Maile Medeiros David

Council Chair Council District 6 (Portion N. S. Kona/Ka'ū /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. 42 – Urging the Department of Health's Child and Adolescent Mental Health Division to Conduct a Feasibility study on the Establishment of a Community Mental Health Center Office, Also known as a Family Guidance Center Office, in Kaʻū in the County of Hawaiʻi.

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, Kaʻū and Volcano Village (Council District 6), I express my strong support of S.C.R. 42 relating to expansion of the Kaʻū Rural Health Clinic.

As you may know, many of the Kaʻū residents face cultural, financial, and geographical barriers that prevent them from accessing health services in rural areas such as my Council District of Kaʻū. Expansion of the Kaʻū Rural Health Clinic to include access to urgent care and outpatient behavioral health issues is much needed.

Mahalo a nui loa for your favorable consideration.

Very truly yours,

Maile David

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