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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 549, HD 1, RELATING TO THE ENVIRONMENT**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **support** of this important measure. The purpose of this bill is to require new developments to plan for the impacts of projected sea level rise and prohibits development in areas significantly affected by projected sea level rise.

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. Act 188 of the Session Laws of Hawai'i 1977 declared that it is State policy to protect, preserve, and restore or improve the quality of coastal ecosystems and reduce hazards to life and property from tsunami, storm waves, stream flooding, erosion, and subsidence.
2. A 2012 study by the U.S. Geological Survey and University of Hawai'i researchers indicates that 70 percent of beaches in Hawai'i are undergoing a trend of chronic sand loss and shoreline retreat and more than 13 miles of beach have been completely lost to erosion fronting armoring, such as seawalls and revetments, installed during development.
3. The Hawai'i Sea Level Rise Vulnerability and Adaptation Report finds that, with just 1.1 feet of sea level rise, many more miles of beach could be lost to erosion if widespread armoring is allowed.

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

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