July 3, 2013

The Honorable Ernest Y. Martin, Chair
and Members
Honolulu City Council
530 South King Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Martin and Councilmembers:

SUBJECT: Bill for an Ordinance -- Real Property Revenue Bills

Attached for your consideration, are the following bills for adoption:

- Exemption-Charitable Purposes, Section 8-10.10. The purpose of this ordinance is to amend the exemption for charitable purposes.

- Exemption-Historic Commercial Real Property Dedicated for Preservation, Section 8-10.30. The purpose of this ordinance is to initiate the cancellation of the real property tax exemptions for historic commercial real property dedicated for preservation.

- Exemption—Credit Union, Section 8-10.24. The purpose of this ordinance is to adjust the amount of certain real property tax exemptions.

- Valuation-Considerations in Fixing, Section 8-7.1. The purpose of this ordinance is to: 1) change the “hotel and resort” real property class to “hotel, resort and transient” and provide language defining such properties, 2) classify all real property used as transient vacation units, bed and breakfast units, time share units and fractional ownership units as “hotel, resort, and transient,” 3) change the property to be classified from “land” to “real property,” and 4) make other housekeeping amendments.

- Exemption-Dedicated Lands in Urban Districts, Section 8-10.13. The purpose of this ordinance is to initiate the cancellation of the real property tax exemptions for dedicated lands in urban districts.

- Exemption—Nonprofit Medical, Hospital Indemnity Association, Section 8-10.9. The purpose of this ordinance is to adjust the amount of certain real property tax exemptions.
The Honorable Ernest Y. Martin, Chair
and Members
July 3, 2013
Page 2

- Homes, Section 8-10.4. The purpose of this ordinance is to repeal the in lieu of home exemption.

- Valuation—Considerations in Fixing, Section 8-7.1. The purpose of this ordinance is to: 1) add “residential-multifamily” as a new general real property class and provide language defining such properties, 2) change the property to be classified from “land” to “real property,” and 3) make other housekeeping amendments.

- Valuation—Considerations in Fixing, Section 8-7.1. The purpose of this ordinance is to: 1) add “Residential A” as new general real property class and provide language defining such properties, 2) change the property to be classified from “land” to “real property,” and 3) make other housekeeping amendments.

- Valuation—Considerations in Fixing, Section 8-7.1. The purpose of this ordinance is to: 1) add “time share” as a new general real property class and provide language defining such properties, 2) classify all condominium units used as time share units as “time share,” 3) change the property to be classified from “land” to “real property,” and 4) make other housekeeping amendments.

A hardcopy and diskette containing the proposed bills are attached. Should you have any questions concerning this matter, please call me at 768-3901.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

NHK:dw
Attachments

cc: Real Property Assessment Division

APPROVED:

[Signature]

Ember Lee Shinn
Managing Director
RELATING TO CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTIONS.

BE IT ORDAINED by the People of the City and County of Honolulu:

SECTION 1. Purpose. The purpose of this ordinance is to amend the exemption for charitable purposes.

SECTION 2. Section 8-10.10, Revised Ordinances of Honolulu 1990 (“Exemption—Charitable purposes”), is amended by amending subsections (b) and (c) to read as follows:

(b) This subsection applies to property, or a portion thereof, owned in fee simple, leased or rented for a period of one year or more, by the person using the property for the exempt purposes, hereinafter referred to as the person claiming the exemption. If the property, or a portion thereof, for which exemption is claimed is leased or rented, the lease or rental agreement shall be in force and recorded in the bureau of conveyances or filed in the office of the assistant registrar of the land court.

Exemption is allowed by this subsection to the following property:

(1) Property used for school purposes including:

(A) Kindergartens, grade schools, junior high schools and high schools, which carry on a program of instruction meeting the requirements of the compulsory school attendance law, HRS Section 302A-1132, or which are for preschool children who have attained or will attain the age of five years on or before December 31st of the school year; provided, that any claim for exemption based on any of the foregoing uses shall be accompanied by a certificate issued by or under the authority of the department of education stating that the foregoing requirements are met.

(B) Junior colleges or colleges carrying on a general program of instruction of college level. The property exempt from taxation under this paragraph is limited to buildings for educational purposes (including dormitories), housing owned by the school or college and used as residence for personnel employed at the school or college,
campus and athletic grounds, and realty used for vocational purposes incident to the school or college.

(C) Group child care centers, which meet the child care facilities requirements of HRS Chapter 346, Part VIII; provided, that any claim for exemption based on the foregoing use shall be accompanied by a certificate issued by or under the authority of the department of human services stating that the foregoing requirements are met. As used herein, "group child care centers" means a facility other than a residence, maintained by an individual, organization, or agency for the purpose of providing child care for preschool age children ages two years to six years and infants and toddlers ages six weeks to 36 months.

(2) Property used for hospital and nursing home purposes, including housing for personnel employed at the hospital; in order to qualify under this paragraph the person claiming the exemption shall present with the claim a certificate issued by or under the authority of the state department of health that the property for which the exemption is claimed consists in, or is a part of, hospital or nursing home facilities which are properly constituted under the law and maintained to serve, and which do serve the public.

(3) Property used for church purposes, including incidental activities, parsonages and church grounds, the property exempt from taxation being limited to realty exclusive of burying grounds (exemption for which may be claimed under paragraph (4) of this subsection).

(4) Property used as cemeteries (excluding, however, property used for cremation purposes) maintained by a religious society, or by a corporation, association or trust organized for such purpose.

[(5) Property dedicated to public use by the owner, which dedication has been accepted by the state or county, reduced to writing, and recorded in the bureau of conveyances; and property which has been set aside for public use and actually used therefor for a period not less than five years.]

Notwithstanding any provision in this section to the contrary, the exemption for the following property shall be _________ percent of the assessed value:
[(6) Property owned by any nonprofit corporation, admission to membership of which is restricted by the corporate charter to members of a labor union; property owned by any government employees’ association or organization, one of the primary purposes of which is to improve employment conditions of its members; property owned by any trust, the beneficiaries of which are restricted to members of a labor union; property owned by any association or league of federal credit unions chartered by the United States, the sole purpose of which is to promote the development of federal credit unions in the state.

(1) Property owned by any nonprofit corporation, admission to membership of which is restricted by the corporate charter to members of a labor union;

(2) Property owned by any government employees’ association or organization, one of the primary purposes of which is to improve employment conditions of its members;

(3) Property owned by any trust, the beneficiaries of which are restricted to members of a labor union;

(4) Property owned by any association or league of federal credit unions chartered by the United States, the sole purpose of which is to promote the development of federal credit unions in the state.

[Notwithstanding any provision in this section to the contrary, the exemption shall apply to property or any portion thereof which is leased, rented or otherwise let to another, if such leasing, renting or letting is to a nonprofit association, organization or corporation.]

(c) This subsection shall apply to property owned in fee simple or leased or rented for a period of one year or more, the lease or rental agreement being in force and recorded in the bureau of conveyances at the time the exemption is claimed, by either:

[(1) A corporation, society, association or trust having a charter or other enabling act or governing instrument which contains a provision or has been construed by a court of competent jurisdiction as providing that in the event of dissolution or termination of the corporation, society, association or trust, or other cessation of use of the property for the exempt purpose, the real property shall be applied for another charitable purpose or shall be dedicated to the public, or]
(2)](1) A corporation chartered by the United States under Title 36, United States Code, as a patriotic society, or

[Exemption is allowed by this subsection for property used for charitable purposes which are of a community, character building, social service or educational nature, including museums, libraries, art academies and senior citizen housing facilities qualifying for a loan under the laws of the United States as authorized by Section 202 of the Housing Act of 1959 as amended by the Housing Act of 1961, the Senior Citizens Housing Act of 1962, the Housing Act of 1964 and the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1965.]

(2) A corporation, society or association qualifying for exemption from federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code where the property is used exclusively for charitable purposes which are of a community, character building, social service or educational nature, including museums, libraries, and art academies, or

(3) Senior citizen housing facilities qualifying for a loan under the laws of the United States as authorized by section 202 of the Housing Act of 1959 as amended by the Housing Act of 1961, the Senior Citizens Housing Act of 1962, the Housing Act of 1964, and the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1965 as amended by the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1970."

SECTION 3. Ordinance material to be repealed is bracketed. New material is underscored. When revising, compiling or printing this ordinance for inclusion in the Revised Ordinances of Honolulu, the revisor of ordinances need not include the brackets, the bracketed material or the underscoring.
SECTION 4. This ordinance shall take affect upon its approval and shall apply to the tax years beginning July 1, 2014 and thereafter.

INTRODUCED BY:

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DATE OF INTRODUCTION:

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Honolulu, Hawaii Councilmembers

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:

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Deputy Corporation Counsel

APPROVED this _____ day of _____________, 20_____.

