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COMPLETE

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First Name: Frederic (Ric)
Last Name: Wirick
Email: wirickccd5@gmail.com
IP Address: 72.235.32.204

Page 1: Candidate Information

Q1

Office You are Seeking

Hawaii County Council District 5

Q2

Party

Non Partisan

Q3

First Name

Frederic (Ric)

Q4

Last Name

Wirick

Q5

Email

wirickccd5@gmail.com

Q6

Phone

8085577620

Q7

Campaign Website

www.WhyRick.org

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.

Strictly limit tourists visiting the islands to help prevent the spread of the virus. Yes, we are experiencing economic recession, depression and collapse but we cannot risk the health, safety and welfare of our island.

It is time for new priorities and directives. First, lead by example -- Defund Politicians -- rollback the 2018 Hawaii County Administration salary increases and put that \$1.3 million dollars back to work for taxpayers services. Second, Refund Taxpayers -- rescind the unprecedented 2019 "tax conversions" from agricultural to residential, costing taxpayers \$1.3 million dollars. Many gardeners and small farmers taxes doubled, their tax base should be protected by the "State" constitution -- if anything they should get incentives to grow more food to feed their families in these difficult times.

Submit the County to a forensic audit -- and set new priorities, directives and move into a state of emergency preparedness for the difficult times ahead. Including incentives for community food production and growing our own food security. Our current dependency for 90% of the food consumed on shipping containers from the US mainland is precarious at best, if the shipments stop or are disrupted -- store shelves empty and people go hungry in 3 to 5 days. If we grow our own food, the food supply from the land becomes endless. Homegrown food security is a necessity -- plant the seeds NOW!

Q9

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

Back to the garden, growing for ourselves and as a community. Promoting community self-reliance. Promoting and participating in monthly community harvest share and markets.

Q10

Additional thoughts/comments:

Back to the Basics -- Back to the Future -- Feed Ourselves, Feed Our Island Community -- Sustainable Agri-culture. Defund Politicians/ Refund Taxpayers

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?

In the 1950's -- more doctors recommended Camel cigarettes than any other cigarette -- sounds crazy now but they were real ads back then. Like cigarettes in the 1950's, there was no real testing of the safety of e-cigarettes. Profits were and are put before public health, safety and welfare.

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:

Since the 1980's we have had new cancer sticks going up in our residential communities, cellular towers emitting electromagnetic radiation and frequencies 24/7.
State and County still spraying harmful chemicals like Roundup and its generic labels -- when there are natural herbicides readily available.
Human testing and experimentation without informed consent is a war-crime. Why are we subjected to harmful substances and radiation -- because the Feds, State and County put profits over the Public Health, Safety and Welfare.

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?

Grow a garden, promote neighborhood and community garden growing efforts.

Stop the County's devastating "tax conversions" -- doubling taxes on home gardeners and small farmers in these hard times.

Plant the seeds of real change!

Protect our agriculturally zoned lands!

HAWAI'I STATE CONSTITUTION
ARTICLE XI: CONSERVATION, CONTROL AND DEVELOPMENT
AGRICULTURAL LANDS

Section 3. The State shall conserve and protect agricultural lands, promote diversified agriculture, increase agricultural self-sufficiency and assure the availability of agriculturally suitable lands...

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?

This is very difficult in this economic recession, depression, and global economic collapse. Fuel rationing is likely. There are some local alternatives, Pacific Biodiesel -- used cooking oil filtered and refined into commercial grade biodiesel. PB's Keaau plant zero-emissions and biodiesel powered.

Solar charging and electric cars and trucks seemed possible before this collapse. But what happens when the money runs out to purchase the new electric cars?

For our rural communities, true solar powered grass fed horses are being seen on the gravel roads.

When we begin to grow more, we will have more green waste -- biogas, ethanol and cellulosic hydrogen production are all real possibilities -- but we have to begin real conservation -- driving less and growing more within our communities. Tax incentives to grow more and grow forward...

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 Oppose**

Q17

Additional thoughts/comments:

Why Rick? We need to get Back to the Basics -- Back to the Future -- Feed Ourselves -- Feed Our Island Community -- Sustainable Agri-Culture.

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 Oppose**

Q19

Additional thoughts/comments:

Public Health, Safety and Welfare first and foremost -- learn from our mistakes -- don't repeat them...

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 Oppose**

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

Vehicle accidents due to cell phone use while driving has exceeded drunk driving accidents -- cell phones off while driving...

Page 7: Marijuana Regulations

Q22

Please indicate your position on the following policies:

- | | |
|---|-------------------------|
| Do you support legalizing recreational marijuana sales in Hawai'i? | Strongly 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 Oppose |
| 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 Oppose |
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Q23

Additional thoughts/comments:

First of all the proper term is Cannabis -- second, medical cannabis is legal in the "State" with a doctor's prescription and "State" Health permit.
Medical Cannabis can be grown as an essential garden vegetable, Cannabis seeds are high in protein, essential amino acids and omega 3&6 oils. Check with your doctor to see if Medical Cannabis is right for you. And if so, get the doctor's prescription and "State" health permit and grow your own -- it is the simply the best.

Page 8: Economic Justice

Q24

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

Debt and foreclosure protection for families in need during this economic crisis. And grow a garden and support your local community food hubs.

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?

Currently the term affordable housing does not apply to Hawaii. Read the book, Land and Power in Hawaii -- politicians working with land investors and developers -- to systematically convert agricultural lands into overpriced residential subdivisions. Profits over the welfare of the local communities.

It is time to stop "Land and Power in Hawaii" -- time to Defund Politicians and Refund Taxpayers -- time to stop the sale of agricultural lands to the highest bidder. It is more important that we grow our own food for our own communities -- rather than creating expensive retirement communities for the wealthy few.

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:

Time to put the Welfare of the People over the profits of big business and big government -- Defund Politicians and Refund Taxpayers!
