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February 13, 2023

TO: The Honorable Representative Justin H. Woodson, Chair,  
and Members of the House Committee on Education

FROM: Alice L. Lee  
Council Chair 

SUBJECT: **HEARING OF FEBRUARY 14, 2023; TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF  
HB 1117, HD1, RELATING TO TEACHER RENTAL HOUSING**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **support** of this important measure. The purpose of this measure is allow the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation to plan and help create rental housing projects for teachers.

The Maui County Council has not had the opportunity to take a formal position on this measure. Therefore, I am providing this testimony in my capacity as an individual member of the Maui County Council.

I support this measure for the following reasons:

1. There is a severe teacher shortage which is exacerbated by the lack of affordable rental housing available for teachers in Hawaii.
2. Attracting and retaining quality teachers is critically important to the future of a healthy society.
3. Providing more opportunities for teacher housing will enhance teachers' ability to remain in Hawaii to educate our children.
4. This measure furthers the following objective of the Maui County General Plan (at page 52 of the Countywide Policy Plan):  
"Encourage the State to attract and retain school administrators and educators of the highest quality."

For the foregoing reasons, I **support** this measure.