

HAWAII STATE SENATE DISTRICT 12 COMMUNITY SURVEY RESULTS

Ala Moana, Kaka'ako, McCully, Mō'ili'ili, Sheridan, Waikīkī
SENATOR SHARON MORIWAKI, NOVEMBER 2020



Aloha,

Here are the results of our third annual community survey. Mahalo to the 267 who responded during the September - October survey period! We asked eight questions on issues you've raised with us. A significant majority support:

- increasing police enforcement to mitigate crime;
- requiring bars and clubs as to close earlier than 4 am to cut down on noise and potential dangers;
- allowing the state to charge impound storage fees and increase penalties on abandoned vessels;
- working with the city to repair streets and prohibit motorized devices on our sidewalks for pedestrian safety;
- establishing housing as the state's top priority;
- providing short-term rental assistance to those having housing needs;
- providing mental health and substance abuse assistance to address homelessness;
- generating needed state revenues by eliminating the corporate tax exemption on real estate trusts; and
- using federal CARES act money to support vulnerable essential workers.

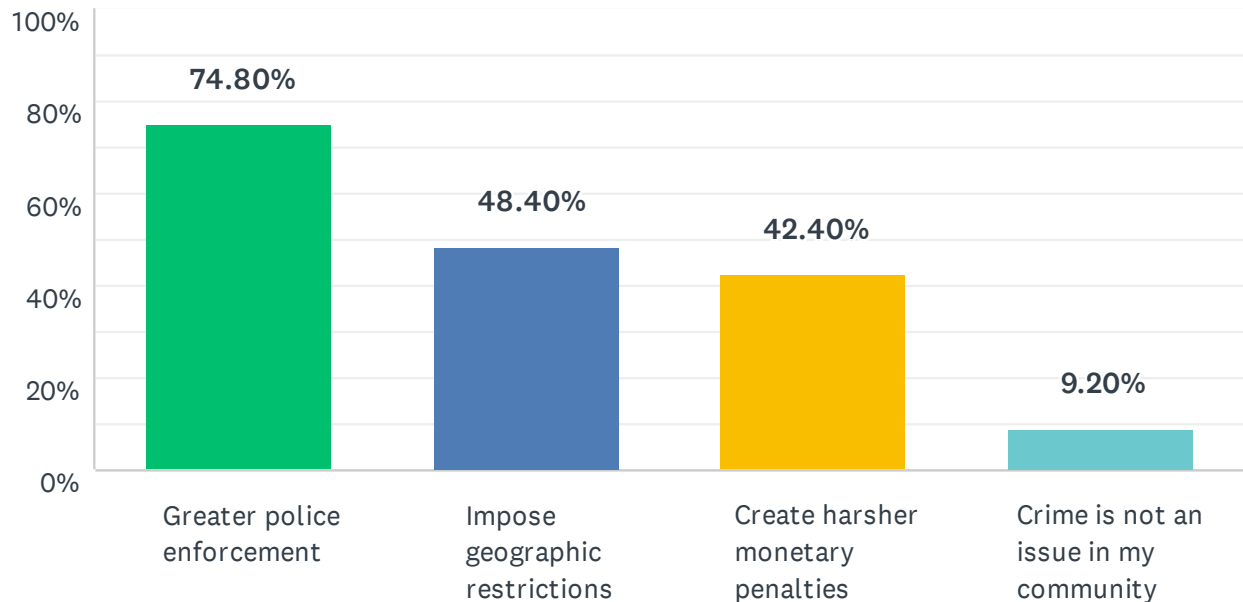
I continue to welcome your comments and ideas on legislation or programs that these results generate. You can always reach me at (808) 586-6740 or at senmoriwaki@capitol.hawaii.gov.

Mahalo!

