



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

STATE OF HAWAII
STATE CAPITOL
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

March 12, 2020

The Honorable David Y. Ige
Governor, State of Hawaii
Executive Chambers
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Governor Ige,

SUBJECT: COVID-19 Protection Measures for Moloka'i, Lana'i and Hana

I know that we are all concerned about the spread of COVID-19 and that you and your administration are doing your best to keep our communities informed and safe. However, we all know that the main focus is on Honolulu (Island of Oahu), and while I agree that the island with the bulk of our states population needs to be on the forefront, I am very concerned for my constituents on Moloka'i, Lana'i and in Hana, Maui. Given their remote locations, we know it always takes services longer to reach them, with COVID-19 this cannot be the case.

I know that you cannot control or stop airlines and cruise ships from coming into our state. I know that there are extra screening precautions at our international airports. My question/request is, what precautionary screening measures can be put in place at Molokai Airport (MKK), Lanai Airport (LNY), Hana Airport (HNM) and at the local Harbors? These areas while remote, are attractive to tourist that see many chartered flights, sailings and private planes that may not be under the same screening measures at the larger ports and international airports.

With anticipated rise in COVID-19 case numbers, my constituents in East Maui, Molokai and Lanai have been calling, emailing and reaching out via social media to me for help. They are scared. They know that in a remote area one could cause hysteria. I fear that along with a health issue, this could soon become a public safety issue for residents and visitors to these areas.

I would like to work with you and your COVID-19 response team to see what measures and precautions can be but in place to both protect our remote areas and give some ease to the growing fears and concerns of my constituents. Please feel free to call me directly at (808)586-6790.

Mahalo,

Lynn DeCoite
State House of Representative
District 13

Cc: Lieutenant Governor Josh Green
Bruce Anderson, Director, Department of Health
Jade Butay, Director, Department of Transportation