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HGEA ENDORSES KAI KAHELE FOR CONGRESS

HONOLULU – Hawai‘i Government Employees Association, the state’s largest union, announced its early endorsement of **Kai Kahele** for Congress today. Kai is a candidate for Hawaii’s 2nd Congressional District.

*“HGEA’s Political Action Committee sees Kai as someone who will strongly articulate Hawaii’s needs and concerns in Washington, D.C.,” said **HGEA executive director Randy Perreira**. “We believe he will be a true asset to our congressional delegation.”*

*"I am humbled by the endorsement of HGEA — Hawaii's largest public-sector labor union with nearly 41,000 members statewide," said **Kahele**. "As a strong advocate for Hawaii's working families, I am committed to fighting for all workers to ensure that our working-class families have the resources and support to get ahead and not be left behind. I firmly believe that we can do better to improve the quality of life for our community."*

Kai believes that in these divisive times, we need to come together to build hope, dreams and unity. He believes in providing outstanding public education and ensuring that all Americans have quality and affordable health care. He understands that labor unions give workers a voice and help raise wages and improve working conditions for all workers, not just union members. Kai is a proud union member of the Air Line Pilots Association. He believes that elected leaders cannot turn a blind eye to the dangers of climate change, global warming and natural disasters and he pledges to govern with knowledge and courage.

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.

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.

About HGEA:

HGEA was founded in 1934 to ensure fair and equitable representation for government employees. HGEA is the largest labor union in Hawaii, with more than 41,000 members. HGEA represents state and county employees in eight bargaining units. HGEA also serves a large associate membership of retirees, other state and county employees and officials, and federal and private sector employees.

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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