

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE
LT. GOVERNOR



DEAN MINAKAMI
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII

DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM
HAWAII HOUSING FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
677 QUEEN STREET, SUITE 300
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
FAX: (808) 587-0600

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

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON WATER & LAND AND HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING

Thursday, March 14, 2024 at 9:31 am.
State Capitol, Room 430

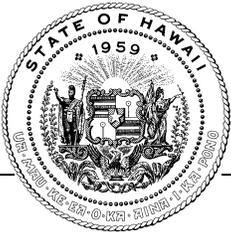
In consideration of
S.B. 2836 SD2
RELATING TO MAUI'S PERMANENT HOUSING RECOVERY.

Chairs Ichiyama and Evslin, Vice Chairs Poepoe and Aiu, and members of the Committees.

HHFDC **supports** SB 2836 SD2, which establishes the Interagency Council for Maui Housing Recovery as an advisory body administratively attached to DBEDT to help to coordinate and facilitate Maui's permanent housing recovery, and to facilitate consultation and collaboration between the State and the County on housing recovery initiatives for Maui. The 39-member council will be chaired by the HHFDC Executive Director. This bill, which sunsets on June 30, 2034, makes an unspecified appropriation for the purpose of providing assistance in applying for federal loans and grants.

HHFDC recognizes that effective coordination among Federal, State, and County governmental agencies and the Maui community is essential for the recovery of permanent housing on Maui. This measure creates a council which will facilitate communication among the entities that are assisting in that effort, thereby streamlining the permanent housing recovery process.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.



**STATE OF HAWAII
OFFICE OF PLANNING
& SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE
LT. GOVERNOR

MARY ALICE EVANS
INTERIM DIRECTOR

235 South Beretania Street, 6th Floor, Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2359, Honolulu, Hawai'i 96804

Telephone: (808) 587-2846
Fax: (808) 587-2824
Web: <https://planning.hawaii.gov/>

Statement of
MARY ALICE EVANS, Interim Director

before the
**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND AND
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING**

Thursday, March 14, 2024

9:31 AM

State Capitol, Conference Room 430

in consideration of
**BILL NO SB2836, SD2
RELATING TO MAUI'S PERMANENT HOUSING RECOVERY.**

Chairs Ichiyama and Evslin, Vice Chairs Poepoe and Aiu, and Members of the House Committees on Water and Land and Housing:

The Office of Planning and Sustainable Development (OPSD) **supports** SB2836, SD2, which establishes the Interagency Council for Maui Housing Recovery to coordinate and facilitate Maui's permanent housing recovery and facilitate consultation and collaboration between State and county agencies on housing recovery initiatives for the island of Maui, and appropriates funding.

The need for additional and replacement affordable housing on Maui is clearly established, as is the urgency to deliver the housing. While recovery efforts are currently coordinating between State and county agencies, a long-term structure such as the proposed Interagency Council would help ensure that housing production continues to be a well-coordinated priority.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



DISABILITY AND COMMUNICATION ACCESS BOARD

1010 Richards Street, Room 118 • Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Ph. (808) 586-8121 (V) • TTY (808) 586-8162 • Fax (808) 586-8129

March 14, 2024

TESTIMONY TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEES ON WATER AND LAND, AND ON HOUSING

Senate Bill 2836 SD2– Relating to Maui’s Permanent Housing Recovery

The Disability and Communication Access Board (DCAB) offers comments on Senate Bill 2836 SD2 – Relating to Maui’s Permanent Housing Recovery.

This bill would establish within the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism the Interagency Council for Maui Housing Recovery to coordinate and facilitate Maui’s permanent housing recovery and facilitate consultation and collaboration between state and county agencies on housing recovery initiatives for the Island of Maui.

The housing crisis is magnified for people with disabilities. People with disabilities are twice as likely to live below the poverty level. Without action to address the affordable housing shortage, more people with disabilities are at risk of losing their independence or becoming homeless or institutionalized. This bill would assist people with disabilities who are facing housing insecurity.

