

KAI KAHELE STATEMENT ON U.S. HOUSE VOTE TO PROTECT ELECTIONS FROM FOREIGN INTERFERENCE

The people of Hawai'i's 2nd Congressional District left unrepresented, again.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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[HONOLULU] – Sen. Kai Kahele, democratic candidate for Hawai'i's 2nd Congressional District, released the following statement regarding today's passage of H. J. Resolution 77 in the United States House of Representatives:

"Today, the U.S. House of Representatives passed important legislation designed to fix problems discovered during the 2016 presidential election and close the loopholes that allowed foreign interference in our electoral process. Given the events of the last few days, and the increased discussion with regards to Russia and their tactics in meddling with our elections, I am disappointed that our representative in Congress did not think it was important enough to show up for duty and vote to protect us from further disruptive actions by bad foreign actors. This bill is a no-brainer, it would require campaigns to report illicit offers of assistance from, and restrict communications to foreign governments. It would also close the loopholes that allowed Russian dark money to be laundered into our political process. I fully support and commend the House Democrats' efforts in addressing these major problems and their work to prevent a repeat of the activities that affected the outcome of our past elections."

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, Kaho'olawe, 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.