

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

STATE OF HAWAII STATE CAPITOL HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

June 28, 2017

The Honorable Mazie Hirono United States Senate Prince Kuhio Federal Building 300 Ala Moana Blvd., Rm 3-106 Honolulu, HI 96850

The Honorable Colleen Hanabusa United States House of Representatives 1132 Bishop St., Ste. 1910 Honolulu, HI 96813 The Honorable Brian Schatz United States Senate Prince Kuhio Federal Building 300 Ala Moana Blvd., Rm 7-212 Honolulu, HI 96850

The Honorable Tulsi Gabbard United States House of Representatives Prince Kuhio Federal Building 300 Ala Moana Blvd., Rm 5-104 Honolulu, HI 96850

Dear Senator Hirono, Senator Schatz, Representative Hanabusa, and Representative Gabbard,

I would like to bring to your attention the growing concern of helicopter noise on Hawai'i Island. Over the past three years complaints have increased and have been the topic of town hall meetings on both sides of the island.

There are other factors to be considered. First, HICoP (Hawai'i Island Coalition Malama Pono) has asked for my support in establishing a Fly Friendly Program. Second, the noise in West Hawai'i has been compounded by the increasing use of aircraft for training purposes at the Pohakuloa Training Area. Third, the FAA is unable to find amicable solutions between helicopter operators and the public. It may be time for changes to the rules, regulations, and guidelines that helicopter companies must follow.

Any efforts on your part would be greatly appreciated. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (808)586-8510.

Sincerely,

Cindy Evans

House Majority Leader

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District 7: North Kohala, South Kohala, North Kona

√Cc: Hawai'i Island Coalition Malama Pono