

1. **Honolulu Salary Commission's Proposed City Council Member Salary.** Pursuant to [Honolulu City Charter, Section 3-122](#), the [Honolulu Salary Commission](#) adopted a [resolution](#) on April 25, 2023 increase the annual salaries of City Council members from \$68,904 to \$113,304, and from \$76,968 to \$123,288 for Council Chair, effective July 1, 2023, unless seven Councilmembers vote to adopt [Resolution No. 23-82](#) by June 24, 2023 to reject the pay raise.
2. **Resolution No. 23-82 Committee Referral and/or Council Hearing & Vote.** [Council Rule No. 4-B\(10\)](#) requires the Council Chair to refer all resolutions to a committee or directly to the council floor. If the [Executive Matters and Legal Affairs Committee](#) is referred [Reso. 23-82](#), similar to the 2013 resolution, [Reso. 13-88](#), it may hear the resolution at its next meeting on June 20. The Council meets on June 7, and not again until July 12.
3. **Council Rule No. 1 and Rule No. 4.** A five-member majority of the Council has the power to add Reso. 23-82 to the agenda of its June 7 regular Council meeting or at a special council meeting. [Council Rule No. 4-B\(12\)\(b\)](#) states "When a majority of the entire membership of the Council, by a memo signed by all members of such majority directs the City Clerk to place a bill, resolution, or other matter on the Council agenda, the Clerk shall place the matter on the Council agenda on the next Council meeting..." [Council Rule No. 1-B](#) states, in part: "Special meetings may be called at any time by ... a majority of the Councilmembers ... ; subject, however, to the six-day public notice requirement"
4. **Board Resolution Requests Specific Actions.** The requested actions include:
 - (A) the Council Chair is requested to refer the resolution to the Committee on Executive Matters and Legal Affairs for hearing and recommendation by May 30; and
 - (B) if the resolution is referred to the Committee, it is requested to schedule the resolution for hearing on the Committee's June 20 agenda and report its recommendation for Council action by June 24; otherwise a Council majority is requested to place the resolution on the June 20 agenda; and
 - (C) if the resolution is not referred to the Committee by May 30, a majority of the Council is requested pursuant to Council Rule 4-B(12)(b) to submit a memo to the City Clerk to place the resolution on the agenda of the Council's June 7 meeting to take appropriate action, including referral to committee, hearing, and decision-making;
 - (D) a majority of the Council is requested to schedule a special council meeting before June 24 for action on the resolution, pursuant to Council Rule 1-B.
5. **Pension Calculation.** The pension of elected officials is a percentage of the average of their highest three years salary. [HRS §88-74\(d\)&\(d\)\(1\)](#) states, in part; "If a member, who became a member before July 1, 2012, has credited service as an elective officer.... the member's retirement shall be derived by adding" "... , "... irrespective of age, for each year of credited service as an elective officer, three and one-half per cent of the member's average final compensation..." [HRS §88-81\(e\)](#) states, in part: "If a member, who became a member before July 1, 2012, has credited service rendered as an elective officer..., the member's average final compensation shall be computed ... as follows:" "...the three highest paid years of credited service as an elective officer ..."

6. **Pension Increase of a Current Council Member:** The Salary Commission did not consider the impact of its 2023 pay increase on Councilmembers' retirement, which would increase the pension of an individual on the current Council by over \$500,000 in their lifetime or an additional \$22,697 annually. The Councilmember would receive 49% of the pay raise amount, because they have served six years in another elected position, will serve another eight years as Councilmember, and is assumed an average longevity.
7. **Part- or Full-time Council Job.** The Salary Commission makes annual recommendations on Councilmembers' salaries, and next year could recommend a Charter amendment to clarify that Council have full-time positions. Several Salary Commissions 1985-1990 discussed whether Councilmembers should be considered for part- or full-time officers. A citizens advisory committee found that "[the work of the city council was de facto 'full time'](#)" and, in 1988 the Mayor relevantly stated "nonetheless, the Council is a part time body until such time that this is changed by Charter amendment." The 1999 and 2000 Commissions recommended that the [City Council consider a Charter amendment](#) to clarify the status of Councilmembers as "full-time" or "part-time" officers.