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Apr 23, 2026

#### MISSION

Aloha Independent Living Hawaii (AILH) dedicated to providing independent living programs and services for persons with disabilities in Hawaii.

We work together with the community and consumers to improve the quality of life through individual choices and access to services.

#### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Roxanne U. Bolden

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The Honorable Mark J. Hashem, Chair  
House Committee on Water & Land  
The Thirty-Third Legislature  
State Capitol  
State of Hawaii  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

**SUBJECT:** SCR179 – Urging the County of Maui to Enforce the Provisions of the Fire Code of the County of Maui Relating to Fire Hazards, Brush Clearance, Fuel Breaks, Roadside Vegetation Clearing, and Emergency Access.

Chair and Members of the Committee:

Aloha Independent Living Hawaii (AILH), a cross-disability, statewide, non-profit Center for Independent Living that supports people with disabilities to live independently in their own homes and communities, **continues to support SCR179.**

AILH previously submitted written testimony to the Senate Committee on Energy and Intergovernmental Affairs and Public Safety and Military Affairs in strong support of this resolution, emphasizing the critical importance of brush clearance, fuel breaks, roadside vegetation management, and emergency access for disabled residents, including wildfire survivors, who may need more time, assistance, or equipment to evacuate. The text of SCR179 has not changed, and our position and comments remain the same.

We reiterate that proactive, visible enforcement of Maui County's existing Fire Code provisions is essential to protect lives, housing, and major access corridors into and out of Lahaina, and to reduce avoidable wildfire risk for disabled community members living in both temporary and permanent housing. Enforcement must be paired with ongoing, accessible communication and planning that fully includes disabled residents so that evacuation routes and emergency access reflect real-world needs for



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mobility devices, service animals, life-sustaining equipment, and support persons.

AILH respectfully urges the Committee to pass SCR179.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Mahalo,

Roxanne Bolden

Executive Director