

INTRO1.

Aloha,

You are receiving this candidate questionnaire because you are a candidate for the Hawai'i State House or State Senate in the 2020 election.

The purpose of this questionnaire is to gather information on candidates' positions on important civil rights and civil liberties policy issues that affect the lives of Hawai'i residents. This questionnaire was sent to every candidate running for Hawai'i State House and State Senate in the 2020 election. By responding to this questionnaire, you give permission for your responses to be made available to the public.

Responses will be published on ACLU of Hawaii's website, acluhi.org, sometime after June 18, 2020. Your responses will be published exactly as you write them and while formatting of the questionnaire may change when published to the website, the substance of both the questions and your responses will not be altered in any way. Candidates will *not* have the opportunity to make changes to their responses once submitted.

Questions are organized by topic. For most questions, candidates should provide a response to the question by selecting YES, NO, or PREFER NOT TO ANSWER. Candidates then have the option of elaborating on their position in the text box below each question. **The questionnaire is extended to Monday, June 29, 2020.** No responses will be recorded after June 18. In publishing the results of this questionnaire, the ACLU of Hawai'i will note if a candidate did not respond to the questionnaire.

The intent of this questionnaire is *for the sole purpose of producing and disseminating informational or educational communications and is not intended to influence the outcome of an election, question, or issue on a ballot.*

The American Civil Liberties Union of Hawai'i is a 501(c)(4) nonprofit, nonpartisan organization. We do not support or oppose candidates for elected office. The mission of the ACLU of Hawai'i is to protect the fundamental freedoms enshrined in the U.S. and state constitutions.

SA.

Candidate Information

Name:

Feena Bonoan

SB. Office/District for which you are running:

Hawaii Senate District 20

INTRO2. Privacy & Technology

PLEASE READ THE STATEMENT BELOW AND THEN ANSWER THE TWO QUESTIONS THAT FOLLOW

A recent study by the National Institute of Standards and Technology found that the majority of facial recognition technology programs exhibited disproportionate rates of error when analyzing the faces of women and people of color. In 2018, the ACLU tested Amazon's facial recognition technology software by running the photographs of sitting members of Congress against an arrest database. Twenty-eight false matches came

back, including those of six Congressional Black Caucus members. Multiple jurisdictions across the U.S. have instituted bans and/or moratoriums on government use of this technology.

Q1. Do you support legislation ending government use of facial recognition technology?

Yes

No

Prefer not to answer

Q1a. Please write any comments you might have in the box provided below.

Q2. Do you support legislation limiting private entities' use of facial recognition technology without the clear, written consent of the subject?

Yes

No

Prefer not to answer

Q2a. Please write any comments you might have in the box provided below.

INTRO3. Police Reform

PLEASE ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTION

Q3. Do you support legislation establishing a uniform policy for law enforcement use of body cameras?

Yes

No

Prefer not to answer

Q3a. Please write any comments you might have in the box provided below.

INTRO4. PLEASE READ THE STATEMENT BELOW AND THEN ANSWER THE QUESTION THAT FOLLOWS

Hawai'i law allows law enforcement to seize—and keep—personal property without ever charging the property owner with a crime. This is done through a process called civil asset forfeiture. The Legislature passed—and Governor Ige vetoed—a bill in 2019 reforming Hawaii's civil asset forfeiture law by prohibiting civil asset forfeiture except where the property owner had been convicted of a felony connected to that piece of property.

Q4. Do you support this reform?

Yes

No

Prefer not to answer

Q4a. Please write any comments you might have in the box provided below.

The bill was passed by legislation, the bill should have been passed. I question the intentions and reasons for civil asset forfeiture, stealing from thieves is still stealing.

INTRO5.

PLEASE READ THE STATEMENT BELOW AND THEN ANSWER THE QUESTION THAT FOLLOWS

Hawai'i law provides special protections for the disclosure of police disciplinary records.

Q5. Do you support legislation repealing such special protections and disclosing the disciplinary records of all law enforcement officers in Hawai'i?

Yes

No

Prefer not to answer

Q5a. Please write any comments you might have in the box provided below.

INTRO6.

PLEASE READ THE STATEMENT BELOW AND THEN ANSWER THE QUESTION THAT FOLLOWS

The Legislature passed a law establishing a Law Enforcement Standards Board in 2018. To date, this board has met on two occasions and has not set any standards for law enforcement.

Q6. Do you support legislation to strengthen the board's independence, increase citizen oversight, set deadlines, and provide the board additional resources?