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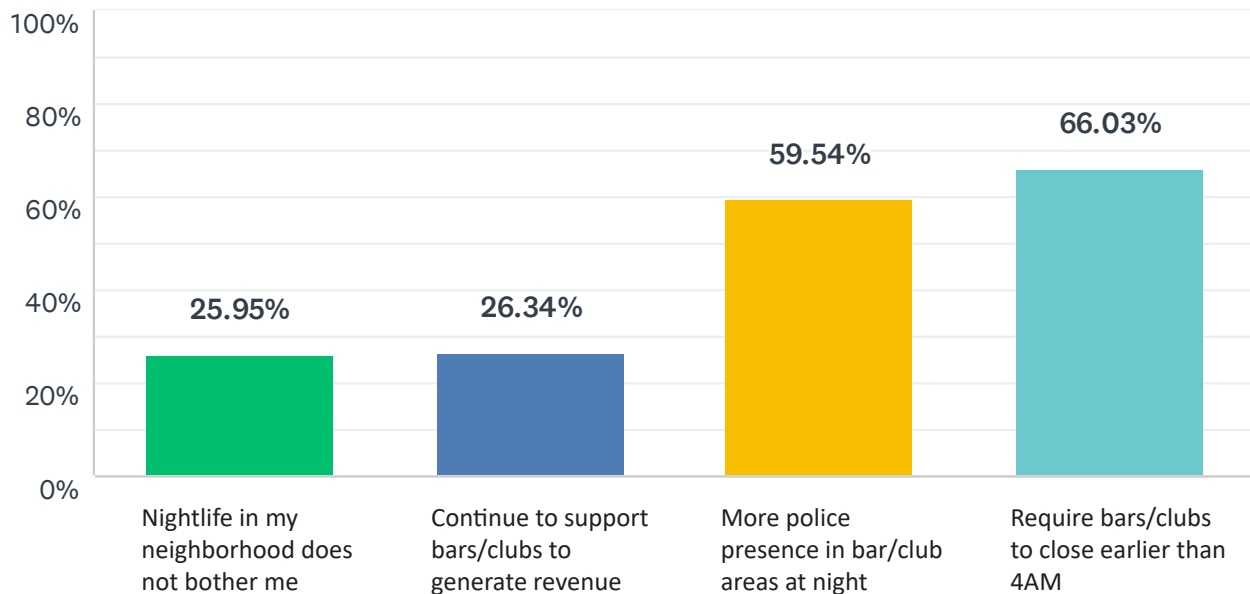
Senator Sharon Moriwaki, November 2020

Question 1: Crime continues to be an issue in urban Honolulu, how can we effectively mitigate crime to ensure a safe community?



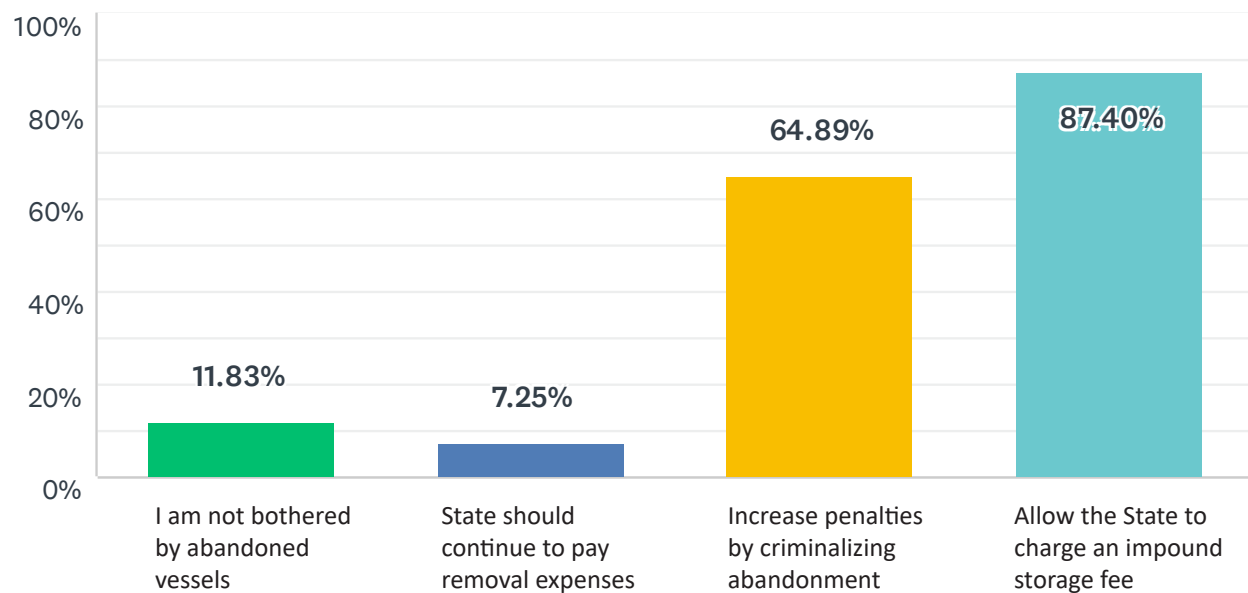
WHAT WE'RE DOING: working with HPD and state's conservation enforcement force (DLNR's DOCARE) to identify problems and support DOCARE's saturation sweeps; introduced [SB2950](#) to sentence anyone convicted of three misdemeanors in Waikīkī to restricted entry; and [SB2334](#) to increase penalties against the elderly.

