

Primary Election – Saturday August 13, 2022

Saturday, August 13 is Primary Election Day for Hawaii! This year, every elected office in Hawaii is on the ballot. You may recall that the state Senate passed a legalization bill by a significant majority in 2021. However, the measure failed to gain traction in the House and died in this year's legislative session. This year's elections will be critical in determining whether Hawaii will finally adopt cannabis legalization in 2023.

MPP has created a voter guide explaining where the candidates stand on cannabis legalization. It includes responses to our candidate questionnaire along with information on whether incumbents supported cannabis bills in their past votes.

Due to redistricting, your legislative district may have changed since you last voted. You can find your state Senate and House district — along with everything else that will be on your ballot — on [Ballotpedia](#). If you're not already registered to vote, you can find your voting center here. The deadline to submit a paper voter registration application for the primary election is August 3. Voters can also register to vote [online](#). To access the online system, you must have your Hawaii state driver's license or ID card and know your Social Security number.

Mail In and absentee voting begins July 26 and ends August 6. In-person voting opens Saturday, August 13 from 7am to 7pm. Please remember, that in the primary election you can only vote for candidates of your registered affiliate party. Only the Democrat and Republican parties have competitive primaries this year.

If you happen to speak to a candidate and get new information that we didn't include, please let us know at dward@mpp.org.

Here are the questions asked in the candidate questionnaire:

- 1.) Nineteen states including every state along the western seaboard and Nevada have passed laws making cannabis possession legal for adults. Would support legislation making cannabis legal for adults 21 and older to possess cannabis for personal use in the 2023 session?
- 2.) Do you support legalizing and regulating retail sales of cannabis and cannabis-infused products to adults 21 and older to create jobs and revenue for Hawaii?
- 3.) Most of the legalization jurisdictions allow adults 21 and older to discreetly and securely cultivate their own limited supply of cannabis for personal use, much as every state allows the home brewing of beer. Do you support allowing adults to grow their own cannabis for personal use?
- 4.) If Hawaii legalizes possession and retail sales of cannabis to adults 21 and older, would you support measures in the cannabis market to prioritize and incentivize

opportunities for native Hawaiians and the communities most impacted by cannabis prohibition?

Color Key for Candidates:

Green = supports legalizing cannabis for adults' use

Orange = uncertain on candidate's position OR less supportive of legalization

Red = opposed OR much less supportive than other candidates

Office	Party	Candidate	Q1:	Q2:	Q3:	Q4:	Comments
Governor	D	Josh Green	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Q1: "I support legalization, provided that the tax revenue generated from cannabis sales be used to help treat drug addiction and individuals suffering with behavioral or mental illness. "
Governor	D	Kai Kahele	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Voted "YES" on MORE ACT to decriminalize cannabis on the federal level in 2022.
Governor	D	David L. (Duke) Bourgoin					Did not respond to survey.
Governor	D	Vicky Cayetano					Did not respond to survey. On June 29, 2022, during KITV4 Honolulu Star Advertiser Candidate Spotlight, Ms. Cayetano said she opposed cannabis legalization.
Governor	D	David Ford					Did not respond to survey.
Governor	D	Richard Kim					Did not respond to survey.
Governor	D	Clyde McClain Lewman					Did not respond to survey.
Governor	D	John (Jony Makalani) Mungo					Did not respond to survey.
Governor	D	Van K. Tanabe					Did not respond to survey.
Lieutenant	D	Keith Amemiya	Yes	Yes	Undecided	Undecided	
Lieutenant	D	Ikaika Anderson	Yes	Yes	Yes	Undecided	
Lieutenant	D	Sylvia Luke	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Lieutenant	D	Sam Puleasi	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Lieutenant	D	Daniel Cunningham					Did not respond to survey.
Lieutenant	D	Sherry Menor McNamara					Did not respond to survey.
Lieutenant	D	Jill N. Tokuda					Did not respond to survey.
Governor	R	Keline Kahau	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Q1: ""I would like to make hemp legal to help with medical issues and to make building supplies as well to heal the land that has hard pesticides so we can grow our own food for our nation" Q2: "This would only be for medical use only and not recreational
Governor	R	Lynn Barry Mariano	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Q1:"We need to have similar applications and permit processes like Oklahoma. Profits from sales of marijuana should go to improvements of public schools facilities/STEM programs and

