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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 Representative Linda Ichiyama, Chair, and

Members of the House Committee on Water & Land

The Honorable Representative Luke A. Evslin, Chair, and

Members of the House Committee on Housing

FROM: Alice L. Lee

Council Chair

SUBJECT: HEARING OF FEBRUARY 7, 2024; TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF

HB2549, RELATING TO MAUI'S PERMANENT HOUSING RECOVERY

I **support** this measure to establish the Interagency Council for Maui Housing Recovery within the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism.

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. Establishing the Interagency Council for Maui Housing Recovery will support the comprehensive wildfire recovery for Maui Island, including by formulating a much-needed strategic plan to address Maui's housing recovery projects.
- 2. The Interagency Council will include important representation from Maui by including as members various Maui County departments, the community, and a member of the Maui County Council.
- 3. Having this construct between the State and County of Maui for the many years it will take to plan, coordinate, and fund Maui's housing recovery will be beneficial in working toward unified and coordinated efforts.

Thank you for your consideration.