Yes

No

Prefer not to answer

Q6a. Please write any comments you might have in the box provided below.

The board has failed to meet expectations. I cannot in good conscience use taxpayer money to create another oversight committee for a board whose job is supposed to set the standards and to be the oversight. I support deadlines, citizen oversight, and independence, but I will not support a failed board with additional resources.

INTRO7. PLEASE READ THE STATEMENT BELOW AND THEN ANSWER THE THREE QUESTIONS THAT FOLLOW

Evidence shows that school suspensions and school-based arrests lead to further contacts with the juvenile justice system and adult criminal legal system, as well as higher dropout rates and lower academic performance. Currently, students are being suspended for up to 92 days—over half of the school year—for even smelling like cannabis.

Q7. Do you support further limiting the number of days that schools can suspend students?

Yes

No

Prefer not to answer

Q7a. Please write any comments you might have in the box provided below.

Q8. Do you support ending the use of school resource officers (i.e., police officers permanently placed in certain schools)?

Yes

No

Prefer not to answer

Q8a. Please write any comments you might have in the box provided below.

I would rather have a police officer at school than looking for speeders on the H1.

Q9. Do you support eliminating status offenses for youth, such as truancy?

Yes

No

Prefer not to answer

Q9a. Please write any comments you might have in the box provided below.

INTRO8. Economic Justice

PLEASE READ THE STATEMENT BELOW AND THEN ANSWER THE QUESTION THAT FOLLOWS

Only seventeen percent of workers nationwide have access through their employers to paid family leave to care for and/or bond with a new child, or to care for a sick or injured family member. The availability of paid family leave has been shown to increase workers' loyalty to employers, decrease employee turnover, and has been linked to decreased infant mortality rates and decreased reliance on public assistance. Eight states and Washington D.C. have passed laws that guarantee paid family leave to workers. In December 2019, Congress passed and President Trump signed the Federal Employee Paid Leave Act extending 12 weeks of paid parental leave to most federal employees.

Q10. Do you support legislation to guarantee 12 weeks of paid family leave to Hawaii's workers through the establishment of a social insurance program?

Yes

No

Prefer not to answer

Q10a. Please write any comments you might have in the box provided below.

This is a yes, however I would like to see other options besides creating another social insurance program.

INTRO9.

PLEASE READ THE STATEMENT BELOW AND THEN ANSWER THE QUESTION THAT FOLLOWS

Hawai'i law does not guarantee any paid, short-term sick leave to workers.

Q11. Do you support legislation to guarantee paid sick days to Hawaii's workers?

Yes

No

Prefer not to answer



Q11a. Please write any comments you might have in the box provided below.

This year has shown us all the importance of staying home when you are sick. People should not have to fear taking a sick day when they need it.

INTRO10.

PLEASE READ THE STATEMENT BELOW AND THEN ANSWER THE QUESTION THAT FOLLOWS

Half of Hawaii's families cannot afford to meet basic needs. A recent study found that four in ten adults do not have access to \$400 at any given time, making them one emergency—or court-ordered fine—away from financial ruin. Studies have found that scaling fines based on affordability increases the likelihood that fines will be paid in full and increases revenue.

Q12. Do you support legislation that would require courts to scale fines based on an individual's income?

Yes

No

Prefer not to answer



Q12a. Please write any comments you might have in the box provided below.

INTRO11. PLEASE READ THE STATEMENT BELOW AND THEN ANSWER THE TWO QUESTIONS THAT FOLLOW

State law punishes nonpayment of traffic and parking tickets by placing a “stopper” on a person’s driving or vehicle record that prevents them from renewing or obtaining a driver’s license or vehicle registration until they’ve paid the ticket in full, plus a 21% fee assessed by the state’s contracted, Texas-based collection agency. Those who cannot afford their ticket and therefore cannot renew their license may be forced to choose between driving without a valid license (a traffic crime punishable by up to a \$1,000 fine or up to one year in jail) and losing their job or taking their child to the doctor. In recent years, several jurisdictions have either moved away from or completely stopped suspending licenses for nonpayment of traffic and parking tickets. In Hawai’i, there are approximately 350,000 outstanding license and registration stoppers.

Q13. Do you support legislation that would end the use of “stoppers” for nonpayment of traffic and parking fines?

- Yes No Prefer not to answer
-

Q13a. Please write any comments you might have in the box provided below.