							environmental programs to reduce traffic congestion/emission such as implementing cars license plates ending in odd and even #s are only allowed to drive on designated days." Q2: "We need to have a similar applications and permit process like Oklahoma. Profits from sales of marijuana should go to improvements of public schools facilities/STEM programs and environmental programs to reduce traffic congestion/emission such as implementing cars license plates ending in odd and even #s are only allowed to drive on designated days." Q3: "The permitting process would have to be very strict and the cost to get permits should be at least quarterly or every six months with home inspections."
Governor	R	Paul Morgan					Did not respond to survey. In a June 5, 2022 interview with <i>KITV4</i> , Mr. Morgan said he supports legalizing cannabis.
Governor	R	Moses (Momo) Paskowitz	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Q1"Just because we're in the middle of the ocean does it mean that we need to follow with common sense of the rest of the United States of America" Q2: ""We need to diversify our reliability on tourism only to have legal other avenues of revenue streams to the state will only benefit the lands and its peoples. " Q3: "Since we own an island and have limited space, I would reduce the amount of product that could be grown for personal use. "
Governor	R	BJ Penn					Did not respond to survey. In an October 2021 interview with <i>The Overtime</i> , Mr. Penn stated, "One thing I plan to do in order to help boost the economy is to legalize recreational marijuana for people over the age of 21. As we have seen with other states who have legalized cannabis, this will result in a lot of income that we can in turn use..."
Governor	R	Duke Aiona					Did not respond to survey.
Governor	R	Jay Bitar					Did not respond to survey.
Governor	R	Zachary B. Burd					Did not respond to survey.
Governor	R	Gary Cordery					Did not respond to survey.
Governor	R	Wendell A. Elento					Did not respond to survey.
Governor	R	Harvey W. Eli					Did not respond to survey.

Governor	R	George (Big Al) Hawat					Did not respond to survey.
Governor	R	Sharie S. Ono					Did not respond to survey.
Governor	R	Heidi Haunani Tsuneyoshi					Did not respond to survey.
Governor	R	Walter Woods					Did not respond to survey.
Lieutenant	R	Tae Kim	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Q1: "I use cannabis product where it's legalized. It has many proven medicinal and health benefits. Q2:"Hawaii does need other sources of revenue." Q3: "within the confines of some regulations"
Lieutenant	R	Zachary B. Burd					Did not respond to survey.
Lieutenant	R	Rob Burns					Did not respond to survey.
Governor	L	TK Hinshaw					Did not respond to survey.
Governor	L	Daniel J. Peddie					Did not respond to survey.
Governor	L	Gene S. Tamashiro					Did not respond to survey.
Lieutenant	L	TK Hinshaw					Did not respond to survey.
Lieutenant	L	Michelle Rose Tippens					Did not respond to survey.
Governor	AA	Keline K. Kahau	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Q1: ""I would like to make hemp legal to help with medical issues and to make building supplies as well to heal the land that has hard pesticides so we can grow our own food for our nation" Q2: "This would only be for medical use only and not recreational." Q3: "Most definitely especially if they are helping a family member in medical issues."
Governor	AA	Selina T. Blackwell					Did not respond to survey.
Lieutenant	AA	Shaena L. Dela Cruz					Did not respond to survey.
Lieutenant	G	Melissah (Mish) Shishido					Did not respond to survey.
Governor	N	Shelby (Pika) Billionaire					Did not respond to survey.
Governor	N	David Ford					Did not respond to survey.
Governor	N	Mihail (Michael) Gilevich					Did not respond to survey.
Governor	N	John M. (Raghu) Giuffre					Did not respond to survey.
Governor	N	Lindsey F. P. Kenney					Did not respond to survey.
Governor	N	Caleb K. Nazara					Did not respond to survey.
Governor	N	Robert B. Rowland					Did not respond to survey.
Governor	N	Iris M. Seaton					Did not respond to survey.
Governor	N	Keleionalani Taylor					Did not respond to survey.
Lieutenant	N	Charles (Kale) Keoho	Yes	Yes	Undecided	Yes	Q2: "Great source of taxes for the state'