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March 19, 2022

TO: Honorable Stanley Chang, Chair
Senate Committee on Housing

FROM: Alice L. Lee
Council Chair

DATE: March 19, 2022

SUBJECT: **SUPPORT OF HB 1917, HD1, Proposed SD1, RELATING TO AFFORDABLE HOUSING**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **SUPPORT** of this important measure. The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the Hawaii Housing Finance & Development Corporation to allow an eligible developer to acquire and rehabilitate Front Street Apartments Affordable Housing Project in Lahaina, Maui.

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. This measure supports the need to keep and maintain Front Street Apartments as an affordable housing complex.
2. Front Street Apartments provides 142 rental units.
3. Maui County has a severe shortage of affordable rental housing, but the issue is especially problematic in Lahaina where rental costs are traditionally higher than other areas of Maui.

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

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