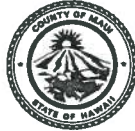


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**COUNTY COUNCIL**  
COUNTY OF MAUI  
200 S. HIGH STREET  
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793  
[www.MauiCounty.us](http://www.MauiCounty.us)

March 25, 2019

TO: The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
House Committee on Finance

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

SUBJECT: **HEARING OF MARCH 27, 2019; OFFERING COMMENTS ON SB 1131, SD2, HD1, RELATING TO OHANA ZONES**

Thank you for the opportunity to offer **comments** on this important measure. The purpose of this measure is to increase the number of Ohana Zone sites, include private property owned by non-profit organizations under a public-private partnership as potential Ohana Zone locations, and extend the time to implement the Ohana Zones Pilot 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 offer the following comments:

1. It appears Ohana Zones program funding has not proven useful on Maui thus far. Increasing the number of sites may not necessarily increase the program's reach or improve its effectiveness.
2. The focus of Ohana Zones should be on creating end results, not on the methods used to achieve them.
3. I respectfully suggest the Legislature consider modifying the parameters of the program itself. Goals should be focused on providing housing for specific numbers of houseless persons by a certain date, while allowing flexibility in the implementation of the Ohana Zones program to best suit the needs of each island.

Thank you for your consideration of my foregoing **comments** on this measure.