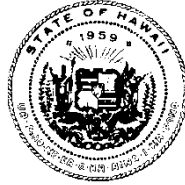


JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE
LT. GOVERNOR



DEAN MINAKAMI
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII

DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM
HAWAII HOUSING FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
677 QUEEN STREET, SUITE 300
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
FAX: (808) 587-0600

Statement of
DEAN MINAKAMI
Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation
Before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

February 28, 2024 at 10:01 am.
State Capitol, Room 211

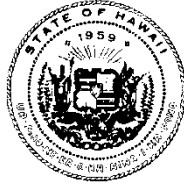
In consideration of
S.B. 2836 SD1
RELATING TO MAUI'S PERMANENT HOUSING RECOVERY.

HHFDC **supports** SB 2836 SD1, which establishes the Interagency Council for Maui Housing Recovery as an advisory body to help to coordinate and facilitate Maui's permanent housing recovery, and to facilitate consultation and collaboration between the State and the County on housing recovery initiatives for Maui. The 39-member council will be chaired by the HHFDC Executive Director and administratively attached to DBEDT, to which this bill makes a \$500,000 appropriation for the purpose of providing assistance in applying for federal loans and grants.

HHFDC recognizes that effective coordination among Federal, State, and County governmental agencies and the Maui community is essential for the recovery of permanent housing on Maui. This measure creates a council which will facilitate communication among the entities that are assisting in that effort, thereby streamlining the permanent housing recovery process.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR



HAKIM OUANSAFI
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

BARBARA E. ARASHIRO
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

STATE OF HAWAII
HAWAII PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITY
1002 NORTH SCHOOL STREET
POST OFFICE BOX 17907
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96817

IN REPLY, PLEASE REFER TO:

Statement of
Hakim Ouansafi, Executive Director
Hawaii Public Housing Authority

Before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Wednesday, February 28, 2024
10:01 AM – Room 211, Hawaii State Capitol

In consideration of
SB 2836, SD1
RELATING TO MAUI'S PERMANENT HOUSING RECOVERY

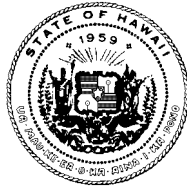
Honorable Chair Dela Cruz, and members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on Senate Bill (SB) 2836, SD1, relating to Maui's permanent housing recovery.

The Hawaii Public Housing Authority (HPHA) **supports** SB 2836, SD1, which establishes within the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism the Interagency Council for Maui Housing Recovery to coordinate and facilitate Maui's permanent housing recovery and facilitate consultation and collaboration between state and county agencies on housing recovery initiatives for the island of Maui. Designates the executive director of the Hawai'i Housing Finance and Development Corporation to serve as chair of the council. Declares that the appropriation ceiling exceeds the state general fund expenditure ceiling for 2024-2025. Makes an appropriation. Sunsets 6/30/2034.

Please know that the HPHA stands ready to assist the Legislature in this endeavor and looks forward to collaborating with all stakeholders with the future planning, development, and redevelopment efforts of public lands on the island of Maui.

The HPHA appreciates the opportunity to provide the Committee with the HPHA's testimony. We thank you very much for your dedicated support.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA



CATHY BETTS
DIRECTOR
KA LUNA HO'ŌKELE

JOSEPH CAMPOS II
DEPUTY DIRECTOR
KA HOPE LUNA HO'ŌKELE

STATE OF HAWAII
KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAI'I
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
KA 'OIHANA MĀLAMA LAWELAWE KANAKA
Office of the Director
P. O. Box 339
Honolulu, Hawaii 96809-0339

TRISTA SPEER
DEPUTY DIRECTOR
KA HOPE LUNA HO'ŌKELE

February 27, 2024

TO: The Honorable Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair
Senate Committee on Ways & Means

FROM: Cathy Betts, Director

SUBJECT: **SB 2836 SD1 – RELATING TO MAUI'S PERMANENT HOUSING RECOVERY.**

Hearing: February 28, 2024, 10:01 a.m.
Conference Room 211, State Capitol & Video Conference

DEPARTMENT'S POSITION: The Department of Human Services (DHS) appreciates the intent of this measure, will participate as a member if the measure passes, defers to all impacted agencies, and proposes amendments.

Due to the large number of council members, to facilitate the work, DHS respectfully suggests an amendment that quorum be the majority of members present at any noticed public meeting. Further, because of the ongoing Maui recovery work, existing work groups, and the broad scope of the proposed council's duties, DHS suggests an amendment allowing council members to discuss matters relating to housing recovery efforts outside of a properly noticed public meeting and those discussions will be permitted interactions under section 92-2.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

PURPOSE: This bill establishes within the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism the Interagency Council for Maui Housing Recovery to coordinate and facilitate Maui's permanent housing recovery and facilitate consultation and collaboration between state and county agencies on housing recovery initiatives for the island of Maui.

February 27, 2024

Page 2

Designates the executive director of the Hawai'i Housing Finance and Development Corporation to serve as chair of the council. Declares that the appropriation ceiling exceeds the state general fund expenditure ceiling for 2024-2025. Makes an appropriation. Sunsets 6/30/2034.

(SD1)

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.

Council Chair
Alice L. Lee

Vice-Chair
Yuki Lei K. Sugimura

Presiding Officer Pro Tempore
Tasha Kama

Councilmembers
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

February 27, 2024

TO: The Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair, and
Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

FROM: Alice L. Lee
Council Chair 

SUBJECT: **HEARING OF FEBRUARY 28, 2024; TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF
SB2836, SD1, RELATING TO MAUI'S PERMANENT HOUSING
RECOVERY**

I **support** this measure to establish the Interagency Council for Maui Housing Recovery with the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism.

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. Establishing the Interagency Council for Maui Housing Recovery will support the comprehensive wildfire recovery for Maui Island, including by formulating a much-needed strategic plan to address Maui's housing recovery projects.
2. The Interagency Council will include important representation from Maui by including as members various Maui County departments, the community, a Hawaiian cultural advisor, and a member of the Maui County Council.
3. The Senate Draft 1 amendment requiring the Interagency Council to work with Maui-based businesses to the greatest extent possible will further contribute to Maui's recovery.
4. Having this construct between the State and County of Maui for the many years it will take to plan, coordinate, and fund Maui's housing recovery will be beneficial in working toward unified and coordinated efforts.

Thank you for your consideration.