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February 3, 2024

TO: The Honorable Linda Ichiyama, Chair, and  
Members of the House Committee on Water & Land  
The Honorable Nicole E. Lowen, Chair, and  
Members of the House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection

FROM: Alice L. Lee  
Council Chair 

SUBJECT: **HEARING OF FEBRUARY 6, 2024; TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF  
HB 1840, RELATING TO THE ENVIRONMENT**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **support** of this measure, which would appropriate funds to the Department of Land and Natural Resources for water-quality monitoring and pollution-source detection.

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. It advances the health and safety objective of protecting Maui County residents from health issues from air and water degradation caused by the 2023 wildfires and recovery efforts.
2. This measure fulfills the House Environmental Remediation Working Group's recommendation to increase resources for water-quality monitoring and contaminant testing.
3. The entire Lahaina coastline is in the impact zone of water contamination because of runoff, debris, and contaminants. This measure will support much-needed testing on the coastal ecosystem for risks.
4. This measure promotes responsible environmental stewardship, which will be key to rebuilding West Maui.

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