In addition to addressing the affordable housing shortage, legislation should address the quantity of supportive housing units that are accessible to people with mobility and communication disabilities. The Americans with Disabilities Act Standards for Accessible Design (ADA Standards) specifies the minimum percentage of accessible housing units in public facilities. The ADA Standards only requires five percent of units to be accessible for mobility disabilities and two percent of units to be accessible for communication disabilities. The Fair Housing Act (FHA) design and construction requirements specifies the minimum number of adaptable housing units in public and private buildings containing four or more units. The FHA requires all dwelling units to be adaptable for mobility disabilities in buildings with an elevator, but only requires ground floor units to be adaptable for mobility disabilities in buildings without an elevator. The FHA does not require units to be adaptable for communication disabilities.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau’s 2021 Disability Characteristics for the State of Hawaii, 19.1 percent of Hawaii’s residents that are sixty five years and older have mobility difficulty, 12.6 percent have hearing difficulty, and 4.7 percent have vision difficulty. The following adjustments that exceed minimum accessibility and adaptability requirements would provide Hawaii residents with disabilities, especially kupuna with disabilities, the opportunity to live independently and give more residents without disabilities an option to continue to live in their home as they age in place:

- In public facilities with residential dwelling units, at least twenty percent, but no fewer than one unit, of the total number of residential dwelling units shall provide mobility features that comply with applicable technical requirements in the ADA Standards.
- In public facilities with residential dwelling units, at least thirteen percent, but no fewer than one unit, of the total number of residential dwelling units shall provide communication features that comply with applicable technical requirements in the ADA Standards.
- In multi-story buildings with four or more residential dwelling units, an elevator shall connect each story and all dwelling units shall comply with the FHA design and construction requirements.

Investing in accessible, affordable supportive housing would ensure that more residential units would be available for individuals with disabilities and their families.

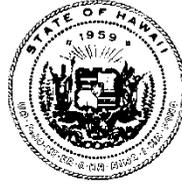
Thank you for considering our position.

Respectfully submitted,



KIRBY L. SHAW
Executive Director

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR



HAKIM OUANSAFI
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

BARBARA E. ARASHIRO
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

STATE OF HAWAII
HAWAII PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITY
1002 NORTH SCHOOL STREET
POST OFFICE BOX 17907
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96817

IN REPLY, PLEASE REFER TO:

Statement of
Hakim Ouansafi, Executive Director
Hawaii Public Housing Authority

Before the
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON WATER & LAND
AND
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING

Thursday, March 14, 2024
9:31 AM – Room 430, Hawaii State Capitol

In consideration of
SB 2836, SD2
RELATING TO MAUI'S PERMANENT HOUSING RECOVERY

Honorable Chair Ichiyama and Chair Evslin, and members of the House Committee on Water & Land and members of the House Committee on Housing, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on Senate Bill (SB) 2836, SD2, relating to Maui's permanent housing recovery.

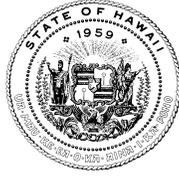
The Hawaii Public Housing Authority (HPHA) supports SB 2836, SD2, which establishes within the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism the Interagency Council for Maui Housing Recovery to coordinate and facilitate Maui's permanent housing recovery and facilitate consultation and collaboration between state and county agencies on housing recovery initiatives for the island of Maui. Designates the executive director of the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation to serve as chair of the council.

Please know that the HPHA stands ready to assist the Legislature in this endeavor and looks forward to collaborating with all stakeholders with the future planning, development, and redevelopment efforts of public lands on the island of Maui.

The HPHA appreciates the opportunity to provide the Committees with the HPHA's testimony. We thank you very much for your dedicated support.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
STATE OF HAWAII
*Ke Kia'āina o ka Moku'āina 'o
Hawaii*

SYLVIA J. LUKE
LT. GOVERNOR
STATE OF HAWAII
*Ka Hope Kia'āina o ka Moku'āina
'o Hawaii*



KALI WATSON
CHAIRMAN, HHC
Ka Luna Ho'okele

KATIE L. DUCATT
DEPUTY TO THE CHAIRMAN
Ka Hope Luna Ho'okele

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS

Ka 'Oihana 'Āina Ho'opulapula Hawaii'i

P. O. BOX 1879
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96805

TESTIMONY OF KALI WATSON, CHAIRMAN
HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION
BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND AND
THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING
HEARING ON MARCH 14, 2024 AT 9:31AM IN CR 430

