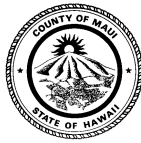


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**COUNTY COUNCIL**  
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March 15, 2022

TO: Honorable Aaron Ling Johanson, Chair  
House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce

FROM: Alice L. Lee  
Council Chair

DATE: March 15, 2022

SUBJECT: **SUPPORT FOR SB 2048, SD1, RELATING TO UNLAWFUL CHOP SHOP ACTIVITY**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **SUPPORT** of this important measure. The purpose of this measure is to establish the criminal offense of unlawful chop shop activity as a misdemeanor, including providing for the forfeiture of property connected with related activity.

This measure is included in the Hawai'i State Association of Counties Legislative Package. Therefore, I offer this testimony on the Maui County Council's behalf.

The Maui County Council **SUPPORTS** this measure for the following reasons:

1. There is currently no state statute covering the criminal misconduct of chop shop activity, although numerous auto theft investigations have shown that chop shop activity was a central part of the criminal misconduct.
2. A "Crime in the U.S. 2019" report by the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Criminal Justice Information Services Division, Hawai'i had the third-highest motor vehicle theft rate in the nation.
3. In 2019 alone, the Maui Police Department reported 661 motor vehicle theft offenses and \$4,421,246 in stolen motor vehicle property.

For the foregoing reasons, the Maui County Council **SUPPORTS** this measure.