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COUNTY COUNCIL COUNTY OF MAUI

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

February 5, 2024

- TO: The Honorable Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair, and Members of the Senate Committee on Higher Education
- FROM: Alice L. Lee Council Chair

SUBJECT: HEARING OF FEBRUARY 6, 2024; TESTIMONY IN <u>SUPPORT</u> OF SB2542, RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII MAUI COLLEGE, MOLOKAI EDUCATION CENTER

I support this measure to appropriate funds to the University of Hawai'i to relocate and expand the University of Hawai'i Maui College, Molokai Education Center.

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 Molokai Education Center is nearing capacity and threatened by sealevel rise.
- 2. The property proposed for relocation and expansion in Kalamaula, owned by Kamehameha Schools, appears to be a good choice. The property has sufficient size and is located outside of the sea-level-rise zone.
- 3. The measure requires the University of Hawai'i to consult with the local community, ensuring Molokai residents' needs and concerns are met by relocating the campus as proposed.

Thank you for your consideration.

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