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House of Representatives Committee on Finance

**Rep. Sylvia Luke, Chair; Rep. Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice Chair; Rep. Aaron Ling Johanson,
Vice Chair**

HB 131 HD 1 RELATING TO MOBILITY MANAGEMENT

**Testimony of Deborah Arendale
Executive on Aging, Maui County Office on Aging**

**Wednesday, February 27, 2013; Conference Room 308
11:30 a.m.**

MCOA's Position: Maui County Office on Aging (MCOA) is in **strong support** of HB131 HD1 for the establishment of a task force on mobility management in Hawaii.

Purpose and Justification: Maui County joins the other county Area Agencies on Aging and the State of Hawaii Executive Office on Aging in our commitment to ensure that older adults and individuals with disabilities have access to information and services that allow each to live independently and with dignity in the community. Accessible transportation is key in this pursuit. The ability to arrange adequate transportation remains a barrier for many in the rural areas of Maui County. While those living in the more central area of Maui island experience fewer barriers to accessible transportation, the topic of transportation remains at the top of the list of expressed need of every needs assessment completed in the last five years. The establishment of a task force on mobility management would provide a basis for a public/private partnership that would allow the counties to collaborate, problem-solve, and combine the best ideas in order to improve day-to-day transportation for older persons and individuals with disabilities statewide.

Thank you for providing the opportunity to testify in support of this measure.

To promote and protect the well-being of the Older Americans in Maui County.