Question 2: Our community is the hub for nightlife on Oahu, and although it brings needed revenue to our island, it can create a host of disturbances and hazards. What should we do about noisy bar goers and potential dangers?



WHAT WE'RE DOING: introduced [SB3065](#) to restrict cabaret liquor licenses to bars and clubs within hotels located in resort zones only; working with HPD and the City Liquor Commission to address resident complaints

Question 3: Many people in our community are bothered by unsightly abandoned boats in the Ala Wai Small Boat Harbor, the gateway to Waikiki. Removal of abandoned vessels can be costly and time consuming. How should the State handle abandoned vessels?

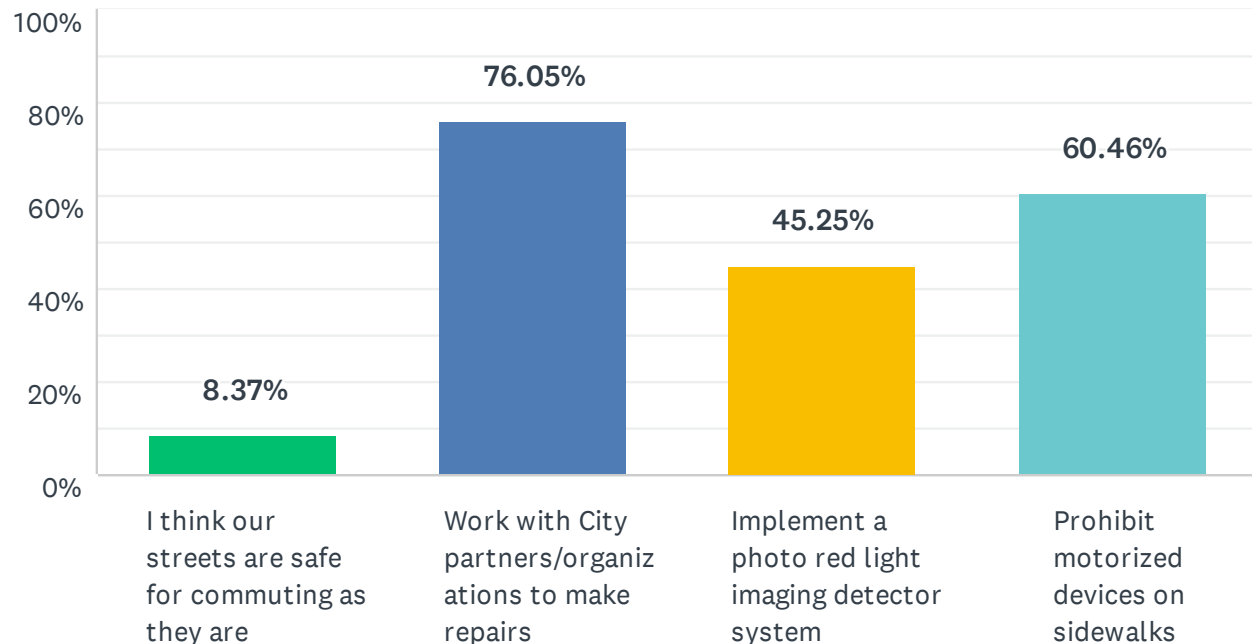


WHAT WE'RE DOING: introduced SB2953 making vessel abandonment a petty misdemeanor and allowing the state to charge an impound storage fee; will reintroduce in upcoming session.

