Resolution

No. 20-133

APPROVING FOR INCLUSION IN THE 2021 MAUI COUNTY COUNCIL LEGISLATIVE PACKAGE A STATE BILL TO ALLOW MAUI COUNTY TO ESTABLISH A GENERAL EXCISE TAX SURCHARGE

WHEREAS, Maui County was authorized to establish a General Excise Tax surcharge up until March 31, 2019; and

WHEREAS, extending the deadline would allow Maui County to establish the surcharge; and

WHEREAS, Maui County is the only county in the State that is not receiving the benefits of a General Excise Tax surcharge; and

WHEREAS, the surcharge would provide much-needed diversification in Maui County's ability to generate revenue, while limiting the burden on residents subject to the Real Property Tax; and

WHEREAS, the funds derived from the surcharge would allow for a greater investment in infrastructure, affordable housing, transportation, and other countywide priorities; and

WHEREAS, these funds will be even more necessary in light of the negative economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, enabling legislation has already been introduced to the Council and is pending before the Economic, Development and Budget Committee; now, therefore,

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

1. That the proposed State bill, attached as Exhibit "A," to allow Maui County to establish a General Excise Tax surcharge, is approved for inclusion in the 2021 Maui County Council Legislative Package; and

2. That certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Governor of the State of Hawaii, the President of the State Senate, the Speaker of the State House of Representatives, the County's delegation to the State Legislature, and the Mayor of the County of Maui.

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A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO TAXATION.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. Section 46-16.8, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is

amended to read as follows:

"§46-16.8 County surcharge on state tax.

- (a) Each county may establish a surcharge on state tax at the rates enumerated in sections 237-8.6 and 238-2.6. A county electing to establish this surcharge shall do so by ordinance; provided that:
 - (1) No ordinance shall be adopted until the county has conducted a public hearing on the proposed ordinance;
 - (2) The ordinance shall be adopted prior to December 31, 2005; and
 - (3) No county surcharge on state tax that may be authorized under this subsection shall be levied prior to January 1, 2007, or after December 31, 2022, unless extended pursuant to subsection (b).

Notice of the public hearing required under paragraph (1) shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation within the county at least twice within a period of thirty days immediately preceding the date of the hearing.

A county electing to exercise the authority granted under this subsection shall notify the director of taxation within ten days after the county has adopted a surcharge on state tax ordinance and, beginning no earlier than January 1, 2007, the director of taxation shall levy, assess, collect, and otherwise administer the county surcharge on state tax.

- (b) Each county that has established a surcharge on state tax prior to July 1, 2015, under authority of subsection (a) may extend the surcharge until December 31, 2030, at the same rates. A county electing to extend this surcharge shall do so by ordinance; provided that:
 - (1) No ordinance shall be adopted until the county has conducted a public hearing on the proposed ordinance; and

(2) The ordinance shall be adopted prior to January 1, 2018.

A county electing to exercise the authority granted under this subsection shall notify the director of taxation within ten days after the county has adopted an ordinance extending the surcharge on state tax. The director of taxation shall levy, assess, collect, and otherwise administer the extended surcharge on state tax.

- (c) Each county that has not established a surcharge on state tax prior to July 1, 2015, may establish the surcharge at the rates enumerated in sections 237-8.6 and 238-2.6. A county electing to establish this surcharge shall do so by ordinance; provided that:
 - (1) No ordinance shall be adopted until the county has conducted a public hearing on the proposed ordinance;
 - (2) The ordinance shall be adopted prior to [March 31, 2019] June 30, 2021; and
 - (3) No county surcharge on state tax that may be authorized under this subsection shall be levied prior to January 1, 2019, or after December 31, 2030.

A county electing to exercise the authority granted under this subsection shall notify the director of taxation within ten days after the county has adopted a surcharge on state tax ordinance. Beginning [on] no earlier than January 1, 2019, [or January 1, 2020,] as applicable pursuant to sections 237-8.6 and 238-2.6, the director of taxation shall levy, assess, collect, and otherwise administer the county surcharge on state tax.

