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February 15, 2022

TO: Honorable Jarrett Keohokalole, Chair  
Senate Committee on Health

FROM: Alice L. Lee  
Council Chair

DATE: February 15, 2022

SUBJECT: **SUPPORT OF SB 3180, RELATING TO HEALTH CARE**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **SUPPORT** of this important measure. The purpose of this measure is to establish the rural health task force within the Department of Health to make recommendations on registered nurse recruitment and retention in rural areas of East Maui, Molokai, and Lanai.

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. There is a vital need for healthcare workers in rural areas of East Maui, Molokai, and Lanai.
2. These communities will benefit from the implementation of the task force's solutions and recommendations regarding the recruitment and retention of registered nurses in rural areas.
3. The task force will be composed of health experts from the related communities.

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

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