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Page 1: Candidate Information

Q1

Office You are Seeking

Hawaii House of Representatives, District 49

Q2

Party

Democrat

Q3

First Name

Scot

Q4

Last Name

Matayoshi

Q5

Email

scot@scotmatayoshi.com

Q6

Respondent skipped this question

Phone

Q7

Campaign Website

www.scotmatayoshi.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.

Masks and social distancing must be mandatory and enforced. Our contact tracing must also be beefed up, but there's only so much we can do to slow the virus.

For long-term recovery, I've been advocating for years a refocus on the industries that Hawaii has a competitive advantage in over the rest of the world. Tourism is one of them, to be sure, but so are certain types of agriculture, aquaculture, and astronomy. We will never compete against silicone valley, but we can compete in seed crops which we can grow year round with little to no cross-pollination due to our geographic isolation. There are other plants, animals, and insects we can grow larva, eggs, or seeds of better than anywhere else. The same with astronomy, which we also can do better due to our geographic isolation. Let's turn our geographic isolation into a positive instead of just a negative.

Q9

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

Along with Rep. Kitagawa, I created a website to help local restaurants during the pandemic. Rep. Kitagawa and I also brought the Farm to Car program to the Windward side, allowing residents to purchase local produce directly and contact-free.

Q10

Additional thoughts/comments:

Another program Rep. Kitagawa and I started was the Kaneohe Joint Outreach Center, which I feel is needed now more than ever. With the pandemic spreading, it is important to keep our homeless population from spreading the virus, and also to get them off the streets by connecting them to medical and social services.

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 e-cigarettes. I wrote the bill this year that almost made it through to ban flavored e-cigs, and another bill to tax them like all other tobacco products. I fully intend to make a push again next session, along with Senator Baker.

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. | 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?

I would love to see our agricultural industry strengthened, but I'll be honest that I want the focus to be on growing crops to export, not on growing all of our food here. Other places have a powerful advantage over us in terms of space and labor. I don't think we will ever out-compete the mainland for crop quantity. That being said, I do want us to grow some of our food here for food security. I just also want us to be practical when faced with economies of scale.

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?

The adoption of the red light camera pilot program this year was a good start, and a program I supported. I'd like to see this program expanded as soon as possible. I also think we need to cut down on driving while intoxicated. I'm open to ideas.

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. **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. **Support**

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

Support

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

Oppose

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:

Alcohol delivery to people's homes would, I think, reduce the desire for people to drink and drive. I've also been in contact with local breweries which have been helped by the beer and liquor delivery option. I think there should be a limit imposed, but I'm not necessarily against alcohol delivery to homes. I prefer it to people going to a bar, both for the DUI aspect and to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Page 7: Marijuana Regulations

Q22

Please indicate your position on the following policies:

Do you support legalizing recreational marijuana sales in Hawai'i?

Oppose

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?

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

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 want to make sure the universal early childhood education bill we just passed sticks. Childcare is a huge cost on working families. I also want to encourage more dense residential development on state lands and around rail stations to help reduce housing costs for our 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?

The state government has a lot of land that can be used for housing, but City zoning, permits, and regulations are the bigger sticking point in making housing more affordable. While the state does have the 201H option, it's relatively limited.

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. **Oppose**

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. **Support**

Q27

Additional thoughts/comments:

Right now, I'm comfortable with raising the minimum wage to \$15/hour in steps.
