

Council Chair
Alice L. Lee

Vice-Chair
Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez

Presiding Officer Pro Tempore
Tasha Kama

Councilmembers
Gabe Johnson
Kelly Takaya King
Michael J. Molina
Tamara Paltin
Shane M. Sinenci
Yuki Lei K. Sugimura



Director of Council Services
Traci N. T. Fujita, Esq.

Deputy Director of Council Services
David M. Raatz, Jr., Esq.

COUNTY COUNCIL
COUNTY OF MAUI
200 S. HIGH STREET
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793
www.MauiCounty.us

April 2, 2022

TO: Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair
House Committee on Finance

FROM: Alice L. Lee
Council Chair

DATE: April 2, 2022

SUBJECT: **SUPPORT OF SB 2667, SD1, HD1 RELATING TO AFFORDABLE HOUSING**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **SUPPORT** of this important measure. The purpose of this measure is to indefinitely extend the deadline and help ensure the continued availability of affordable rental housing in Maui County at the Front Street Apartments in Lahaina.

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 indefinitely extends the deadline for the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation to renegotiate an existing, or issue a new, ground lease for the Front Street Apartments affordable housing project before the corporation's requirement to initiate condemnation proceedings is triggered.
2. Maui County has a severe shortage of affordable rental housing, especially in the western part of the island of Maui.
3. Front Street Apartments in Lahaina provides 142 rental units.

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

ocs:proj:legis:22legis:testimony:sb2667_sd1_hd1_paf22-018(93)a_lma