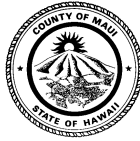


Council Chair
Alice L. Lee

Vice-Chair
Yuki Lei K. Sugimura

Councilmembers
K. Kauano'e Batangan
Tom Cook
Gabe Johnson
Tamara Paltin
Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez
Shane M. Sinenci
Nohelani U'u-Hodgins




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

Deputy Director of Council Services
Richelle K. Kawasaki, Esq.

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

March 22, 2026

TO: The Honorable Nicole E. Lowen, Chair
House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection

FROM: Alice L. Lee
Council Chair 

SUBJECT: **HEARING OF MARCH 24, 2026; TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 3254, SD2, HD1, RELATING TO THE STATE BUDGET**

I **support** this measure to appropriate funds to be expended by the Department of Health as a grant for the Hawai'i Primary Care Association to support solar-energy infrastructure at community health centers in medically underserved communities.

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 would benefit Maui County communities, as Hāna Health and Molokai Community Health Center are among the nonprofit community health centers identified for solar-plus-storage microgrid projects under the grant program.
2. Residents in geographically isolated areas of Maui County depend heavily on these community health centers for primary medical, dental, and behavioral health services, making it especially important that these facilities remain operational during power outages or emergencies.
3. Solar-plus-storage microgrids could reduce electricity costs for participating health centers by an estimated \$30,000 to \$100,000 annually, allowing facilities such as those serving Hāna and Molokai to stretch limited resources and reinvest savings into patient care and essential services.

Thank you for your consideration.