SB 2836, SD2, RELATING TO MAUI'S PERMANENT HOUSING RECOVERY

March 14, 2024

Aloha Chairs Ichiyama and Evslin, Vice Chairs Poepoe and Aiu, and Members of the Committees:

The Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL) supports this bill which 1) establishes within the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism the Interagency Council for Maui Housing Recovery to coordinate and facilitate Maui's permanent housing recovery and facilitate consultation and collaboration between state and county agencies on housing recovery initiatives for the island of Maui; 2) designates the executive director of the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation to serve as chair of the council; 3) declares that the appropriation ceiling exceeds the state general fund expenditure ceiling for 2024-2025; 4) makes an appropriation; and 5) sunsets 6/30/2034 - effective 7/1/2050.

DHHL concurs with the appropriate part of section 2 of the bill on page 6 which notes the Hawaiian Homes Commission Chairperson to serve as co-vice chair of the Hawaii Interagency Council for Maui Housing Recovery. DHHL has prospective housing projects located on the island of Maui which includes the Pu'uhona Homestead Subdivision and the Leiali'i Homestead Subdivision. Some of the funds pursuant to Act 279, SLH 2022, have been encumbered to develop these projects. DHHL understands the importance of collaborative and strategic housing recovery initiatives with State and County agencies for the island of Maui and we are excited to be a part of this effort.

Thank you for your consideration of our testimony.



EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
KE KE'ENA O KE KIA'ĀINA

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA

House Committees on Water and Land & Housing

Thursday, March 14, 2024

9:31 a.m.

State Capitol, Conference Room 430 and Videoconference

With Comments

S.B. No. 2836 SD2, Relating to Maui's Permanent Housing Recovery

Chairs Ichiyama and Evslin, Vice Chairs Poepoe and Aiu, and members of the House Committees on Water and Land & Housing:

The Office of the Governor offers the following comments on S.B. No. 2836 SD2, Relating to Maui's Permanent Housing Recovery.

The Office of the Governor is open to this concept identified in this potential legislation provided that there is no negative fiscal impact on the executive budget package. We thank the authors of SD1 for adding (and SD2 for retaining) the State Disaster Recovery Coordinator and the recovery support functions identified by the governor with their corresponding state lead. This change will ensure continued coordination among all stakeholders involved in recovery.

The Maui wildfire resulted in loss of life, homes, property, infrastructure, businesses, and natural and cultural resources. This tragic incident compels the State of Hawai'i to plan effectively for recovery and expand our resiliency capacity and capability. Innovative solutions are essential to supporting these efforts.

This bill establishes the Interagency Council for Maui Housing Recovery to coordinate and facilitate Maui's permanent housing recovery and facilitate consultation and collaboration between state and county agencies on housing recovery initiatives for the island of Maui. It also designates the executive director of the Hawai'i Housing Finance and Development Corporation to serve as chair of the council.

The State of Hawai'i State Disaster Recovery Coordinator has the role of coordinating and planning for recovery and resiliency efforts for the Maui Wildfire impacts in support of the County of Maui. This is in contrast to emergency response which is led by HI-EMA under Emergency Support Functions.

Testimony of Office of the Governor
S.B. No. 2836 SD2
March 14, 2024
Page 2

Last fall the Governor identified seven Recovery Support Functions (RSFs) and their corresponding State Leads. The RSFs include: Natural Resources & Cultural Resources RSF coordinated by Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources; Community Planning and Capacity Building RSF coordinated by Office of Planning and Sustainable Development; Housing RSF coordinated by Hawai'i Housing Finance and Development Corporation; Infrastructure RSF coordinated by Hawai'i Department of Transportation; Economic RSF coordinated Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism; Public Health & Healthcare Services RSF coordinated by Hawai'i State Department of Health; and Social Services RSF coordinated by Hawai'i Department of Human Services. These RSFs and their state leads have been working closely with County of Maui, federal partners, and private organizations.

