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February 7, 2021

TO: Honorable Nicole E. Lowen, Chair
House Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection

FROM: Alice L. Lee
Council Chair 

DATE: February 8, 2021

SUBJECT: **SUPPORT OF HB 1317, RELATING TO ENVIRONMENTAL
MANAGEMENT**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **SUPPORT** of this important measure. The purpose of this measure is to allow county governments to enter into private-public partnerships for the services and transferring, or joint venturing of one or more of their wastewater treatment facilities to a private entity, or its wholly owned nonprofit management entity, for the delivery of those services.

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 measure provides the County additional options for operating wastewater treatment facilities.
2. I am open to new, creative ways to solve Maui County's wastewater treatment facility problems.
3. Often, public-private partnerships allow the counties to provide exceptional service to the public while also saving taxpayer dollars.

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