

**HB-2362-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/15/2026 9:28:51 AM

Testimony for WAL on 2/19/2026 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
William Caron	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and members of the committee,

I am testifying in support of HB2362, which requires counties to automatically approve permits for hurricane retrofitting under certain conditions. This bill is a common-sense, proactive response to the growing threat climate change poses to Hawai‘i’s aging housing stock and the families who depend on it for shelter and safety.

**The Threat Is Real and Intensifying**

Climate change is not a future concern; it is a present danger. According to the University of Hawai‘i’s Department of Atmospheric Sciences, rising global temperatures are already shifting hurricane tracks northward. Historically, the main storm tracks have stayed south of our islands. That pattern is changing. More frequent and severe storms are increasingly likely to make direct impact on Hawai‘i, and our housing stock is not prepared.

Much of Hawai‘i’s residential construction predates modern wind-resistance standards. Retrofitting these homes is not optional; it is essential. Yet the permitting process for even simple, life-saving upgrades can be slow, costly, and burdensome—discouraging homeowners from taking action and overwhelming understaffed county permitting offices.

**A Simple, Low-Cost Solution**

Hurricane clips are among the most effective and affordable retrofits available. These small metal connectors secure a home’s roof to its walls and foundation, dramatically reducing the risk of catastrophic failure during high-wind events. They are inexpensive, quick to install, and do not change the footprint or use of the home. For many families, they represent the difference between a home that withstands a storm and one that does not.

HB2362 removes unnecessary barriers by requiring counties to automatically approve permits for these and similar retrofits when they meet clear, objective safety standards. This is not deregulation for its own sake; it is targeted streamlining for a proven, low-impact intervention that saves homes and lives.

**Why Automatic Approval Matters**

Every week a permit sits on a desk is a week a family remains vulnerable. When the next hurricane approaches, we will not wish we had made the permitting process more cumbersome. We will wish every home that could be retrofitted had been. By reducing administrative delays and freeing up permitting office capacity for more complex reviews, HB2362 accelerates protection for homeowners without compromising safety.

### **A Climate Adaptation Imperative**

This bill is a straightforward, cost-effective climate adaptation measure. It recognizes that as storms intensify, our regulatory processes must adapt to enable rapid, widespread resilience upgrades. It empowers homeowners to protect their most significant asset—their home—while reducing the strain on emergency services and disaster recovery systems when the next storm hits.

HB2362 is smart, necessary, and overdue. I urge you to pass this bill and help Hawai'i's families prepare for the storms we know are coming.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

**HB-2362-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/16/2026 9:25:05 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/19/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Malia Kealoha	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Health Care is vital and therefore i support healthcare continuity.

**HB-2362-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/17/2026 10:24:50 AM

Testimony for WAL on 2/19/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Terri Yoshinaga	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill.

**HB-2362-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/17/2026 12:42:20 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/19/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Lanette Bourg	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

SUPPORT! Thank you!

To: Representative Mark J. Hashem, Chair  
Representative Dee Morikawa, Vice Chair  
Committee on Water & Land

From: Veronica Moore, Individual Citizen

Date: February 18, 2026

RE: House Bill 2362 HD1  
Measure Title: RELATING TO HOUSING.  
Report Title: Housing; Building Permits; Automatic Approval; Retrofitting;  
Hurricane Resistant Housing

To All Concerned,

My name is Veronica Moore and I support House Bill 2362 HD1. Thank you for introducing this bill.

Sincerely,

Veronica M. Moore