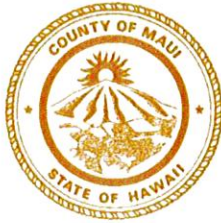


**MICHAEL P. VICTORINO**  
Mayor

**LORI TSUHAKE**  
Director

**LINDA R. MUNSELL**  
Deputy Director



**DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING  
& HUMAN CONCERNS**  
COUNTY OF MAUI  
2200 MAIN STREET, SUITE 546  
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793  
PHONE: (808) 270-7805

October 5, 2020

Honorable Michael J. Molina, Chair  
and Members of the Governance, Ethics and Transparency Committee  
Maui County Council  
200 High Street  
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793

Dear Chair Molina and Members:

**SUBJECT: SOCIAL HOST LIABILITY REGULATIONS (GET-60)**

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony on the proposed bill entitled "A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A NEW CHAPTER 9.40, MAUI COUNTY CODE, RELATING TO SOCIAL HOSTING LIABILITY."

Ten years ago, during my first tenure as Director of Housing and Human Concerns, the Department applied for funding from the federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) via the State Department of Health to curb underage drinking in Maui County. Millions of dollars were granted to non profit partners to implement the Strategic Prevention Framework-State Incentive Grant (SPF-SIG). Agencies such as the Boys and Girls Clubs of Maui and Paia Youth and Cultural Center implemented evidence-based practices to reduce underage drinking and the resulting social impacts to our community. These programs were largely successful and impactful.

Subsequent federal grant programs have been geared toward maintaining the momentum of keeping our youth free from drugs, alcohol, tobacco, and more recently vaping. Now is not the time to turn away from these efforts.

The proposed ordinance before you is one way in which communities across the nation have worked to curb youth access to alcohol. I've known many families over the years that argue it is "better" to have their children consuming alcohol in their homes than at parties in the community. Giving a young person access to alcohol, whether at home or somewhere else is never "better" than protecting them from harm. This proposal will first of all educate families about prohibitions against providing alcohol to youth. The education is a critical part of this ordinance. In addition to the education, the police department will be enabled to issue citations to those adults who irresponsibly provide youth access to alcohol. Whenever possible, it should be our community's goal to limit all access to alcohol by our young people.

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TO SUPPORT AND EMPOWER OUR COMMUNITY TO REACH ITS FULLEST  
POTENTIAL FOR PERSONAL WELL-BEING AND SELF-RELIANCE

Honorable Michael J. Molina, Chair  
and Members of the Governance, Ethics and Transparency Committee  
October 5, 2020  
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Thank you very much for your consideration of this public health initiative. Addressing youth access to alcohol via this social host ordinance will be a major component of keeping our youth safe from all the deleterious impacts of alcohol use/abuse.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Lori Tsuhako", written in a cursive style.

LORI TSUHAKE, LSW, ACSW  
Director of Housing and Human Concerns