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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.

Congress has taken important emergency measures to address the devastating impacts of COVID-19 on our healthcare system and on our economy in the form of legislative package that includes an $8.3 billion spending bill, $100 billion paid sick leave bill and stimulus check and guaranteed loans to small businesses. These relief packages are critical in mitigating the hardship of Americans but there is a need of comprehensive long term national strategy for getting back the economy on track. Focus on three areas that are important. First empower and bolster middle class who are the heartbeat of American Society by supporting unions. Second, invest in education and skills training to better empower American middle class who will always be the driving force in our economy. Provide federal income tax relief to teachers and nurses not big companies that utilizes their tax cut to buy back taxes to enrich them more. Expand STEM education and professional development resources to restore Americans human capital. Third, lawmakers should keep programs such as social security and retirement security that helped elderly and low income Americans for generations. Keep it solvent by eliminating the cap on wages subject to Social Security payroll taxes. We must seize the opportunity to finally address fundamental vulnerabilities of our economy.

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

Every individual has a responsibility in the containment of coronavirus. Being compliant to necessary and critical practices can decrease spread. Personally I participated in making sure our elderly who are most vulnerable are protected by providing them necessary services to keep them safe. I volunteered in delivering 200 Malama meals daily to elderly population and homeless around our area for 65 days. One of the effects of lockdown was losing jobs and healthcare coverage. By providing assistance to those who lost their jobs in applying for Medicare and Medicaid many were able to obtain health coverage that is very critical in this time of crisis. One preventive measure required is the mandatory use of mask, that became another area of concern because of scarcity. Being a member of Women’s March Team in collaboration with MaskForHumanity. I am spending time and money in making masks. So far I have donated total of 400 masks locally and other states and I am still making more to donate.

Q10
Additional thoughts/comments:

Lately, surge of infection is happening in 25 states. Containing the spread of the COVID 19 and decrease morbidity and mortality is critical. As a public health professionals, it is our responsibility to raise Public awareness of the risks, effects and impacts in our environment, economy and well being and to protect our communities and health workers.

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?

Lawmakers had passed a bill banning sale and use of E-cigarettes, strict implementation is needed. Impose higher taxes on sale of tobacco to discourage users when price of tobacco becomes costly due to increase in tax.

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*

Q14
What steps do you think the state and/or counties should take to ensure food security for all of Hawai‘i’s people, and to significantly increase food self-sufficiency for our state?

Measures to address challenges of food security and the constraints of physical, biological economical and sociology-political that limits food production and obstruct access to healthy diets. Support initiatives that promotes agricultural sustainability.

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?

Accidents can be prevented by taking proactive preventative approach that prioritizes traffic safety as a public health issue. Improvement of roadway environment, safe driving conditions and speed management are in place.
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.  

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. 

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

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

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. 

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

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.  

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

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

Q21
Additional thoughts/comments: \(\text{Respondent skipped this question}\)

Page 7: Marijuana Regulations

Q22
Please indicate your position on the following policies:

Do you support legalizing recreational marijuana sales in Hawai‘i? \(\text{Oppose}\)
If recreational marijuana is formally proposed by the state, how strongly would you support that marijuana be regulated by the Department of Health? \(\text{Strongly Support}\)
If recreational marijuana is formally proposed by the state, how strongly would you support that the price of marijuana be regulated? \(\text{Strongly Support}\)
If recreational marijuana is formally proposed by the state, how strongly would you support that the promotion and advertisement of marijuana sales be regulated? \(\text{Strongly Support}\)
If recreational marijuana is formally proposed by the state, how strongly would you support that marijuana potency be regulated? \(\text{Strongly Support}\)
If recreational marijuana is formally proposed by the state, how strongly would you support that the number and placement of marijuana outlets be regulated? \(\text{Strongly Support}\)

Q23
Additional thoughts/comments: \(\text{Respondent skipped this question}\)

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

Require developers to build more affordable housing for residents. Legislate a regulation to limit sale of newly built houses to investors.

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?

Legislate and implement regulations for developers to built more affordable housing. Enforce a quota or ratio on the amount of affordable houses to be built per market value houses.

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**