, and Appropriations (HRS 50-12, 5-13, and 50-14)

- ▶ **Tenure:** The terms of office of commission members expires the day after the election at which the proposed charter amendments are voted on.
- ▶ **Compensation:** You are entitled to compensation of \$1,000 each and shall be reimbursed for necessary expenses incurred in the performance of your duties.
- ▶ **Appropriations:** The Council must appropriate funds for your compensation, necessary expenses, and effective operation of the commission including costs for hiring staff and consultants.

Timing for ballot questions

- ▶ **HRS 11-119(b)** requires that the exact wording of all questions and issues be submitted to the Chief Elections Officer no later than 4:30 p.m. on the seventy-fifth calendar day before the applicable election.
- ▶ **Charter Section 14-3** requires that the proposed amendments to the charter or draft new charter be submitted to the county clerk within sixteen months after the commission has been appointed.
- ▶ **HRS Section 50-9** requires that the charter commission submit a draft of the proposed charter to the county clerk within thirty days after it has been received back from the council (if no changes are recommended) or at the expiration of the deadline for council to recall any rejected changes.**

Overview of Key Deadlines

- **February 19, 2022** – Last day to submit proposed amendments to Council
- **June 20, 2022** – Last day to submit final report of all proposed amendments to the County Clerk
- **March 21, 2022** – Last day for Council to submit alternative amendments
- **September 24, 2022** – Last day to publish a digest of the amendments