

#135

COMPLETE

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First Name: Kaulani
Last Name: Almeida
Email: kauilaniforoaha@gmail.com
IP Address: 67.53.222.162

Page 1: Candidate Information

Q1

Office You are Seeking

OHA Hawaii Resident Trustee

Q2

Party

nonpartisan

Q3

First Name

Kaulani

Q4

Last Name

Almeida

Q5

Email

kauilaniforOHA@gmail.comm

Q6

Phone

8087475605

Q7

Campaign Website

www.kaulaniforoaha.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.

Our people have some of the highest rates of diabetes, obesity, heart and lung disease in the state of Hawaii. These are exactly the conditions that make us more susceptible to the effects of COVID-19. That is why it is especially important in this time of crisis to follow the guidelines set forth by our health experts; wearing face masks, social distancing, limiting large social gatherings.

It goes without saying that the health of our people should be a top priority, OHA need to bring together experts in the fields of education, nutrition, exercise, medicine, food production and others to coordinate, formulate, and implement a plan to improve our health so that we cannot only deal with future pandemics but improve the everyday lives of our people.

Q9

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

I feed the kupuna in my Pana'ewa community dinner every weeknight. As the President of the community association, I worked with the community to identify where each kupuna lives, and make sure they have a hot meal at least once per day. We must keep our bonds alive and well within the communities we live in, and always remember to malama our kupuna.

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 support additional taxes on these products. I also support restricting advertising of products that target minors, such as the candy/fruit flavored tobacco.

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?

One way to essentially increase food production is by eliminating food waste. OHA can help existing programs to eliminating food waste. OHA can help existing programs to get surplus food to where it's most needed and specifically its native Hawaiian beneficiaries. One area I would like to explore is the establishment of food exchanges where produce could be shared from home gardens. Another idea is to support the building of certified kitchens in each Hawaiian community so that farmers as well as resident entrepreneurs can create value added products to augment their income.

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?

OHA need to look at this problem from a Hawaiian cultural point of view. I support efforts to resurrect the concept of pu'u honua. I am not saying to replicate it but to adopt the methods and values as it pertains to today's problems. An important part of pu'u honua concept is the "mihī" process.

We must get the ohana involved and impress to our brothers and sisters in the system the shame they brought to their ohana and the need to make amends. Iopa Maunakea has an excellent program that he runs in Puna based on these concepts and giving back to the community. OHA needs to wholeheartedly support programs such as these.

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. **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. **Strongly 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. | 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. | Oppose |
| Increase in enforcement that helps ensure that youth do not access alcohol through existing laws allowing for alcohol takeout and delivery. | Strongly Support |
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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? | 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 Oppose |
| 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 Oppose |
| 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 |
-

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?

With the advent of internet, the effects of tourism have extended far beyond the bright lights of Waikiki. Once isolated sites frequented only by members of the surrounding communities have been inundated by tourists from all over the world.

Communities should have the power to close off certain areas during parts of the year to regenerate, rejuvenate, rehabilitate and maintain these areas. Residents of these communities can use these times to work together, strengthen community bond, and enjoy life as it once was.

OHA can assist with legislative lobbying, legal help, and gathering of resources to assist communities in achieving these goals.

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?

These are some of the obstacles to homeownership and solutions of how OHA can help overcome them:

- 1) Land- having land available through DHHL or Kuleana Land Tax Exempt program knocks off a major cost. OHA as an advocate can create more partnerships like we've done with DLNR in Kalapana to obtain leases in areas not served by DHHL.
 - 2) Labor- Many ohana can supply the labor through self-help projects. We must make use of our skilled Hawaiian tradesmen.
 - 3) Materials- we could coordinate bulk purchases to reduce cost and stock recycled building materials for use in the construction.
 - 4) Loans- right now interest rates are low and there already existing loan assistance programs that many people are not aware of.
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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

Respondent skipped this question

Additional thoughts/comments:
