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**COUNTY COUNCIL**  
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March 2, 2020

TO: The Honorable Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Chair  
Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs

The Honorable Stanley Chang, Chair  
Senate Committee on Housing

FROM: Alice L. Lee  
Council Chair

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "AL", written over the printed name "Alice L. Lee".

SUBJECT: **HEARING OF MARCH 3, 2020; TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SR 2, STRONGLY URGING THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO ALLOW HAWAIIAN HOMESTEADS TO BE DIRECT RECIPIENTS OF FEDERAL NATIVE HAWAIIAN HOUSING BLOCK GRANTS UNDER THE NATIVE AMERICAN HOUSING ASSISTANCE AND SELF-DETERMINATION ACT**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **support** of this important measure. The purpose of this resolution is to strongly urge the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Congress of the United States to designate individual Hawaiian homesteads as direct recipients of Native Hawaiian Housing Block Grants.

This measure is in the Maui County's Legislative Package; therefore, I offer this testimony on behalf of the Council.

The Maui County Council supports this measure for the following reasons:

1. Hawai'i is experiencing a critical affordable-housing shortage and more funding is needed to support infrastructure development, home construction and rehabilitation programs, direct loans, and housing subsidies for Native Hawaiian families.
2. Designating individual Hawaiian homesteads in Hawaii to be direct recipients of Native Hawaiian Housing Block Grants, in addition to the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands, could expedite the effective use of these funds and expand affordable-housing opportunities for low-income families and individuals living on, or desiring to live on, Hawaiian homesteads.

For the foregoing reasons, the Maui County Council **supports** this measure.