________________________________________

KIRK CALDWELL, Mayor
City and County of Honolulu
RELATING TO REAL PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTIONS.

BE IT ORDAINED by the People of the City and County of Honolulu:

SECTION 1. Purpose. The purpose of this ordinance is to initiate the cancellation of the real property tax exemptions for historic commercial real property dedicated for preservation.

SECTION 2. Section 8-10.30, Revised Ordinances of Honolulu 1990 ("Exemption—Historic commercial real property dedicated for preservation.

(f) The approval of the petition by the director shall constitute a forfeiture on the part of the owner of any right to change the use of the owner’s exempted property as specified in the maintenance agreement for a [minimum] period of 10 years. [The petition shall be automatically renewable for an unlimited number of additional 10-year periods.] No existing dedications will be renewed and all dedications will expire after 10 years. The director shall not accept petitions to dedicate under this section after September 1, 2013, or approve petitions to dedicate under this section after December 15, 2013. Effective June 30, 2024, this section shall be repealed.”

SECTION 3. Ordinance material to be repealed is bracketed. New material is underscored. When revising, compiling or printing this ordinance for inclusion in the Revised Ordinances of Honolulu, the revisor of ordinances need not include the brackets, the bracketed material or the underscoring.
SECTION 4. This ordinance shall take effect upon approval.

INTRODUCED BY:

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DATE OF INTRODUCTION:

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Honolulu, Hawaii ____________________________ Councilmembers

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:

________________________________________
Deputy Corporation Counsel

APPROVED this _____ day of ____________, 20____.

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KIRK CALDWELL, Mayor
City and County of Honolulu
BE IT ORDAINED by the People of the City and County of Honolulu:

SECTION 1. Purpose. The purpose of this ordinance is to adjust the amount of certain real property tax exemptions.

SECTION 2. Section 8-10.24, Revised Ordinances of Honolulu 1990 ("Exemption—Credit union"), is amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

“(a) The exemption from real property taxes for [Real] real property owned in fee simple or leased for a period of one year or more by a federal or state credit union which is actually and exclusively used for credit union purposes shall be [exempt from real property taxes] ______ percent of the assessed value. If the property for which exemption is claimed is leased, the lease agreement shall be in force and recorded in the bureau of conveyances at the time the exemption is claimed. As used in this section “federal credit union” means a credit union organized under the Federal Credit Union Act of 1943, 12 U.S.C. Chapter 14, as amended, and “state credit union” means a credit union organized under the Hawaii Credit Union Act. HRS Chapter 410, as amended.”

SECTION 3. Ordinance material to be repealed is bracketed. New material is underscored. When revising, compiling or printing this ordinance for inclusion in the Revised Ordinances of Honolulu, the revisor of ordinances need not include the brackets, the bracketed material or the underscoring.
SECTION 4. This ordinance shall take effect upon its approval and shall apply to the tax years beginning July 1, 2014 and thereafter.

INTRODUCED BY:

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DATE OF INTRODUCTION:

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Honolulu, Hawaii__________________________ Councilmembers

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:

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Deputy Corporation Counsel

APPROVED this ______ day of ________________, 20_____.

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KIRK CALDWELL, Mayor
City and County of Honolulu
RELATING TO REAL PROPERTY TAXATION.

BE IT ORDAINED by the People of the City and County of Honolulu:

SECTION 1. The purpose of this ordinance is to: 1) change the "hotel and resort" real property class to "hotel, resort and transient" and provide language defining such properties, 2) classify all real property used as transient vacation units, bed and breakfast units, time share units and fractional ownership units as "hotel, resort, and transient," 3) change the property to be classified from "land" to "real property," and 4) make other housekeeping amendments.

SECTION 2. Section 8-7.1, Revised Ordinances of Honolulu 1990, as amended, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 8-7.1 Valuation--Considerations in fixing.
(a) The director of budget and fiscal services shall cause the fair market value of all taxable real property to be determined and annually assessed by the market data and cost approaches to value using appropriate systematic methods suitable for mass valuation of real property for ad valorem taxation purposes, so selected and applied to obtain, as far as possible, uniform and equalized assessments throughout the county.
(b) So far as practicable, records shall be compiled and kept which shall show the methods established by or under the authority of the director, for the determination of values.
(c) (1) [Land] Real property shall be classified, upon consideration of its highest and best use, into the following general classes, unless it qualifies for a different class as defined in this section:
   (A) Residential;
   (B) Hotel and resort and transient;
   (C) Commercial;
   (D) Industrial;
   (E) Agricultural;
   (F) Preservation;
   (G) Public service; and
   (H) Vacant agricultural.
   (2) In assigning [land] real property to one of the general classes, the director shall give major consideration to the districting established by the city in its general plan and zoning ordinance, and such other factors which influence highest and best use.
Notwithstanding the city's zoning district classification, the director shall assign to the agricultural class any [land] real property classified as tree farm property under HRS Chapter 186.

(3) When real property is subdivided into condominium units, each unit and its appertaining common interest:
   (A) Shall be classified upon consideration of the unit's actual use into one of the general classes in the same manner as [land] real property; [and]
   (B) Shall be deemed a parcel and assessed separately from other units[.]; and
   (C) Shall be in compliance with the use established in the condominium declaration recorded with the registrar of the bureau of conveyances or filed with the assistant registrar of the land court.

(4) Notwithstanding any provision contained in this subsection, a condominium unit which is used at any time during the assessment year as a time share unit shall be classified for the following tax year as "hotel and resort" unless:
   (A) The unit is on property zoned as apartment, apartment mixed use, apartment precinct, or apartment mixed use precinct,
   (B) The property on which the unit is located does not include a lobby with a clerk's desk or counter with 24-hour clerk service facilities for registration and keeping of records relating to persons using the property, and
   (C) The unit is part of a condominium property regime established pursuant to HRS Chapter 514A.

If the requirements of (A), (B) and (C) are met, the time share unit shall be classified as "residential." For purposes of this paragraph, "assessment year" shall mean the one-year period beginning October 2nd of the previous calendar year and ending October 1st, inclusive, of the calendar year preceding the tax year, and time sharing shall be as defined in Section 21-10.1]

(4) When a parcel, or portion thereof, is improved with a dwelling or lodging unit, which is used for time sharing or fractional ownership, as a transient vacation unit, or as a bed and breakfast home, the entire parcel shall be classified hotel, resort, and transient. For purposes of this subsection:
   (A) "Time share unit" and "time sharing" shall be as defined in Section 21-10.1; and
   (B) "Fractional ownership" shall mean a parcel, or portion thereof, which:
(i) is owned by at least two and not more than six parties that hold title to the property; and 
(ii) entitles each owner/user to a specified interval of use of no less than 60 days in any year for any occupant user.

(C) "Transient vacation unit" shall be as defined in Section 21-10.1
(D) "Bed and breakfast home" shall be as defined in Section 21-10.1

(5) "Vacant agricultural" means a parcel, or portion thereof, which would otherwise be classified agricultural by the director upon major consideration of the districting established by the city in its general plan and zoning ordinance and of such other factors which influence highest and best use, but which parcel, or portion thereof: 
(i) has no residential buildings; and (ii) is not dedicated for agricultural purposes. If a portion of a parcel is dedicated as vacant agricultural, the remainder of the parcel that is zoned agricultural must be dedicated for agricultural use.

(6) Notwithstanding any provision contained in this subsection, all lands actually used by a public service company in its public service business shall be classified public service. For purposes of this subsection, a public service company is defined as a public utility, except airlines, motor carriers, common carriers by water, and contract carriers, where:
(A) "Public utility" means and includes every person who may own, control, operate, or manage as owner, lessee, trustee, receiver, or otherwise, whether under a franchise, charter, license, articles of association, or otherwise, any plant or equipment, or any part thereof, directly or indirectly for public use, for the transportation of passengers or freight, or the conveyance or transmission of telecommunications messages, or the furnishing of facilities for the transmission of intelligence by electricity by land or water or air within the state, or between points within the state, or for the production, conveyance, transmission, delivery, or furnishing of light, power, heat, cold, water, gas, or oil, or for the storage or warehousing of goods, or the disposal of sewage; provided that the term:
(i) Shall include any person insofar as that person owns or operates a private sewer company or sewer facility;
(ii) Shall include telecommunications carrier or telecommunications common carrier;
(iii) Shall not include any person insofar as that person owns or operates an aerial transportation enterprise;
(iv) Shall not include persons owning or operating taxicabs, as defined in this subsection;
(v) Shall not include common carriers transporting only freight on the public highways, unless operating within localities or along routes or between points that the public utilities commission of the State of Hawaii finds to be inadequately serviced without regulation under this chapter;
(vi) Shall not include persons engaged in the business of warehousing or storage unless the public utilities commission of the State of Hawaii finds that regulation thereof is necessary in the public interest;
(vii) Shall not include:
   (aa) The business of any carrier by water to the extent that the carrier enters into private contracts for towage, salvage, hauling, or carriage between points within the state and the carriage is not pursuant to either an established schedule or an undertaking to perform carriage services on behalf of the public generally; and
   (bb) The business of any carrier by water, substantially engaged in interstate or foreign commerce, transporting passengers on luxury cruises between points within the state or on luxury round-trip cruises returning to the point of departure;
(viii) Shall not include any person who:
   (aa) Controls, operates, or manages plants or facilities for the production, transmission, or furnishing of power primarily or entirely from non-fossil fuel sources; and
   (bb) Provides, sells, or transmits all of that power, except such power as is used in its own internal operations, directly to a public utility for transmission to the public;
(ix) Shall not include a telecommunications provider only to the extent determined by the public utilities commission of the State of Hawaii, pursuant to applicable state law;
(x) Shall not include any person who controls, operates, or manages plants or facilities developed pursuant to applicable state law for conveying, distributing, and
transmitting water for irrigation and such other purposes that shall be held for public use and purpose; and

