

Yamada, Glynis

From: Akua Kea [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, November 14, 2025 12:15 PM
To: Yamada, Glynis
Subject: Salaries for County principals.

My name is Kevin Hill. I live Hamakua and I testified against our current almost Billion dollar budget and the additional debt embraced by the most recent budget. Almost a billion in debt and almost a billion budget. A million here and there with very little attention to cuts or transparency and accountability.

Salary increases (again!) are so inappropriate. Salary commission can only INCREASE wages of public servants or can DECREASE at least to the point before the last increase?

I talk to a manager at Safeway who works her Fanny off and almost makes 30k... average income in our county depending on source is still 32-36,000 per individual. Adjusting for inflation alone from 42k in 2026 to today would be 51,000.... Inflation is just the county and the state and the federal reserve stealing the value from workers.

I don't want this to be long but simple math dividing a billion by 230,000 people makes roughly 5,000 a head to support the budget. Since only 24% of the population pays property taxes if that were the primary method of servicing debt and current budget the property owners could and likely will be asked to carry 4 times the tax burden. Since tourism is declining and is likely to continue to decline and Hawaii is the last place where business or innovators can flourish then we are positioning for insolvency. Seriously and the verge of bankruptcy.... Extend the lines and see where this takes us in a VERY SHORT TIME!

I am staunchly opposed to more spending and strongly believe salaries must be rolled back. If they are earning what we pay them they will stimulate innovation by the people. Get out of the way of small business, lower taxes and get out of the way of the natural propensity of mankind - to solve our own problems and take care of each other.

Part time council members to make over 100k? Mayor and county legal council a quarter of a million!

Please Lord bring some common sense to this county 🙏

Sent from my iPhone

SALARY COMMISSION
COUNTY OF HAWAII

Comm. No. 25-05.07
Date P/November 17, 2025