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2021 SEP -8 PM 12: 16

OPPLOE OF THE

Council Member Gabe Johnson Chair, Affordable Housing Committee Kalana O Maui Building 200 South High St., Eighth Floor Wailuku, Hawaii 96793

September 2, 2021

Dear Mr. Johnson:

"Thank you for placing Public Right to Housing AH-14 (2) and Public Right to Shelter AH-14 (1) on your agenda for discussion and action. I ask that you please work hard to approve the plan and meet the goal of the Maui County Council to build 5000 homes in the next five years."

As a pastor in Maui, I see each day the incredible challenge for those on our island to secure decent and affordable housing. It saddens me that we are losing more people (Native Hawaiians and those who have come to Maui to try and make it their adopted home) each day and heading to the continent where affordability is much more possible.

We need to do something about this crisis. Kicking the can down the road any further only makes matters worse. Please do what you can to begin solving this problem as soon as possible.

I am grateful for your earnest attention to this matter.

Aloha ke Akua,

Kahu Scott Lahdis Keawala`l Congregational United Church of Christ Mākena, Maui