(xi) Shall not include any person who owns, controls, operates, or manages plants or facilities for the reclamation of wastewater; provided that:

(aa) The services of the facility shall be provided pursuant to a service contract between the person and a state or county agency and at least 10 percent of the wastewater processed is used directly by the state or county which has entered into the service contract;

(bb) The primary function of the facility shall be the processing of secondary treated wastewater that has been produced by a municipal wastewater treatment facility that is owned by a state or county agency;

(cc) The facility shall not make sales of water to residential customers;

(dd) The facility may distribute and sell recycled or reclaimed water to entities not covered by a state or county service contract; provided that, in the absence of regulatory oversight and direct competition, the distribution and sale of recycled or reclaimed water shall be voluntary and its pricing fair and reasonable. For purposes of this subparagraph xi, "recycled water" and "reclaimed water" mean treated wastewater that by design is intended or used for a beneficial purpose; and

(ee) The facility shall not be engaged, either directly or indirectly, in the processing of food wastes.

(B) "Motor carrier" means a common carrier or contract carrier transporting freight or other property on the public highways, other than a public utility or taxicab.

(C) "Contract carrier" means a person other than a public utility or taxicab which, under contracts or agreements, engages in the transportation of persons or property for compensation, by land, water, or air.

(D) "Carrier" means a person who engages in transportation, and does not include a person such as a freight forwarder or tour packager who provides transportation by contracting with others, except to the extent that such person oneself engages in transportation.
(E) "Taxicab" means and includes:

(i) Any motor vehicle used in the movement of passengers on the public highways under the following circumstances, namely, the passenger hires the vehicle on call or at a fixed stand, with or without baggage for transportation, and controls the vehicle to the passenger's destination; and

(ii) Any motor vehicle having seating accommodations for eight or less passengers used in the movement of passengers on the public highways between a terminal, i.e., a fixed stand, in the city of Honolulu, and a terminal in a geographical district outside the limits of the city of Honolulu, and vice versa, without picking up passengers other than at the terminals or fixed stands; provided that passengers may be unloaded at any point between terminals; and provided further that this definition relating to motor vehicles operating between terminals shall pertain only to those motor vehicles whose operators or owners were duly licensed under any applicable provision of law or ordinance and doing business between such terminals on January 1, 1957.

(F) "Telecommunications carrier" or "telecommunications common carrier" means any person that owns, operates, manages, or controls any facility used to furnish telecommunications services for profit to the public, or to classes of users as to be effectively available to the public, engaged in the provision of services, such as voice, data, image, graphics, and video services, that make use of all or part of their transmission facilities, switches, broadcast equipment, signaling, or control devices.

(G) "Telecommunications service" or "telecommunications" means the offering of transmission between or among points specified by a user, of information of the user's choosing, including voice, data, image, graphics, and video without change in the form or content of the information, as sent and received, by means of electromagnetic transmission, or other similarly capable means of transmission, with or without benefit of any closed transmission medium, and does not include cable service as defined under applicable state law.

(d) Whenever land has been divided into lots or parcels as provided by law, each such lot or parcel shall be separately assessed.

(e) When a parcel of land which has been classified as agricultural is improved with a single-family dwelling and has been granted a home exemption for the tax
year, that portion of the parcel which is used for residential purposes shall be classified as residential. This classification shall:

(1) Apply only to that portion used for residential purposes;
(2) Not exceed 5,000 square feet of land and the buildings and improvements on that land; and
(3) Remain in effect only so long as the property qualifies for a home exemption.

(f) When a parcel of land which has been classified as preservation is improved with a single-family dwelling and has been granted a home exemption for the tax year, that portion of the parcel which is used for residential purposes shall be classified as residential. This classification shall:

(1) Apply only to that portion used for residential purposes;
(2) Not exceed 5,000 square feet of land and the buildings and improvements on that land; and
(3) Remain in effect only so long as the property qualifies for a home exemption.

(g) (1) In determining the value of buildings, consideration shall be given to any additions, alterations, remodeling, modifications or other new construction, improvement or repair work undertaken upon or made to existing buildings as the same may result in a higher assessable valuation of said buildings; provided, however, that any increase in value resulting from any additions, alterations, modifications or other new construction, improvement or repair work to buildings undertaken or made by the owner occupant thereof pursuant to the requirements of any urban redevelopment, rehabilitation or conservation project under the provisions of Part II of HRS Chapter 53, shall not increase the assessable valuation of any building for a period of seven years from the date of certification as hereinafter provided.

(2) It is further provided that the owner occupant shall file with the director, in the manner and place which the director may designate, a statement of the details of the improvements certified in the following manner:

(A) In the case of additions, alterations, modifications or other new construction, improvement or repair work to a building that are undertaken pursuant to any urban redevelopment, rehabilitation or conservation project as hereinafore mentioned, the statement shall be certified by the mayor or any governmental official designated by the mayor and approved by the council, that the additions, alterations, modifications, or other new construction, improvement or repair work to the buildings were made and satisfactorily comply
with the particular urban development, rehabilitation or conservation act provision; or

(B) In the case of maintenance or repairs to a residential building undertaken pursuant to any health, safety, sanitation or other governmental code provision, the statement shall be certified by the mayor or any governmental official designated by the mayor and approved by the council, that (i) the building was inspected by them and found to be substandard when the owner occupant made the claim, and (ii) the maintenance or repairs to the buildings were made and satisfactorily comply with the particular code provision.

[(h) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (c)(2), properties operating as transient vacation units in accordance with Section 21-4.110-1, and which have a valid nonconforming use certificate, shall be classified based on their underlying zoning.]

SECTION 3. Ordinance material to be repealed is bracketed. New material is underscored. When revising, compiling or printing this ordinance for inclusion in the Revised Ordinances of Honolulu, the revisor of ordinances need not include the brackets, the bracketed material or the underscoring.
SECTION 4. This ordinance shall take affect upon its approval and shall apply to the tax years beginning July 1, 2014 and thereafter.

INTRODUCED BY:

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DATE OF INTRODUCTION:

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Honolulu, Hawaii _____________________________ Councilmembers

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:

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Deputy Corporation Counsel

APPROVED this _____ day of _________________, 20 ___.

__________________________________________

KIRK CALDWELL, Mayor
City and County of Honolulu
RELATING TO REAL PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTIONS.

BE IT ORDAINED by the People of the City and County of Honolulu:

SECTION 1. Purpose. The purpose of this ordinance is to initiate the cancellation of the real property tax exemptions for dedicated lands in urban districts.

SECTION 2. Section 8-10.13, Revised Ordinances of Honolulu 1990 ("Exemption—Dedicated lands in urban districts."). is amended by amending subsection (c) to read as follows:

"(c) The approval of the petition by the director shall constitute a forfeiture on the part of the owner of any right to change the use of the owner’s land for a minimum period of 10 years, [automatically renewable indefinitely,) subject to cancellation by either the owner or the director upon five years' notice at any time after the end of the fifth year. Beginning in 2013 and continuing until all of the real property tax exemptions provided by this section have been cancelled, the director shall give five years' notice of cancellation to owners whose land has been dedicated under this section for more than five years. The director shall not accept petitions to dedicate under this section after September 1, 2013, or approve petitions to dedicate under this section after October 31, 2013."

SECTION 3. Ordinance material to be repealed is bracketed. New material is underscored. When revising, compiling or printing this ordinance for inclusion in the Revised Ordinances of Honolulu, the revisor of ordinances need not include the brackets, the bracketed material or the underscoring.
SECTION 4. This ordinance shall take effect upon approval.

INTRODUCED BY:

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DATE OF INTRODUCTION:

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Honolulu, Hawaii Councilmembers

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:

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Deputy Corporation Counsel

APPROVED this _____ day of ________________, 20_____

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KIRK CALDWELL, Mayor
City and County of Honolulu
RELATING TO REAL PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTIONS

BE IT ORDAINED by the People of the City and County of Honolulu:

SECTION 1. Purpose. The purpose of this ordinance is to adjust the amount of certain real property tax exemptions.

