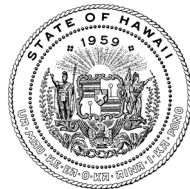


JOSH GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR



LUIS P. SALAVERIA  
DIRECTOR

SABRINA NASIR  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM  
HAWAII EMPLOYER-UNION HEALTH BENEFITS TRUST FUND  
OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER

**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE**  
*Ka 'Oihana Mālama Mo'ohelu a Kālā*  
P.O. BOX 150  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0150

ADMINISTRATIVE AND RESEARCH OFFICE  
BUDGET, PROGRAM PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT DIVISION  
FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION DIVISION  
OFFICE OF FEDERAL AWARDS MANAGEMENT

**WRITTEN ONLY**

TESTIMONY BY LUIS P. SALAVERIA  
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE  
TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
ON  
HOUSE BILL NO. 1255, H.D. 1

**March 15, 2023**  
**1:00 P.M.**  
**Room 225 and Videoconference**

RELATING TO SPECIAL PURPOSE REVENUE BONDS.

The Department of Budget and Finance offers the following comments on House Bill No. 1255, H.D. 1 which authorizes the issuance of Special Purpose Revenue Bonds (SPRB) to assist West Maui Hospital Foundation, Inc., a Hawaii corporation, to finance the costs related to the design and construction of and equipment for the West Maui Hospital and Medical Center, including any necessary infrastructure improvements pursuant to Part II, Chapter 39A, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

The Department would like to inform the Legislature and prospective SPRB parties that should the legislation be approved, approval of the SPRB issuance and conduit loan will require further review of the financing proposal to ensure compliance with all federal, state and credit underwriting requirements. For additional information, please consult our FAQ located at the following link: <http://budget.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2012/11/SPRB-FAQ.pdf>.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments.

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  
Traci N. T. Fujita, Esq.

Deputy Director of Council Services  
David M. Raatz, Jr., Esq.

**COUNTY COUNCIL**  
COUNTY OF MAUI  
200 S. HIGH STREET  
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793  
[www.MauiCounty.us](http://www.MauiCounty.us)

March 13, 2023

TO: The Honorable Joy A. San Buenaventura, Chair, and  
Members of the Senate Committee on Health and Human Services

FROM: Alice L. Lee  
Council Chair 

SUBJECT: **HEARING OF MARCH 15, 2023; TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 1255, HD1, RELATING TO SPECIAL PURPOSE REVENUE BONDS**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **support** of this important measure. The purpose of this measure is to authorize the Department of Budget and Finance to issue special purpose revenue bonds for up to \$20 million to assist with the construction of the West Maui Hospital and Medical Center.

On December 16, 2022, the Maui County Council adopted Resolution 22-252, CD1, "URGING THE STATE LEGISLATURE AND THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF HAWAII TO PROVIDE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE PROPOSED WEST MAUI HOSPITAL AND MEDICAL CENTER" (attached). Therefore, I am providing this testimony on the Council's behalf.

The Maui County Council **supports** this measure for the following reasons:

1. This measure would provide the financial support necessary to continue the development of the West Maui Hospital and Medical Center, which will provide the region with its first acute care hospital.
2. An acute care hospital is needed because unprecedented projected rates of growth in residents and visitors will substantially increase healthcare demands for the already underserved West Maui population.
3. The West Maui Hospital and Medical Center will create significant job opportunities for local residents trained in health care.

For the foregoing reasons, the Maui County Council **supports** this measure.

**RICHARD T. BISSEN, JR.**  
Mayor

**KEKUHAUPIO R. AKANA**  
Acting Managing Director



**OFFICE OF THE MAYOR**  
COUNTY OF MAUI  
200 SOUTH HIGH STREET  
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793  
[www.mauicounty.gov](http://www.mauicounty.gov)

March 14, 2023

**TO:** Honorable Senator Joy A. San Buenaventura, Chair  
Honorable Senator Henry J.C. Aquino, Vice Chair  
Senate Committee on Health and Human Services

**FROM:** Richard T. Bissen, Jr., Mayor

**DATE:** March 14, 2023

**SUBJECT: SUPPORT OF HB1255 HD1, RELATING TO SPECIAL PURPOSE  
REVENUE BONDS**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **SUPPORT** of this important measure. The purpose of this measure is to authorize the issuance of special purpose revenue bonds to assist West Maui Hospital Foundation, Inc., in the construction of West Maui Hospital and Medical Center, including any necessary infrastructure.

