



**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAII**  
**STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES**  
**'A'UNIKE MOKU'ĀPUNI NO KA NĀ KĀWAI KULA**  
1010 RICHARDS STREET, Room 122  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813  
TELEPHONE: (808) 586-8100 FAX: (808) 586-7543

March 21, 2024

The Honorable Senator Chris Lee, Chair  
Senate Committee on Transportation and Culture and the Arts  
The Thirty-Second Legislature  
State Capitol  
State of Hawai'i  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Senator Lee and Committee Members:

**SUBJECT: SCR165/SR139 REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO CONDUCT A STUDY ON THE FEASIBILITY OF BRINGING OTHER AIRLINES TO THE MOLOKAI AIRPORT**

The Hawaii State Council on Developmental Disabilities stands in **support of SCR165/SR139**, which requests the Department of Transportation to conduct a study on the feasibility of bringing other airlines to the Molokai Airport.

Improving air transportation options to and from Molokai is essential for individuals with disabilities who may rely on air travel for medical appointments, employment opportunities, and other essential services. By conducting a feasibility study, we can gain valuable insights into the potential benefits and challenges of introducing additional airlines to the Molokai Airport, including the impact on accessibility, affordability, and overall convenience for individuals with disabilities.

Furthermore, expanding air transportation options can contribute to greater social inclusion and community integration for individuals with disabilities living in Molokai. Access to reliable and accessible air travel facilitates greater participation in community activities. Such as our Annual Day at the Capitol event. This year a group from Molokai had to fly over the day before, stay at a hotel, in order to assure they would be on time for the event. The cost was extraordinary.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in **support of SCR165/SR139**.

Sincerely,  
Daintry Bartoldus  
Executive Administrator

Council Chair  
Alice L. Lee

Vice-Chair  
Yuki Lei K. Sugimura

Presiding Officer Pro Tempore  
Tasha Kama

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Shane M. Sinenci  
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**COUNTY COUNCIL**  
COUNTY OF MAUI  
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March 20, 2024

TO: The Honorable Chris Lee, Chair, and  
Members of the Senate Committee on Transportation and Culture and the  
Arts

FROM: Alice L. Lee  
Council Chair 

SUBJECT: **HEARING OF MARCH 21, 2024; TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SR139  
AND SCR165, REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
TO CONDUCT A STUDY ON THE FEASIBILITY OF BRINGING OTHER  
AIRLINES TO THE MOLOKAI AIRPORT**

I **support** these resolutions to request that the State Department of Transportation study the feasibility of bringing other airlines to the Molokai Airport.

I am providing this testimony in my capacity as an individual member of the Maui County Council.

I support these resolutions for the following reasons:

1. Since January 2021, only one passenger airline has provided service to the general public out of Molokai Airport. The cost of plane tickets remains burdensome to many Molokai residents, who need to travel for work, medical appointments, and family.
2. The needs of Molokai residents are not being met by one operating air carrier that services the island, with ongoing disruptions because of travel delays and flight cancellations.
3. Because air travel is under the jurisdiction of the Federal Aviation Administration, cooperation between Federal, State, and County agencies may provide solutions to ensure residents have access to multiple air-travel options.

Thank you for your consideration.

**SCR-165**

Submitted on: 3/20/2024 8:40:15 AM

Testimony for TCA on 3/21/2024 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kaili	Individual	Support	In Person

Comments:

I am in strong support this bill beacuse people with disability need to travel to other island for their medical appointment please pass this bill thank you.