SECTION 2. Section 8-10.9. Revised Ordinances of Honolulu 1990, is amended to read as follows:

"Sec. 8-10.9 Exemption—Nonprofit medical, hospital indemnity association.

The exemption from real property taxes for [Every] every association or society organized and operating under HRS Chapter 432, solely as a nonprofit medical indemnity or hospital service association or society or both shall be from time of such organization, [exempt from real property taxes] ______ percent of the assessed value on all real property owned by it."

SECTION 3. Ordinance material to be repealed is bracketed. New material is underscored. When revising, compiling or printing this ordinance for inclusion in the Revised Ordinances of Honolulu, the revisor of ordinances need not include the brackets, the bracketed material or the underscoring.
SECTION 4. This ordinance shall take effect upon its approval and shall apply to the tax years beginning July 1, 2014 and thereafter.

INTRODUCED BY:

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DATE OF INTRODUCTION: ______________________

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Honolulu, Hawaii ____________________________ Councilmembers

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:

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Deputy Corporation Counsel

APPROVED this _____ day of ____________, 20 _____.

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KIRK CALDWELL, Mayor
City and County of Honolulu
RELATING TO CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTIONS.

BE IT ORDAINED by the People of the City and County of Honolulu:

SECTION 1. Purpose. The purpose of this ordinance is to repeal the in lieu of home exemption.

SECTION 2. Subsection 8-10.4(e), Revised Ordinances of Honolulu 1990, as amended, is repealed:

“Sec. 8-10.4 Homes.

(a) Real property owned and occupied as the owner's principal home as of the date of assessment by an individual or individuals, shall be exempt only to the following extent from property taxes:

(1) Totally exempt where the value of a property is not in excess of $80,000;

(2) Where the value of the property is in excess of $80,000, the exemption shall be the amount of $80,000.

Provided:

(A) That no such exemption shall be allowed to any corporation, copartnership or company;

(B) That the exemption shall not be allowed on more than one home for any one taxpayer;

(C) That where the taxpayer has acquired the taxpayer's home by a deed made on or after July 1, 1951, the deed shall have been recorded on or before September 30th immediately preceding the year for which the exemption is claimed;

(D) That a husband and wife shall not be permitted exemption of separate homes owned by each of them, unless they are living separate and apart, in which case they shall each be entitled to one-half of one exemption; and

(E) That a person living on premises, a portion of which is used for commercial purposes, shall not be entitled to an exemption with respect to such portion, but shall be entitled to an exemption with respect to the portion thereof used exclusively as a home.

For the purposes of this section, "real property owned and occupied as the owner's principal home" means occupancy of a home in the city and may be evidenced by, but not limited to, the following indicia: occupancy of a home in the city for
more than 270 calendar days of a calendar year; registering to vote in the city; being stationed in the city under military orders of the United States; and filing of an income tax return as a resident of the State of Hawaii, with a reported address in the city. The director may demand documentation of the above or other indicia from a property owner applying for an exemption or from an owner as evidence of continued qualification for an exemption. Failure to respond to the director’s request shall be grounds for denying a claim for an exemption or disallowing an existing exemption. In the event the director receives satisfactory evidence that an individual occupies a home outside the city or there is documented evidence of the individual’s intent to reside outside the city, that individual shall not be qualified for an exemption or continued exemption under this section, as the case may be.

Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary, for real property held by a trustee or other fiduciary, the trustee or other fiduciary shall be entitled to the exemption where: (i) the settlor of the trust occupies the property as the settlor’s principal home; or (ii) the settlor of the trust dies and a beneficiary entitled to live in the home under the terms of the trust document occupies the property as the beneficiary’s principal home.

(b) The use of a portion of any building or structure for the purpose of drying coffee and the use of a portion of real property, including structures, in connection with the planting and growing for commercial purposes, or the packing and processing for such purposes, of flowers, plants, or foliage, shall not affect the exemptions provided for by this section.

(c) Where two or more individuals jointly, by the entirety, or in common own or lease land on which their homes are located, each home, if otherwise qualified for the exemption granted by this section, shall receive the exemption. If a portion of land held jointly, by the entirety, or in common by two or more individuals is not qualified to receive an exemption, such disqualification shall not affect the eligibility for an exemption or exemptions of the remaining portion.

(d) A taxpayer who is 65 years of age or over on or before June 30th preceding the tax year for which the exemption is claimed and who qualifies under subsection (a) of this section shall be entitled to a home exemption of $120,000. For the purpose of this subsection, a husband and wife who own property jointly, by the entirety, or in common, on which a home exemption under the provisions of subsection (a) of this section has been granted shall be entitled to the $120,000 home exemption set forth above when at least one of the spouses qualifies for this home exemption.

[(e) (1) In lieu of the $120,000 home exemption provided in subsection (d), a low-income taxpayer who:

(A) Is 75 years of age or over on or before June 30th preceding the tax year for which the exemption is claimed;]
A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE

(B) Qualifies under subsection (a) of this section;
(C) Applies for the exemption as required in subdivision (2) of this subsection; and
(D) Has household income that meets the definition of "low-income" in Section 8-10.20(a) shall be entitled to one of the following home exemption amounts for that tax year:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age of Taxpayer Home Exemption</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>75 years of age or over but not 80 years of age or over</td>
<td>$140,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80 years of age or over but not 85 years of age or over</td>
<td>$160,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>85 years of age or over but not 90 years of age or over</td>
<td>$180,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90 years of age or over</td>
<td>$200,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(2) The claim for exemption, once allowed, shall continue for a maximum period of five years, and may be renewed for a period of five years by filing a claim for exemption on or before September 30th of the year in which the multiple used in computing the home exemption increases, to coincide with the applicant's attainment of 80 or 85 years of age, except the renewal at 90 years of age shall extend for the life of the applicant.

(3) For the purpose of this subsection, a husband and wife who own property jointly, by the entirety, or in common, on which a home exemption under the provisions of subsection (a) of this section has been granted and qualify under this subsection shall be entitled to the applicable home exemption set forth above when at least one of the spouses qualifies each year for the minimum age of the applicable home exemption.

(f) To qualify for the exemptions under subsection (d) and (e), a taxpayer must provide, upon request, a photocopy of or submit for inspection, a current, valid government-issued identification containing a photo and the date of birth, such as a Hawaii State driver's license, a Hawaii State identification card, or a passport.

SECTION 3. Ordinance material to be repealed is bracketed. When revising, compiling or printing this ordinance for inclusion in the Revised Ordinances of Honolulu, the revisor of ordinances need not include the brackets or the bracketed material.

SECTION 4. This ordinance shall take effect upon approval, provided that all exemptions granted pursuant to the repealed Section 8-10.4(e) and in effect on the day this ordinance takes effect shall continue through the tax year beginning July 1, 2013 and shall expire on June 30, 2014.
A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE

RELATING TO REAL PROPERTY TAXATION.

BE IT ORDAINED by the People of the City and County of Honolulu:

SECTION 1. The purpose of this ordinance is to: 1) add "residential-multifamily" as a new general real property class and provide language defining such properties, 2) change the property to be classified from "land" to "real property," and 3) make other housekeeping amendments.

SECTION 2. Section 8-7.1, Revised Ordinances of Honolulu 1990, as amended, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 8-7.1 Valuation--Considerations in fixing.
(a) The director of budget and fiscal services shall cause the fair market value of all taxable real property to be determined and annually assessed by the market data and cost approaches to value using appropriate systematic methods suitable for mass valuation of real property for ad valorem taxation purposes, so selected and applied to obtain, as far as possible, uniform and equalized assessments throughout the county.
(b) So far as practicable, records shall be compiled and kept which shall show the methods established by or under the authority of the director, for the determination of values.
(c) (1) [Land] Real property shall be classified, upon consideration of its highest and best use, into the following general classes, unless it qualifies for a different class as defined in this section:
   (A) Residential;
   (B) Hotel and resort;
   (C) Commercial;
   (D) Industrial;
   (E) Agricultural;
   (F) Preservation;
   (G) Public service; [and]
   (H) Vacant agricultural [,] ; and
   (I) Residential-multifamily.
(2) In assigning [land] real property to one of the general classes, the director shall give major consideration to the districting established by the city in its general plan and zoning ordinance, and such other factors which influence highest and best use.
Notwithstanding the city's zoning district classification, the director shall assign to the agricultural class any [land] real property classified as tree farm property under HRS Chapter 186.

(3) When real property is subdivided into condominium units, each unit and its appertaining common interest:
   (A) Shall be classified upon consideration of the unit's actual use into one of the general classes in the same manner as [land] real property; and
   (B) Shall be deemed a parcel and assessed separately from other units.

