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February 11, 2019

Handwritten signature of Kelly King in black ink.

TO: The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Chair
Senate Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism
The Honorable Rosalyn Baker, Chair
Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health

FROM: Kelly T. King
Council Chair

SUBJECT: **HEARING OF FEBRUARY 13, 2019; TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF
SB 1292, RELATING TO TRANSIENT ACCOMMODATIONS**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **support** of this important measure. This measure would make it unlawful for a hosting platform to provide, and collect a fee for, booking services regarding transient vacation rentals that violate county zoning ordinances; and would allow a transient accommodations broker to register as a tax collection agent for its operators and plan managers.

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. Unpermitted transient vacation rentals remain a problem for both the counties and the State. It is estimated that thousands of unpermitted units are operating throughout the State, with over \$100 million in general excise tax and transient accommodations tax going uncollected.
2. Allowing a transient accommodations broker to act as a tax collection agent on behalf of providers of transient accommodations that utilize the services of the broker may facilitate the collection of transient accommodations taxes and general excise taxes.
3. This measure will facilitate compliance with State tax laws and County zoning ordinances.

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