This approach—a State Coordinator coupled with RSFs—is consistent with the National Disaster Recovery Framework, a FEMA structure and process developed from the collective experience of disaster recovery managers nationwide. Within this framework, HHFDC has been designated the lead agency to coordinate and advance housing development and redevelopment on state and county lands on Maui, as this bill proposes. Moreover, the majority of the Federal, State, and County members envisioned by this bill are already participating in multiple RSFs.

For the purposes of this bill many partners are identified, to help with an effective and efficient model for managing many priorities of interest, some consideration should be given to having some designated as non-voting members. This will help with decision making and quorum challenges.

If you have any questions on the role of State Disaster Recovery Coordinator or the State RSFs, we ask that you contact Luke Meyers, State Disaster Recovery Coordinator for further information and a dialog on this proposal during the legislative session.

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



MAUI

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

VOICE OF BUSINESS

**HEARING BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON WATER & LAND and HOUSING
HAWAII STATE CAPITOL, HOUSE CONFERENCE ROOM 430
Thursday, March 14, 2024 AT 9:31 A.M.**

To The Honorable Linda Ichiyama, Chair
The Honorable Mahina Poepoe, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee on Water & Land
To The Honorable Luke A. Evslin, Chair
The Honorable Micah P.K. Aiu, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee on Housing

SUPPORT SB2836 SD2 RELATING TO MAUI'S PERMANENT HOUSING RECOVERY

The Maui Chamber of Commerce **SUPPORTS SB2836 SD2.**

Maui County had a housing crisis prior to the wildfires and given the now extreme need for housing on Maui exacerbated by the wildfires, we need urgent solutions. We recognize there are significant state and county lands that can be used for housing, and we support the idea of creating this council who will formulate a strategic housing plan, recommend policy, regulatory and statutory changes, and more. With strong representation by authorities currently involved in housing, we feel this council could expedite the planning, permitting, and building of desperately needed affordable housing and rental units. We appreciate that the council will also help secure funding for the projects and have to report to the Governor, Legislature, and Mayor of Maui County as it will help ensure this remains a high priority item and is constantly moving forward.

We appreciate the previous committee addressing our concern with an amendment that requires the council to work with Maui-based businesses to the greatest extent possible.

Further, while housing is imperative to our economic recovery, we can already see that DBEDT has a significant number of other responsibilities on our economic recovery and diversification for the next few decades. We support SB2028 to establish a separate Department of Housing and would like to see this council centralized under that department, should this bill pass.

For these reasons we **SUPPORT SB2836 SD2** and respectfully ask that it be passed.

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-2836-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/11/2024 5:31:22 PM

Testimony for WAL on 3/14/2024 9:31:00 AM

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

Comments:

Here's a revised version:

"I strongly oppose the proposed bill to establish the Interagency Council for Maui Housing Recovery. I firmly believe that the costs associated with tourism on Maui result in the depletion of our infrastructure and resources, which were already limited for residents prior to the surge in tourism. This only exacerbates the struggles of local residents. Furthermore, tourism contributes to the soaring prices in the Maui real estate market, both in terms of ownership and rentals, driving median prices to unprecedented levels.

Why would we entrust housing recovery to a department focused on tourism? It defies logic. Instead of wasting funds on such initiatives, I urge you to allocate resources directly to displaced residents so they can secure their own housing, whether on Maui or elsewhere. Government intervention in Maui's housing market is unnecessary and counterproductive. The government itself is complicit in the issues facing the Maui real estate market, with fast-tracked developments and questionable deals under the guise of aiding residents.

I implore you to reject this bill. Thank you for addressing this urgent matter.

Mahalo for your attention."

SB-2836-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2024 3:29:11 PM

Testimony for WAL on 3/14/2024 9:31:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jacqueline S. Ambrose	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

Yes to establishing within the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism the Interagency Council for Maui Housing Recovery to coordinate and facilitate Maui's permanent housing recovery and facilitate consultation and collaboration between state and county agencies on housing recovery initiatives for the island of Maui. Designates the executive director of the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation to serve as chair of the council.