I **SUPPORT** this measure for the following reasons:

1. This measure would provide the financial support necessary to continue the development of the West Maui Hospital and Medical Center, which will provide the region with its first acute care hospital. An acute care hospital is needed because West Maui has an estimated population of 31,410 residents, and approximately 55,000 daily visitors that substantially increase healthcare demands for the already underserved West Maui population.
2. West Maui's distance from Maui Memorial Medical Center and challenging traffic conditions along Honoapi'ilani Highway have often resulted in injured and sick residents and visitors having to endure ambulance drive times of more than an hour, posing life-threatening dangers.
3. The West Maui Hospital and Medical Center will create significant job opportunities for local residents.

For the foregoing reasons, I offer my **SUPPORT** of this measure.

**HB-1255-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2023 12:45:56 PM

Testimony for HHS on 3/15/2023 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jo Anne J Winer	Testifying for West Maui Hospital Foundation, Inc.	Support	In Person

Comments:

Dear Chair San Buenaventura, Vice Chair Aquino and Committee Members -

As a former West Maui Council member, retired Maui County DOT Director and resident of West Maui this issue could not be more critical to the welfare and stability of our community's future. It is something that the people of West Maui asked for even when I was first elected to the Council in 2000. I am now in a position as the VP/Secretary for the West Maui Hospital Foundation to be a full time advocate for this long awaited critical care facility.

Our Maui County Council has consistently supported this project. Also, following the Covid shutdown it has become even more apparent that this project will serve those of us who are a 45 minute to an hour ambulance ride away from any hospital providing urgent care. I have watched for years as my friends and loved ones were subjected to this nightmare.

We sometimes have more visitors than residents in West Maui and they too have life threatening illnesses or injuries that cannot be treated here in our clinics. Many of them, as well as a number of kupuna who I knew personally, unfortunately did not survive the trip.

This cannot continue and with all of the new developments planned for West Maui, including DHHL projects, we must move forward now with the construction phase of this project.

Newport Hospital Corporation has already put almost 30 million dollars into this endeavor and now we need to secure funds that will allow us to proceed. We are hoping to complete the connections to our infrastructure that are already finished in order to begin building. The SPRB will help us to secure much needed funding to make that possible.

Brian Hoyle of Newport Hospital has worked tirelessly over the years to secure loans but there never seemed to be any governmental buy-in to show lending sources that they were on board.

The passage of this Bill will allow us to complete that missing piece.

With the passage of HB1255 and companion SB1476 we will finally be able to say to our community that we can help them. Please support this measure so that it will make this dream a reality. My husband Jim and my husband Larry, are both buried here on Maui and I know they are watching over me in my efforts to fulfill my promise to them / that I will not give up on the West Maui Hospital. I will not give up. Thank you for supporting our community and future generations of West Maui residents and visitors. Jo Anne Johnson Winer



*Maui Hotel & Lodging*  
ASSOCIATION

Testimony of  
Lisa H. Paulson  
Executive Director  
Maui Hotel & Lodging Association

Senate Committee on Health and Human Services  
**House Bill 1255 HD1: Relating to Special Purpose Revenue Bonds**

March 15, 2023, 1:00 pm  
Conference Room 225

The Maui Hotel & Lodging Association (MHLA) is the legislative arm of the visitor industry for Maui County. We represent over 180 property and allied business members and 22,000 employees. **MHLA supports House Bill 1255 HD1**, which authorizes the issuance of special purpose revenue bonds to assist West Maui Hospital Foundation, Inc. in the construction of West Maui Hospital and Medical Center in the county of Maui, including any necessary infrastructure. Requires the county of Maui to serve as guarantor of any debt service on the special purpose revenue bonds.

Mau has only one acute care hospital, Maui Memorial Medical Center, located in Central Maui. West Maui is one of Hawaii's premier visitor destinations and has a growing residential population but has no acute care hospital or 24-hour urgent care facilities. West Maui's distance from Maui Memorial Medical Center often requires residents and visitors to be transported by ambulance for close to an hour, which could result in delayed treatment or even the patient's death.

West Maui has been waiting for a hospital for decades. The island's west side can become isolated if the road in and out is blocked due to car accidents, fire, flooding, landslides, etc. This has and will continue to cause poor patient outcomes.

