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DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND LAND MANAGEMENT
KA 'OIHANA HO'OLĀLĀ KŪKULU HALE A ME KA HO'OKELE 'ĀINA
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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June 1, 2026

The Honorable Tommy Waters, Chair
and Members
Honolulu City Council
530 South King Street, Room 202
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Chair Waters and Councilmembers:

SUBJECT: Testimony on Bill 22 (2026), CD2 — Proposed Floor Draft FD1 Proposed Proviso — DHLM Administration Activity

The Department of Housing and Land Management ("DHLM") respectfully opposes the proposed proviso directing that "at least $150,000 out of current expenses shall be appropriated for contracts and services as necessary to effectuate Bill 11 (2026), and any amendments thereto; provided that the bill is enacted."

Appropriations should not be earmarked against contingencies that may never be triggered. Bill 11 (2026) Relating to Affordable Housing Incentives remains pending before the Honolulu City Council. Earmarking $150,000 of DHLM's operating budget to effectuate legislation that has not yet been enacted, and whose implementing scope has not been defined, further constrains DHLM's operations and is not an appropriate budgeting practice. The proviso's own conditional clause — "provided that the bill is enacted" — acknowledges this uncertainty and undermines DHLM's ability to deploy those funds for current operational needs in the interim.

If Bill 11 is enacted, DHLM is prepared to identify and provide the resources necessary for implementation. DHLM therefore respectfully requests that the Council strike this proviso from the proposed floor draft.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (808) 768-4674.

Sincerely,

Kevin D. Auger
Director

APPROVED:

Krishna F. Jayaram, Managing Director Designate
Office of the Managing Director