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February 7, 2019

TO: The Honorable Mike Gabbard, Chair
Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment

The Honorable Clarence K. Nishihara, Chair
Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military
Affairs

The Honorable Kaiiali'i Kahele, Chair
Senate Committee on Water and Land

FROM: Kelly T. King *Kelly King*
Council Chair

SUBJECT: **HEARING OF FEBRUARY 11, 2019; TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB
1054, RELATING TO PLANNING**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **support** of this important measure. The purpose of this bill is to require: the State and counties to incorporate predictions of sea level rise and other climate change hazards and mitigation opportunities into applicable plans, strategies, and mapping; the Public Utilities Commission to consider the findings in the Hawaii Sea Level Rise Vulnerability and Adaptation Report; and each county to participate in the community rating system developed by the National Flood Insurance Program.

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. The State of Hawaii, the only state in the United States comprised entirely of islands, is especially vulnerable to impacts of sea level rise, with approximately 750 miles of coastline and extensive development in low-lying areas.
2. The Maui County Council adopted Resolution 18-160 supporting the recommendations in the Hawaii Sea Level Rise Vulnerability and Adaptation Report.

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3. The Mayor of the County of Maui issued a Proclamation on February 22, 2018 urging officials at all levels of government to view climate change and the need for climate adaptation as pressing matters, to take a proactive approach in mitigating impacts caused by sea level rise, and to develop programs to protect the County for future generations.

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

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