Page 1: Candidate Information

Q1
Office You are Seeking
State House District 13

Q2
Party
Democrat

Q3
First Name
WALTER

Q4
Last Name
RITTE

Q5
Email
walter@ritte.org

Q6
Phone
808 2131107
Q7
Campaign Website
ritte.org

Q8
What steps do you think our state and/or counties should take to aid this recovery? Some examples could include how you think federal funds should be spent, diversifying the state’s economy, etc.

Stop, set aside funds and energy to replan the future of the islands of Hawaii with community input from each of the islands. Learn and correct the mistakes we have been making that has endangered our environment and made life unaffordable and dependent on national and international corporations.

Q9
Please share some of the efforts you have led or participated in response to COVID-19.

Protested tourist from coming to Molokai. Joined efforts to feed the Kupuna. Organized efforts to plan for a better future for Molokai.

Q10
Additional thoughts/comments:

Respondent skipped this question

Q11
What policies do you think the state and/or counties should enact to reduce tobacco and e-cigarette use?

Tobacco is a long time problem that is slowly declining in use, being replaced by e-cigarettes and pakalolo. We can only learn from previous efforts and continue our war on smoking.
Q12

Please indicate your position on the following policies:

- Apply a tobacco tax to e-cigarettes, such as a percentage of the wholesale cost or taxing e-liquid by volume. **Strongly Support**
- Prohibit the sale of all flavored tobacco products, including menthol cigarettes and flavored e-liquids. **Strongly Support**
- Restrict online sales of e-cigarettes to tobacco retailers only, in order to curb illegal sales to minors. **Strongly Support**
- Increase the tobacco tax on cigarettes to help smokers quit and prevent new users from starting. **Strongly Support**
- Funds from the tobacco settlement and tobacco taxes should fund tobacco prevention and cessation efforts. **Strongly Support**

Q13

Additional thoughts/comments:

Respondent skipped this question

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Page 4: Healthy Eating + Active Living

Q14

What steps do you think the state and/or counties should take to ensure food security for all of Hawaii’s people, and to significantly increase food self-sufficiency for our state?

Build infrastructure and tax credits to encourage taro farms and fishpond operations. Stop growing and exporting GMO seeds, GROW FOOD ON OUR LIMITED FARM LANDS. Educate our students on growing food on home gardens. Create mini farm hubs to get food directly from farm to home. Do not waste products grown on our farms.

Q15

In 2019, Hawai‘i made a commitment to adopt Vision Zero, an initiative to eliminate all traffic fatalities and severe injuries, while increasing safe, healthy, equitable mobility for all. What policies and infrastructure changes should the state and/or counties make to achieve this goal?

We doing ok on Molokai, reduce and eliminate the growth spiral of our islands.
Q16
Please indicate your position on the following policies:

We must significantly increase public investment in food systems workforce development, including programs such as farm to school, agriculture and food systems education (PreK-12 and higher education), and farmer training programs.  
Strongly Support

The state should continue to invest in a Double Up Food Bucks program, which doubles the value of SNAP benefits when buying fresh, locally grown produce at participating retailers.  
Strongly Support

Enact a one-cent per-ounce fee on sugar-sweetened beverages.  
Strongly Support

Use revenue from a sugar-sweetened beverage fee for obesity prevention programs.  
Support

Make health and physical education (PE) courses a curriculum requirement, rather than an option, for middle school students.  
PE is currently a requirement for elementary and high school students.  
Strongly Support

Implement a red light camera program to deter red-light running and help curb traffic fatalities and injuries.  
Support

Q17  
Additional thoughts/comments:  
Respondent skipped this question

Page 5: Oral Health

Q18
Please indicate your position on the following policies:

Reinstate coverage of preventative dental benefits for Adult Medicaid participants.  
Strongly Support

Fluoridation of community water supplies is an effective way to prevent tooth decay.  
Oppose

Q19  
Additional thoughts/comments:  
Respondent skipped this question

Page 6: Alcohol Regulations
Q20
Please indicate your position on the following policies:

- Increase in alcohol taxes.  
- Support

- Repeal of the alcohol takeout laws that allow people to buy and take home liquor-based mixed drinks from restaurants.  
- Support

- Repeal of alcohol delivery laws that allow restaurants to deliver beer and liquor-based mixed drinks to people's homes.  
- Support

- Increase in enforcement that helps ensure that youth do not access alcohol through existing laws allowing for alcohol takeout and delivery.  
- Strongly Support

Q21
Additional thoughts/comments:

Respondent skipped this question

Q22
Please indicate your position on the following policies:

- Do you support legalizing recreational marijuana sales in Hawai‘i?  
- Support

- If recreational marijuana is formally proposed by the state, how strongly would you support that marijuana be regulated by the Department of Health?  
- Support

- If recreational marijuana is formally proposed by the state, how strongly would you support that the price of marijuana be regulated?  
- Strongly Support

- If recreational marijuana is formally proposed by the state, how strongly would you support that the promotion and advertisement of marijuana sales be regulated?  
- Strongly Support

- If recreational marijuana is formally proposed by the state, how strongly would you support that marijuana potency be regulated?  
- Support

- If recreational marijuana is formally proposed by the state, how strongly would you support that the number and placement of marijuana outlets be regulated?  
- Strongly Support

Q23
Additional thoughts/comments:

Respondent skipped this question

Page 8: Economic Justice
Q24
What are your immediate plans to help make Hawai‘i more affordable for its residents?

Q25
What is the role of government in addressing housing affordability issues and what would you do to encourage the production of more affordable homes for Hawai‘i residents?
Bring down the cost of the land (use public lands, Fed. State, DHHL). Build simple homes that are safe and healthy.

Q26
Please indicate your position on the following policies:

Increase the state's minimum wage in a series of annual steps to a living wage of $17 per hour.  
**Strongly Support**

Create a statewide Paid Family Leave Program, which would allow up to 12 weeks for employees to provide care for a newborn, bond with a new child, or care for a family member with a serious health condition.  
**Strongly Support**

Q27
Additional thoughts/comments:
Respondent skipped this question