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February 3, 2020

TO: The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair
SENATE COMMITTEE ON LABOR, CULTURE AND THE ARTS

The Honorable Kaiali'i Kahele, Chair
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

FROM: Alice L. Lee
Council Chair

SUBJECT: **HEARING OF FEBRUARY 5, 2020; TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF
SB 2076, RELATING TO HISTORIC PRESERVATION**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **support** of this important measure. The purpose of this measure is to allow the Department of Land and Natural Resources, State Historic Preservation Division to delegate to the impacted counties the responsibility for historic preservation project reviews, provided that certain requirements are met.

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. Section 6E-42, Hawai'i Revised Statutes, plays an essential role in the protection and management of the State's historic places, burial sites, and aviation artifacts. Section 6E-42 requires agencies and officers of the State and its subdivisions, prior to project approval, to submit for review by the Department of Land and Natural Resources, State Historic Preservation Division all projects that may affect historic properties.
2. Many affordable-housing projects are delayed because of the State Historic Preservation Division's inability to efficiently and effectively provide necessary reviews to ensure compliance with State historic preservation law.
3. I support this measure because it authorizes the counties to employ qualified archaeologists to perform necessary reviews under Chapter 6E, Hawai'i Revised Statutes.

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4. I support this bill because it ensures compliance with State preservation law while helping to eliminate delay of affordable-housing projects.

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

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