July 1, 2017

The Honorable United States Senator Schatz
The Honorable United States Senator Hirono
The Honorable United States Representatives Gabbard
The Honorable United States Representative Hanabusa

Re: Hawaii Island Offshore Helicopter Route

Aloha Senators Schatz and Hirono and Representatives Gabbard and Hanabusa,

As the Council representative for Council District 3 that includes Keaukaha, Panaewa, Waiakea, Waiakea Uka and Keaau I urge you to consider the implementation of an offshore helicopter route. Constituents, especially those in Keaukaha and Panawea have had their lives and property absorb an overwhelming amount of impacts generated by Hawaii Island’s industrial industries which include the Port of Hilo, the waste water treatment facilities, the landfill and the airport.

Now is the time to make consideration for the residents and put the community first; especially those in the homestead communities of Keaukaha and Panaewa that have carried the industrial burdens of East Hawaii for far too long.

"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 would reduce and minimize helicopter noise complaints and I urge you to provide this sense of relief to the families in Hawaii County Council District 3.

Aloha Piha

Susan L. K Lee Loy
Council Member, Hawaii County Council District 3