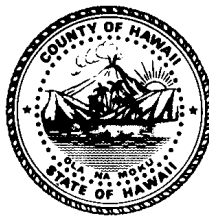


KAREN EOFF
Council Vice Chair
Council District 8, North Kona



Council District 8, North Kona
Office: (808) 323-4280
Cellular: (808)938-3580
Email: karen.eoff@hawaiicounty.gov

HAWAI'I COUNTY COUNCIL

West Hawai'i Civic Center, Bldg. A
74-5044 Ane Keohokalole Hwy.
Kailua-Kona, Hawai'i 96740

July 12, 2017

Senator Brian Schatz
722 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Via Email: brian.schatz@mail.house.gov

Senator Mazie Hirono
330 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Via Email: mazie.hirono@mail.house.gov

Representative Tulsi Gabbard
1433 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Via Email: tulsi.gabbard@mail.house.gov

Representative Colleen Hanabusa
422 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Via Email: colleen.hanabusa@mail.house.gov
dan.kouchi@mail.house.gov

Re: FAA Regulations regarding above-land Tour Helicopter Flights Over Hawai'i Island

Dear Senators and Representatives,

On behalf of myself and the constituency of Council District 8 in North Kona, we strongly urge you to request that the Federal Aviation Administration use its authority to regulate the operation of tour helicopters over and across Hawai'i Island by implementing an offshore helicopter route.

North Kona constituents have been impacted by the overhead noise of tour helicopters. It has been reported that there have been approximately 15,500 flights in 2016 for tours to the Hawaii Volcanoes National Park, which surpasses all of the National Park in the Nation. That equates to 31,000 flights, to and from destinations, that travel over and across the island, averaging approximately 85 flights per day. There are other flights that are not accounted for and not included in this number.

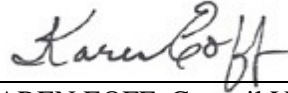
The Federal Aviation Administration has the ability to implement an offshore helicopter route which is reported being used on another island to control and abate helicopter noise, which protects individuals, businesses, ranch animals, domestic animals and other wildlife.

This offshore route would protect the safety and well-being for all concerned.

*Serving the Interests of the People of Our Island
Hawai'i County Is an Equal Opportunity Provider And Employer*

Thank you in advance for taking a good look at our concerns regarding tour helicopter flights over Hawai'i Island.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Karen Eoff".

KAREN EOFF, Council Vice Chair &
District 8 Council Member, North Kona

KE.wpb