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## **COUNTY COUNCIL**

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

February 1, 2023

Director of Council Services Traci N. T. Fujita, Esq.

Deputy Director of Council Services David M. Raatz, Jr., Esq.

TO:

The Honorable Troy N. Hashimoto, Chair

House Committee on Housing

FROM:

Alice L. Lee

Council Chair (

SUBJECT: HEARING OF FEBRUARY 3, 2023; TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 814,

RELATING TO AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **support** of this important measure. The purpose of this bill is to require counties to adopt ordinances to allow religious institutions, educational institutions, and medical institutions to build housing units on land that the institutions own for purchase in fee simple or use by the institutions, their employees, or their contractors, regardless of current zoning restrictions.

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. The measure will allow our county more flexibility to consider new and creative solutions to increase our housing inventory in order to ease the housing shortage crisis.
- 2. This measure will allow educational, medical, and religious institutions to help end the housing crisis by developing housing units on land that they own.

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

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