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January 27, 2020

TO: 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 2647, RELATING TO THE HAWAII PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITY**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **support** of this important measure. The purpose of this measure is to establish the Landlord Incentive Program Special Fund to reimburse land owners who participate in the Section 8 housing choice voucher program for repair costs of tenant-caused property damage when the repair costs exceed the tenant's security deposit.

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. This measure would help support the availability of much-needed affordable rental housing units in Maui County and elsewhere by encouraging landlords to participate in Section 8 housing programs.
2. This measure would help ensure that landlords participating in Section 8 housing programs do not incur additional costs for tenant-caused property damage when the repair costs exceed the tenant's security deposit.

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

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