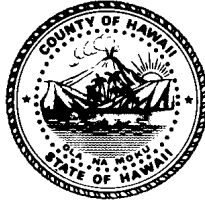


William P. Kenoi
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October 30, 2009

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable Edmund Haitzuka, Chair
And Members of the County of Hawai'i Charter Commission
c/o Hawai'i County Clerk-Council
333 Kilauea Avenue
Ben Franklin Building, 2nd Floor
Hilo, HI 96720

FROM: William V. Brilhante, Jr.
Deputy Corporation Counsel

RE: Office of Mayor's proposed County of Hawai'i's Charter Amendments

Dear Chair Haitzuka and Commission members:

Transmitted herein are proposed changes to the County of Hawai'i Charter proffered by the Administration. The changes are being proposed for the following reasons:

1. Revision to the Department of Research and Development

Within this current economic environment, it has become abundantly clear that economic sustainability, stability and viability for our island community is imperative in order to ensure that the County is able to continue providing core County services and functions to our citizens.

The driving force behind this proposal is for the County to provide leadership, direction and resources to both the public and private sector through a County Department specifically tasked with the power, duties and functions to assist, promote and solidify the economic development and viability of our island.

Accordingly, this proposed amendment would afford the resources currently contained within the Department of Research and Development to be reallocated to the newly created Department of Economic Development, whose primary and core functions would be to ensure economic vitality within the Island of Hawai'i.

COMM. 81

Hawai'i County is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer

The Honorable Edmund Haitzuka, Chair
And Members of the County of Hawai'i Charter Commission
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2. Revision to the General Provisions, Section 13-4(g) for Boards and Commissions

The County, as a whole, truly appreciates the time, efforts and dedicated service each Board and Commission member provides. Historically; however, Board and Commission members have been and continue to serve in a voluntary capacity. Accordingly, this proposal will remove any conflict within the Charter regarding Board and Commission members voluntary status with the County.

CHAPTER 8
DEPARTMENT OF ~~[RESEARCH AND]~~ ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Section 6-8.1. Organization.

There shall be a department of ~~[research and]~~ economic development consisting of a director and the necessary staff.

(2000, Prop. 2, sec. 1.)

Section 6-8.2. Director.

The director of ~~[research and]~~ economic development shall be appointed by the mayor, confirmed by the council and may be removed by the mayor. The director shall have had a minimum of five years' related experience.

(1979, Prop. 12; 2000. Prop. 2, sec. 1; 2000, Prop, 7, sec. 4.)

Section 6-8.3 Powers, Duties and Functions.

The director of ~~[research and]~~ economic development shall:

- (a) Collect and develop data necessary for managerial and legislative decision-making, and program and policy-making.
- (b) Provide staff leadership for public and private development programs, enterprises and plans, including economic, social and cultural proposals, which enhance ~~[improvement of the county community.]~~ the economic viability and well being of the county community.
- (c) Coordinate informational and regulatory knowledge of all federal and state grant-in-aid participation programs which affect the county.

(2000, Prop. 2, sec. 1.)

Article XIII, General Provisions, Section 13-4(g) is amended to read as follows:

Section 13-4. Boards and Commissions.

- (g) Members shall receive no compensation but shall be reimbursed for necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties. Necessary expenses may be paid in advance as per diem allowance which shall be established by ordinance. ~~[Members of boards and commissions who do not receive compensation from their employers during the time they are serving on boards and commissions shall be reimbursed by the county for actual work hours lost at the straight time rate of pay of such members in their regular employment but in no case shall be reimbursement exceed five times the state minimum wage hour rate.]~~

(1979, Prop. 10; 1990, Prop. 14, sec. 1; 1996, Ord. No. 96-86, sec.2.)