



## The Senate

STATE CAPITOL  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

OFFICE OF SENATOR JOSHUA BOOTH GREEN M.D.

June 26, 2017

The Honorable Brian Schatz  
United States Senate  
722 Hart Senate Office Bldg.  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Mazi K. Hirono  
United States Senate  
330 Hart Senate Office Bldg.  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Tulsi Gabbard  
United States House of Representative  
1433 Longworth House Office Bldg.  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Colleen Hanabusa  
United States House of Representatives  
422 Cannon House Office Bldg.  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Re: Hawaii Island Offshore Helicopter Route

Aloha Senators Schatz and Hirono and Representatives Gabbard and Hanabusa,

As you all well know, for far too long your constituents have had their quality of life and serenity impacted by incessant near constant tour helicopter noise. They have lost the use and enjoyment of their properties due to the recurring tour helicopter noise nuisance. For 30 - 40 years or more your constituents have complained about this helicopter noise nuisance.

Throughout the years many have attempted to right this wrong but it just continues on with 15,489 overflights reported in 2016 for Hawaii Volcanoes National Park, the most by far of any individual National Park in the Nation. That is 30,978 in and out overflights which is almost 85 average overflights per day. There are many other tour helicopter operations daily over Hawaii Island that are not included in that number.

*Senator Joshua Booth Green M.D.*

3<sup>rd</sup> District – Kona, Kau

**HAWAII STATE CAPITOL, Room 407 – HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813**

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It is way past time to return serenity to your Hawaii Island constituents. The FAA has a method to do just that that they have implemented on another island, an offshore helicopter route.

"The FAA has broad (sole) authority and responsibility to regulate the operation of aircraft...relieve and protect the public health and welfare from aircraft noise...shall prescribe regulations to control and abate aircraft noise."

The offshore route also provides many benefits to the tour helicopter operators who already fly some offshore routes. They would fly along the most beautiful coast in the world instead of over our mildew covered roofs. They would fly in much better coastal weather than trying to fly in the cloudy rainy mountains as they do now. The offshore route would practically eliminate all helicopter noise complaints. In other jurisdictions helicopter noise complaints have resulted in reduction and/or threats of elimination of helicopter operations.

I implore you to help provide much needed relief that our constituents deserve, by urging the FAA to establish a Hawaii Island offshore helicopter route. I look forward to working with you to resolve this issue.

Please contact me at 808-586-9385 should you need additional information or have any questions.

Sincerely,



Josh Green, M.D.  
Hawaii State Senate  
District 3

cc: Hawaii Island Coalition Malama Pono

*Senator Joshua Booth Green M.D.*

3<sup>rd</sup> District – Kona, Kau

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