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February 16, 2022

TO: Honorable Karl Rhoads, Chair
Senate Committee on Judiciary

FROM: Alice L. Lee
Council Chair

DATE: February 16, 2022

SUBJECT: **SUPPORT FOR SB 2096, RELATING TO THE USE OF INTOXICANTS
WHILE OPERATING A VEHICLE**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on behalf of the Maui County Council in **SUPPORT** of this important measure. The purpose of this measure is to lower the threshold blood alcohol content for the offense of operating a vehicle while under the influence of an intoxicant.

This measure is part of the 2022 Maui County Council Legislative Package. Therefore, I am providing this testimony on behalf of the Maui County Council.

The Maui County Council **SUPPORTS** this measure for the following reasons:

1. The measure implements the National Transportation Safety Board's recommendation that the Blood Alcohol Concentration cutoff be changed from a standard of 0.08 to 0.05.
2. A driver with a Blood Alcohol Concentration of 0.05 would be affected by reduced coordination, reduced ability to track moving objects, difficulty steering, and reduced response time to emergency driving situations.
3. Lowering the cutoff threshold of Blood Alcohol Concentration to 0.05 would save lives, prevent catastrophic injuries, and decrease medical costs.

For the foregoing reasons, the Maui County Council **SUPPORTS** this measure.