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STATEMENT BY KAI KAHELE ON THE IMPEACHMENT OF PRESIDENT DONALD J. TRUMP

[HONOLULU] – State Senator Kai Kahele, democratic candidate for Hawai'i's 2nd Congressional District, issued the following statement regarding this evening's vote in the U.S. House of Representatives to impeach President Donald J. Trump:

"As someone who has sworn an oath to support and defend the Constitution of the United States both as a lieutenant colonel in the Hawai'i Air National Guard and as an elected official, I understand the heavy burden and responsibility placed on public servants who are entrusted to protect the core pillars of our democracy. Instead of draining the swamp, President Donald Trump's corrupt actions have eroded the public's trust in our government.

President Trump has abused the powers of his office. He has put his own political self-interests above the national security interests of the United States by soliciting a foreign government to interfere in our elections while withholding crucial military aid needed to combat escalating Russian aggression against an ally. Rather than honoring his oath, he has obstructed the lawful and constitutional process of Congress exercising its oversight responsibilities over the executive branch. It has become clear to me that impeachment is now the only remedy to hold this President accountable and prevent him from further weakening the foundation that our representative democracy is built on, and that all Americans are entitled to, free and fair elections.

The House of Representatives upheld its constitutional duty this evening, now it is time for the United States Senate to put country above party loyalty and do the same".

Kahele currently 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.

Hawai'i's 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 Waimanālo, Kailua, Kāne'ohe, the North Shore, and the Leeward Coast.

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.

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