(4) Notwithstanding any provision contained in this subsection, a condominium unit which is used at any time during the assessment year as a time share unit shall be classified for the following tax year as hotel and resort, unless:
   (A) The unit is on property zoned as apartment, apartment mixed use, apartment precinct, or apartment mixed use precinct,
   (B) The property on which the unit is located does not include a lobby with a clerk's desk or counter with 24-hour clerk service facilities for registration and keeping of records relating to persons using the property, and
   (C) The unit is part of a condominium property regime established pursuant to HRS Chapter 514A.

If the requirements of (A), (B) and (C) are met, the time share unit shall be classified as "residential." For purposes of this paragraph, "assessment year" shall mean the one-year period beginning October 2nd of the previous calendar year and ending October 1st, inclusive, of the calendar year preceding the tax year, and "time sharing" shall be as defined in Section 21-10.1.

(5) "Vacant agricultural" means a parcel, or portion thereof, which would otherwise be classified agricultural by the director upon major consideration of the districting established by the city in its general plan and zoning ordinance and of such other factors which influence highest and best use, but which parcel, or portion thereof:
   (i) has no residential buildings; and (ii) is not dedicated for agricultural purposes. If a portion of a parcel is dedicated as vacant agricultural, the remainder of the parcel that is zoned agricultural must be dedicated for agricultural use.

(6) Notwithstanding any provision contained in this subsection, all lands actually used by a public service company in its public service business shall be classified public service. For purposes of this subsection, a public
service company is defined as a public utility, except airlines, motor carriers, common carriers by water, and contract carriers, where:

(A) "Public utility" means and includes every person who may own, control, operate, or manage as owner, lessee, trustee, receiver, or otherwise, whether under a franchise, charter, license, articles of association, or otherwise, any plant or equipment, or any part thereof, directly or indirectly for public use, for the transportation of passengers or freight, or the conveyance or transmission of telecommunications messages, or the furnishing of facilities for the transmission of intelligence by electricity by land or water or air within the state, or between points within the state, or for the production, conveyance, transmission, delivery, or furnishing of light, power, heat, cold, water, gas, or oil, or for the storage or warehousing of goods, or the disposal of sewage; provided that the term:

(i) Shall include any person insofar as that person owns or operates a private sewer company or sewer facility;

(ii) Shall include telecommunications carrier or telecommunications common carrier;

(iii) Shall not include any person insofar as that person owns or operates an aerial transportation enterprise;

(iv) Shall not include persons owning or operating taxicabs, as defined in this subsection;

(v) Shall not include common carriers transporting only freight on the public highways, unless operating within localities or along routes or between points that the public utilities commission of the State of Hawaii finds to be inadequately serviced without regulation under this chapter;

(vi) Shall not include persons engaged in the business of warehousing or storage unless the public utilities commission of the State of Hawaii finds that regulation thereof is necessary in the public interest;

(vii) Shall not include:

(aa) The business of any carrier by water to the extent that the carrier enters into private contracts for towage, salvage, hauling, or carriage between points within the state and the carriage is not pursuant to either an established schedule or an undertaking to perform carriage services on behalf of the public generally; and
(bb) The business of any carrier by water, substantially engaged in interstate or foreign commerce, transporting passengers on luxury cruises between points within the state or on luxury round-trip cruises returning to the point of departure;

(viii) Shall not include any person who:

(aa) Controls, operates, or manages plants or facilities for the production, transmission, or furnishing of power primarily or entirely from non-fossil fuel sources; and

(bb) Provides, sells, or transmits all of that power, except such power as is used in its own internal operations, directly to a public utility for transmission to the public;

(ix) Shall not include a telecommunications provider only to the extent determined by the public utilities commission of the State of Hawaii, pursuant to applicable state law;

(x) Shall not include any person who controls, operates, or manages plants or facilities developed pursuant to applicable state law for conveying, distributing, and transmitting water for irrigation and such other purposes that shall be held for public use and purpose; and

(xi) Shall not include any person who owns, controls, operates, or manages plants or facilities for the reclamation of wastewater; provided that:

(aa) The services of the facility shall be provided pursuant to a service contract between the person and a state or county agency and at least 10 percent of the wastewater processed is used directly by the state or county which has entered into the service contract;

(bb) The primary function of the facility shall be the processing of secondary treated wastewater that has been produced by a municipal wastewater treatment facility that is owned by a state or county agency;

(cc) The facility shall not make sales of water to residential customers;

(dd) The facility may distribute and sell recycled or reclaimed water to entities not covered by a state or county service contract; provided that, in the absence of regulatory oversight and direct competition, the
distribution and sale of recycled or reclaimed water shall be voluntary and its pricing fair and reasonable. For purposes of this subparagraph xi, "recycled water" and "reclaimed water" mean treated wastewater that by design is intended or used for a beneficial purpose; and

(ee) The facility shall not be engaged, either directly or indirectly, in the processing of food wastes.

(B) "Motor carrier" means a common carrier or contract carrier transporting freight or other property on the public highways, other than a public utility or taxicab.

(C) "Contract carrier" means a person other than a public utility or taxicab which, under contracts or agreements, engages in the transportation of persons or property for compensation, by land, water, or air.

(D) "Carrier" means a person who engages in transportation, and does not include a person such as a freight forwarder or tour packager who provides transportation by contracting with others, except to the extent that such person oneself engages in transportation.

(E) "Taxicab" means and includes:

(i) Any motor vehicle used in the movement of passengers on the public highways under the following circumstances, namely, the passenger hires the vehicle on call or at a fixed stand, with or without baggage for transportation, and controls the vehicle to the passenger's destination; and

(ii) Any motor vehicle having seating accommodations for eight or less passengers used in the movement of passengers on the public highways between a terminal, i.e., a fixed stand, in the city of Honolulu, and a terminal in a geographical district outside the limits of the city of Honolulu, and vice versa, without picking up passengers other than at the terminals or fixed stands; provided that passengers may be unloaded at any point between terminals; and provided further that this definition relating to motor vehicles operating between terminals shall pertain only to those motor vehicles whose operators or owners were duly licensed under any applicable provision of law or ordinance and doing business between such terminals on January 1, 1957.

(F) "Telecommunications carrier" or "telecommunications common carrier" means any person that owns, operates, manages, or
controls any facility used to furnish telecommunications services for profit to the public, or to classes of users as to be effectively available to the public, engaged in the provision of services, such as voice, data, image, graphics, and video services, that make use of all or part of their transmission facilities, switches, broadcast equipment, signaling, or control devices.

(G) "Telecommunications service" or "telecommunications" means the offering of transmission between or among points specified by a user, of information of the user's choosing, including voice, data, image, graphics, and video without change in the form or content of the information, as sent and received, by means of electromagnetic transmission, or other similarly capable means of transmission, with or without benefit of any closed transmission medium, and does not include cable service as defined under applicable state law.

(d) Whenever land has been divided into lots or parcels as provided by law, each such lot or parcel shall be separately assessed.

(e) When a parcel of land which has been classified as agricultural is improved with a single-family dwelling and has been granted a home exemption for the tax year, that portion of the parcel which is used for residential purposes shall be classified as residential. This classification shall:
(1) Apply only to that portion used for residential purposes;
(2) Not exceed 5,000 square feet of land and the buildings and improvements on that land; and
(3) Remain in effect only so long as the property qualifies for a home exemption.

(f) When a parcel of land which has been classified as preservation is improved with a single-family dwelling and has been granted a home exemption for the tax year, that portion of the parcel which is used for residential purposes shall be classified as residential. This classification shall:
(1) Apply only to that portion used for residential purposes;
(2) Not exceed 5,000 square feet of land and the buildings and improvements on that land; and
(3) Remain in effect only so long as the property qualifies for a home exemption.

(g) (1) In determining the value of buildings, consideration shall be given to any additions, alterations, remodeling, modifications or other new construction, improvement or repair work undertaken upon or made to existing buildings as the same may result in a higher assessable valuation of said buildings; provided, however, that any increase in value resulting from any additions, alterations, modifications or other new construction,
improvement or repair work to buildings undertaken or made by the owner occupant thereof pursuant to the requirements of any urban redevelopment, rehabilitation or conservation project under the provisions of Part II of HRS Chapter 53, shall not increase the assessable valuation of any building for a period of seven years from the date of certification as hereinafter provided.

