

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED CHARTER AMENDMENT 9

Digest

This proposed amendment would establish a Honolulu Zoo Fund. Deposits to the Fund would come from a minimum of one-half of one percent of estimated annual real property tax revenues. The Fund would pay for the operation, repair, maintenance, and improvement of the Honolulu Zoo. The money in the Honolulu Zoo Fund would also pay for the acquisition of zoo animals, the salaries of Zoo employees, and debt service owed for capital improvements. The Honolulu Zoo Fund would be established on July 1, 2017, and be automatically repealed on July 1, 2023, if the Honolulu Zoo does not regain accreditation by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums.

Question

Should a Honolulu Zoo Fund be established and funded by a minimum of one-half of one percent of estimated annual real property taxes to pay for Honolulu Zoo expenses to assist the Honolulu Zoo in regaining its accreditation by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums?

Yes _____ **No** _____

Present Situation

The Honolulu Zoo lost its accreditation by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums, in part, because the city does not have a consistent source of funding to pay for Honolulu Zoo expenses. The Honolulu Zoo is currently working to regain its Association of Zoos and Aquariums accreditation.

If Proposal Passes

Beginning July 1, 2017, a minimum of one-half of one percent of estimated annual real property tax revenues would be deposited every year in the Honolulu Zoo Fund to pay for Honolulu Zoo expenses, provided that the Fund would be automatically repealed on July 1, 2023, if the Honolulu Zoo does not regain its Association of Zoos and Aquariums accreditation.