



Testimony of Lahaina Strong

**Before the Maui County Council Housing and Land Use Committee (HLU) Regarding
Bill 9 TIG**

Aloha Chair Kama, Vice-Chair U'u-Hodgins, and Members of the Housing and Land Use Committee,

Mahalo nui for your leadership in advancing Bill 9 through its first reading out of Committee. This is an important and long-awaited step toward restoring housing opportunities for our local families and addressing the severe crisis we face in Lahaina and across Maui.

We would also like to acknowledge Councilmember Nohe U'u-Hodges for introducing the proposal to establish a Temporary Investigative Group on policies and procedures for Transient Vacation Rental uses in the Apartment Districts. We recognize that the TIG will be tasked with considering the unique circumstances of certain properties, assessing potential social and economic impacts, and recommending fair and efficient processes.

Lahaina Strong has walked and done thorough research on the properties on the Minatoya list. We humbly offer ourselves as a resource to this Committee and to the TIG if it is established. We stand ready to share what we have seen and learned on the ground to support sound decision-making that prioritizes our residents' housing needs.

Lahaina Strong is committed to seeing Bill 9 through to completion. Our dedication is to ensuring these apartment-zoned buildings return to their original and intended purpose: residential multi-family housing for Maui's people. This is what the zoning laws were designed to provide, and it is what our community desperately needs today.

We look forward to the continued work ahead in collaboration with the Council, the Administration, and the broader community. Together, we can make sure Bill 9 fulfills its promise of bringing homes back into reach for our families and restoring integrity to our land-use laws.

We mahalo you for your courage and we are with you every step of the way.

Me ke aloha,

Lahaina Strong

HLU Committee

From: Jordan Ruidas <officialahainastrong@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 19, 2025 11:40 AM
To: HLU Committee
Subject: Organization Testimony for HLU-4(1) Regarding Bill 9 TIG
Attachments: Lahaina Strong Org Testimony Bill 9 TIG HLU-4(1).docx

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Aloha,

Please see our attached organization testimony.

Mahalo,

Jordan Ruidas
Lahaina Strong