

# Water and Infrastructure Committee (2023-2025) on 2024-06-06 9:00 AM

Meeting Time: 06-06-24 09:00

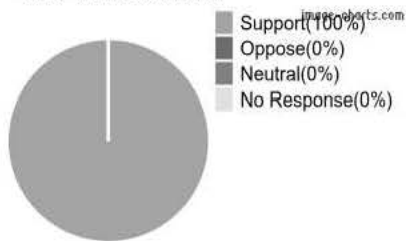
## eComments Report

Meetings	Meeting Time	Agenda Items	Comments	Support	Oppose	Neutral
Water and Infrastructure Committee (2023-2025) on 2024-06-06 9:00 AM	06-06-24 09:00	2	2	2	0	0

### Sentiments for All Meetings

The following graphs display sentiments for comments that have location data. Only locations of users who have commented will be shown.

#### Overall Sentiment



# Water and Infrastructure Committee (2023-2025) on 2024-06-06 9:00 AM

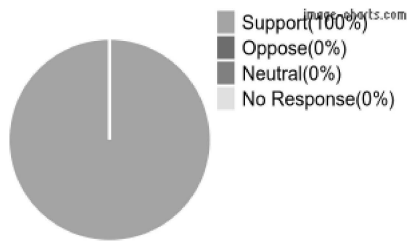
06-06-24 09:00

Agenda Name	Comments	Support	Oppose	Neutral
WAI-23 BILL 87 (2024) BILL 87 (2024), RELATING TO TEMPORARY STRUCTURES AND USES (WAI-23)	2	2	0	0

## Sentiments for All Agenda Items

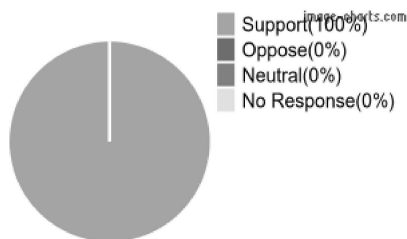
The following graphs display sentiments for comments that have location data. Only locations of users who have commented will be shown.

### Overall Sentiment



### Agenda Item: eComments for WAI-23 BILL 87 (2024) BILL 87 (2024), RELATING TO TEMPORARY STRUCTURES AND USES (WAI-23)

### Overall Sentiment



### Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 8:14am 06-06-24

Mary Jorgensen, 242 Prison Street, Lahaina,

I support Bill 87 to extend the time to 5 years for temporary housing in the August 2023. With the extreme shortage of housing in West Maui and the high rental costs for temporary housing, it is necessary for property owners to be able to have temporary housing until they are able to complete the rebuilding on their property. I am in the central area of Lahaina and hopefully all the commercial debris will be cleared by January 2025 so I can return to a temporary structure and begin the rebuilding process. Also, once ALE or FEMA housing assistance runs out many of us will not be able to afford the temporary housing we are currently in. Please approve Bill 87. Thank you.

### Jonathan Helton

Location:

Submitted At: 11:18am 06-04-24

Please see attached

June 6, 2024, 9 a.m.

Council Chamber, Kalana O Maui Building

**To: Maui County Council, Water and Infrastructure Committee**

**Tom Cook, Chair**

**Yuki Lei Sugimura, Vice-Chair**

**From: Jonathan Helton, Policy Researcher**

**Grassroot Institute of Hawaii**

RE: Bill 87 — A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 16.25, MAUI COUNTY CODE, RELATING TO TEMPORARY STRUCTURES AND USES

Aloha Chair Cook, Vice-Chair Sugimura and members of the Committee,

The Grassroot Institute of Hawaii would like to offer **support** for and an amendment to Bill 87 (2024), which would allow temporary structures constructed in the Lahaina burn zone to be permitted for up to five years, instead of the current 180-day time limit for temporary structures permits.

This bill could be helpful for anyone seeking to build a temporary home, business or relief-focused building on a lot they own in Lahaina. The measure recognizes that rebuilding will continue to be a time-consuming process and that many owners might not be cleared to completely rebuild for some time.

One concern is that the bill would not apply to temporary structures built outside the burn zone that are vital for housing and providing relief resources to those displaced by the fires. The Committee should consider adding language that would apply this five-year permit to those structures as well.

The following highlighted language could serve as a starting point: “except temporary structures in Lahaina within the burn zone of the August 2023 wildfires, or any temporary structure outside the burn zone that is used to provide housing or resources to individuals affected by the wildfires, must be permitted for up to five years from the date of this ordinance.”

This language would provide more certainty to owners of temporary housing and relief structures, who now must receive permits under Mayor Richard Bissen’s emergency orders, the most recent of which requires that

any structures with temporary permits must cease use in 90 days and be removed 180 days after the order expires.<sup>1</sup>

The uncertainty in this order could discourage potential builders of temporary housing from going forward with their projects, since they do not know for how long those projects would be legal.

Grassroot would welcome additional dialogue on this bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Jonathan Helton  
Policy Researcher  
Grassroot Institute of Hawaii

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<sup>1</sup> ["Eighth Emergency Proclamation Relating to Wildfires,"](#) Mayor Richard Bissen, April 12, 2024, p. 4.