- (d) Notice of the public hearing required under subsection (b) or (c) before adoption of an ordinance establishing or extending the surcharge on state tax shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation within the county at least twice within a period of thirty days immediately preceding the date of the hearing.
- (e) Each county with a population greater than five hundred thousand that adopts or extends a county surcharge on state tax ordinance pursuant to subsection (a) or (b) shall use the surcharge revenues received from the State for capital costs of a locally preferred alternative for a mass transit project; provided that revenues derived from the county surcharge on state tax shall not be used:
 - (1) To build or repair public roads or highways, bicycle paths, or support public transportation systems already in existence prior to July 12, 2005;

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- (2) For operating costs or maintenance costs of the mass transit project or any purpose not consistent with this subsection; or
- (3) For administrative or operating, marketing, or maintenance costs, including personnel costs, of a rapid transportation authority charged with the responsibility for constructing, operating, or maintaining the mass transit project; provided further that nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit a county from using county funds that are not derived from a surcharge on state tax for a purpose described in paragraph (2) or (3).
- (f) Each county with a population equal to or less than five hundred thousand that adopts a county surcharge on state tax ordinance pursuant to this section shall use the surcharges received from the State for:
- (1) Operating or capital costs of public transportation within each county for public transportation systems, including public roadways or highways, public buses, trains, ferries, pedestrian paths or sidewalks, or bicycle paths; and
- (2) Expenses in complying with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 with respect to paragraph (1).
- (g) As used in this section, "capital costs" means nonrecurring costs required to construct a transit facility or system, including debt service, costs of land acquisition and development, acquiring of rights-of-way, planning, design, and construction, and including equipping and furnishing the facility or system. For a county with a population greater than five hundred thousand, capital costs also include non-recurring personal services and other overhead costs that are not intended to continue after completion of construction of the minimum operable segment of the locally preferred alternative for a mass transit project."

SECTION 2. Section 237-8.6, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is

amended to read as follows:

"§237-8.6 County surcharge on state tax; administration.

(a) The county surcharge on state tax, upon the adoption of county ordinances and in accordance with the requirements of section 46-16.8, shall be levied, assessed, and collected as provided in this section on all gross proceeds and gross income taxable under this chapter. No county shall set the surcharge

on state tax at a rate greater than one-half per cent of all gross proceeds and gross income taxable under this chapter. All provisions of this chapter shall apply to the county surcharge on state tax. With respect to the surcharge, the director of taxation shall have all the rights and powers provided under this chapter. In addition, the director of taxation shall have the exclusive rights and power to determine the county or counties in which a person is engaged in business and, in the case of a person engaged in business in more than one county, the director shall determine, through apportionment or other means, that portion of the surcharge on state tax attributable to business conducted in each county.

(b) Each county surcharge on state tax that may be adopted or extended pursuant to section 46-16.8 shall be levied beginning in a taxable year after the adoption of the relevant county ordinance; provided that no surcharge on state tax may be levied:

(1) Prior to:

- (A) January 1, 2007, if the county surcharge on state tax was established by an ordinance adopted prior to December 31, 2005;
- (B) January 1, 2019, if the county surcharge on state tax was established by the adoption of an ordinance after June 30, 2015, but prior to June 30, 2018; or
- (C) January 1, 2020, if the county surcharge on state tax was established by the adoption of an ordinance on or after June 30, 2018, but prior to March 31, 2019; [and]
- (D) January 1, 2021, if the county surcharge on state tax was established by the adoption of an ordinance on or after March 31, 2019, but prior to June 30, 2020;
- (E) January 1, 2022, if the county surcharge on state tax was established by the adoption of an ordinance on or after June 30, 2020, but prior to June 30, 2021; and
- (2) After December 31, 2030.
- (c) The county surcharge on state tax, if adopted, shall be imposed on the gross proceeds or gross income of all written contracts that require the passing on of the taxes imposed under this chapter; provided that if the gross proceeds or gross income are received as payments beginning in the taxable year in which the taxes become effective, on contracts entered into

before June 30 of the year prior to the taxable year in which the taxes become effective, and the written contracts do not provide for the passing on of increased rates of taxes, the county surcharge on state tax shall not be imposed on the gross proceeds or gross income covered under the written contracts. The county surcharge on state tax shall be imposed on the gross proceeds or gross income from all contracts entered into on or after June 30 of the year prior to the taxable year in which the taxes become effective, regardless of whether the contract allows for the passing on of any tax or any tax increases.

- (d) No county surcharge on state tax shall be established on any:
 - (1) Gross income or gross proceeds taxable under this chapter at the one-half per cent tax rate;
 - (2) Gross income or gross proceeds taxable under this chapter at the 0.15 per cent tax rate; or
 - (3) Transactions, amounts, persons, gross income, or gross proceeds exempt from tax under this chapter.
 - (e) The director of taxation shall revise the general excise tax forms to provide for the clear and separate designation of the imposition and payment of the county surcharge on state tax.
- (f) The taxpayer shall designate the taxation district to which the county surcharge on state tax is assigned in accordance with rules adopted by the director of taxation under chapter 91. The taxpayer shall file a schedule with the taxpayer's periodic and annual general excise tax returns summarizing the amount of taxes assigned to each taxation district.
- (g) The penalties provided by section 231-39 for failure to file a tax return shall be imposed on the amount of surcharge due on the return being filed for the failure to file the schedule required to accompany the return. In addition, there shall be added to the tax an amount equal to ten per cent of the amount of the surcharge and tax due on the return being filed for the failure to file the schedule or the failure to correctly report the assignment of the general excise tax by taxation district on the schedule required under this subsection.
- (h) All taxpayers who file on a fiscal year basis whose fiscal year ends after December 31 of the year prior to the taxable year in which the taxes become effective, shall file a short period annual return for the period preceding January 1 of the taxable year in which the taxes become effective. Each

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fiscal year taxpayer shall also file a short period annual
return for the period starting on January 1 of the taxable year
in which the taxes become effective, and ending before January 1
of the following year."

