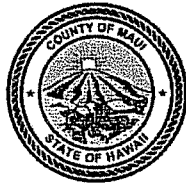


CHARMAINE TAVARES
Mayor



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
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Honorable Jon Riki Karamatsu, Chair
Honorable Ken Ito, Vice Chair
Committee on Judiciary

County of Maui, Department of Finance, Real Property Tax Division
Friday, February 13, 2009

Support of HB 268, Relating to Land Court

The County of Maui, Real Property Tax Division supports HB 268, 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 in a timely manner and free of charge.

Obtaining documents in a timely manner enables the Counties to promptly maintain records necessary for notification and real property tax 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. This will expedite updating current ownership to the public records.

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 important bill and give the Counties the means to maintain their records in a timely manner for the public's best interest.

Sincerely,

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

Scott K. Teruya
Acting Real Property Tax Administrator