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OFFICE OF CLIMATE CHANGE SUSTAINABILITY AND RESILIENCY
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April 25, 2025

The Honorable Tyler Dos Santos-Tam, Chair
and members
Committee on Budget
Honolulu City Council
530 South King Street, Room 202
Honolulu, Hawaiʻi 96813

Dear Chair Dos-Santos Tam and Councilmembers:

SUBJECT: Bill 35 (2025) Relating to Lease and Rental of City Real Property

The Office of Climate Change, Sustainability and Resiliency supports Bill 35 (2025), which advances the City's ability to strategically and equitably manage its real property through a modernized, clear, and transparent leasing framework that strengths the City's ability to work with community partners for public good.

By clearly defining exceptions to public solicitation for nonprofits and community development organizations, Bill 35 lays the foundation for more seamless collaboration between the City and the many trusted community-based partners working in alignment with the City's sustainability and resiliency goals. This directly supports the intent behind Resilience Action 44 of the Oʻahu Resilience Strategy, which calls for reducing barriers to City partnerships with nonprofits that are vital in the delivery of services and programs that strengthen community wellbeing, protect and enhance natural ecosystems, sustain cultural knowledge and practices, and respond to the increasing impacts of climate change.

Bill 35 may also provide opportunities to use the City's land and property assets as tools to improve food security and build sustainable food systems. The bill has the potential to enable and expand partnerships with nonprofit organizations engaged in work such as community gardening and urban agriculture, agroforestry and sustainable land stewardship, local food distribution, indigenous and cultural food practices, and food systems education and workforce development. These types of efforts and

partnerships are central to building more affordable, climate-resilient communities, enhancing public health, and advancing local economic opportunity.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Bill 35 (2025). Should you have any questions, please contact us at (808) 768-2277 or b.sullivan@honolulu.gov.

Sincerely,

Digitally signed by: Sullivan, Benjamin
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Date: 2025.04.25 16:29:56 -10'00'

Benjamin Sullivan
Executive Director and
Chief Resilience Officer

APPROVED:

Michael D. Formby, Managing Director
Office of the Managing Director