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February 11, 2023

TO: The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Chair
Senate Committee on Public Safety and Intergovernmental and Military Affairs

The Honorable Lorraine R. Inouye, Chair
Senate Committee on Water and Land

FROM: Alice L. Lee
Council Chair 

SUBJECT: **HEARING OF FEBRUARY 13, 2023; TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT WITH REVISIONS OF SB 1477, RELATING TO GOVERNMENT PROPERTY**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **support with revisions** on this important measure. The purpose of this bill would transfer operation, administration, and maintenance duties to certain wharfs, launching ramps, and small boat harbors (Lahaina, Manele, Mala, Maalaea, Kihei) from the Department of Land and Natural Resources to the County of Maui.

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 the intent** of this measure for the following reasons:

1. This measure would allow small boat harbors to synchronize their transportation systems within Maui County.
2. This measure could help to create a locally based system of governance for small boat harbors, which are vital to interisland transportation.
3. This measure could help the County Department of Transportation fulfill its responsibility "for the planning and implementation of all modes of transportation in Maui County, including...those on water."
4. I suggest clarification in the bill that the County will be exempt from legal liability to the same degree that the State is now.

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