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**COUNTY COUNCIL**  
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January 27, 2023

TO: The Honorable Senator Sharon Y. Moriwaki, Chair, and Members of the Senate Committee on Labor and Technology  
FROM: Tasha Kama  
Maui County Council Chair   
SUBJECT: **HEARING OF JANUARY 30, 2023; TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 206, RELATING TO THE EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **support** of this important measure. This measure would repeal the requirement for police officers reaching at least 55 years of age to retire.

This measure is part of the 2023 Hawaii Association of Counties Legislative Package. Therefore, I offer this testimony on behalf of the Maui County Council.

The Maui County Council supports this measure for the following reasons:

1. This measure would assist police departments with recruitment and retention, which is needed in all counties.
2. Removing the retirement age requirement could encourage younger potential recruits to join police departments.
3. Removing the retirement age requirement would eliminate a possible disincentive for potential lateral transfers of officers from other jurisdictions.
4. A study shows police officers' life expectancy may improve by allowing them to retire earlier.

For the foregoing reasons, the Maui County Council **supports** this measure.