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February 1, 2023

TO: The Honorable Senator Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Chair,  
and Members of the Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs

FROM: Alice L. Lee   
Maui County Council Chair

SUBJECT: **HEARING OF FEBRUARY 7, 2023; TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF  
SB 1582, RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME  
LANDS**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **support** of this important measure. This measure would ensure the \$600,000,000 appropriated to the department of Hawaiian home lands in Act 279, Session Laws of Hawai'i 2022, is available for expenditure until June 30, 2025.

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 intent of Act 279 was to require that the appropriated funds be encumbered by June 30, 2025.
2. Article VII, Section 11, of the Hawai'i State Constitution provides that no appropriation may be for a period exceeding three years, which only permits the expenditure of biennial appropriations one year beyond the biennial period. In this case, that deadline is no later than June 30, 2024.
3. This measure would provide a multi-pronged approach to reducing the over twenty-eight thousand applicants on the department of Hawaiian home lands waitlist.

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

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