



The Senate

STATE CAPITOL
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

May 28, 2020

Mr. Paul Yonamine
Hawaii Executive Collaborative

Dear Mr. Yonamine:

The Senate Special Committee on COVID-19 would like to thank you and Mr. Kurisu for presenting the Hawaii Executives Collaborative's work and proposal for a travel corridor agreement between the State of Hawaii and the Nation of Japan. We were pleased to hear that we share many of the same concerns and the need to be cautious in the reopening of our visitor industry.

The Committee recognizes that the health and safety of our people must remain the highest priority in any action we take in reopening any sector of our economy. Our Committee believes that we can take a significant step toward this end by carefully selecting willing and able partners with the same goal for their residents. Following our discussion, we wholeheartedly agree that the history of respect and aloha shown by the people of Japan toward our State makes them the perfect partner in this proposed pilot "Japan-Hawaii travel corridor" partnership. If successful, it can serve as a model for future such alliances.

This letter serves to declare this Committee's support of your efforts in this matter. We will facilitate obtaining information on your behalf and will work collaboratively with you and your partners to develop a travel corridor agreement with the Nation of Japan.

We thank you for the work you have done thus far, and are hopeful that, through these efforts, we can create a path forward to reopen our travel industry safely to the best interests of Hawaii and Japan.

Sincerely,

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz
Senator Jarrett Keohokalole
Senator Michelle N. Kidani
Senator Donna Mercado Kim
Senator Sharon Moriwaki
Senator Kurt Fevella

Cc. Senate President