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Teamsters & Allied Workers, Hawaii State AFL-CIO, and International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Endorse Kai Kahele for Congressional District 2

[HONOLULU] – State Senator Kaiiali'i Kahele received the endorsements of three more unions in his candidacy for Hawai'i's Congressional District 2. They include the Hawaii Teamsters & Allied Workers, Local 996; Hawaii State AFL-CIO; and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local Union 118, AFL-CIO.

Hawaii Teamsters & Allied Workers, Local 996

“We appreciate Kai’s honest and pragmatic insight into the needs of the communities and his willingness to listen closely to the questions and concerns of our members,” said Wayne K.S. Kaululaau, president/principal officer of the Hawaii Teamsters & Allied Workers, Local 996. “Our members are hardworking blue-collar workers who deserve a candidate who is willing to collaborate, and we look forward to addressing issues regarding working families, quality of life, and the economic future of the State of Hawaii and the United States of America.”

The Teamsters Union, Local 996 has 7,000 members affiliated with the 1.4 million member International Brotherhood of Teamsters in the United States, Canada, and Puerto Rico.

Hawaii State AFL-CIO

Randy Perreira, president of the Hawai'i State AFL-CIO, in a letter to Kai Kahele, said, “On behalf of the affiliates of the Hawaii State AFL-CIO, I am pleased to inform you that our Council of Affiliates voted to endorse your candidacy. We appreciate your passion and dedication to improving the lives of working families in Hawai'i and your commitment to hearing the collective voice of Hawai'i's labor unions. With the abrupt change that the COVID-19 pandemic has thrust the state and the entire world into, the true impact is yet unknown. Now, more than ever before, we are relying on your leadership and recognition of the socioeconomic value organized labor provides towards our state's recovery.”

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International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local Union 1186, AFL-CIO

“We support and endorse Kaiali’i (Kai) Kahele for Congressional Representative District 2. Kai has always been a fighter for Hawaii and its Labor organization,” said Damien T.K. Kim, business manager/financial secretary of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local Union 1186, AFL-CIO, which represents over 3,500 members in the electrical construction, telecommunication, cable, marine motor, and civil service employees on the federal bases. “Kai has always been a fighter for Hawaii and its Labor organization. He is helping to protect the lives of many working families by addressing issues of Right to Work legislation and issues directly related to Hawaii. His years of service in his union and State Senate will be foundational for the future of our islands.”

Other unions and organizations that have endorsed Kahele include: ILWU, Local 142; HGEA AFSCME, Local 152, AFL-CIO; Iron Workers, Local 625; Hawaii Masons Union, Local 1; Hawaiian Airlines Master Executive Council of the Air Line Pilots Association (ALPA); Association of Flight Attendants-CWA; United Food & Commercial Workers Local 480; Plumbers & Fitters UA Local 675; Daily Kos; Serve America; New Politics; Emgage PAC; Asian Americans & Pacific Islanders Rising & Empowering PAC; Progressive Caucus; Congressional Black Caucus; Planned Parenthood Action Fund; VoteVets; Demand Universal Healthcare; the Human Rights Campaign; Friends of Intelligent Democracy; People for the American Way; and the Progressive Change Campaign Committee.

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. He announced his candidacy on Martin Luther King Jr. Day, January 22, 2019 at the historic Mo’oheau Bandstand in downtown Hilo. 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.

Paid for by Kahele for Congress