Page 1: Candidate Information

Q1
Office You are Seeking
Office of Hawaiian Affairs Kaua‘i Trustee

Q2
Party
Nonpartisan

Q3
First Name
Brittny

Q4
Last Name
Perez

Q5
Email
brittny@brittnyperezforoha.com

Q6
Phone
Respondent skipped this question
Q7
Campaign Website
https://brittnyperezforoha.org/

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 think money should be spent in updating the unemployment system and hiring qualified programmers to work on the unemployment system so that our residents are paid and can put food on the table and pay their bills, and afford their medications. Agriculture needs to continue being funded especially new farmers to work towards 100% food independence. We also need to ensure that any stimulus monies going to businesses and institutions aren’t being used to give bonuses for the people at the top leaving hard working people laid off and out of jobs like we saw in the last recession.

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

In my own community, I committed to helping many families especially the elderly and households with children, by handing out free fresh whole pineapples. I also taught people how to plant and grow them by live streaming a “how to” video on my Facebook page. I did this for six weeks, people were able to pick them up and for those who could not drive, I delivered to their homes.

Q10
Additional thoughts/comments:

A major issue that severely affects the health and well-being of all our residents of Hawai‘i is housing. When our people do not have a home or access to affordable and safe housing many aspects of their lives will suffer, including their mental and physical health.

Q11
What policies do you think the state and/or counties should enact to reduce tobacco and e-cigarette use?

The state should allocate funds to educate students on the long term effects of tobacco. The state should also remove images of tobacco products in their anti-tobacco campaigns, as they are triggers and perpetuates the image of its regular use.
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 Oppose**

Prohibit the sale of all flavored tobacco products, including menthol cigarettes and flavored e-liquids.  
**Strongly Oppose**

Restrict online sales of e-cigarettes to tobacco retailers only, in order to curb illegal sales to minors.  
**Strongly Oppose**

Increase the tobacco tax on cigarettes to help smokers quit and prevent new users from starting.  
**Strongly Oppose**

Funds from the tobacco settlement and tobacco taxes should fund tobacco prevention and cessation efforts.  
**Strongly Support**

Q13
Additional thoughts/comments:

I strongly oppose additional taxation on tobacco products, never has that flawed tactic led to the end of tobacco corporations. All it has done is bleed people of their hard earned dollars.

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?

The state needs to stop building their fake “affordable homes” on agricultural lands. We need to stop being the poisoned test grounds of gmo products and their patented seed production. Instead we need to utilize many of our sustainable farming methods of the past and blend it with modern day technology and science. We need to also implement much more community farming options and educational 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?

We need to declutter our highways, the first major action in doing this would be to limit rental cars on our roads. Tourist staying for two weeks or less should be made to use a shuttle, bus, or taxi services including companies like Uber and Lyft.
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. **Oppose**

- 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. **Oppose**

Q17
Additional thoughts/comments:

Emphasizing health and wellness in our existing culture, will greatly increase the health of our people much more than adding more taxes on our already existing crippling taxes.

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
Additional thoughts/comments:

All oral health issues should be covered by children’s and adults Medicaid, including oral surgeries and braces which can fix painful jaw problems.

Page 6: Alcohol Regulations
Q20

Please indicate your position on the following policies:

- Increase in alcohol taxes. Strongly Oppose
- Repeal of the alcohol takeout laws that allow people to buy and take home liquor-based mixed drinks from restaurants. Strongly Oppose
- Repeal of alcohol delivery laws that allow restaurants to deliver beer and liquor-based mixed drinks to people’s homes. Strongly Oppose
- Increase in enforcement that helps ensure that youth do not access alcohol through existing laws allowing for alcohol takeout and delivery. Strongly Oppose

Q21

Additional thoughts/comments:

Education, knowledge and culture will save our adults and youth from alcoholism and alcohol related deaths. More crippling taxation will just continue to bleed Hawaii workers of their money, and criminalizing petty alcohol use will unnecessarily turn more people into “criminals” which will disproportionately (as many laws already do) effect people of color.

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? Oppose
- If recreational marijuana is formally proposed by the state, how strongly would you support that the price of marijuana be regulated? Strongly 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? Oppose
- 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
Additional thoughts/comments:
I believe the placement of Marijuana outlets should definitely be regulated however when the government goes so far as deciding how few and how many outlets should be allowed, they are trampling on our rights to conduct business un-encumbered by the government. These kinds of restrictions allow the rich to get richer and the poor to stay poor. I believe this violates our fourteenth amendment rights. This kind of regulation also breeds a more expensive market and does not support a free market economy.

Page 8: Economic Justice

Q24
What are your immediate plans to help make Hawai‘i more affordable for its residents?
We need to end the fake “affordable housing” projects, they are a scam. I would like to remind people we also don’t have a housing shortage, what we do have is a serious distribution problem. Homes that once cost $10,000-$30,000 are now selling for $300,000 with no real upgrades. We have massive amounts of homes bought up by the wealthy that sit empty for years. Vacation homes shouldn’t exist and we should be allocating the budget to purchasing existing homes. Our current leadership has failed our people and cost lives by funding scam “affordable housing” projects and other failed projects like the rail, when that money could have been used to house our house less people.

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?
So far our governments role has been to exasperate the problem. They have scammed tax payers out of billions of dollars funding failed projects such as rail and profiting off of their fake “affordable housing” projects. The governments role should have been instead, to get that funding and invest it in the people by getting them into safe housing. Over 90% of homeless women are sexually assaulted, about 75% of human trafficking victims in Hawaii reported being homeless when they were trafficked. Last year the death of homeless people in O‘ahu increased by 46%. Native Hawaiians make up 36% of the homeless population.

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.  

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
Strongly Support
Q27

Additional thoughts/comments:

I strongly support increased family leave however even at 12 weeks we are far behind pretty much every first world nation. Other first world nations offer families 6-12 months of paid leave. Even 12 weeks is not enough time for mothers to fully heal from their wounds, bond with or nurse their babies, or deal with complications that could arise during the babies birth. 12 weeks says we do not value the women and children in our society.