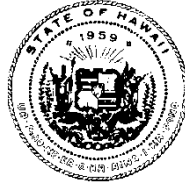


JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

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 HOUSING

January 30, 2024 at 1:00 p.m.
State Capitol, Room 225

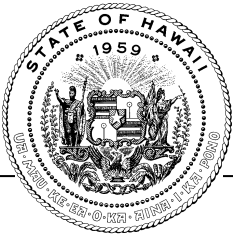
In consideration of
S.B. 2870

**RELATING TO THE HAWAII HOUSING FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT
CORPORATION.**

HHFDC supports and offers comments on SB 2870, which establishes a working group within the agency to identify existing mixed-use developments in Maui County that could be acquired by HHFDC for use as affordable housing and commercial rental leases.

While HHFDC agrees that there is an urgent need to increase affordable housing supply and spur redevelopment activities in Maui County in the wake of the August 2023 wildfires, funding would be needed to quickly follow through on the intent of the bill as properties will otherwise be sold to other interested parties.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.



**STATE OF HAWAII
OFFICE OF PLANNING
& SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE
LT. GOVERNOR

MARY ALICE EVANS
INTERIM DIRECTOR

235 South Beretania Street, 6th Floor, Honolulu, Hawaii'i 96813
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2359, Honolulu, Hawaii'i 96804

Telephone: (808) 587-2846
Fax: (808) 587-2824
Web: <https://planning.hawaii.gov/>

Statement of
MARY ALICE EVANS, Interim Director

before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING

Tuesday, January 30, 2024

1:00 PM

State Capitol, Conference Room 225

LATE

in consideration of
BILL NO SB2870
**RELATING TO THE HAWAII HOUSING FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT
CORPORATION.**

Chair Chang, Vice Chair Hashimoto, and Members of the Senate Committee on Housing:

The Office of Planning and Sustainable Development (OPSD) **offers comments** on SB2870, which establishes a working group within the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation to identify existing mixed-use developments in Maui County that could be acquired by the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation (HHFDC).

The need for additional and replacement affordable housing on Maui is clearly established, as is the urgency to deliver the housing. While the bill's intent to enable HHFDC to acquire and develop projects is clear, the bill does not provide the funding needed to allow HHFDC to negotiate and follow through on those acquisitions, in order to meet housing production goals.

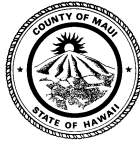
Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

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

January 29, 2024

TO: The Honorable Stanley Chang, Chair
Senate Committee on Housing

FROM: Alice L. Lee
Council Chair 

SUBJECT: **HEARING OF JANUARY 30, 2024; TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB2870,
RELATING TO THE HAWAII HOUSING FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT
CORPORATION**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **support** of this important measure. The purpose of this measure is to establish a working group to identify existing mixed-use developments in the County of Maui that could be acquired by the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation for affordable housing and commercial rental leases.

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. Affordable housing for those who lost their homes and commercial space for those who lost their businesses are both sorely needed as a result of the August 2023 Maui wildfires. By acquiring mixed-use space, HHFDC can assist residents and business owners simultaneously.
2. While supporting new developments is vital, acquiring existing developments will allow HHFDC to address this need in a more expeditious manner.

For the foregoing reasons, I **support** this measure.