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February 6, 2022

TO: Honorable Nadine K. Nakamura, Chair
House Committee on Housing

FROM: Alice L. Lee
Council Chair

DATE: February 6, 2022

SUBJECT: **OPPOSE HB 2134, RELATING TO COUNTIES**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **OPPOSITION** to this measure. The purpose of this measure is to require counties within 60 days to maintain infrastructure, under specified conditions, as part of any housing development for the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands.

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 measure arbitrarily imposes unfunded mandates on counties.
2. This measure would require counties to incur the financial and administrative responsibilities of maintaining the infrastructure of housing developments for the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands without dedicated revenue funding.
3. The County of Maui has a good working relationship with the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands. For example, the County's General Plan states: "Support the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands' development of homestead lands." This measure would unnecessarily interfere with that relationship.

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