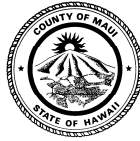


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February 2, 2021

TO: Honorable David A. Tarnas, Chair
House Committee on Water and Land

FROM: Alice L. Lee
Council Chair 

DATE: February 2, 2021

SUBJECT: **OPPOSITION TO HB 369, RELATING TO TRANSIENT ACCOMMODATION TAX**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **OPPOSITION** to this important measure. The purpose of this measure is to increase the allocation of funds from Transient Accommodations Tax revenue to the Special Land and Development Fund to improve certain State resources and 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 OPPOSE this measure for the following reasons:

1. The bill limits TAT funds to counties. The TAT is a vital source of our revenue and directly supports visitor services, such as county beaches and other parks, public safety, and streets and highways.
2. With the economy down and all levels of government struggling to maintain vital services, now is not the time to take funds away from the counties.
3. While I agree that State resources and services need improvement, the necessary funding should come from another source, rather than at the expense of our shared constituents.

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