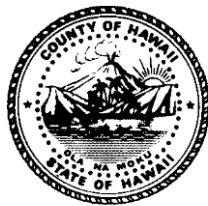


Harry Kim
Mayor



Joseph K. Kamelamela
Corporation Counsel

Renee N. C. Schoen
Assistant Corporation Counsel

COUNTY OF HAWAII
OFFICE OF THE CORPORATION COUNSEL

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August 22, 2018

Jennifer Ruggles, Councilmember
Hawaii County Council
County of Hawaii
25 Aupuni Street
Hilo, HI 96720

Aloha Councilmember Ruggles:

At the Council Committee meeting held on Monday, August 21, 2018 at the West Hawaii Civic Center, you announced that you “will be refraining from participating in the proposing and enacting of legislation” until county lawyers will assure you in writing that you will not incur “criminal liability under international humanitarian law and U.S. law.”

In response to your inquiry, we opine that you will not incur any criminal liability under state, federal and international law. See Article VI, Constitution of the United States of America (international law cannot violate federal law)

Should you have any other questions, please contact me.

Mahalo,

JOSEPH K. KAMELAMELA
Corporation Counsel

JKK:clf