

Council Chair  
Alice L. Lee

Vice-Chair  
Yuki Lei K. Sugimura

Presiding Officer Pro Tempore  
Tasha Kama

Councilmembers  
Tom Cook  
Gabe Johnson  
Tamara Paltin  
Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez  
Shane M. Sinenci  
Nohelani U'u-Hodgins



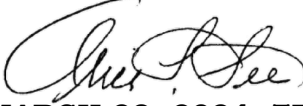
Director of Council Services  
David M. Raatz, Jr., Esq.

Deputy Director of Council Services  
Richelle K. Kawasaki, Esq.

**COUNTY COUNCIL**  
COUNTY OF MAUI  
200 S. HIGH STREET  
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793  
[www.MauiCounty.us](http://www.MauiCounty.us)

March 27, 2024

TO: The Honorable Kyle T. Yamashita, Chair  
and Members of the House Committee on Finance

FROM: Alice L. Lee  
Council Chair 

SUBJECT: **HEARING OF MARCH 28, 2024; TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB2085,  
SD2, HD1, RELATING TO THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL**

I **support** this measure to reestablish the State Fire Marshal position.

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 common-sense proposal will provide dedicated support for wildfire prevention and allow Hawai'i the same protections that already exist in every other state in the nation.
2. A State Fire Marshal would coordinate statewide fire-protection efforts, work with State and county officials to enforce the State Fire Code, and mitigate wildfire risks.
3. The August 2023 wildfires resulted in devastating impacts to the lives, property, safety, and security of the people of Maui and reestablishing this position would be a reasonable and cost-effective step toward protecting Hawai'i's residents and visitors from fire loss.

Thank you for your consideration.

ocs:proj:legis:24legis:24testimony:sb2085\_sd2\_hd1\_paf24\_002(111)\_sgt