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March 11, 2024

TO: The Honorable Stanley Chang, Chair, and
Members of the Committee on Housing

FROM: Alice L. Lee
Council Chair 

SUBJECT: **HEARING OF MARCH 12, 2024; TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB2548,
HD3, RELATING TO ACCESSORY DWELLING UNITS**

I **support** this measure to establish the Accessory Dwelling Unit Loan Program under the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation.

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. Constructing accessory dwelling units is a critical part of addressing the housing shortage. Maui County has enacted legislation to promote the construction of ADUs, including by amending the Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance and launching the 'Ohana Assistance Program pilot project.
2. Loans of up to \$300,000, as proposed in this measure, will help to encourage residents to build ADUs on their properties. As a result, the inventory of below-market-rate rental units will be increased, as the HHFDC has noted.
3. As AARP Hawaii stated in its testimony to the House Committee on Finance, "ADUs are a beneficial and needed option for people of all ages."

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

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