(2) It is further provided that the owner occupant shall file with the director, in the manner and place which the director may designate, a statement of the details of the improvements certified in the following manner:

(A) In the case of additions, alterations, modifications or other new construction, improvement or repair work to a building that are undertaken pursuant to any urban redevelopment, rehabilitation or conservation project as hereinabove mentioned, the statement shall be certified by the mayor or any governmental official designated by the mayor and approved by the council, that the additions, alterations, modifications, or other new construction, improvement or repair work to the buildings were made and satisfactorily comply with the particular urban development, rehabilitation or conservation act provision; or

(B) In the case of maintenance or repairs to a residential building undertaken pursuant to any health, safety, sanitation or other governmental code provision, the statement shall be certified by the mayor or any governmental official designated by the mayor and approved by the council, that (i) the building was inspected by them and found to be substandard when the owner occupant made the claim, and (ii) the maintenance or repairs to the buildings were made and satisfactorily comply with the particular code provision.

(h) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (c)(2), properties operating as transient vacation units in accordance with Section 21-4.110-1, and which have a valid nonconforming use certificate, shall be classified based on their underlying zoning.

(i) "Residential-multifamily" shall mean a parcel, or a portion thereof, which:

(1) is in an apartment district, an apartment mixed use district, an apartment precinct or an apartment mixed use subprecinct; or

(2) has been dedicated for residential use and is improved with a multifamily dwelling or multiple dwelling units."
SECTION 3. Ordinance material to be repealed is bracketed. New material is underscored. When revising, compiling or printing this ordinance for inclusion in the Revised Ordinances of Honolulu, the revisor of ordinances need not include the brackets, the bracketed material or the underscoring.

SECTION 4. This ordinance shall take affect upon its approval and shall apply to the tax years beginning July 1, 2014 and thereafter.

INTRODUCED BY:

____________________________________

____________________________________

____________________________________

____________________________________

DATE OF INTRODUCTION:

____________________________________

____________________________________

Honolulu, Hawaii ____________________ Councilmembers

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:

____________________________________

Deputy Corporation Counsel

APPROVED this _____ day of ____________, 20 ______.

____________________________________

KIRK CALDWELL, Mayor
City and County of Honolulu
ORDINANCE

CITY COUNCIL
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
HONOLULU, HAWAII

A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE

RELATING TO REAL PROPERTY TAXATION.

BE IT ORDAINED by the People of the City and County of Honolulu:

SECTION 1. The purpose of this ordinance is to: 1) add "Residential A" as new general real property class and provide language defining such properties, 2) change the property to be classified from "land" to "real property," and 3) make other housekeeping amendments.

SECTION 2. Section 8-7.1, Revised Ordinances of Honolulu 1990, as amended, is amended to read as follows:

"Sec. 8-7.1 Valuation--Considerations in fixing.

(a) The director of budget and fiscal services shall cause the fair market value of all taxable real property to be determined and annually assessed by the market data and cost approaches to value using appropriate systematic methods suitable for mass valuation of real property for ad valorem taxation purposes, so selected and applied to obtain, as far as possible, uniform and equalized assessments throughout the county.

(b) So far as practicable, records shall be compiled and kept which shall show the methods established by or under the authority of the director, for the determination of values.

(c) (1) [Land] Real property shall be classified, upon consideration of its highest and best use, into the following general classes, unless it qualifies for a different class as defined in this section:

(A) Residential;
(B) Hotel and resort;
(C) Commercial;
(D) Industrial;
(E) Agricultural;
(F) Preservation;
(G) Public service; [and]
(H) Vacant agricultural [ ]; and
(I) Residential A.
(2) In assigning [land] real property to one of the general classes, the director shall give major consideration to the districting established by the city in its general plan and zoning ordinance, and such other factors which influence highest and best use. Notwithstanding the city's zoning district classification, the director shall assign to the agricultural class any [land] real property classified as tree farm property under HRS Chapter 186.

(3) When real property is subdivided into condominium units, each unit and its appertaining common interest:
   (A) Shall be classified upon consideration of the unit's actual use into one of the general classes in the same manner as [land] real property; and
   (B) Shall be deemed a parcel and assessed separately from other units.

(4) Notwithstanding any provision contained in this subsection, a condominium unit which is used at any time during the assessment year as a time share unit shall be classified for the following tax year as hotel and resort unless:
   (A) The unit is on property zoned as apartment, apartment mixed use, apartment precinct, or apartment mixed use precinct,
   (B) The property on which the unit is located does not include a lobby with a clerk's desk or counter with 24-hour clerk service facilities for registration and keeping of records relating to persons using the property, and
   (C) The unit is part of a condominium property regime established pursuant to HRS Chapter 514A.

If the requirements of (A), (B) and (C) are met, the time share unit shall be classified as "residential." For purposes of this paragraph, "assessment year" shall mean the one-year period beginning October 2nd of the previous calendar year and ending October 1st, inclusive, of the calendar year preceding the tax year, and "time sharing" shall be as defined in Section 21-10.1.
(5) "Vacant agricultural" means a parcel, or portion thereof, which would otherwise be classified agricultural by the director upon major consideration of the districting established by the city in its general plan and zoning ordinance and of such other factors which influence highest and best use, but which parcel, or portion thereof: (i) has no residential buildings; and (ii) is not dedicated for agricultural purposes. If a portion of a parcel is dedicated as vacant agricultural, the remainder of the parcel that is zoned agricultural must be dedicated for agricultural use.

(6) Notwithstanding any provision contained in this subsection, all lands actually used by a public service company in its public service business shall be classified public service. For purposes of this subsection, a public service company is defined as a public utility, except airlines, motor carriers, common carriers by water, and contract carriers, where:

(A) "Public utility" means and includes every person who may own, control, operate, or manage as owner, lessee, trustee, receiver, or otherwise, whether under a franchise, charter, license, articles of association, or otherwise, any plant or equipment, or any part thereof, directly or indirectly for public use, for the transportation of passengers or freight, or the conveyance or transmission of telecommunications messages, or the furnishing of facilities for the transmission of intelligence by electricity by land or water or air within the state, or between points within the state, or for the production, conveyance, transmission, delivery, or furnishing of light, power, heat, cold, water, gas, or oil, or for the storage or warehousing of goods, or the disposal of sewage; provided that the term:

(i) Shall include any person insofar as that person owns or operates a private sewer company or sewer facility;
(ii) Shall include telecommunications carrier or telecommunications common carrier;
(iii) Shall not include any person insofar as that person owns or operates an aerial transportation enterprise;
(iv) Shall not include persons owning or operating taxicabs, as defined in this subsection;
(v) Shall not include common carriers transporting only freight on the public highways, unless operating within localities or
along routes or between points that the public utilities commission of the State of Hawaii finds to be inadequately serviced without regulation under this chapter;

(vi) Shall not include persons engaged in the business of warehousing or storage unless the public utilities commission of the State of Hawaii finds that regulation thereof is necessary in the public interest;

(vii) Shall not include:

(aa) The business of any carrier by water to the extent that the carrier enters into private contracts for towage, salvage, hauling, or carriage between points within the state and the carriage is not pursuant to either an established schedule or an undertaking to perform carriage services on behalf of the public generally; and

(bb) The business of any carrier by water, substantially engaged in interstate or foreign commerce, transporting passengers on luxury cruises between points within the state or on luxury round-trip cruises returning to the point of departure;

(viii) Shall not include any person who:

(aa) Controls, operates, or manages plants or facilities for the production, transmission, or furnishing of power primarily or entirely from non-fossil fuel sources; and

(bb) Provides, sells, or transmits all of that power, except such power as is used in its own internal operations, directly to a public utility for transmission to the public;

(ix) Shall not include a telecommunications provider only to the extent determined by the public utilities commission of the State of Hawaii, pursuant to applicable state law;

(x) Shall not include any person who controls, operates, or manages plants or facilities developed pursuant to applicable state law for conveying, distributing, and transmitting water for irrigation and such other purposes that shall be held for public use and purpose; and

(xi) Shall not include any person who owns, controls, operates, or manages plants or facilities for the reclamation of wastewater; provided that:

(aa) The services of the facility shall be provided pursuant to a service contract between the person and a state
or county agency and at least 10 percent of the wastewater processed is used directly by the state or county which has entered into the service contract;

(bb) The primary function of the facility shall be the processing of secondary treated wastewater that has been produced by a municipal wastewater treatment facility that is owned by a state or county agency;

(cc) The facility shall not make sales of water to residential customers;

(dd) The facility may distribute and sell recycled or reclaimed water to entities not covered by a state or county service contract; provided that, in the absence of regulatory oversight and direct competition, the distribution and sale of recycled or reclaimed water shall be voluntary and its pricing fair and reasonable. For purposes of this subparagraph xi, "recycled water" and "reclaimed water" mean treated wastewater that by design is intended or used for a beneficial purpose; and

(ee) The facility shall not be engaged, either directly or indirectly, in the processing of food wastes.

(B) "Motor carrier" means a common carrier or contract carrier transporting freight or other property on the public highways, other than a public utility or taxicab.

(C) "Contract carrier" means a person other than a public utility or taxicab which, under contracts or agreements, engages in the transportation of persons or property for compensation, by land, water, or air.

