

#159

COMPLETE

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Page 1: Candidate Information

Q1

Office You are Seeking

Hawaii County County Council District 8

Q2

Party

Nonpartisan

Q3

First Name

Holeka

Q4

Last Name

Inaba

Q5

Email

holeka@voteinaba.com

Q6

Respondent skipped this question

Phone

Q7

Campaign Website

voteinaba.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.

I want to see Hawai'i return to a set of islands that are self-sustainable and environmentally in-tune. I would like to see stronger support of small businesses and local food producers so that they have the means to compete with big box stores and mass food importation to Hawai'i. If this means decreased taxes on small business, mentoring, forgivable/no interest loans, I am all for it. As public servants, we must be open to challenging the status quo and working with our constituents who have experience and expertise in areas that can transform the status quo into something progressive and forward-thinking.

Q9

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

I have worked every week as a volunteer of La'i 'Ōpua 2020's Hānai 'Ai program here in Kona. This program prepares over 500 free hot meals each week in a drive-thru format for the Kona community.

Q10

Respondent skipped this question

Additional thoughts/comments:

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?

I think a multi-method approach could be implemented to reduce tobacco and e-cigarette usage. First, I think we could put higher taxes on these products to put financial pressure to quit using. More importantly, however, I think our county can use this new funding to work with public health and health communication professionals to do a better job of educating our community against the dangers of these behaviors. This education could occur through social media, local businesses, as well as through our local schools and their individual wellness committees.

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?

I believe that as a county, we can ensure food security by supporting new and small businesses through a business incubator sponsored by our county. We can wave taxes and startup fees for these companies and offer subsidies where possible. In doing so, we can increase our local food production, create new sustainable jobs, and work with our local retailers to source these goods directly to the homes of local residents. Beyond this, I feel that we can work to support our local businesses with better marketing so that they have a higher potential for success in growing their businesses.

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?

1. We must commit our resources to addressing areas in our infrastructure that are weak and prone to causing accidents. Whether it be adding speed bumps or repaving surfaces, we must make an effort for a comprehensive evaluation by our Division of Public Works.
 2. In conjunction with updates to our public works, it is important that we work in conjunction with law enforcement to target behaviors that we want to reduce in our community.
 3. Part of reducing these behaviors, however, comes from better education and training in preventative and reactive safety behaviors.
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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. **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. **Oppose**

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

I support enforcement that will prevent minors from gaining access to alcohol through takeout and delivery. Although I haven't heard of this as a significant issue, I support tightening up in this area.

However, I do not support and increase in taxes nor restricting a restaurant's ability to sell/deliver alcohol.

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

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 believe we can look to existing and potential developments to commit financial support to housing for those in need. Whether it be tiny homes or apartments, we need to do a better job of giving locals affordable options. In addition, I think the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands should consider awarding residential home lots and allowing lessees to build with their own funds. Currently, real estate is so expensive that people can't even afford land. If the land cost is taken out of the equation, however, we may see far more residents owning than renting.

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?

I think we need to be open to increases in luxury home taxes. In addition, we may need to consider ways that prevent foreigners from owning land in Hawai'i. If we continue to allow foreign investors to purchase real estate, we will never see an increase in local land and homeownership.

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. **Support**

Q27

Respondent skipped this question

Additional thoughts/comments:
