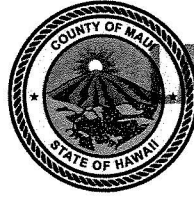


CHARMAINE TAVARES
Mayor



STATE TESTIMONY

KALBERT K. YOUNG
Director of Finance

AGNES M. HAYASHI
Deputy Director of Finance

SCOTT K. TERUYA
Acting Administrator

COUNTY OF MAUI
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE

REAL PROPERTY TAX DIVISION

70 E. KAAHUMANU AVENUE, SUITE A-16, KAHULUI, MAUI, HAWAII 96732

Assessment: (808) 270-7297 | Billing and Collection: (808) 270-7697 | Fax: (808) 270-7884
www.mauipropertytax.com

Honorable Ken Ito
Water, Land, & Ocean Resources Committee, Chair

County of Maui, Department of Finance, Real Property Tax Division
Monday, March 23, 2009

Support of SB 522, Relating to Land Court

The County of Maui, Real Property Tax Division supports the City's proposed SB 522, as amended, Relating to Land Court, which would provide the Counties an image and index of all deeds and instruments filed or recorded with the assistant registrar within ten days and free of charge.

Obtaining documents in a timely manner enables the Counties to promptly maintain ownership records necessary for public notification and real property taxation purposes. Property owners are also affected and will benefit as applicants seeking zoning change, conditional use permits, bed and breakfast permits, and transient vacation rental permits are required to mail notifications to property owners within a specified radius notifying owners of the proposed use.

Under existing law, all instruments and records relating to registered land are numbered and indexed; however, they are obtainable only upon payment of a fee. Waiving the fee to the counties will help minimize additional fees being passed on to taxpayers.

We urge you to pass this proposed amendment and give the Counties the means to maintain their records in a timely manner for the public's best interest.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 808-270-7739 or by e-mail at scott.teruya@co.maui.hi.us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott K. Teruya".

Scott K. Teruya
Acting Real Property Tax Administrator