

April 4, 2022
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

STATEMENT FROM DISTRICT 11 REPRESENTATIVE TINA WILDBERGER

It has been my privilege to serve the South Maui community as State House District 11 Representative for the last four years. After careful consideration, I will not be running for re-election, nor will I seek further political office for the 2022 election cycle.

When I first sought office, the pool of progressive, community-focused candidates in South Maui was non-existent. Today, we have dedicated candidates who want to serve our constituents and I am pleased to pass the baton.

I began my political career in 2016 when I enrolled in the Hawaiian Alliance for Progressive Action's Kuleana Academy. This program helped me become an agent for change during my seven years of public service. I am very proud of my work to unseat two status quo Maui County Council incumbents by helping to elect Kelly King and Keani Rawlins-Fernandez. Those efforts started the Council's pivot toward community-focused stewardship.

I was first elected to the State House in 2018. With the endorsement of my predecessor, I defeated a career politician. During my first term, I was proud to serve on the Energy & Environmental Protection, Finance, and Water, Land & Hawaiian Affairs committees where I helped Nā Wai 'Ehā—South Maui's water source—avoid sale to a private entity.

During my second term, I have represented South Maui interests as a member of the Government Reform, Pandemic & Disaster Preparedness, and Finance committees. My office directed a team of community volunteers in an 18-month effort to complete South Maui's Hawai'i Hazards Awareness & Resilience Program certification. I look forward to helping my successor continue the important work of keeping that certification current. It is crucial to develop relief relationships before a disaster strikes.

While I won't be serving as an elected official, I will continue to advocate for issues that impact our beautiful community of South Maui. My interests lie in disaster preparedness and mitigation. I look forward to contributing to this important work.

I am grateful to all my supporters and voters who elected me to office. I truly appreciate all the community activists who lent their time to work in support of my bills and resolutions. I am thankful to my legislative session staff for their tremendous contributions. Finally, I feel so fortunate to have partnered with my Chief of Staff, Natalia Hussey-Burdick, whose deep and thorough knowledge of the legislative process underscored our efforts.

This election cycle will be exciting, with a lot of movement among various offices. I urge everyone to register to vote and make sure your voice is heard in the AUGUST primary. Double-check your voter registration and be on the look-out for your mail-in ballot.