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February 12, 2019

TO: The Honorable Chris Lee, Chair
House Committee on Judiciary

FROM: Kelly T. King
Council Chair

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kelly King".

SUBJECT: **HEARING OF FEBRUARY 13, 2019; TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 1133, HD 1, RELATING TO MARINE LIFE CONSERVATION DISTRICTS**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **support** of this important measure. The purpose of this bill is to preserve Molokini shoal by limiting entry into the Molokini Marine Life Conservation District to 41 permits and 20 permitted vessels at any given time.

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. A 2016 reef predator movement study found that 50 percent of omilu (a key nearshore reef predator) were displaced outside of the shallow crater into deeper water when the number of boats exceeded 12.
2. A 2018 study found that 69 percent of visitors felt overcrowded while at the Molokini shoal.
3. These studies show that overcrowding is a current problem for both marine life and visitors within the Molokini shoal.

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