For the reasons stated above, **MHLA supports House Bill 1255 HD1**.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

**HB-1255-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2023 5:48:16 AM

Testimony for HHS on 3/15/2023 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Brian Hoyle	Testifying for West Maui Hospital Foundation	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

I am Brian Hoyle, President of the West Maui Hospital Foundation and with my company, Newport Hospital Corporation, I have been working with the Community of West Maui for the development of this much needed West Maui Hospital for over 15 years. This project is Certificate of Need Approved with a fully graded and development entitled site in Kaanapali and approvals/permits for all the required offsite infrastructure construction. We are now seeking the Hawai'i State Approval for this SPRB with a Maui County Financial Guaranty that is critical in our efforts to obtain the financing to design the Hospital, complete construction of the infrastructure, and provide equipment for the West Maui Hospital as part of the total financing to build this 5 bed Critical Access Hospital with a 24 hour Emergency Room, 3 Operating Rooms, Radiology, Lab, Pharmacy, and Outpatient Services.

All previous attempts to finance the Hospital construction have failed due to lack of financial support by the Hawai'i State or Maui County government that will now be provided by this State SPRB with a Maui County Financial Guaranty.

I thank you for your consideration and support of this SPRB that will make the West Maui Hospital a reality - finally!

Brian Hoyle



**MAUI**  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
VOICE OF BUSINESS

**LATE**

**HEARING BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
HAWAII STATE CAPITOL, SENATE CONFERENCE ROOM 225  
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15, 2023 AT 1:00 P.M.**

To The Honorable Senator Joy A. San Buenaventura, Chair  
The Honorable Senator Henry J.C. Aquino, Vice Chair  
Members of the committee on Health and Human Services

**SUPPORT FOR HB1255 HD1 RELATING TO SPECIAL PURPOSE REVENUE BONDS**

The Maui Chamber of Commerce **supports HB1255 HD1** which authorizes the issuance of special purpose revenue bonds to assist West Maui Hospital Foundation, Inc. in the construction of West Maui Hospital and Medical Center in the County of Maui, including any necessary infrastructure. Also, the measure requires the County of Maui to serve as guarantor of any debt service on the special purpose revenue bonds.

The population of residents and visitors on the west side of Maui has greatly increased. With the increased population and traffic, along with the closing of Honoapi'ilani highway due to flooding, fire or vehicle wreck, additional medical services on the Westside are greatly needed.

The West Maui Hospital is a viable alternative to allow medical services be performed in a timely manner. The hospital is in need of funding from all stakeholders. This bill will add another avenue for that funding.

For these reasons we **support HB1255 HD1**.

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.

**HB-1255-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2023 12:31:05 PM

Testimony for HHS on 3/15/2023 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
gerald fisher	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This is a very important measure, and will help the west Maui community. We are both elderly and would much appreciate and feel more secure if we had easier access to medical facilities. We are in Kapalua and often have to go to Wailuku to obtain appropriate medical services. we strongly support the establishment of a hospital in the west Maui area



**HB-1255-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/10/2023 10:21:54 PM

Testimony for HHS on 3/15/2023 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
michael willinsky	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

On behalf of myself, my neighbors and the entire island of Maui, we desperately need a hospital in West Maui. We support this plan 100%. Currently, our closest hospital can be over an hour away for an ambulance to drop off an urgent care patient there. We have elderly, tourists and many local residents involved in different types of accidents that have worsened or died die to our lack of a nearby hospital. We are hopeful that you will quickly help West Maui create this desperately needed facility. Thank you for your kindness and help with this urgent matter.

My name is Bob Shroder and I live in Lahaina. I have lived in Maui full time since August of 2020. This is our only house and our permanent home. I have no financial ties to the proposed West Maui Hospital.

Why am I supporting this bill? I am here because West Maui desperately needs emergency room services and improved diagnostic capabilities. How do I know that? Because I have spent my entire career reviewing and then trying to meet the healthcare needs of the communities where I lived and worked. I am a retired healthcare executive with over 40 years of experience. My last position, which I held for 14 years, was the President and Chief Executive Officer of a multi-hospital system in Northeast Ohio. I was responsible for 3 acute care hospitals, 3 long-term care facilities, multiple outpatient centers, a home care company and a hospice company. I had over 5000 employees and 130 physicians working for me. I know healthcare, and I know West Maui has deficiencies in healthcare services that this project being discussed today will help address. I have also been appointed this year by Governor Ige to serve on the Tri-Isle Healthcare Planning Council, and I have been asked to chair the West Maui Tax Payer's Association Healthcare Subcommittee.