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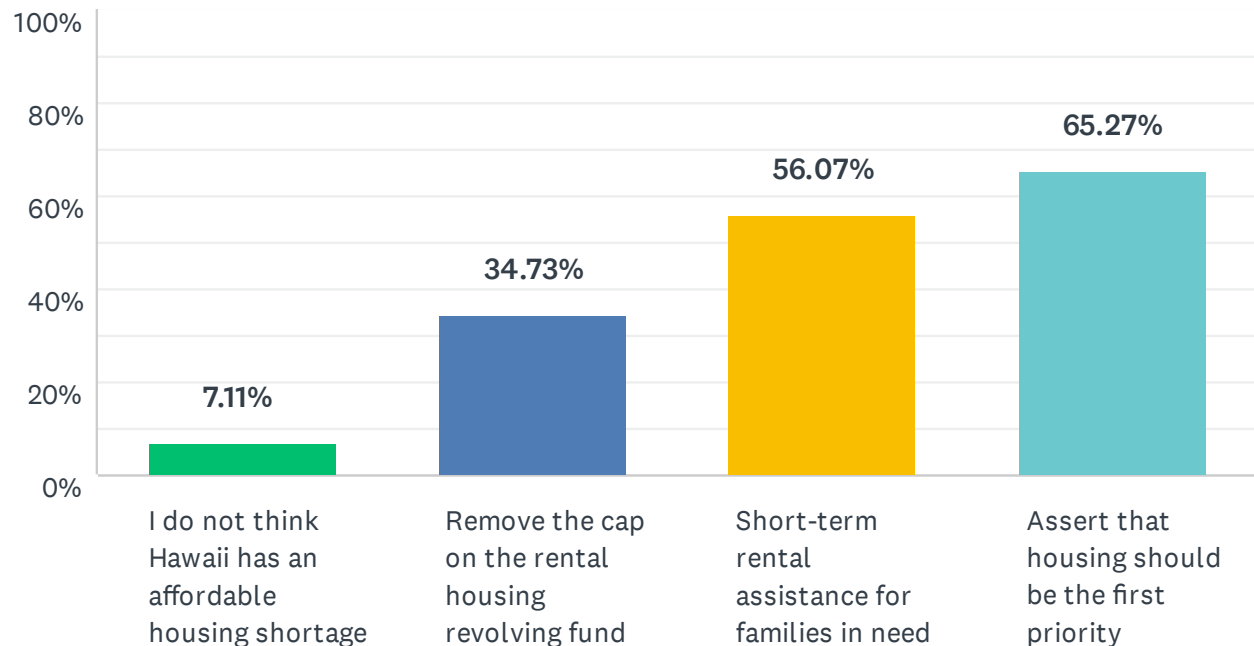
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Question 4: Many people in the community expressed that our streets are unsafe to walk on/travel by foot. How can we increase pedestrian safety? (Select all that apply)



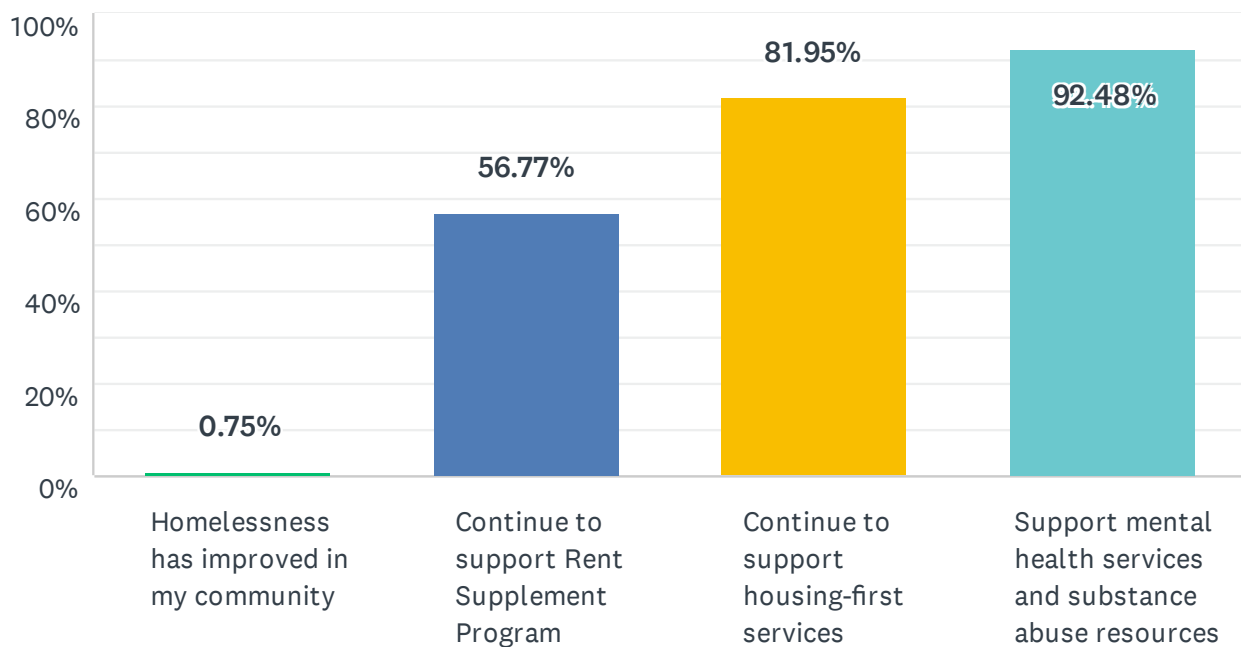
WHAT WE'RE DOING: worked with the Waikiki Community Center, the City and volunteers to patch and repair sidewalks and crosswalks; introduced [SCR68 SR35](#) requesting the City prohibit electric scooters, electric bicycles, and electric trikes on sidewalks; and [SB3172](#) to implement a red light pilot program.

