

**BILL011(24)**  
**Testimony**

**MISC. COMM. 107**

COUNCIL

## **COUNCIL Meeting**

Meeting Date: Mar 25, 2024 @ 10:00 AM

Support: 0

Oppose: 1

I wish to comment: 1

Name: Natalie Iwasa	Email: iwasajunk@mail.com	Zip: 96825
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Mar 22, 2024 @ 10:59 AM
Name: Choon James	Email: ChoonJamesHawaii@gmail.com	Zip: 96762
Representing: Self	Position: I wish to comment	Submitted: Mar 25, 2024 @ 09:50 AM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>Aloha Chair Waters and City Council,</p> <p>Every year we go through this ritual.  Every year the Mayor has increased the budget.  When is there going to be a mindset to cut the pork and trim the fat?  It's also concerning to see the city allocating projected revenues with most of  it from rising property taxes.</p> <p>Choon James  808 293 9111  ChoonJamesHawaii@gmail.com</p>		

TO: Members of the Honolulu City Council

FROM: Natalie Iwasa, CPA, CFE  
808-395-3233

DATE: Monday, March 25, 2024

SUBJECT: Bill 11, Legislative Budget - **COMMENTS** and  
Proposed Councilmember Raises- **OPPOSED**

Aloha Chair Waters and Councilmembers,

Thank you for allowing testimony on Bill 11, which is the legislative budget for next fiscal year.

The Honolulu Salary Commission is once again recommending pay raises for you, our councilmembers. These proposed raises come after last year's whopping 64% increase and is like adding insult to injury. Had last year's raises been reasonable, e.g., up to 10%, the current proposed 3.6% would be reasonable.

Many people are upset about this. They are struggling to make ends meet, while councilmembers have received raises that are unheard of in the private sector. Please do not include funding in the council's budget for these salary increases.

Proposed amendments to the budget bills have been posted. Several proposed amendments would cut the city auditor's budget to amounts prior to current levels. I am concerned about this and request that specific reasons behind these proposed cuts be provided during budget committee discussions.