



KAI KAHELE TO PARTICIPATE IN 2019 HONOLULU PRIDE FESTIVITIES

Joining Thousands of Community Members, Leaders, Activists and Allies Celebrating LGBTQ+ Equality

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[HONOLULU] – Sen. Kai Kahele, democratic candidate for Hawai‘i’s 2nd Congressional District, will participate in this weekend’s Honolulu Pride Parade and Festival. Joining the Kahele for Congress marching unit will be dozens of LGBTQ+ community members, leaders, activists and allies, notably including: Keali‘i Reichel, Kaumakaiwa Kanaka‘ole, Kumu Hinaleimoana Wong-Kalu, Hāwane Rios, Pashyn Santos, Ari South, Kini Zamora, Mele Apana, Asia Lim, Lanakila Mangauil and Shawn Pimental.

“2019 marks the 50th anniversary of the birth of the modern-day gay rights movement, the Stonewall Uprising in New York City. While we celebrate the many achievements and great progress we have made as a society since then, there is still much work to be done. We must address the epidemic of violence against the trans community across the country, end conversion therapy, lift the ban on transgender service members serving in our armed forces, stop the bullying of LGBTQ+ youth which impacts their physical and mental health and leads to a disproportionate level of suicide and homelessness among them. We must stand up and do the right thing by protecting the rights of people treated as second-class citizens just because of who they are and who they love”.

The Honolulu Pride Parade will kick off at 11:00am on Saturday, October 19 at Ala Moana Beach Park and run through Waikiki along Kalakaua Avenue to Kapi‘olani Park, followed by the Honolulu Pride Festival at the Waikiki Shell. With 106 marching units and thousands of participants, Honolulu Pride is expected to be the largest parade of any type in the State of Hawai‘i this year.

Kahele serves as Majority Floor Leader and Chairman of the Committee on Water and Land in the Hawai‘i State Senate where he represents his hometown of Hilo. He is an 18-year combat veteran aviator who was recently promoted to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel in the Hawai‘i Air National Guard.

Former Hawai‘i Governors John Waihe‘e, Ben Cayetano and Neil Abercrombie serve as Honorary Co-Chairs of the Kahele for Congress Campaign Committee. Honolulu City Council Chairman Ikaika Anderson formally endorsed Kahele’s candidacy.

The 2nd Congressional District encompasses Hawai‘i Island, Maui, Moloka‘i, Lāna‘i, Kaua‘i, Ni‘ihau and the rural parts of O‘ahu, including Waimānalo, Kailua, Kāne‘ohe, the North Shore, and the Leeward coast.

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Kai Kahele serves as a Lt. Col in the Hawai‘i Air National Guard, United States Air Force. Use of his military rank, job titles, or photographs in uniform does not imply endorsement by the Hawai‘i Air National Guard, United States Air Force or the Department of Defense.

Paid for by Kahele for Congress