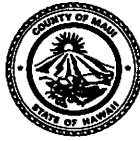Council Chair
  Alice L. Lee

Vice-Chair
  Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez

Presiding Officer Pro Tempore
  Tasha Kama

Councilmembers
  Riki Hokama
  Kelly Takaya King
  Michael J. Molina
  Tamara Paltin
  Shane M. Sinenci
  Yuki Lei K. Sugimura

Director of Council Services
Traci N. T. Fujita, Esq.

COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY OF MAUI
200 S. HIGH STREET
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793
www.MauiCounty.us

March 10, 2020

TO: The Honorable Ryan I. Yamane, Chair
        House Committee on Water, Land, and Hawaiian Affairs

FROM: Alice L. Lee
        Council Chair

SUBJECT: **HEARING OF MARCH 11, 2020; TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF
         SB 2076 SD2, 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 State Historic Preservation Division to delegate to the impacted counties the responsibility for historic preservation project reviews, if 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 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. This measure authorizes the counties to employ qualified archaeologists to perform necessary reviews under Chapter 6E, Hawai'i Revised Statutes, which will ensure compliance with State preservation law while helping to eliminate delay of affordable-housing projects.

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

ocs:proj:legis:20legis:20testimony:sb2076_paf20-061(41)_jbf