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COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY OF MAUI
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July 25, 2025

The Honorable Josh Green, M.D., Governor
State of Hawai'i
Executive Chambers
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Transmitting online via: <https://governor.hawaii.gov/contact-us/contact-the-governor/>

Dear Governor Green:

SUBJECT: UPDATE ON MAUI WILDFIRE EXPOSURE COHORT STUDY (WASSP-1(10))

At its meeting of July 21, 2025, the Maui County Council's Water Authority, Social Services, and Parks Committee received an update on the Maui Wildfire Exposure Cohort Study and discussed the report, entitled "From Crisis to Recovery: Health and Resilience Two Years After the Maui Wildfires, June 18, 2025." The report identified the continued emotional, physical, and social effects impacting Maui residents after the August 2023 Maui wildfires. A link to the report is provided here: [From Crisis to Recovery: Health and Resilience Two Years After the Maui Wildfires](#)

MauiWES is the largest post-disaster health cohort in Hawai'i's history, which in its second year, now follows 2,000 adults and children to better understand how the community is healing and identify where additional support is needed.

A few highlights of the report show that of the total adult participants:

- Forty-one percent report worse health compared to the prior year;
- Half show depressive symptoms, 26 percent report moderate-to-severe anxiety, and 4.2 percent have had suicidal thoughts in the past month;

- Seventy-four percent have elevated or hypertensive blood pressure, while a quarter show reduced lung function;
- Forty-one percent are still living in temporary housing; and
- Twenty-five percent remain unemployed but are actively looking for work.

Of the child participants:

- Over half, or 51 percent, ages 10 to 17, screen positive for depression, with 22 percent in the severe range;
- About 30 percent report anxiety symptoms and nearly 45 percent still show signs of PTSD, with 4.3 percent at severe levels;
- One in three children have elevated or high blood pressure; and
- Nearly 20 percent have impaired breathing capacity, especially among Asian and Filipino children.

There is much more work to be done to assist our Maui community. I respectfully urge your continued advocacy and financial backing for this initiative.

On behalf of Maui residents and wildfire survivors, I appreciate your support. Should you have any questions, please contact me or the Committee staff (Clarissa MacDonald at 808-270-7135, or Criselda Paranada at 808-270-7668).

Sincerely,

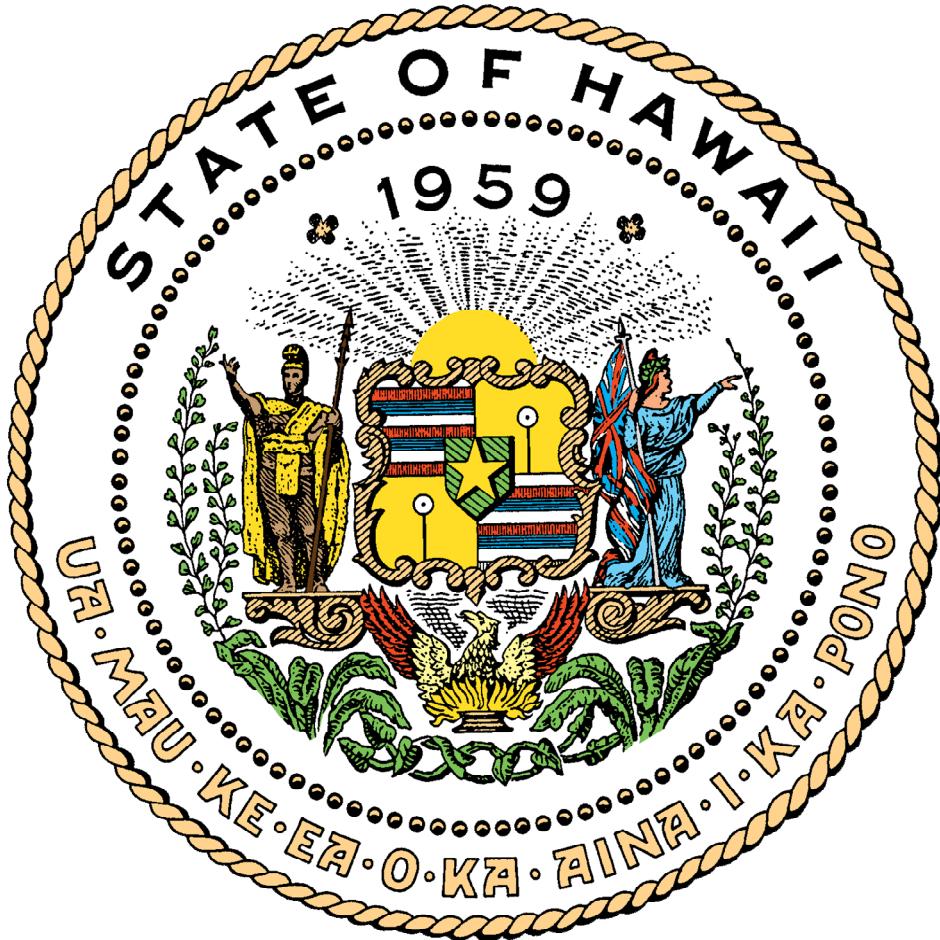


SHANE M. SINENCI, Chair
Water Authority, Social Services, and
Parks Committee

WASSP Committee

From: Office of Governor Josh Green, M.D <officeofthegovernor@notify.hawaii.gov>
Sent: Monday, July 28, 2025 10:28 AM
To: WASSP Committee
Subject: Your Contact the Governor Submission

You don't often get email from officeofthegovernor@notify.hawaii.gov. [Learn why this is important](#)



Thank you for contacting Governor Green and his staff. We have received your submission, and our team is currently reviewing it. Please note that our office receives a high volume of inquiries, but we will get back with you as soon as possible. Thanks, again.

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