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March 22, 2022

The Honorable Nadine K. Nakamura, Chair
House Committee on Housing
Via Videoconference

LATE

RE: S.B. 449, Relating to Public Safety

HEARING: Tuesday, March 22, 2022, at 10:00 a.m.

Aloha Chair Nakamura, Vice Chair Hashimoto, and Members of the Committee,

I am Ken Hiraki, Director of Government Affairs, testifying on behalf of the Hawai'i Association of REALTORS® ("HAR"), the voice of real estate in Hawai'i, and its over 11,000 members. HAR **opposes** S.B. 449, which requires sellers of residential buildings or structures to provide approved smoke alarms in accordance with current state or county building or residential codes.

Hawai'i REALTORS® believes that this measure is unnecessary as home inspectors already check that smoke alarms are equipped and working as part of the inspection process.

Furthermore, this measure could add delays to a real estate transaction, especially if each county Fire Department has to enforce this measure.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

TO: Chairman, Clarence K. Nishihara and Vice Chairman, Lynn DeCoite (Senate Committee of Public Safety)

FROM: Abby Cuizon

DATE: 03-22-22

RE: SB449

LATE

- Description: Requires sellers of residential buildings or structures to provide approved smoke alarms in accordance with current state or county building or residential codes.

Hello, my name is Abby Cuizon and I am a graduate student at the University of Hawaii at Manoa. I live in a rental home in the outskirts of Waikiki and currently reside in a beautiful townhome. As a tenant in a home, I AM FOR SB449 because I am a young graduate student who lives alone in a rental home constantly in worry because of unsafety measures in the home. I am in FULL SUPPORT of the bill as safety is a necessity not only for me but to all individuals as well.

The idea of **SB 449** is to protect the community from deaths and unexpected fires. Without a proper approved smoke alarm system, this could be detrimental to people living in homes with outdated smoke alarms. Not only is it a safety concern for an individual such as myself, but thinking big picture, a simple approved smoke alarm could save owners and sellers their investment by keeping their property intact. There are many other aspects that I can list that would benefit any building or structure by just having an approved smoke alarm, however, the safety and savings that could impact human lives are most important.

I'd like to thank you all for this opportunity to testify FOR SB449. I urge you to consider PASSING SB449 as it would make a tremendous difference in saving human lives. A simple device, such as a smoke alarm can make the biggest difference when an emergency occurs. This device can and will save the lives of many. Thank you again for your time and have a wonderful day.