(D) "Carrier" means a person who engages in transportation, and does not include a person such as a freight forwarder or tour packager who provides transportation by contracting with others, except to the extent that such person oneself engages in transportation.

(E) "Taxicab" means and includes:

(i) Any motor vehicle used in the movement of passengers on the public highways under the following circumstances,
nationally, the passenger hires the vehicle on call or at a fixed stand, with or without baggage for transportation, and controls the vehicle to the passenger’s destination; and

(ii) Any motor vehicle having seating accommodations for eight or less passengers used in the movement of passengers on the public highways between a terminal, i.e., a fixed stand, in the city of Honolulu, and a terminal in a geographical district outside the limits of the city of Honolulu, and vice versa, without picking up passengers other than at the terminals or fixed stands; provided that passengers may be unloaded at any point between terminals; and provided further that this definition relating to motor vehicles operating between terminals shall pertain only to those motor vehicles whose operators or owners were duly licensed under any applicable provision of law or ordinance and doing business between such terminals on January 1, 1957.

(F) “Telecommunications carrier” or “telecommunications common carrier” means any person that owns, operates, manages, or controls any facility used to furnish telecommunications services for profit to the public, or to classes of users as to be effectively available to the public, engaged in the provision of services, such as voice, data, image, graphics, and video services, that make use of all or part of their transmission facilities, switches, broadcast equipment, signaling, or control devices.

(G) “Telecommunications service” or “telecommunications” means the offering of transmission between or among points specified by a user, of information of the user's choosing, including voice, data, image, graphics, and video without change in the form or content of the information, as sent and received, by means of electromagnetic transmission, or other similarly capable means of transmission, with or without benefit of any closed transmission medium, and does not include cable service as defined under applicable state law.

(d) Whenever land has been divided into lots or parcels as provided by law, each such lot or parcel shall be separately assessed.

(e) When a parcel of land which has been classified as agricultural is improved with a single-family dwelling and has been granted a home exemption for the tax
year, that portion of the parcel which is used for residential purposes shall be classified as residential. This classification shall:

(1) Apply only to that portion used for residential purposes;

(2) Not exceed 5,000 square feet of land and the buildings and improvements on that land; and

(3) Remain in effect only so long as the property qualifies for a home exemption.

(f) When a parcel of land which has been classified as preservation is improved with a single-family dwelling and has been granted a home exemption for the tax year, that portion of the parcel which is used for residential purposes shall be classified as residential. This classification shall:

(1) Apply only to that portion used for residential purposes;

(2) Not exceed 5,000 square feet of land and the buildings and improvements on that land; and

(3) Remain in effect only so long as the property qualifies for a home exemption.

(g) (1) In determining the value of buildings, consideration shall be given to any additions, alterations, remodeling, modifications or other new construction, improvement or repair work undertaken upon or made to existing buildings as the same may result in a higher assessable valuation of said buildings; provided, however, that any increase in value resulting from any additions, alterations, modifications or other new construction, improvement or repair work to buildings undertaken or made by the owner occupant thereof pursuant to the requirements of any urban redevelopment, rehabilitation or conservation project under the provisions of Part II of HRS Chapter 53, shall not increase the assessable valuation of any building for a period of seven years from the date of certification as hereinafter provided.

(2) It is further provided that the owner occupant shall file with the director, in the manner and place which the director may designate, a statement of the details of the improvements certified in the following manner:
(A) In the case of additions, alterations, modifications or other new construction, improvement or repair work to a building that are undertaken pursuant to any urban redevelopment, rehabilitation or conservation project as hereinabove mentioned, the statement shall be certified by the mayor or any governmental official designated by the mayor and approved by the council, that the additions, alterations, modifications, or other new construction, improvement or repair work to the buildings were made and satisfactorily comply with the particular urban development, rehabilitation or conservation act provision; or

(B) In the case of maintenance or repairs to a residential building undertaken pursuant to any health, safety, sanitation or other governmental code provision, the statement shall be certified by the mayor or any governmental official designated by the mayor and approved by the council, that (i) the building was inspected by them and found to be substandard when the owner occupant made the claim, and (ii) the maintenance or repairs to the buildings were made and satisfactorily comply with the particular code provision.

(h) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (c)(2), properties operating as transient vacation units in accordance with Section 21-4.110-1, and which have a valid nonconforming use certificate, shall be classified based on their underlying zoning.

(i) “Residential A” shall mean a parcel, or portion thereof, which:
   (1) Has an assessed value in excess of $1,000,000;
   (2) Is improved with no more than two single family dwelling units;
   (3) Does not qualify for the home exemption;
   (4) Is zoned R-3.5, R-5, R-7.5, R-10 or R-20 or is dedicated for residential use; or
   (5) Includes vacant land zoned R-3.5, R-5, R-7.5, R-10 or R-20; but
   Does not include a parcel, or a portion thereof;
   (6) Improved with multifamily dwellings; or
   (7) Improved with military housing located on or outside of a military base.”

SECTION 3. Ordinance material to be repealed is bracketed. New material is underscored. When revising, compiling or printing this ordinance for inclusion in the
Revised Ordinances of Honolulu, the revisor of ordinances need not include the brackets, the bracketed material or the underscoring.

SECTION 4. This ordinance shall take affect upon its approval and shall apply to the tax years beginning July 1, 2014 and thereafter.

INTRODUCED BY:

__________________________________________

__________________________________________

__________________________________________

__________________________________________

DATE OF INTRODUCTION:

__________________________________________

__________________________________________

Honolulu, Hawaii __________________________ Councilmembers

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:

__________________________________________
Deputy Corporation Counsel

APPROVED this _____ day of _____________, 20 ____.

__________________________________________
KIRK CALDWELL, Mayor
City and County of Honolulu
A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE

RELATING TO REAL PROPERTY TAXATION.

BE IT ORDAINED by the People of the City and County of Honolulu:

SECTION 1. The purpose of this ordinance is to: 1) add “time share” as a new general real property class and provide language defining such properties, 2) classify all condominiums units used as time share units as “time share,” 3) change the property to be classified from “land” to “real property,” and 4) make other housekeeping amendments.

SECTION 2. Section 8-7.1, Revised Ordinances of Honolulu 1990, as amended, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 8-7.1 Valuation—Considerations in fixing.
(a) The director of budget and fiscal services shall cause the fair market value of all taxable real property to be determined and annually assessed by the market data and cost approaches to value using appropriate systematic methods suitable for mass valuation of real property for ad valorem taxation purposes, so selected and applied to obtain, as far as possible, uniform and equalized assessments throughout the county.

(b) So far as practicable, records shall be compiled and kept which shall show the methods established by or under the authority of the director, for the determination of values.

(c) (1) [Land] Real property shall be classified, upon consideration of its highest and best use, into the following general classes, unless it qualifies for a different class as defined in this section:
   (A) Residential;
   (B) Hotel and resort;
   (C) Commercial;
   (D) Industrial;
   (E) Agricultural;
   (F) Preservation;
   (G) Public service; [and]
   (H) Vacant agricultural [] ; and
   (I) Time share.

(2) In assigning [land] real property to one of the general classes, the director shall give major consideration to the districting established by the city in its general plan and zoning ordinance, and such other factors which influence highest and best use.
Notwithstanding the city's zoning district classification, the director shall assign to the agricultural class any [land] real property classified as tree farm property under HRS Chapter 186.

(3) When real property is subdivided into condominium units, each unit and its appertaining common interest:

(A) Shall be classified upon consideration of the unit's actual use into one of the general classes in the same manner as [land] real property; and
(B) Shall be deemed a parcel and assessed separately from other units.
(C) Shall be in compliance with the use established in the condominium declaration recorded with the registrar of the bureau of conveyances or filed with the assistant registrar of the land court; and

[(4)]

(D) Notwithstanding any provision contained in this subsection, a condominium unit which is used at any time during the assessment year as a time share unit shall be classified time share [for the following tax year as hotel and resort unless:

(A) The unit is on property zoned as apartment, apartment mixed use, apartment precinct, or apartment mixed use precinct,
(B) The property on which the unit is located does not include a lobby with a clerk's desk or counter with 24-hour clerk service facilities for registration and keeping of records relating to persons using the property, and
(C) The unit is part of a condominium property regime established pursuant to HRS Chapter 514A.

If the requirements of (A), (B) and (C) are met, the time share unit shall be classified as "residential." For purposes of this paragraph, "assessment year" shall mean the one-year period beginning October 2nd of the previous calendar year and ending October 1st, inclusive, of the calendar year preceding the tax year, and "time sharing" shall be as defined in Section 21-10.1.]

(4) When a parcel, or portion thereof, is improved with a dwelling or lodging unit, which is used for time sharing or fractional ownership, the parcel shall be classified time share. For purposes of this subsection:

(A) "Time share unit" and "time sharing" shall be as defined in Section 21-10.1; and
(B) "Fractional ownership" shall mean a parcel, or portion thereof, which:
(i) is owned by at least two and not more than six parties that hold title to the property; and
(ii) entitles each owner user to a specified interval of use of no less than 60 days in any year for any occupant user.

