

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE
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DEAN MINAKAMI
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII

DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM
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Statement of
DEAN MINAKAMI
Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation
Before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING

January 28, 2025 at 1:00 p.m.
State Capitol, Room 225

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

Chair Chang, Vice Chair Hashimoto, and members of the Committee.

HHFDC **supports** SB 414, 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.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA



RYAN I. YAMANE
DIRECTOR
KA LUNA HO'OKELE

JOSEPH CAMPOS II
DEPUTY DIRECTOR
KA HOPE LUNA HO'OKELE

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TRISTA SPEER
DEPUTY DIRECTOR
KA HOPE LUNA HO'OKELE

January 27, 2025

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

FROM: Ryan I. Yamane, Director

SUBJECT: SB 414 – RELATING TO HOUSING.

Hearing: January 28, 2025, 1:00 p.m.
Conference Room 225 & 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 Ka La'i Ola sites developed in the Villages of Leialii. Appropriates moneys into and out of the dwelling unit revolving fund for the appraisals and other preparations for the condemnation proceedings.

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



MAUI

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

VOICE OF BUSINESS

LATE

**HEARING BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING
HAWAII STATE CAPITOL, SENATE CONFERENCE ROOM 225
Tuesday, January 28, 2025, 1:00 P.M.**

To The Honorable Senator Stanley Chang, Chair
The Honorable Senator Troy N. Hashimoto, Vice Chair
Members of the committee on Housing

SUPPORT SB414 RELATING TO HOUSING

The Maui Chamber of Commerce **SUPPORTS SB414** 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 sites developed in the Villages of Leialii.

The Chamber notes that three projects are connected on their makai sides by a former cane haul road, which runs from north to south on land owned by HHFDC. At its northern end, the former cane haul road connects to Leialii Parkway and intersects with Waihikuli Road and Fleming Road as it heads south. Before reaching Keawe Street, this former cane haul road crosses lands owned by Keawe Street Investment LLC and West Maui Venture Group.

While we understand the necessity of this project, we encourage the state to engage in negotiations with the landowners prior to pursuing the complex process of eminent domain. We also hope that the landowners will enter into negotiations in good faith with the HHFDC.

Given the severe housing shortage in both the State and Maui County, we strongly support initiatives that promote, rather than hinder, the development of housing for our residents.

For these reasons we **SUPPORT SB414** and respectfully request its passage.

Sincerely,

Pamela Tumpap
President

To advance and promote a healthy economic environment for business, advocating for a responsive government and quality education, while preserving Maui's unique community characteristics.

SB-414

Submitted on: 1/22/2025 6:57:06 PM

Testimony for HOU on 1/28/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jen Mather	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Honorable Chair Chang and Vice Chair Hashimoto,

Please accept this as my testimony in support of acquiring the lands in Lahaina to improve access to developments that will provide housing for our community. I recognize the intent of this acquisition to establish an additional traffic corridor for vehicles traveling to and from Ka La'i Ola, Kilohana, and Kaiāulu o Kūku'ia. I do wish to caution this body, however, to direct HHFDC to do extensive traffic studies and outreach to ensure that the community is not impacted by further issues stemming from changes to Keawe Street. As one of Lahaina's primary thoroughfares, Keawe Street already faces significant challenges.

Mahalo nui for the opportunity to testify on SB414.

E mālama,
Jen Mather