

HFC Committee

From: Alice L. Lee
Sent: Thursday, September 17, 2020 8:54 AM
To: HFC Committee
Subject: HFC-70

Aloha,

This is an email regarding HFC-70.

Alice

-----Original Message-----

From: Steve O'Neal <stephenoneal@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 18, 2020 2:42 AM
To: Alice L. Lee <Alice.Lee@mauicounty.us>
Subject: Sounding the Alarm - Whistleblower

Dear Alice,

I moved to the islands recently and have experience as a disaster team lead for the UN in Myanmar. I've been running the covid numbers and have found some alarming data that I think you should know about. I think we may be at a tipping point on the three major neighbor islands without knowing it.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Steve O'Neal
415-531-1946

A CALL TO ACTION. The Neighbor islands are likely about to tip to entrenched community spread and don't realize it. New cases are severely undercounted. Their percent of positive tests have all doubled or tripled to the 1.5% - 2% positive rate in the last 2 weeks
- as did Oahu's 2 weeks ago before their numbers exploded.

Here is the data. On August 10th New Zealand found 4 new cases (after 101 days of no new community transmission) and showed, with 118,000 same day tests that there were 77 more cases. They did 1,478 tests per active case - with a .06% positive rate. Hawaii, with 1919 known cases on Aug 10th, did just 18,000 tests, with a 3-5 day average result time, and 8.5% positive. Hawaii does just 9 tests per active case. Repeating, for each new case, Hawaii does 9 tests and New Zealand does 1,478.

New Zealand's data makes it clear that 4 cases can really mean 77. Our testing is nowhere near as extensive as New Zealand's, yet it is the same virus, so one can assume Hawaii is dramatically undercounting. Oahu could easily have 20,000 active cases, Maui 650, Big Island 300, and Kauai 100.

Hawaii is only reporting 250 new cases daily because we are only doing 3000 tests each day.

Kauai, for example, reports 8 cases, yet they only did 400 tests in the last 5 days and test results are delayed by 3-5 days. Again, New Zealand with 4 new cases did 118,000 tests with same day results.

The decision to reimpose the interisland quarantine so slowly has likely allowed seeding of all the neighboring islands with outside cases. Local Mayors and Health Department Heads must look at this data and act fast.

Here is the raw data:

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1fyhs3zHyQ9Vc8KGk6U6th_wQINSqYQ__14JGHID0_lc/edit?usp=sharing

and a little older versions as a table:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1lehkxbTeYOLaa1WgCwHI1dWhJAd3mP_YyEvD9POxbHI/edit?usp=sharing

and my raw notes:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1t58sOFQbxbp5ruvOabuFSI7VdOCBdGfcnZPxyBlxPTWE/edit?usp=sharing>