(5) “Vacant agricultural” means a parcel, or portion thereof, which would otherwise be classified agricultural by the director upon major consideration of the districting established by the city in its general plan and zoning ordinance and of such other factors which influence highest and best use, but which parcel, or portion thereof: (i) has no residential buildings; and (ii) is not dedicated for agricultural purposes. If a portion of a parcel is dedicated as vacant agricultural, the remainder of the parcel that is zoned agricultural must be dedicated for agricultural use.

(6) Notwithstanding any provision contained in this subsection, all lands actually used by a public service company in its public service business shall be classified public service. For purposes of this subsection, a public service company is defined as a public utility, except airlines, motor carriers, common carriers by water, and contract carriers, where:

(A) “Public utility” means and includes every person who may own, control, operate, or manage as owner, lessee, trustee, receiver, or otherwise, whether under a franchise, charter, license, articles of association, or otherwise, any plant or equipment, or any part thereof, directly or indirectly for public use, for the transportation of passengers or freight, or the conveyance or transmission of telecommunications messages, or the furnishing of facilities for the transmission of intelligence by electricity by land or water or air within the state, or between points within the state, or for the production, conveyance, transmission, delivery, or furnishing of light, power, heat, cold, water, gas, or oil, or for the storage or warehousing of goods, or the disposal of sewage; provided that the term:

(i) Shall include any person insofar as that person owns or operates a private sewer company or sewer facility;

(ii) Shall include telecommunications carrier or telecommunications common carrier;

(iii) Shall not include any person insofar as that person owns or operates an aerial transportation enterprise;

(iv) Shall not include persons owning or operating taxicabs, as defined in this subsection;
(v) Shall not include common carriers transporting only freight on the public highways, unless operating within localities or along routes or between points that the public utilities commission of the State of Hawaii finds to be inadequately serviced without regulation under this chapter;

(vi) Shall not include persons engaged in the business of warehousing or storage unless the public utilities commission of the State of Hawaii finds that regulation thereof is necessary in the public interest;

(vii) Shall not include:

(aa) The business of any carrier by water to the extent that the carrier enters into private contracts for towage, salvage, hauling, or carriage between points within the state and the carriage is not pursuant to either an established schedule or an undertaking to perform carriage services on behalf of the public generally; and

(bb) The business of any carrier by water, substantially engaged in interstate or foreign commerce, transporting passengers on luxury cruises between points within the state or on luxury round-trip cruises returning to the point of departure;

(viii) Shall not include any person who:

(aa) Controls, operates, or manages plants or facilities for the production, transmission, or furnishing of power primarily or entirely from non-fossil fuel sources; and

(bb) Provides, sells, or transmits all of that power, except such power as is used in its own internal operations, directly to a public utility for transmission to the public;

(ix) Shall not include a telecommunications provider only to the extent determined by the public utilities commission of the State of Hawaii, pursuant to applicable state law;

(x) Shall not include any person who controls, operates, or manages plants or facilities developed pursuant to applicable state law for conveying, distributing, and transmitting water for irrigation and such other purposes that shall be held for public use and purpose; and

(xi) Shall not include any person who owns, controls, operates, or manages plants or facilities for the reclamation of wastewater; provided that:
(aa) The services of the facility shall be provided pursuant to a service contract between the person and a state or county agency and at least 10 percent of the wastewater processed is used directly by the state or county which has entered into the service contract;

(bb) The primary function of the facility shall be the processing of secondary treated wastewater that has been produced by a municipal wastewater treatment facility that is owned by a state or county agency;

(cc) The facility shall not make sales of water to residential customers;

(dd) The facility may distribute and sell recycled or reclaimed water to entities not covered by a state or county service contract; provided that, in the absence of regulatory oversight and direct competition, the distribution and sale of recycled or reclaimed water shall be voluntary and its pricing fair and reasonable. For purposes of this subparagraph xi, "recycled water" and "reclaimed water" mean treated wastewater that by design is intended or used for a beneficial purpose; and

(ee) The facility shall not be engaged, either directly or indirectly, in the processing of food wastes.

(B) "Motor carrier" means a common carrier or contract carrier transporting freight or other property on the public highways, other than a public utility or taxicab.

(C) "Contract carrier" means a person other than a public utility or taxicab which, under contracts or agreements, engages in the transportation of persons or property for compensation, by land, water, or air.

(D) "Carrier" means a person who engages in transportation, and does not include a person such as a freight forwarder or tour packager who provides transportation by contracting with others, except to the extent that such person oneself engages in transportation.

(E) "Taxicab" means and includes:

(i) Any motor vehicle used in the movement of passengers on the public highways under the following circumstances, namely, the passenger hires the vehicle on call or at a fixed
stand, with or without baggage for transportation, and controls the vehicle to the passenger's destination; and

(ii) Any motor vehicle having seating accommodations for eight or less passengers used in the movement of passengers on the public highways between a terminal, i.e., a fixed stand, in the city of Honolulu, and a terminal in a geographical district outside the limits of the city of Honolulu, and vice versa, without picking up passengers other than at the terminals or fixed stands; provided that passengers may be unloaded at any point between terminals; and provided further that this definition relating to motor vehicles operating between terminals shall pertain only to those motor vehicles whose operators or owners were duly licensed under any applicable provision of law or ordinance and doing business between such terminals on January 1, 1957.

(F) "Telecommunications carrier" or "telecommunications common carrier" means any person that owns, operates, manages, or controls any facility used to furnish telecommunications services for profit to the public, or to classes of users as to be effectively available to the public, engaged in the provision of services, such as voice, data, image, graphics, and video services, that make use of all or part of their transmission facilities, switches, broadcast equipment, signaling, or control devices.

(G) "Telecommunications service" or "telecommunications" means the offering of transmission between or among points specified by a user, of information of the user's choosing, including voice, data, image, graphics, and video without change in the form or content of the information, as sent and received, by means of electromagnetic transmission, or other similarly capable means of transmission, with or without benefit of any closed transmission medium, and does not include cable service as defined under applicable state law.

(d) Whenever land has been divided into lots or parcels as provided by law, each such lot or parcel shall be separately assessed.

(e) When a parcel of land which has been classified as agricultural is improved with a single-family dwelling and has been granted a home exemption for the tax year, that portion of the parcel which is used for residential purposes shall be classified as residential. This classification shall:

(1) Apply only to that portion used for residential purposes;
(2) Not exceed 5,000 square feet of land and the buildings and improvements on that land; and
(3) Remain in effect only so long as the property qualifies for a home exemption.

(f) When a parcel of land which has been classified as preservation is improved with a single-family dwelling and has been granted a home exemption for the tax year, that portion of the parcel which is used for residential purposes shall be classified as residential. This classification shall:

(1) Apply only to that portion used for residential purposes;
(2) Not exceed 5,000 square feet of land and the buildings and improvements on that land; and
(3) Remain in effect only so long as the property qualifies for a home exemption.

(g) (1) In determining the value of buildings, consideration shall be given to any additions, alterations, remodeling, modifications or other new construction, improvement or repair work undertaken upon or made to existing buildings as the same may result in a higher assessable valuation of said buildings; provided, however, that any increase in value resulting from any additions, alterations, modifications or other new construction, improvement or repair work to buildings undertaken or made by the owner occupant thereof pursuant to the requirements of any urban redevelopment, rehabilitation or conservation project under the provisions of Part II of HRS Chapter 53, shall not increase the assessable valuation of any building for a period of seven years from the date of certification as hereinafter provided.

(2) It is further provided that the owner occupant shall file with the director, in the manner and place which the director may designate, a statement of the details of the improvements certified in the following manner:

(A) In the case of additions, alterations, modifications or other new construction, improvement or repair work to a building that are undertaken pursuant to any urban redevelopment, rehabilitation or conservation project as hereinabove mentioned, the statement shall be certified by the mayor or any governmental official designated by the mayor and approved by the council, that the additions, alterations, modifications, or other new construction, improvement or repair work to the buildings were made and satisfactorily comply with the particular urban development, rehabilitation or conservation act provision; or

(B) In the case of maintenance or repairs to a residential building undertaken pursuant to any health, safety, sanitation or other governmental code provision, the statement shall be certified by the mayor or any governmental official designated by the mayor and
approved by the council, that (i) the building was inspected by them and found to be substandard when the owner occupant made the claim, and (ii) the maintenance or repairs to the buildings were made and satisfactorily comply with the particular code provision.

(h) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (c)(2), properties operating as transient vacation units in accordance with Section 21-4.110-1, and which have a valid nonconforming use certificate, shall be classified based on their underlying zoning.

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