**BUSA 2115 WRITING ASSIGNMENT RESPONSE FORM**

**Article Title: Wildfires Cause Multibillion Dollar Destruction in Maui**

1. **Question # 1: Why is tourism so vital to Hawaii’s economy, and how will it be affected by the recent wildfires?**

**Your Response:**

Hawaii's economy is based mostly on tourism for a few reasons:

**Economic Engine**:

The islands' "economic engine" is frequently described as the tourism sector. It has a major impact on the job market and GDP of the state.

**Revenue Generation:**

Each year, tourism generates billions of dollars that fund a few industries, including retail, transportation, and hospitality.

**Employment Creation**:

Tourism is a major driver of employment in Hawaii's private sector.

**Pandemic Recovery**:

As a result of rising tourism, Hawaii's economy was beginning to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic's effects.

The following factors will cause the current wildfires to negatively affect tourism:

Businesses have experienced acute difficulties because of evacuations and damage in places like Lahaina, which strongly depend on tourism.

**Long-term Rebuilding:**

Rebuilding and restoring the damaged places will take years, therefore travel will be halted for a considerable amount of time.

**View:**

Tourists' perceptions of safety and desirability may be impacted by wildfires, which may deter travelers.

**Question # 2: Do you think regulations should be put in place preventing outside property developers from buying land in Maui after the wildfires? Why or why not?**

**Your Response:**

There are differing views on the complexity of managing property development after a calamity. Here are some things to think about:

Arguments in Favor of Regulations:

Preserving Local Interests: By limiting the entry of outside real estate developers, regulations may serve to preserve the interests of the local populace and communities.

Preserving Local Culture:

The fear of losing the area's historical and cultural character can lead to concerns over large-scale developments, like opulent resorts.

Reasons against regulations:

**Economic Recovery:**

By generating income and jobs, property development can help the impacted area's economy recover provided it is managed properly.

**Property Rights:**

It may be the desire of property owners to sell to the highest bidder, and restrictions may be viewed as an infringement on these rights.

The strategy used should strike a balance between the local community's interests, economic recovery, and the preservation of the region's distinctive features. Any rules implemented ought to be well-considered, open, and sensitive to the interests and preferences of the parties involved and the impacted residents.

Local authorities should ultimately decide whether to impose regulations, taking into consideration the unique conditions and concerns of the people living on Maui.