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**COMPLETE**

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Page 1: Contact Information

**Q1**

Contact Information

Name	Angela Melody Young
Email Address	alohadivinedesign@gmail.com
Phone Number	8087240047

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Page 2: Contest Information

**Q2**

Contest

State Senate

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Page 3: District - State Senate

**Q3**

Senate District

14

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Page 4: District - State House

**Q4**

House District

Respondent skipped this question

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Page 5: District - Hawai'i County Council

**Q5**

District

Respondent skipped this question

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Page 6: Residency Area - Maui County Council

**Q6** Respondent skipped this question

Residency area

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Page 7: District - Honolulu City Council

**Q7** Respondent skipped this question

District

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Page 8: Economic Stability & Kūpuna

**Q8**  
Creation of a statewide Paid Family Leave Social Insurance Program, to allow up to 12 weeks of paid leave for employees to provide care for a newborn, bond with a new child, or care for a family member with a serious health condition.

Position **Strongly Support**

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**Q9**  
Allocating funds and other resources to improve access to, quality of, and coverage for home-and-community-based services that support aging in place among older adults.

Position **Strongly Support**

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**Q10**  
Allocating funds and other resources to bolster the capacity of kūpuna-serving programs/organizations by increasing workforce training, education, certification, and career development opportunities.

Position **Strongly Support**

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**Q11**  
Providing/increasing tax credits for out-of-pocket caring costs for unpaid family caregivers of kūpuna and/or those with disabilities.

Position **Strongly Support**

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**Q12**

Additional thoughts/comments:

Appropriating funds, providing training & workforce development and improving care for kupunas, mothers, disabled people & caregivers should be a top priority for elected officials. If I get elected to represent as Senator of district 14, I will ensure that the concerns & needs of the most vulnerable, marginalized, overlooked & hardworking people of our society gets heard. I will ensure that public health policies are equitable & fair. I will look for ways to address financial barriers, especially for those who suffer from financial difficulties, so that they can access affordable healthcare.

If I have the privilege of representing the people, I will research & develop solutions to provide benefits, strong support & better healthcare for the seniors, mothers, disabled people, the mentally ill, cancer patients & caregivers. These innovative solutions will include exploring public health educational campaigns, pilot programs for medical initiatives to support these vulnerable demographics, and enhancing the programs of the community organizations that are excelling in providing excellent care.

With your support for my candidacy, I can then outreach to local community organizations & potential partners such as senior centers, social service centers, clinics, hospitals, cancer associations & insurance companies. to get to know the heart of the concerns. In my first term, I will immediately start working on addressing these urgent healthcare related concerns with the right people to create better public health policies.

As someone who has always tried to prioritize health in our community by encouraging people to live healthier lifestyles, giving away hundreds of healthy & delicious meals, exercising with neighbors and advocating for health & nutrition, I will fiercely advocate for a healthier & happier Hawaii. I worked on a cancer resource campaign to provide a revolutionary resource to cancer patients. The company, CanPlan, was a startup spearheaded by a fellow high school classmate. We worked together to call hospitals, service providers & cancer organizations to market the product and got into many discussions about health & the healthcare system. And so, I know the importance of advocating for health, especially because I have fought alongside those who have so valiantly paved the way for a healthier future.

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Page 9: Tobacco Regulations

**Q13**

Regulating e-cigarettes in the same manner as how the State regulates other tobacco products, through tax parity, licensing and permitting requirements, and restricting online sales to licensed sellers only, and not directly to consumers.

Position: **Strongly Support**

**Q14**

Ending, without exception, the sale of all tobacco products, such as cigarettes, cigars and e-cigarettes, that contain a characterizing flavor, such as menthol, fruit flavors, and candy flavors.

Position: **Strongly Support**

**Q15**

Authorizing counties to enact stricter restrictions on the sale of and access to tobacco products than what is provided at the state level.

Position: **Strongly Support**

**Q16**

Additional thoughts/comments

The youth vape epidemic is an urgent matter. This legislative season, I testified in strong support of HIPHI's youth council's legislative efforts at the capitol to fight for HB 1570. When the bill reached the senate with additional amendments that could jeopardize it, I was there to advocate for consideration to amend the bill to its original form. I utilized legal knowledge to write to the legislature to try to help. I will keep fighting for this concern by following up with the advocates & lobbyists to see how we can work together to elevate these policies in order to stop the tobacco industry from selling to kids.

It is important to prioritize our children's health. We need to work on creating policies to protect our kids from a toxic lifestyle. I believe effective policies start with education. I would love to see more innovative educational campaigns about the harmful effects of vape. If I'm elected to represent Senate District 14, I will work with the schools in our district to coordinate efforts to raise awareness about the youth vape epidemic.

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Page 10: Healthy Eating and Active Living

**Q17**

Setting Safe Routes to School (SRTS) program benchmarks and decreasing barriers to SRTS programming through the creation of an SRTS Advisory Council within the Department of Transportation.

Position: **Strongly Support**

**Q18**

Enacting a 2 cent-per-ounce fee on sugar-sweetened beverages and using the revenue for community-driven health initiatives.