SECTION 3. Section 238-2.6, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is

amended to read as follows:

"§238-2.6 County surcharge on state tax; administration.

- (a) The county surcharge on state tax, upon the adoption of a county ordinance and in accordance with the requirements of section 46-16.8, shall be levied, assessed, and collected as surcharge on state tax at a rate greater than one-half per cent of the value of property taxable under this chapter. All provisions of this chapter shall apply to the county surcharge on state tax. With respect to the surcharge, the director shall have all the rights and powers provided under this chapter. In addition, the director of taxation shall have the exclusive rights and power to determine the county or counties in which a person imports or purchases property and, in the case of a person importing or purchasing property in more than one county, the director shall determine, through apportionment or other means, that portion of the surcharge on state tax attributable to the importation or purchase in each county.
- (b) Each county surcharge on state tax that may be adopted or extended shall be levied beginning in a taxable year after the adoption of the relevant county ordinance; provided that no surcharge on state tax may be levied:

(1) Prior to:

- (A) January 1, 2007, if the county surcharge on state tax was established by an ordinance adopted prior to December 31, 2005;
- (B) January 1, 2019, if the county surcharge on state tax was established by the adoption of an ordinance after June 30, 2015, but prior to June 30, 2018; or
- (C) January 1, 2020, if the county surcharge on state tax was established by the adoption of an ordinance on or after June 30, 2018, but prior to March 31, 2019; [and]
- (D) January 1, 2021, if the county surcharge on state tax was established by the adoption of an

ordinance on or after March 31, 2019, but prior to June 30, 2020;

- (E) January 1, 2022, if the county surcharge on state tax was established by the adoption of an ordinance on or after June 30, 2020, but prior to June 30, 2021; and
- (2) After December 31, 2030.
- (c) No county surcharge on state tax shall be established upon any use taxable under this chapter at the one-half per cent tax rate or upon any use that is not subject to taxation or that is exempt from taxation under this chapter.
- (d) The director of taxation shall revise the use tax forms to provide for the clear and separate designation of the imposition and payment of the county surcharge on state tax.
- (e) The taxpayer shall designate the taxation district to which the county surcharge on state tax is assigned in accordance with rules adopted by the director of taxation under chapter 91. The taxpayer shall file a schedule with the taxpayer's periodic and annual use tax returns summarizing the amount of taxes assigned to each taxation district.
- (f) The penalties provided by section 231-39 for failure to file a tax return shall be imposed on the amount of surcharge due on the return being filed for the failure to file the schedule required to accompany the return. In addition, there shall be added to the tax an amount equal to ten per cent of the amount of the surcharge and tax due on the return being filed for the failure to file the schedule or the failure to correctly report the assignment of the use tax by taxation district on the schedule required under this subsection.
- (g) All taxpayers who file on a fiscal year basis whose fiscal year ends after December 31 of the year prior to the taxable year in which the taxes become effective, shall file a short period annual return for the period preceding January 1 of the taxable year in which the taxes become effective. Each fiscal year taxpayer shall also file a short period annual return for the period starting on January 1 of the taxable year in which the taxes become effective, and ending before January 1 of the following year.

SECTION 4. Statutory material to be deleted is bracketed

- 41 and in strikethrough. New statutory material is underscored.
- 42 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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2 INTRODUCED BY:_____

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COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI

WAILUKU, HAWAII 96793

CERTIFICATION OF ADOPTION

It is HEREBY CERTIFIED that RESOLUTION NO. 20-133 was adopted by the Council of the County of Maui, State of Hawaii, on the 11th day of September, 2020, by the following vote:

MEMBERS	Alice L. LEE Chair	Keani N. W. RAWLINS- FERNANDEZ Vice-Chair	G. Riki HOKAMA	Natalie A. KAMA	Kelly T. KING	Michael J. MOLINA	Tamara A. M. PALTIN	Shane M. SINENCI	Yuki Lei K. SUGIMURA
ROLL CALL	Aye	Aye	No	Excused	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye

COUNTY CLERK