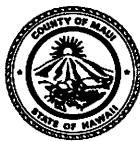


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Director of Council Services  
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**COUNTY COUNCIL**  
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February 18, 2020

TO: The Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair  
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

FROM: Alice L. Lee  
Council Chair

SUBJECT: **HEARING OF FEBRUARY 20, 2020; TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 2692, SD 1, RELATING TO THE NA WAI WATERSHED**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **support** to this important measure. The purpose of this measure is to acquire the Na Wai Eha watershed using land conservation funds.

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. The Na Wai Eha watershed, composed of native koa, ohia, and lama forests, hidden valleys, and mountains reaching 5,000 feet, the habitat for over 45 endangered species, and the principal source of Maui's drinking water, is a tremendous environmental asset to the County of Maui.
2. Acquisition of the watershed will provide for its protection and promote new stewardship opportunities.
3. This measure will preserve and protect 11,020 acres of this critical watershed for public recreation, cultural gathering, and endangered species in perpetuity.

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