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March 2, 2026

TO: The Honorable Chris Todd, Chair
House Committee on Finance

FROM: Alice L. Lee
Council Chair 

SUBJECT: **HEARING OF MARCH 3, 2026; TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 2173, HD1, RELATING TO AMBULANCES**

I support this measure to appropriate funds to the Department of Health for an advanced life support ambulance and related equipment and personnel to be based in Central 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. Central Maui's growing population has a significant need for additional emergency services.
2. Funding this effort would help reduce death and disability among residents and visitors by ensuring more timely response to 911 calls.
3. This measure is consistent with Maui Island Plan policy 4.6.1.f: "Encourage expansion and improved access to emergency care in all communities."

Thank you for your consideration.

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