Q14. Would you support a traffic ticket amnesty program to ease the economic burden that traffic tickets place on the working class in Hawai’i?

- Yes No Prefer not to answer
-

Q14a. Please write any comments you might have in the box provided below.

INTRO12. Criminal Law Reform

PLEASE READ THE STATEMENT BELOW AND THEN ANSWER THE TWO QUESTIONS THAT FOLLOW

Under Hawai’i law, it is a felony to possess any amount of a drug that has been classified as dangerous, which is essentially every drug except cannabis. Even the possession of small amounts is punishable by up to five years in prison and a \$10,000 fine.

Q15. Do you support legislation decriminalizing possession of small amounts of dangerous drugs, and reinvesting the savings in effective, community-based drug treatment?

Yes

No

Prefer not to answer

Q15a. Please write any comments you might have in the box provided below.

Q16. Do you think substance use should be treated as a matter of public health?

Yes

No

Prefer not to answer

Q16a. Please write any comments you might have in the box provided below.

INTRO13. PLEASE READ THE STATEMENT BELOW AND THEN ANSWER THE QUESTION THAT FOLLOWS

Prosecutors are possibly the most influential player in the criminal legal system, yet there is little publicly-available information about how prosecutorial decisions are made.

Q17. Do you support legislation to promote transparency in county prosecutors' offices by requiring increased data tracking and disclosure?

Yes

No

Prefer not to answer

Q17a. Please write any comments you might have in the box provided below.

INTRO14. PLEASE ANSWER THE FOLLOWING THREE QUESTIONS

Q18. Do you support increasing funding for re-entry services for those who are released from incarceration?

- Yes No Prefer not to answer
-

Q18a. Please write any comments you might have in the box provided below.

Q19. Do you support measures to decrease barriers to employment for formerly incarcerated individuals?

- Yes No Prefer not to answer
-

Q19a. Please write any comments you might have in the box provided below.

Once released from prison a person's debt should be paid and the rest should be the private history of that individual.

Q20. Do you believe that Hawaii's criminal legal system is working?

- Yes No Prefer not to answer
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Q20a. Please write any comments you might have in the box provided below.

Yes, our legal system is working, but we can always improve. To improve we have to be willing to give and receive, we need to pay attention and learn from one another. Taking some of the non-violent offenses off the books is one way to help. Another way to improve is with more accountability and transparency of the legal system to the public.

INTRO15. Houselessness

PLEASE READ THE STATEMENT BELOW AND THEN ANSWER THE THREE QUESTIONS THAT FOLLOW

Hawai'i has one of the highest houselessness rates in the country. The number of unsheltered people has exploded in the past decade even though we have had low unemployment and a relatively strong economy. With COVID-19's harm to the Hawai'i economy, the number of people experiencing houselessness is likely to grow.

Q21.

What do you believe is working and is not working about Hawaii's approach to houselessness?

Please explain your thinking in the space below.

The first thing that is working is the mindset of how we address it. Most of these surveys I have filled out so far have addressed our neighbors as homeless, but I know there are many people who are at home, just without a house. They have jobs, go to the gyms, they choose to live this way or that as we all do. There are many things we choose to do in life, we can choose not to live in a house, we can even choose not to eat or drink for some time. Humans can sustain life without food or water or houses longer than needing to go to the bathroom. That is what is not working, it's dirty and no one wants to talk about it, and I think if we had more publicly available facilities to accommodate this basic human necessity everyone would benefit. With COVID-19, I believe most people's choice would not be the sidewalk if they had an alternative. It is cleaner, safer, and would benefit everyone. Before we make another dog park we need some more public bathrooms around Chinatown and Waikiki.

Q22.

Do you support legislation establishing a homeless bill of rights?

Yes



No



Prefer not to answer



Q22a. Please write any comments you might have in the box provided below.

One argument I have against the mail-in balloting is the disenfranchisement of houseless people. How are their votes going to be counted if there is no address to send the ballot to? It makes it seem like we are making a lot of laws for the poor without their say in it.

Q23.

How do you plan to address houselessness in Hawai'i in the short, medium, and long term?

Please explain your thinking in the space below.

Public bathrooms. Identify small public lands and easements in targeted areas. Allocate funding, possibilities for advertisers and non-profits. Employ engineers, builders, and plumbers. Maintenance to be determined. Operation and accommodation should be compliant with the minimum ADA standards.

END.

Mahalo for your participation.

Please select the '**Submit survey**' button to submit your answers.

Aloha!