Maile Medeiros David Council Chair Council District 6 (Portion N. S. Kona/Kaʿū /Volcano)



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HAWAI'I COUNTY COUNCIL

County of Hawaiʻi West Hawaiʻi Civic Center, Bldg. A 74-5044 Ane Keohokalole Hwy. Kailua-Kona, Hawaiʻi 96740

March 21, 2022

Honorable Jarrett Keohokalole, Chair Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Vice Chair Committee on Health Conference Room 225 & Via Videoconference Honorable Joy A. San Buenaventura, Chair Honorable Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair Committee on Human Services Conference Room 225 Videoconference

Re: S.C.R. No. 154 – Requesting the Hawai'i Health Systems Corporation to Partner with The Ka'ū Rural Health Community Association, Inc. to conduct a needs assessment To determine the demand for and access to Urgent Care and Outpatient Behavioral Health Services in the Ka'ū District.

Honorable Chairs Keohokalole and San Buenaventura and Vice Chairs Baker and Ihara:

On behalf of myself and as Councilmember representing the rural districts of South Kona, Ka'ū and Volcano Village (Council District 6), I express my strong support of S.C.R. 154 relating to the needs for an assessment to determine the demand for urgent care and outpatient behavioral health services in the Ka'ū district and to partner with Ka'ū Rural Health Community Association, Inc. to achieve the needs assessment.

As you may know, many of the Ka'ū residents face cultural, financial, and geographical barriers that prevent them from accessing health services in rural areas in my Council District. The assessment will determine the demand for, and access to, urgent care and for outpatient behavioral health services.

Mahalo a nui loa for your favorable consideration.

Very truly yours,

Maile David

Maile David, Council Member Council District 6, S. Kona, Kaʿū, and Volcano Village