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COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY OF MAUI 200 S. HIGH STREET WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793 www.MauiCounty.us

February 13, 2023

TO: The Honorable Representative Justin H. Woodson, Chair,

and Members of the House Committee on Education

FROM: Alice L. Lee

Chair, Maui County Council Je

SUBJECT: HEARING OF FEBRUARY 14, 2023; TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 1256, HD 1, RELATING TO SCHOOL CAMPUSES

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **support** of this important measure. This measure would establish and appropriate money for a pilot program to provide for the planning, design, and construction of on-campus housing for employees at Maui's Lahainaluna and Kulanihakoi high schools.

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. This measure would address Maui County's lack of attainable housing, which is a limiting factor to attracting and retaining quality, specialized school teachers, staff, and administrators.
- 2. Lahainaluna and Kulanihakoi high school campuses have existing infrastructure and are located near high-traffic roads, which makes them ideal locations for the pilot project proposed by this measure.
- 3. Using existing infrastructure and State property to provide oncampus housing for school employees would reduce costs, construction time, and traffic congestion.
- 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 those reasons, I **support** this measure.

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