#36

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Page 1: Candidate Information

Q1
Office You are Seeking
Kauai County Councilmember

Q2
Party
nonpartisan

Q3
First Name
Addison

Q4
Last Name
Bulosan

Q5
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addisonbulosan@gmail.com

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8086521442
Q7
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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.

There are a few areas I believe we need to push forward together for Hawaii state and Kauai county. First is drastically improving our local government IT systems across the board, in every department. The focus is in increasing efficiency for our current systems to create a more effective government. Second, drastically improve the broadband system for the island of Kauai. As we have pushed into the digital world and many jobs are now stay-at-home systems, our broadband infrastructure is being pushed to its limits and it is limiting our ability to adapt our economy. From tele-health to online customer service, there is a huge opportunity for us to attract high level professionals and continue the economy to grow. Thirdly, a big opportunity is fulfilling the gap in our food sustainability with our agricultural ability. Focusing on ramping up our ability to produce more locally will allow local dollars to continue to stay within the local economy. Lastly, for Kauai county, bolstering our multimodal transportation ability is a high priority. By enabling modes of travel we will be able to continue to solve the traffic challenges, the climate challenges, and financial challenges. All of these solutions are aimed to reduce cost of living.

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

From the beginning of COVID-19 I have focused on helping our community survive the multi-faceted challenges. First of, as a healthcare practitioner and essential worker, our offices have remained open and continue to provide care to patients to reduce the loads on our hospital systems. Our ability to continue to care for chronic health challenges and keeping people healthy is one of the biggest things we could do for community. Secondly, as the President of the Rice Street Business Association we adapted our Business Development Grant awarded by the County of Kauai and we worked towards supporting local businesses and musicians. We developed a daily program where we hired musicians to perform nightly to provide mental and emotional health support and at the same time we promoted small businesses who were still open. Helping drive more customers to these businesses to help them stay financially solvent. We have been operating this program for a month and will continue until we are no longer financially able to. Lastly, I have turned to social media and at the start of the crisis have been helping our community stay up to date with well researched information that

Q10
Additional thoughts/comments:

We have to begin shifting the narrative from protection to prevention. In healthcare, we have a strong emphasis on disease treatment but not a focus on increase resiliency. I believe in order to really overcome this health challenge we must strongly encourage a healthy lifestyle and creating resiliency. Simply, supporting and encouraging our community to eat healthy, rest well, get exercise in, and keeping a positive attitude and social lifestyle are as vitally important as social distancing and face coverings.

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?

Tobacco use is a multi-faceted reason. For youth, it's a combination of stress relief and rebellion. For adults, it's a stress-relieving habit. One solution is making this habit an expensive one by increasing taxes for the specific product and utilizing that tax revenue to support mental health programs that address stress coping mechanisms.

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. **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. **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 Hawaii's people, and to significantly increase food self-sufficiency for our state?

This is the most impactful thing we can do for our community as regards to health and financial wellness. Our first step is to fund all farm to school and school programs using local ingredients for cafeterias. This will immediately decrease the health risks of our youth and increase the support for local agriculture systems. Secondly, we need to look to supporting our multi-modal transportation systems across the island to reduce the use of single-occupied vehicles. This will reduce our traffic congestions and support our efforts for a healthier environment.
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?

Our efforts must focus on town core centers and developing these areas with smart street design that allows all travelers to be more aware of their surroundings. A prime example of this is the development happening in Downtown Lihue with the TIGER grant improvements.

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:

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: **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:

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 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
Additional thoughts/comments:

Q24
What are your immediate plans to help make Hawai‘i more affordable for its residents?

Our top 4 expenses are 1. Rent/mortgage 2. transportation 3. Food 4. Health. I believe tackling our top 3 is the most important focus at the moment. Our immediate focus is developing our town core centers to create affordable homes with affordable lifestyles. It's to no surprise that when you can live and work in the same area, cost of living dramatically reduces. This is due to the decrease in transportation need and the walkable/bikeable lifestyle contributes to your health. Couple this with an emphasis on enabling our agriculture industry to provide more local food to our local people will drive the cost of food down and increase the health benefits as well. Helping farmers be able to sell directly to consumer and reducing the barriers for farmers to be successful will create a food sustainable model that affects the cost of living and the health of everyone.

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?

There are two roles our local government plays in the affordability aspect of homes. Local government can focus development in town core centers to allow for more cost effective multi-use buildings in areas that have infrastructure which will allow for quicker and more affordable homes to be developed. Secondly, by leveraging smart policies and collaboration with federal, state, and private entities, local government can enable a faster rate of production of homes which can create a more balance housing market.

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.  
Strongly Support

Q27
Additional thoughts/comments:

Increasing the state's minimum wage without reducing cost of living will inadvertently raise cost of living and make it no longer a livable wage. The focus needs to be on reducing cost of living and strengthening the local economy in order to keep local dollars within Hawai. Lastly, we need to focus on enabling businesses to be able to sell globally aside from tourism.