I want to remind everyone that the need for a small hospital with an emergency room has already been determined and approved years ago by the State Planning Commission. The need for this type of facility has only grown since it was approved. I personally know of people who have suffered harm because of the lack of emergency and diagnostic services in West Maui, and I've heard many other anecdotal stories.

On a perfect day, it is a 48-minute drive time to an emergency room from my house. That is also after the ambulance gets to my house, which on that same perfect day would be 12 minutes coming from Napilli. If both West Maui ambulances are already engaged, it would be 30 minutes from Kihei. Obviously, people who live in Napilli, Kahana, or Kapalua would have even longer drives. On a not so perfect day, it could be and has been over 2 hours. It happens not infrequently due to fires, accidents, or just plain road work. Any healthcare professional knows that the longer time you are from receiving emergency services, the morbidity and mortality rates go up. For conditions like heart attacks, strokes, aneurysms and traumatic injuries, the mortality rates can be up to 50% higher if you are more than 30 minutes away from emergency services, compared to being within the 30-minute window. How anyone can say that this makes no medical sense is baffling to me, and I personally know Maui doctors who completely support this project. I will tell you that the vast majority of the West Maui citizens see an emergency room on our side of the island as not only extremely desirable but essential.

Having a new modern facility on West Maui will help recruit healthcare professionals to the island. People want to work in new modern environments. Recruitment of professionals will be good for the entire island, and in my opinion, even be good for the organizations that fear the competition that this facility could bring. Another emergency facility would also help alleviate the overcrowding of existing facilities, which we have seen again in the last few weeks.

I want to thank the House Committee for considering this bill to help get the much-needed project financed. I am confident that a few years from now, we will all be proud of what we did to help build this hospital. Thank you.

**HB-1255-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/13/2023 9:19:00 AM

Testimony for HHS on 3/15/2023 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
CJ Renzi	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As a full-time, year-round resident of West Maui, I support the passage of HB1255.

With only one full-service hospital on the island, that is in Wailuku, lives have been lost and health put at risk due to the minimum 45-minute commute time between West Maui and the hospital.

Ambulances are also stuck in the same traffic as everyone else on the one highway that connects West Maui to Wailuku. ("One way IN, and one way OUT.") Because of the frequent occurrences, just like this past Saturday, 3/11, when an accident closed the highway in both directions for several hours, we need to support other ways of receiving critical and life-threatening medical care for the west side population and visitors.

Supporting HB1255 for Special Purpose Revenue Bonds is a vital step in this process. With now \$30 million already invested in the West Maui Hospital, we are closer than ever to making this hospital a reality.

A Critical Access Hospital is **critically** needed on the west side of our island. Lives are at stake.

Mahalo,

CJ Renzi

**HB-1255-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/13/2023 9:17:20 AM

Testimony for HHS on 3/15/2023 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
James Kimo Falconer	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair San Buenaventura, Vice Chair Aquino and members of the Senate Committee on Health and Human Services:

I am writing to ask for your support in passing HB-1255 HD1. The West Maui community drastically needs this hospital/urgent care facility. The project has good funding traction to date, and the bond funding needed to get it over the finish line will finally make the dream a reality. Your support will provide to our residents and visitors some assurance that they no longer have to depend on an EMT team to stabilize them during a one hour ambulance ride to Maui Memorial when there is an emergency.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

**HB-1255-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/13/2023 1:44:36 PM

Testimony for HHS on 3/15/2023 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Diane Wakamatsu	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support HB 1255, HD 1, that would provide funding for the construction of a critically needed West Maui Hospital & Medical Center in Maui County, that includes any required infrastructure.

Thank you for your favorable consideration of this important health care project.

**HB-1255-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/14/2023 6:11:17 AM

Testimony for HHS on 3/15/2023 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Nancy Hunt	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

We have lived in Napili for 23 years. We attended a community meeting about a West Maui Hospital way back in 2020. We realized the importance of getting help to citizens without an hour long ambulance ride. In life and death situations, that is far too long to await medical care.

The plan for the West Maui Hospital has been rejected again and again, for many reasons that I considered unreasonable.

PLEASE give us the hospital we need this time.

**HB-1255-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/13/2023 1:12:10 PM

Testimony for HHS on 3/15/2023 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Mary Lynn Fisher	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

Even if it is only a 10-bed facility, it could definitely be used to stabilize people before being air-vacked to Maui Medical or over to Oahu, Just my humble opinion.

Mahalo,

Mary Lynn Fisher