



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 31, 2020

CONTACT: Micah Alameda 808-783-4069

EMAIL: press@kaikahele.com

**THE INTERNATIONAL LONGSHORE & WAREHOUSE UNION ENDORSES
SENATOR KAI KAHELE FOR CONGRESS**

[HONOLULU, HI] – The International Longshore & Warehouse Union (ILWU) today announced its endorsement of Sen. Kai Kahele in the race for Hawai‘i’s 2nd Congressional District. Today’s ILWU endorsement is the first major endorsement of a campaign for the 2020 election cycle.

“Senator Kahele comes from a working-class family and understands working-class values,” said Donna Domingo, President of ILWU. “As a state senator, he has been a champion of working families, and I know he will bring that same passion and fight to Washington, D.C. to help uplift all workers.”

“I’m extremely grateful for the support and early endorsement of the ILWU,” said Kahele. “As a proud card-carrying union member of the Air Line Pilots Association (ALPA), I am a firm believer that the strength of our economy is built on the backs of a strong and stable middle class represented by strong unions. The ILWU has been a cornerstone of Hawai‘i’s middle class for almost ninety years, paving the way for the modern day labor movement and setting the standard for other union organizations here in Hawai‘i and across the country. I am proud to stand side by side with the ILWU.”

The International Longshore & Warehouse Union represents nearly 18,000 members in Hawai‘i. Its members are employed in every major industry, including general trades, tourism and agriculture.

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 and former Kaua‘i Mayor Bernard Carvalho have 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.

###

Kai Kahele serves as a lieutenant colonel 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.