



HAWAII STATE LEGISLATURE

STATE CAPITOL
415 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

August 25, 2021

The Honorable David Y. Ige
Governor, State of Hawaii
Executive Chambers
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Governor David Ige:

Today's Star Advertiser ("Top state health official and doctor on Maui promote controversial COVID-19 treatments") reports that Dr. Lorrin Pang, head of the Maui District Health Office, is a cofounder of the Pono Coalition for Informed Consent ("PCIC"). PCIC reportedly spread false, misleading, and outright dangerous information about the ongoing pandemic. In this capacity, he is responsible for messages including, "if you are under 65, the vaccine is more likely to kill you than save your life," and the promotion of the use of hydroxychloroquine and ivermectin as COVID-19 treatment options, despite U.S. Food and Drug Administration warnings that the use of those drugs to treat COVID-19 can be dangerous and even deadly.

You understand the state's healthcare system is reaching (or has reached) a breaking point. Hospitals are at near capacity. Hawaii lacks sufficient medical staff.

Under these circumstances, it is critical that our public health care leaders provide responsible and accurate public health information.

As the lead public health official for the Maui district, we believe that Dr. Pang's role with the Pono Coalition compromises his position as the Department of Health, Maui District Health Officer. His involvement and endorsement of PCIC directly conflicts with the guidance of the Department of Health, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control, and generally accepted standards of medical practice.

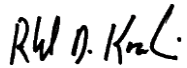
Dr. Pang has undermined the State's critical public health message and public trust.

Accordingly, after consultation with the Maui legislative delegation, we request that you immediately remove Dr. Pang from his position with the Department of Health.

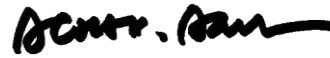
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Please contact us if you have any questions in this matter.

Sincerely,



Ronald D. Kouchi
Senate President



Scott K. Saiki
Speaker of the House



Jarret Keohokalole
Chair, Senate Committee on Health



Ryan I. Yamane
Chair, House Committee on Health,
Human Services, & Homelessness



Rosalyn H. Baker
Chair, Senate Committee on
Commerce & Consumer Protection

cc: Dr. Libby Char, Director of Health


Joint Letter for the removal of Dr. Pang (003)


Final Audit Report

2021-08-26


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