Position: **Strongly Support**

**Q19**

Ensuring that every student in Hawai'i at every grade level (PreK-12) has regular access to comprehensive agricultural and nutrition education programs linked to core curriculum (e.g. science, math, language arts).

Position: **Strongly Support**

**Q20**

Increasing state investment for implementation of the Hawai'i Farm to School Program (Act 175, 2021), including meeting the goal of 30% local school food within the Hawai'i Department of Education by 2030.

Position: **Strongly Support**

**Q21**

Additional thoughts/comments:

I strongly support initiatives for schools to get involved in nutrition education, farming & gardening. It is very beneficial for the students' education and it enhances community partnerships by creating economic opportunities & educational experiences. My organization, CARES, Community Art Recreation Education Services, recently received several products from the various HIPHI's programs when we attended Sustainable Coastlines 2nd annual event at Aliiolani Elementary School in June 2022. We got to learn about how I'olani is increasing opportunities for their students to get involved in farming initiatives & school gardens. We got 5 different seed packets from I'olani's program and we are looking forward to planting the Japanese corn! We also had a lot of fun playing the card game 'Treemendous' developed by the I'olani students. If I'm elected to represent the people, I hope to create these educational opportunities for public school students who may not have access to wealth & luxury that private schools have.

2021 was an important year at the legislature for the school farm programs. Act 175 signed by Governor Ige set a goal of 30% locally grown school food by 2030. In 2022, SB 2182 sought to establish a school garden position within DOE. SB 2182 will create improvements to students' health; it will further develop an educated agricultural workforce and accelerate garden & farm-based education for public school students. These parameters were set forth by the Hawaii farm to school program as proposed by Act 175. Learning gardens & farms on schools plays a important role in protecting students' health, recovering and advancing academic achievement and strengthening social-emotional well-being. Gardens & farms are proven to improve mental & physical health. Gardens & farms also help people to feel joy & happiness. There are numerous health benefits associated with gardening & farming. A national study of nearly twenty thousand participants revealed that spending two or more hours per week in nature, either all at once or cumulatively, is linked with better health and well-being.

If I'm elected, I will work hard to push to appropriate funds for these programs. Appropriating funds for these initiatives and for the technical support & startup resources for school gardens is necessary. Students should have equitable opportunities to healthy & fun activities outside of the classroom to create well-rounded students.

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Page 11: Oral Health

**Q22**

Investing in dental workforce education programs on Neighbor Islands.

Position: **Strongly Support**

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**Q23**

Allocating funds to the Department of Health to restore an Oral Health Division.

Position: **Strongly Support**

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**Q24**

Expanding student loan forgiveness for dentists that provide care to Medicaid patients.

Position: **Strongly Support**

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**Q25**

Additional thoughts/comments

If I'm elected, I will strive to work with medical professionals to create strong workforce development programs for aspiring dentists.

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Page 12: Community Health Workforce Development

**Q26**

Establishing a certification process for Community Health Workers.

Position: **Support**

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**Q27**

Establishing a licensing process for Community Health Workers.

Position: **Support**

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**Q28**

Incorporating Community Health Workers as a profession into Medicaid services and contracts with the State of Hawai'i.

Position: **Strongly Support**

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**Q29**

## Additional thoughts/comments

A Community Health Worker is a frontline public health worker who is a trusted member of and/or has an unusually close understanding of the community served. This trusting relationship enables the worker to serve as a liaison/link/intermediary between health/social services and the community to facilitate access to services and improve the quality and cultural competence of service delivery.

A Community Health Worker also builds individual and community capacity by increasing health knowledge and self-sufficiency through a range of activities such as outreach, community education, informal counseling, social support & advocacy.

Community Health Workers are essential in an evolving healthcare system. CHWs include health coaches, community health advisors, family advocates, health educators, liaisons, promoters, outreach workers, peer counselors, patient navigators, health interpreters and public health aides. I would consider certification & licensing for CHWs because it would ensure the quality of services provided are at an industry standard. However, certification & licensing also means that we could be creating unintentional barriers. Some of these barriers can be stringent processes to get certified & licensed causing people to not want to be CHWs or more regulatory qualifications to satisfy causing workers to not feel at liberty within their workfield. Ultimately, I don't think it is 100% necessary to require CHWs to be certified & licensed for their work to be effective, efficient and of quality.

It may be beneficial to patients, caregivers, insurance companies & the State to incorporate CHWs as a profession in the Medicaid services & contracts with the State. The insurance procedures & State contracts are usually highly technical. Creating an umbrella term for the various health related careers can simplify the process. If elected into office, I will work closely with CHWs, insurance companies & service providers to enhance healthcare services and to improve our healthcare system for our communities.

## Page 13: Alcohol &amp; Cannabis Regulations

**Q30**

Lowering the blood alcohol concentration (BAC) for impaired driving from .08 to .05 BAC.

Position **Strongly Oppose**

**Q31**

Enacting a dime-per-drink fee on alcoholic beverages and using the revenue for community-driven health initiatives.

Position **Strongly Support**

**Q32**

Housing the regulatory structure of any legalized recreational cannabis program under Department of Health, rather than other agencies, such as the Department of Taxation.

Position **Support**

**Q33**

**Respondent skipped this question**

Additional thoughts/comments