****

**DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR**

**State acquires land under Maui’s**

**Front Street Apartments**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

October 3, 2019

HONOLULU – Gov. David Ige announced Thursday that the state has completed its transaction to acquire the land under Front Street Apartments on Maui. The move brings us closer to keeping the Front Street Apartments affordable for some 250 tenants.

The state purchased the land from 3900, LLC. to help preserve the rents at the 142-unit apartment building from surging to market prices.

A new law approved by the Legislature and signed by Gov. Ige in June, authorized the Hawai‘i Housing Finance and Development Corporation (HHFDC) to initiate negotiations with the owners of the Front Street Apartments and to acquire the land.

The HHFDC board approved $15 million from the Dwelling Unit Revolving Fund for the acquisition of the leased-fee property at the May 9, 2019 board meeting. The $15 million figure was based on a $14,930,000 appraisal of the fair market value of the Front Street Apartments.

“This acquisition brings us closer to protecting tenants from significant rent increases that could displace them. We are working toward more affordable housing for not only Maui residents, but for our families across the state,” said Gov. Ige.

“We are working with the owners of the Front Street Apartments to come to a solution to keep tenants in place and provide rent protections,” said Craig Hirai, executive director, HHFDC.

 ###

**Media Contacts:**

Jodi Leong

Deputy Communications Director/Press Secretary

Office of the Governor

Office: 808-586-0043

Mobile: 808-798-3929

jodi.c.leong@hawaii.gov

Cindy McMillan

Communications Director

Office of the Governor

Office: 808-586-0012

Mobile: 808-265-7974

cindy.mcmillan@hawaii.gov

        