



The Senate

STATECAPITOL
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

October 12, 2020

Dr. Libby Char, Director
Department of Health
1250 Punchbowl Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Director Char:

RE: Testing & Contact Tracing Strategies

As we discussed during our September 30, 2020 site visit to the Department of Health Laboratories, this Committee is uniquely interested in your progress in developing new testing and contact tracing strategies for the department. At the time, you indicated that while you could not provide a firm completion date, you were progressing quickly in developing these strategies. Given the time that has passed, we ask that you update our Committee on your progress and provide an expected date of completion. Once complete, we intend to meet publically to discuss the details of your department's new plans.

Additionally, during our October 9, 2020 committee meeting, you provided some additional clarity around the department's relationship with Hawaii's Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC) during this pandemic. We have reached a point in the state where partnerships with other local entities will be critical in seeing the state out of this pandemic. As it has been discussed previously, this Committee is determined to seeing these relationships formalized, so that clear expectations are documented on the roles both the department and FQHCs will play moving forward. For this reason, the Committee requests a comprehensive update on the status of any MOAs or MOUs currently being drafted, including the expected date of enactment. If it is the position of the department that these memorandums are not required, the Committee requests a clear justification for this stance.

The Committee requests that you provide documentation of the requested information by **4:00 pm, Thursday, October 15, 2020**. Please email your response to all Senate Special Committee COVID-19 members. Should you have any questions, please contact Duncan Osorio at 586-6800 or via email at d.osorio@capitol.hawaii.gov.

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