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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 David A. Tarnas, Chair, and

Members of the House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

FROM: Alice L. Lee

Council Chair

SUBJECT: HEARING OF FEBRUARY 14, 2023; TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF

HB 279, HD1, RELATING TO THE COUNTIES

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **support** of this important measure. The purpose of this bill is to allow counties to use tax revenues from a General Excise Tax surcharge for the repair and maintenance of private roads that are open to and used by the public.

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. Using tax revenues for privately owned roads that are open to and used by the public would benefit both residents and visitors.
- 2. Private roads are used by first responders in emergencies and by school buses for student transportation.
- 3. I am supporting separate legislation that would extend the County of Maui's time to enact an ordinance for a GET surcharge, which would allow the County to also benefit from this measure.

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

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