

2024 PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE COUNTY OF MAUI CHARTER
QUESTION # 1: SALARY COMMISSION

QUESTION: Shall the Charter be amended to require the Salary Commission to determine “salaries” instead of “compensation” for elected officials and appointed directors and deputy directors to maintain consistency with the Constitution of the State of Hawaii and remove fiscal barriers to create equity through benefits such as reimbursement of travel costs?

EXPLANATION: Currently, Article 8, Chapter 17 of the Revised Charter of the County of Maui states that the Salary Commission for the County of Maui “shall determine the *compensation* of elected officials and appointed directors and deputy directors of all departments of the county.” (emphasis added). Article XVI, Section 3.5 of the Constitution of the State of Hawaii and relevant provisions of the Charters for the other Counties, use the term “salaries” instead of the term “compensation.” This amendment seeks to clarify that the Salary Commission for the County of Maui shall set only the salaries of elected officials and appointed directors and deputy directors, and not “compensation,” which may be more broadly interpreted to include other benefits such as travel costs for officials or appointees that live on Lanai or Molokai and must travel to Maui for their positions. Other such benefits would be managed by the Council or the Mayor.

MEANING OF “YES” VOTE: A “yes” vote means that the Salary Commission would determine the salaries of elected officials and appointed directors and deputy directors of the County of Maui. This would not include other potential compensation benefits such as travel reimbursement for officials and appointees who live on Lanai or Molokai and must travel to Maui for their positions, which, would be managed by the Council or the Mayor.

MEANING OF “NO” VOTE: A “no” vote means that the Salary Commission would continue to determine the “compensation” of elected officials and appointed directors and deputy directors of the County of Maui, which may include benefits beyond salaries.

MEANING OF BLANK VOTE OR OVERVOTE: A blank vote or overvote will not be counted in determining whether a majority of electors to the question have voted in favor of adoption.

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OFFICE OF ELECTIONS

2024 PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE COUNTY OF MAUI CHARTER
QUESTION # 2: INDEPENDENT STAFFING FOR BOARD OF ETHICS

QUESTION: Shall the Charter be amended, effective July 1, 2025, to authorize the Board of Ethics of the County of Maui to hire independent staff?

EXPLANATION: The County of Maui Board of Ethics currently does not have its own independent, full-time staff. Instead, the Board of Ethics is assigned one Deputy Corporation Counsel and one secretary, both of whom are employed by the Department of the Corporation Counsel and both of whom have various other duties which are separate from their work on behalf of the Board of Ethics. Further, the Charter confers several of the powers of the Board of Ethics to the Board itself, rather than to its staff. This amendment would allow the Board of Ethics to hire its own independent staff, and would empower the staff to undertake certain actions, including providing informal ethics opinions and advice, reviewing financial disclosures and lobbyist filings, and pursuing ethics complaints.

MEANING OF “YES” VOTE: A “yes” vote means that the Board of Ethics would be able to hire its own independent staff, which could undertake specific duties including providing informal ethics opinions and advice, reviewing financial disclosures and lobbyist filings, and pursuing ethics complaints.

MEANING OF “NO” VOTE: A “no” vote means that the Board of Ethics would continue to be staffed by employees from the Department of the Corporation Counsel who are limited in the duties that they can perform on behalf of the Board of Ethics.

MEANING OF BLANK VOTE OR OVERVOTE: A blank vote or overvote will not be counted in determining whether a majority of electors to the question have voted in favor of adoption.

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OFFICE OF ELECTIONS

2024 PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE COUNTY OF MAUI CHARTER
QUESTION # 3: BOARD AND COMMISSION TERMS

QUESTION: Shall the Charter be amended, effective July 1, 2025, to minimize the risk of vacancies on boards and commissions generally, and specifically with regard to dedicated seats for members residing in less populous areas, by allowing the appointment of members of boards and commissions for two consecutive full terms or ten consecutive years, whichever is greater?

EXPLANATION: Currently, Section 13-2(5) of the Charter of the County of Maui does not allow members of a board or commission to be appointed to a second full term on the same board or commission within a period of two years after their term has expired. This amendment would allow members of a board or commission to be appointed for two consecutive full terms, or for up to ten years, whichever is greater.

MEANING OF “YES” VOTE: A “yes” vote means that members of a board or commission could be appointed to a second consecutive full term on the same board or commission.

MEANING OF “NO” VOTE: A “no” vote means that a member of a board or commission could not be appointed to a second consecutive full term on the same board or commission.

MEANING OF BLANK VOTE OR OVERVOTE: A blank vote or overvote will not be counted in determining whether a majority of electors to the question have voted in favor of adoption.

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OFFICE OF ELECTIONS