Question 5: Affordable housing is one of the greatest issues that the entire State faces today. How can we support more affordable housing? (Select all that apply)



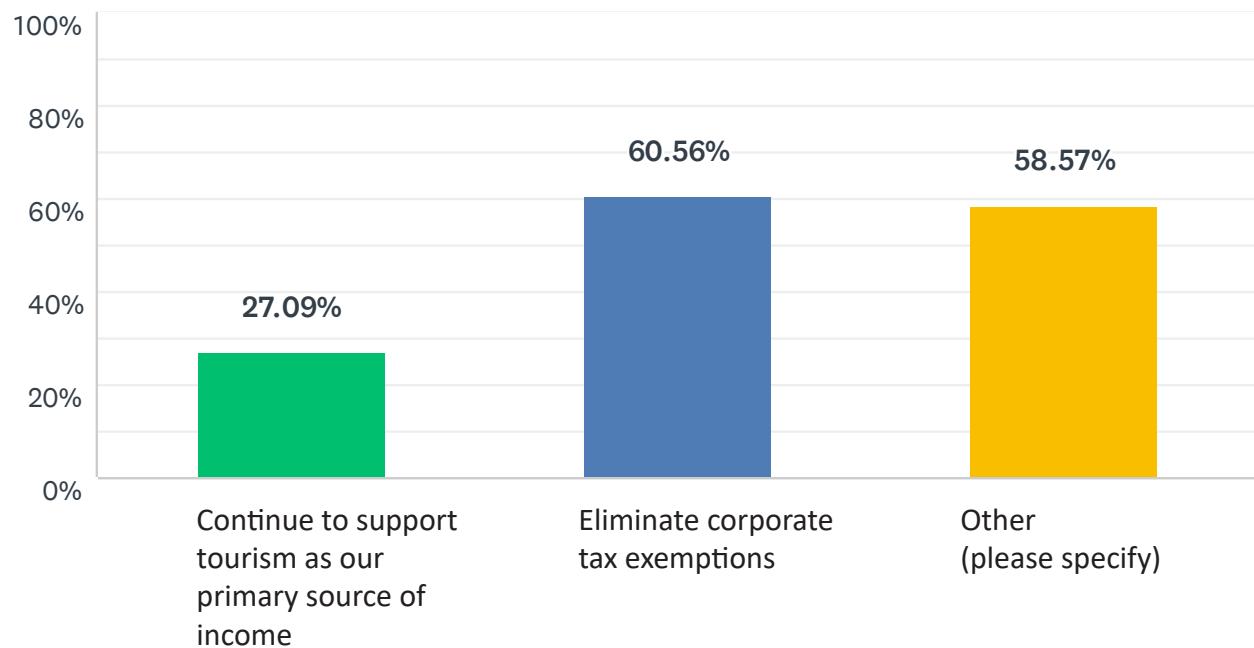
WHAT WE'RE DOING: introduced [SB3063](#), a constitutional amendment, to establish housing as one of the highest priorities of the state; [SB2951](#) to create a Short-Term Rental Assistance Program; [SB2952](#) to increase funding to the Rent Supplement Program; and [SB3062](#) to remove a cap on money that can go into the Rental Housing Revolving Fund

Question 6: Homelessness, especially considering the current pandemic, persists and grows in our State. How can we make strides toward housing those who need it?



