

CHARMAINE TAVARES
Mayor



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COUNTY OF MAUI
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE

REAL PROPERTY TAX DIVISION

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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 521, Relating to Real Property

The County of Maui, Real Property Tax Division supports the City's proposed SB 521, as amended, Relating to Real Property, which would provide the Counties an image and index of all instruments and documents recorded with the registrar's office 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, the registrar of the Bureau of Conveyances must furnish an attested copy of any instrument or document recorded in the registrar's office when requested. This amendment will simply add a timetable to help assure the timely receipt of the documents and by not charging the Counties; no added fees are passed on to the 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