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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.

SR-139

Submitted on: 3/20/2024 9:32:36 AM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
suzette holtzman	Testifying for Arc of Maui County	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

We highly support SR 139 based on the healthcare needs of the Kapunas and other on the island. As a business we also need secure transportation that has not existed for that past 2 years.

Mahalo

SR-139

Submitted on: 3/21/2024 4:26:10 AM

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

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Edward Codelia	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Molokai is currently experiencing a real estate boom. Brinigng other airlines into the island will lead to further real estate speculation, increased prices and higher demands. Molokai is on the forefront of a major real estate grab, which will lead to development, affordable housing, increased homelessness and crime as it did to Maui in the late 1990s.