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:

J Kahala Chrupalyk

SB. Office/District for which you are running:

House District 9: Kahului

INTRO2. Privacy & Technology

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.
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.

Civil asset forfeiture = armed robbery

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.

Those records ought to be public information and should be made available in the Office of the Prothonotary or something. But the records are and must be kept as public information. We don’t protect possible corruption. Where are the checks and balances?
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.

Just like with any other business, if that board is not producing accordingly, then we must shut down police departments for non-compliance.

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.

I want a tall order change in the DOE - period. Nothing is okay in there. I have well thought out plans to present at a later time.

Q8. Do you support ending the use of school resource officers (i.e., police officers permanently placed in certain schools)?
Q8a. Please write any comments you might have in the box provided below.

Something has to be done with them because they serve no purpose when they are hanging around the front office flirting with the cute, new receptionist. Those officers are not even trained to be a resource to the students. However, if they were properly trained and suited for the position, I wouldn’t mind keeping them. At this current time, they are almost useless, unless an emergency happens. They can report and receive back up a bit faster.

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.

I’d need to see statistic history before committing to an answer on this question.

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.
FMLA guarantees workers this resource. What is wrong with the fact that people don’t get to use it?

**INTRO9.**

**PLEASE READ THE STATEMENT BELOW AND THEN ANSWER THE QUESTION THATstad**
states:

*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.**

**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.**
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.

What other solutions do we have to ensure that people will be held accountable for their infractions?

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.

I would support an amnesty program for infractions consistent with tail lights, expired safety, etc. However when it comes to literal traffic infractions that endanger lives, I support payment plans.

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?**

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

That’s good for first and second time offenders. On the third offense, they are going to mandatory treatment for a period of two years - in an effective, community-based, cultural drug treatment facility. If they don’t have a culture of their own, one can be provided for them.

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

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

Substance use is a matter of public health because it was a public society that created these issues in the first place.

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**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?**

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

I prefer not to answer because a yes or no answer does not fit the question. Do you want money or do you want effective programs? That is two different things. Money doesn’t make a program effective. Holding people accountable and changing the way we handle things would probably produce better results.

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.

If Hawai’i learns to invest in its residents as much as it invests in copying what other states are doing, or as much as it invests in the importation of solutions that work elsewhere, we might actually find what works for Hawai’i. But as long as Hawai’i wants to copycat other states, we will always be an island duplication of other states.

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

Yes ☐  No ☐  Prefer not to answer ☐

Q20a. Please write any comments you might have in the box provided below.
While certain aspects are effective, others are not. But Human Trafficking type 1 is not a good solution. Neither is trading prisoners for homeless people, from other states.

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.

Choosing to force conformity or incarceration is not a way to handle homelessness. Using a small segment of public land and a homeless powerhouse like Aunty Twinks Borge, that works. She is not the only one of her kind. There is usually one in every moku. I work a lot with homelessness and there is one in every area that keeps the others in line. Empowering that one, could make all of the difference of success. That one usually knows exactly what each person needs. Working in that style has helped me help others and has worked in many other places. On the other hand, accepting homeless vagabonds as our state’s responsibility.

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.

I would need to see the proposal to answer that question. I’d like to see the draft and yes, I would entertain the thought, but you are asking me to commit to something that I’ve never heard of or seen. I am unable to say yes or no.

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.
Homeless agriculture camps, as a requirement to keep it off the street. Rather than giving away money, they can produce something in their own space to build from that position in life. It doesn’t require the system to spend lots of money forcing them to conform, and it doesn’t further disenfranchise people from the society that they once belonged to. Having a homeless agriculture camp gives people a second chance or a redeeming opportunity to make something for their future. Community gardens have shown us how people have found that redemption and peace of mind through growing food and opening doors for ideas moving forward. It keeps people forward thinking, which is all the inspiration a person needs to dwell in productivity.

END.

Mahalo for your participation.

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

Aloha!