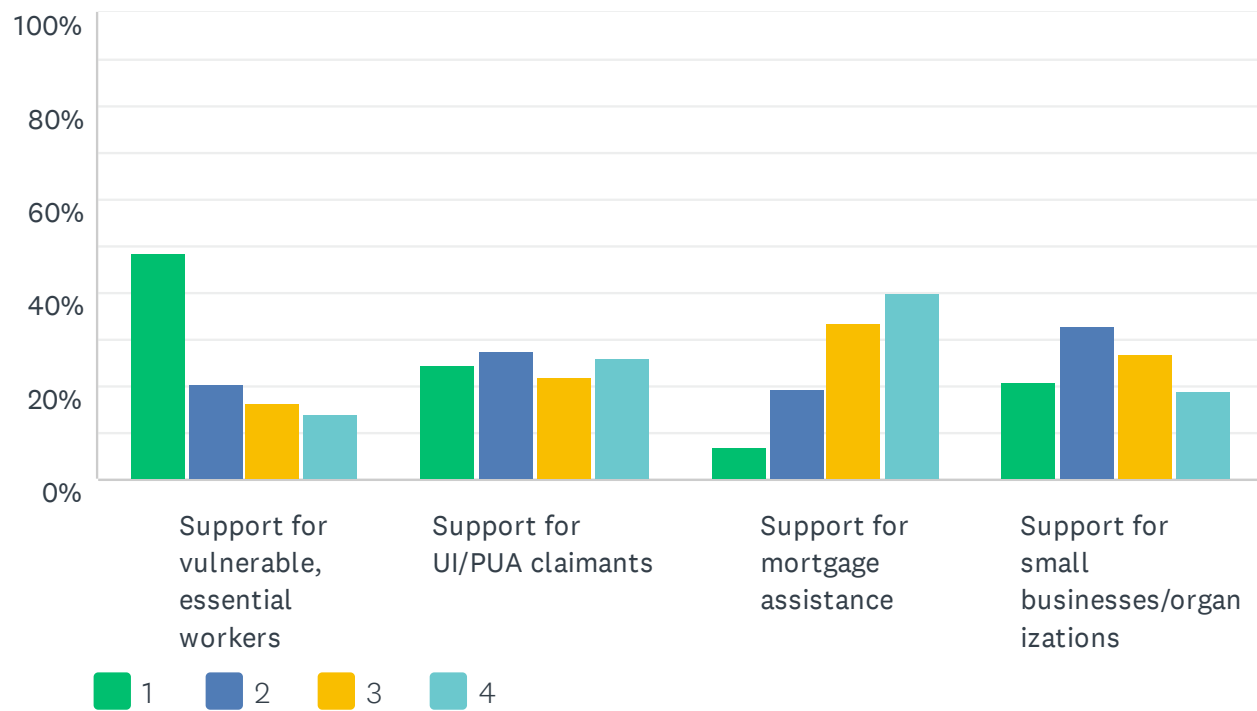
WHAT WE'RE DOING: supported [SB2592](#) to treat anyone suffering from substance abuse and mental illness; introduced [SB2951](#) to establish a short-term rental assistance fund for low income families; funded \$750,000 for the state rent supplement program; working with the Hawaii Housing Finance & Development Corporation (HHFDC) to ensure that \$85 million in CARES Act funds are fully disbursed.

Question 7: Because it is no longer safe to bring in an influx of tourists into the islands due to Coronavirus, the State is struggling to create revenue. Where can we tap into other sources of revenue?



WHAT WE'RE DOING: We are facing about a \$1.3 billion budget deficit in the coming several years so we need must generate revenue such as [SB2697](#) that taxed real estate investment trusts; as incoming senate government operations committee chair, I will be seeking to provide services more efficiently.

Question 8: CARES Act Relief Funds can help to support those most vulnerable during the pandemic. How would you like to see CARES funds dispensed?



WHAT WE'RE DOING: The state received \$1.25 billion in CARES federal relief funds to address COVID-19 response activities, and funded: (1) Unemployment Insurance for 117,000; (2) small business support; (3) rent and mortgage assistance; (4) food assistance to kupuna and other vulnerable residents.