

## DEPT. COMM. NO. 183

#### OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK

COUNTY OF MAUI 200 SOUTH HIGH STREET WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793 www.mauicounty.gov/county/clerk

November 24, 2021

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi, President Hawaii State Senate State of Hawaii State Capitol, Room 409 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith is a copy of Resolution No.-21-182, which was adopted by the Council of the County of Maui, State of Hawaii, on November 19, 2021.

Respectfully,

KATHY L. KAOHU County Clerk

Clithy L. Kaohn

/lks

Enclosure

# Resolution

No. 21-182

### ESTABLISHING A RIGHT TO HOUSING FOR MAUI COUNTY RESIDENTS

WHEREAS, the United States signed the Universal Declaration of Human Rights ("UDHR") in 1948, recognizing adequate housing as a component of the human right to an adequate standard of living; and

WHEREAS, Article 25(1) of the UDHR proclaims the right of all individuals and their families "to a standard of living adequate for [their] health and well-being, including food, clothing, housing and medical care and necessary social services, and the right to security in the event of unemployment, sickness, disability, widowhood, old age or other lack of livelihood in circumstances beyond [their] control;" and

WHEREAS, adequate housing means not only a physical dwelling, but includes affordability, habitability, accessibility, cultural appropriateness, and security of tenure, such as protection from housing discrimination, harassment, and forced removal from housing; and

WHEREAS, adequate and affordable housing and shelter must be accessible to all, with special consideration given to vulnerable groups in the community, including seniors, children, the physically and developmentally disabled, persons living with behavioral health issues, persons with terminal illnesses or chronic medical conditions, domestic violence survivors, victims of natural and man-made disasters, and other economically or socially disadvantaged groups; and

WHEREAS, the right to adequate housing is not realized for many individuals and families throughout Maui County, with residents living in substandard housing or lacking secure long-term housing, while hundreds more are experiencing or at immediate risk of homelessness; and

WHEREAS, the 2020 point-in-time count for Maui County reported 789 homeless men, women, and children, over half of which were unsheltered, including 33 unsheltered children; and

WHEREAS, the point-in-time count is the result of a single night of

outreach reporting, and the actual number of Maui County residents in need of housing or shelter is likely much higher; and

WHEREAS, adequately housed individuals and families are safer, more stable, and better able to participate in the social, economic, and civic life of the community; and

WHEREAS, the Countywide Policy Plan, adopted by Ordinance 3732 (2010), states the following policy: "Recognize housing as a basic human need, and work to fulfill that need;" now, therefore,

### BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the County of Maui:

- 1. That it reaffirms the obligations under the Countywide Policy Plan and recognizes the right to adequate and affordable housing for all Maui County residents;
- 2. That it prioritizes access to housing and shelter in all aspects of its policy making and governance;
- 3. That it uses all available resources to progressively improve the housing situation in the County through specific and measurable actions to address community issues and needs;
- 4. That it urges the Administration to recognize, respect, and protect the right of all residents to live in security, peace, and dignity;
- 5. That it urges the Administration to provide adequate inventory of shelter and housing options for all residents to reside in safety; and
- 6. That certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Honorable David Y. Ige, Governor, State of Hawai'i; the Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi, President, Hawai'i State Senate; the County of Maui delegation to the Hawai'i State Legislature; the State of Hawai'i delegation to the United States Congress; the Honorable Michael P. Victorino, Mayor, County of Maui; and the Director of Housing and Human Concerns.

### **COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF MAU!**

WAILUKU, HAWAII 96793

### **CERTIFICATION OF ADOPTION**

It is HEREBY CERTIFIED that RESOLUTION NO. 21-182, was adopted by the Council of the County of Maui, State of Hawaii, on the 19th day of November, 2021, by the following vote:

MEMBERS	Alice L. LEE Chair	Keani N. W. RAWLINS- FERNANDEZ Vice-Chair	Gabriel JOHNSON	Natalie A. KAMA	Kelly T. KING	Michael J. MOLINA	Tamara A. M. PALTIN	Shane M. SINENCI	Yuki Lei K. SUGIMURA
ROLL CALL	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye

COUNTY CLERK