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Tasha Kama



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

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

January 27, 2023

TO: The Honorable Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair
Senate Committee on Government Operations

FROM: Tasha Kama
Council Chair 

SUBJECT: **HEARING OF JANUARY 31, 2023; TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 232,
RELATING TO THE HAWAII PUBLIC PROCUREMENT CODE**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **support** of this important measure. The purpose of this bill is to help ensure only qualified contractors and subcontractors are awarded capital improvement projects based on past experiences, quality craftwork, efficient operation, and safety not just being the low bidder.

This measure is in the Maui County Legislative Package; therefore, I offer this testimony on behalf of the Council.

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

1. Awarding a capital improvement project solely because a contractor is the lowest bidder does not necessarily ensure timely completion of projects.
2. The bill enhances the government's ability to identify the lowest "responsible bidder" on all capital improvement projects through more comprehensive submission requirements.
3. Ensuring public funds are spent wisely through the proposed submission requirements will foster greater public trust in local government.

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

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