#160

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Page 1: Candidate Information

Q1
Office You are Seeking
Maui County Council

Q2
Party
Democrat

Q3
First Name
Tamara

Q4
Last Name
Paltin

Q5
Email
Tampaltin@gmail.com

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Phone
(808)870-0052
Q7
Campaign Website
TamaraPaltin.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.

Create paid internships in needed areas: farming, ranching, healthcare, education, engineering

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

Calling on Maui Memorial Medical Center to be more transparent with their COVID response on behalf of healthcare workers, heavy trimming of our budget, online county committee/council meetings open to the public

Q10
Additional thoughts/comments:

We desperately need to become less reliant on the tourism industry and focus on a sustainable Maui County for our residents and we need to be able to control our own borders

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?

No flavored products, no public advertising an additional tax that would fund efforts of citizens who want to quit
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:

The things I strongly supported turned out to be my original ideas lol

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?

If landowners have large amounts of fallow fields and there are farmers wanting to farm them but cannot because the leases are cost prohibitive we should not be giving Ag land tax rates to landowners who intentionally leave their land fallow waiting to develop

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?

More roundabouts, public transportation and police presence
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
Additional thoughts/comments:

Also like they have how to cook videos, we should do the same for gardening and aquaponics with tips and tricks about natural farming, organic and permaculture and get student videographers involved

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
Additional thoughts/comments:

Some folks are opposed to fluoridation of water so I think everyone should be able to choose whether they want it or not
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 Support**
- Repeal of alcohol delivery laws that allow restaurants to deliver beer and liquor-based mixed drinks to people’s homes.  **Strongly Support**
- 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 testified against home delivery at our liquor commission meeting

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?  **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:

This is a part of diversification of our economy and realistically it’s a lot less harmful than alcohol and cigarettes
Q24
What are your immediate plans to help make Hawai‘i more affordable for its residents?
I’m currently working on ways to limit STR and incentivize long term affordable rentals through property tax incentives

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?
We set the criteria through workforce housing policy MCC2.96 it could be updated also we need to work more with and encourage non profit developers

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: Respondent skipped this question