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February 22, 2023

TO: The Honorable Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair
and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary

FROM: Alice L. Lee 
Council Chair

SUBJECT: **HEARING OF FEBRUARY 23, 2023; TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 74, SD1, RELATING TO SPECIAL MANAGEMENT AREAS**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **support** of this important measure. This measure would eliminate the need for Special Management Area permits for certain beneficial projects, including those for pedestrian and bicycle facilities, native-habitat preservation, native-seabird protection, security at public facilities, and Hawaiian traditional and customary practices.

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. This measure's targeted amendments to the definition of "development" will promote, not undercut, the environmental controls and quality that Special Management Area regulations are intended to protect.
2. This measure will facilitate the timely approval of important projects to benefit the public, including improvements to pedestrian and bicycling infrastructure, environmental and wildlife protection, and security at public facilities.

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