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COMPLETE

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Page 1: Candidate Information

Q1

Office You are Seeking

State Representative

Q2

Party

Democratic

Q3

First Name

Trish

Q4

Last Name

La Chica

Q5

Email

hello@trishlachica.com

Q6

Phone

808-799-4620

Q7

Campaign Website

trishlachica.com

Page 2: COVID-19 Response and Recovery

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.

This next legislative session is critical and state goals must include strengthening our unemployment insurance and benefits system, passing paid sick and family leave, and rethinking our budget priorities to address deep structural inequities in our system. I don't think that workers and community are represented in the decision-making bodies that are determining Hawaii's future. As a policymaker, I believe we should guarantee that all workers have the paid leave, health care, child care, and financial security to ensure their health and safety when they go back to the workplace. I will fight to protect all vulnerable workers – those in low-wage jobs, part-time, temp, and "gig" workers, essential workers, and immigrants and mixed-status workers.

The state must continue to fund our public health system. By public health, I don't mean just hospitals. This must include all providers (including private practice), community health centers, and the various safety net programs that thousands of Hawaii families are eligible for. CARES funds must be invested by taking care of our families, not banked in the EBRF. Every effort must be made to provide forgivable loans to individuals, farmers, nonprofits, and small businesses. I will also push for progressive tax revenue options versus making cuts such as taxing REITS, sugary beverages or vaping products, or increasing corporate taxes.

Q9

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

For the Mililani community:

- Community event Mililani YMCA in Feb - distributed hand sanitizers, two weeks later supply was wiped out so we sent out an eblast letting community members know we still had supply. We ended up delivering about 40 sanitizers including folks who weren't in our district, dropping them off in their mailboxes.
- Lobbied Sen Kidani and the DOE to include a grab-n-go school meals location in Mililani (the nearest would have been Wahiawa) – until they added Kipapa Elementary to the list. According to the DOE Mililani didn't need grab n go service. We have about 80 (!) kids who walk up just to get meals everyday and 300 drive thrus.
- Early March a week before the stay at home order, we partnered with the Mililani Disaster Preparedness Team to mobilize our community early and help spread the word about social distancing (I invited all the Mililani lawmakers – only Ryan Yamane showed).
- Beginning of April we launched a COVID resources page: <https://www.trishlachica.com/care/> (which we continue to update)
- Mobilized dozens of Mililani volunteers to help assemble hundreds of face shields for frontline essential workers.

For statewide advocacy

- Drafted and sent 2 sign on letters (gathered 250+ signatures in 24 hours) early March urging the administration to adopt more stringent public health protections
- Asked multiple times for HIPHI (Hawaii Public Health Institute) to participate in the House COVID-19 Public Health Task Force and Alan Oshima's sector groups (answer was no)
- Co-lead for statewide PPE coordination in partnership with DOH. I worked with various community groups to set up PPE hubs in each neighbor island.
- Participate in national workgroups with states from other public health institutes responding to COVID-19
- Doing a lot of advocacy in the areas of: community representation in reopening plans, better public communication, recommendations on CARES funds, childcare, food security, working families issues

Q10

Additional thoughts/comments:

I love HIPHI. HIPHI is my favorite!

Page 3: Tobacco and E-Cigarette Regulations

Q11

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

Ban the sale of all flavored tobacco products!! Tax tax tax the e-cigarette industry, and regulate online sales. Impose hefty penalties on the retailers for those selling online, those selling near schools and youth-frequented areas, and those using predatory marketing tactics to make tobacco products appealing to kids. Penalties should be deposited into the Tobacco Trust Fund and invested in education and cessation programs.

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

Respondent skipped this question

Additional thoughts/comments:

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?

In the immediate term, we need to save the local agriculture industry by providing forgivable loans to our farmers. As part of COVID-19 recovery, I would work to get our state and counties to fully transition to sourcing our prepared meals from our local farmers - the DOE and DOJ alone would help feed thousands of individuals, creating a stable income stream. In the long term, we need to shift investments into food systems so that each aspect of the supply chain is sustainable - from education, to green jobs, to the market.

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?

I support the adoption of a Vision Zero policy at the state level and development of a comprehensive plan in engineering, enforcement, and education with specific actions to achieve zero traffic fatalities. I would also advocate for funding for agencies and organizations that can help implement the recommendations provided in the plan and also support county efforts to adopt these into county plans.

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. **Strongly 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. **Strongly Support**

Q17

Respondent skipped this question

Additional thoughts/comments:

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. **Strongly Support**

Q19

Respondent skipped this question

Additional thoughts/comments:

Page 6: Alcohol Regulations

Q20

Please indicate your position on the following policies:

- | | |
|---|-------------------------|
| Increase in alcohol taxes. | Strongly Support |
| Repeal of the alcohol takeout laws that allow people to buy and take home liquor-based mixed drinks from restaurants. | Strongly Support |
| Repeal of alcohol delivery laws that allow restaurants to deliver beer and liquor-based mixed drinks to people's homes. | Strongly Support |
| Increase in enforcement that helps ensure that youth do not access alcohol through existing laws allowing for alcohol takeout and delivery. | Strongly Support |
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Q21

Respondent skipped this question

Additional thoughts/comments:

Page 7: Marijuana Regulations

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? | Strongly 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? | Strongly 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 |
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Q23

Respondent skipped this question

Additional thoughts/comments:

Page 8: Economic Justice

Q24

What are your immediate plans to help make Hawai'i more affordable for its residents?

I would like to champion issues that impact Hawaii's working families. The largest high cost-of-living driver is housing and we need to mandate and incentivize workforce housing and rentals, particularly in hard-to-staff areas. I would also work on expanding early learning and universal public pre-K to make childcare affordable. Finally, I would strongly support passing a livable wage to give more purchasing power to our working families.

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?

Government plays a huge role because without government intervention, developers will maximize profit by selling to the highest bidder. I believe that government should provide property tax incentives and other measures that reward and incentivize the development of housing that local residents can actually afford. I would prioritize affordable housing and subsidized developments meant specifically for teachers and government employees in hard-to-staff areas. Developments should be done responsibly in a way that protects and factors in our aina. I support building in high-density areas as well as prioritizing developments along the rail corridor with some type of impact fee being reinvested in the community. I would also support some type of "kamaaina first" program that gives locals the preference to bid for a home within the first 20 (or so) days of being on the market. On an administrative level, we also need to address chronic staffing shortages for the approval and review process to reduce admin burden and delay.

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

Respondent skipped this question

Additional thoughts/comments:
