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February 5, 2022

TO: Honorable Mike Gabbard, Chair
Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment

FROM: Alice L. Lee
Council Chair

DATE: February 5, 2022

SUBJECT: **SUPPORT FOR SB 2054, RELATING TO CLIMATE CHANGE
MITIGATION**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **SUPPORT** of this important measure. The purpose of this measure is to assess a climate change mitigation impact fee for persons renting, leasing, or utilizing tourism-related vehicles in the State, to be used toward protecting natural resources.

This measure is part of the Hawaii State Association of Counties' Legislative Package. Therefore, I offer this testimony on the Maui County Council's behalf.

I **SUPPORT** this measure for the following reasons:

1. Ground transportation contributes significantly to Hawaii's share of greenhouse gas emissions. The fee to be established by this measure would incentivize more sustainable forms of transportation and mitigate the effects of climate change.
2. Managing the impacts of tourism on climate change and the environment are essential to the State and counties.
3. This measure is a form of tourism management that can help to ensure quality of life for residents, the health of the environment, and the continued value of the visitor experience.

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