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February 5, 2022

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

FROM: Alice L. Lee
Council Chair

DATE: February 5, 2022

SUBJECT: **SUPPORT FOR HB 1436, RELATING TO DEVELOPMENT RIGHTS**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **SUPPORT** of this important measure. The purpose of this measure gives counties authority to use the transfer of development rights to protect lands at risk from sea-level rise, coastal erosion, storm surge, or flooding.

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. Rising sea levels continue to pose a threat throughout the State, eroding beaches and damaging habitat, ecological processes, and public property.
2. This measure authorizes counties to use the transfer of development rights to help protect areas at risk of sea-level rise, coastal erosion, storm surge, or flooding, allowing the counties to direct development away from at-risk coastal areas.
3. The authority granted by this measure would help the County of Maui fulfill the General Plan's directive to "restrict development in areas that are prone to natural hazards, disasters, or sea-level rise."

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