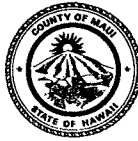


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January 27, 2020

TO: The Honorable Clarence K. Nishihara, Chair  
Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs  
The Honorable Stanley Chang, Chair  
Senate Committee on Housing

FROM: Alice L. Lee  
Council Chair

SUBJECT: **HEARING OF JANUARY 28, 2020; TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF  
SB 2053, RELATING TO HOUSING**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **support** of this important measure. The purpose of this measure is to require a County to approve, approve with modification, or disapprove an application for a permit necessary for a housing development project that uses moneys from the Rental Housing Revolving Fund.

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. Providing housing for our residents is a critical issue statewide. However, each county's housing situation is unique, and housing solutions that work for one county may not work for another. By allowing each county to review these permit applications, each county will be able to take their situation into account and move forward applications for rental housing projects that are appropriate for their community.
2. The Environmental Impact Statement process can be arduous for developers and impedes development for housing we need now. Exempting projects that utilize moneys from Rental Housing Revolving Fund will allow rentals to more quickly be available for those who need them.

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