



CITY COUNCIL

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

Honolulu, Hawaii 96813-3065/Telephone 547-7000

Charles K. Djou

Councilmember, District IV

Chair, Intergovernmental Affairs Committee

Phone: (808) 768-5004 / Facsimile: (808) 768-5001

Email: cdjou@honolulu.gov

Web: www.honolulu.gov/council/d4

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 19, 2008

For More Information, Please Contact:

Councilmember Charles K. Djou

Phone: (808) 265-2858

COUNCILMEMBER DJOU PUSHING FOR CREDIT CARD PAYMENT OF REAL PROPERTY TAXES

Tomorrow, real property taxes will be due for Oahu residents. Resolution 08-156, introduced by Honolulu City Councilmember Charles K. Djou (Waikiki, East Honolulu), urges the City to implement a plan allowing for credit card payment for real property taxes.

“Residents increasingly use credit and debit cards for all forms of financial transactions and it’s time for the City to enter the 21st century and accept credit cards for real property taxes. It makes no sense that the City accepts credit cards for vehicle tax and *delinquent* property tax payments, but refuses to accept credit cards for *timely* property tax payments,” stated Councilmember Djou. “Most U.S. cities, including Kauai and the Big Island, already allow for payment of property taxes with credit and debit cards; it’s time for Honolulu to do the same.”

Councilmember Djou’s resolution asks the Hannemann administration to come up with a plan to allow residents to pay property taxes with a credit or debit card by December 31. An informal survey by Djou’s office of over 40 different U.S. cities showed a majority of municipalities, including Kauai and the Big Island, accept credit card payment for property taxes with a nominal fee. Currently, unlike payment of vehicle tax, Oahu resident do not have the option of using credit cards and the internet to pay real property taxes on-line.

The Hannemann administration opposes Councilmember Djou’s proposal and testified that it wants Oahu residents to only pay real property taxes by check or cash and ban on-line payments.

#