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February 13, 2024

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

FROM: Alice L. Lee
Council Chair 

SUBJECT: **HEARING OF FEBRUARY 16, 2024; TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB2565, RELATING TO PUBLIC PARKS**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **support** of this measure, which bars counties from prohibiting leashed dogs in public parks and establishes penalties for leaving dog excrement on public or private property.

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 allows residents to enter and enjoy public parks with their leashed dogs, which is beneficial for quality of life and helps to maximize public benefit from State and county parks.
2. This measure also establishes appropriate penalties for leaving dog excrement on any public or private property, promoting responsible pet ownership.

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

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