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February 25, 2025

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

The Honorable Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair
Senate Committee on Judiciary

FROM: Ryan I. Yamane, Director

SUBJECT: SB 414 SD1 – RELATING TO HOUSING.

Hearing: February 27, 2025, 10:25 a.m.
Conference Room 211 & Videoconference, State Capitol

DEPARTMENT'S POSITION: The Department of Human Services (DHS) supports the measure's intent and defers to the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation (HHFDC), the Department of Transportation (DOT), and the County of Maui. Cane Haul Road will provide an alternate route to reduce impacts on Fleming Road and Leiali'i Parkway and provide emergency access for the region. The emergency temporary housing is constructed above existing subdivisions for Maui Wildfire survivors. There is significant community concern that both the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) (169 units) and State (395 units) housing sites, added to Kaiāulu o Kūku'ia (200 units), will increase traffic in the existing subdivisions. The primary concerns for all are congestion and safety. All three new developments will benefit from the paving of Cane Haul Road.

Paving the Cane Haul Road from Keawe Street to just north of the Lāhainā Civic Center will allow two more connection points to the system where relief can be provided. From

there, DOT could adjust access points to maximize efficiency and safety.

DHS respectfully requests that any appropriation not reduce or replace priorities identified in the executive budget.

PURPOSE: Requires the Hawai'i Housing Finance and Development Corporation to institute proceedings to condemn certain lands in Lahaina to build a new access road from Keawe Street to the Kilohana and Kalaiola sites developed in the Villages of Leialii. Appropriates funds into and out of the Dwelling Unit Revolving Fund for the appraisals and other preparations for the condemnation proceedings. (SD1).

The Committee on Housing amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

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

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE
LT. GOVERNOR



DEAN MINAKAMI
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII

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

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
AND
SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY**

February 27, 2025 at 10:25 a.m.
State Capitol, Room 211

In consideration of
S.B. 414 SD1
RELATING TO RESTORING ACCESS TO DISASTER-AFFECTED AREAS.

Chairs Dela Cruz and Rhoads, Vice Chairs Moriwaki and Gabbard, and members of the Committees.

HHFDC **supports** SB 414 SD1, which requires the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation (HHFDC) to institute proceedings to condemn certain lands in Lahaina to build a new access road from Keawe Street to the Kilohana and Kalaiola interim housing sites in the Villages of Leialii. It also appropriates moneys into and out of the Dwelling Unit Revolving Fund for the appraisals and other preparations for the condemnation proceedings.

Building the new access road entails condemning portions of the former cane haul road that crosses lands owned by Keawe Street Investment, LLC, and West Maui Venture Group parcels in order to dedicate the proposed road to the County of Maui. The cost to design and construct the new access road to the Kilohana and Kalaiola housing sites in accordance with Maui County standards is estimated to be \$10 million.

When interim housing is no longer needed, HHFDC intends to develop the Kilohana site with permanent housing. The Department of Hawaiian Home Lands, likewise, has plans to develop the Kalaiola site, with permanent housing.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.