

#95

COMPLETE

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Page 1: Candidate Information

Q1

Office You are Seeking

County Council for Kaua'i & Ni'ihau

Q2

Party

Nonpartisan

Q3

First Name

Jade

Q4

Last Name

Wai'ale'ale Battad

Q5

Email

friendsofjade@gmail.com

Q6

Phone

8086357549

Q7

Respondent skipped this question

Campaign Website

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.

Our community has one of the country's best records for managing this health crisis, and as we work to rebuild our economy, I recommend a combination of grants to embattled small businesses, tax credits, and enabling the county to act as a facilitator for partnerships and collaborations that help address specific issues for our economy-which may include long-standing unaddressed issues as well as those directly caused by this pandemic.

Q9

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

My role as a minister and counselor has been to provide emotional support to those most impacted by the events of these troubled times, and where applicable to direct them to resources to address specific needs. I helped with food distribution. I have cared for our Kupuna and made sure their needs were met during Covid-19 quarantine. As a member of the County Council, that role would change to address policy, budgetary and other considerations.

Q10

Additional thoughts/comments:

There are still those in our community who hope for a quick recovery. I think that is unlikely, and we need to adjust our efforts and manage our economy for a long recession. I am afraid it will include possible supply chain interruptions, long-term unemployment, and an odd combination of collapsing real estate prices and increased homelessness. Even with rent prices dropping, many unemployed families that have been counting on multiple household incomes to cover costs will face eviction. Many of the other impacts of this difficult time will become apparent as we go forward.

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?

We need to pass policies that make e-cigarette less available and appealing to young people. Flavor restrictions, restrict the sale of products above a set nicotine concentration level, prohibiting bulk purchasing of e-cigarette products, comprehensive clean indoor air acts inclusive of e-cigarettes, advertising and point of sale restrictions, enforcement considerations.

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. | 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. | 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. | Support |
-

Q13

Additional thoughts/comments:

E-cigarette use increased 78% among high school students in the last year. 1 in 5 high school students and 1 in 20 middle school students currently use e-cigarettes. They are marketed specifically for a younger market; made in appealing flavors and colors and devices manufactured in ways to be hidden by adults. We must take action now to protect the health and well being of our nation's young people.

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?

Reduced taxes for properties used for food production; increased rates for agricultural lands used for residential but not significant agricultural use. Aggressive support of maintenance of old plantation irrigation systems, to ensure water is available to agricultural lands. Establishment of certified kitchens at county neighborhood centers, to support value-added production. Aggressive lobbying with the state to reduce regulatory burden on farmers. Expansion of Farmers' Market programs.

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?

Walking and biking paths should be separated from roadways wherever possible. Cameras should be deployed at crosswalks to ensure compliance with pedestrian safety needs. Auto license recognition systems should be deployed to enforce speeding and other traffic violations.

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. **Oppose**

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. **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. | 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

Respondent skipped this question

Additional thoughts/comments:

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? | Oppose |
| 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? | 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?

Aggressive policies to promote development of low-cost housing. Support of farmers to promote low-cost food production. Expanding public transportation support to provide lower-cost transportation options.

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?

Government's role is primary. It controls zoning, density, permitting, some utilities (water, roads) and many other parts of the housing equation. There are some projects that must be done by government, but many that should be developed by the private sector. That said, government policies have driven the private sector out of the low to moderate income housing sector. This is a complex issue, but one significant factor is government-caused delays: interminable rezoning processes, delays in processing of permits, slow development of infrastructure in areas designated for growth and so forth. Should the county Housing Agency provide pre-approved affordable building plans that can speed through the zoning and permitting process? It's one idea. Let's find others.

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. **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

Respondent skipped this question

Additional thoughts/comments:
