



## NEWS RELEASE

### HGEA and UPW announce their endorsement of Kirk Caldwell for Honolulu Mayor

Honolulu, Hawaii (February 28, 2012) – The Hawaii Government Employees Association and United Public Workers announced their endorsement of Kirk Caldwell for mayor of the City & County of Honolulu.

“Based on his record of collaborative leadership and his knowledge and experience to make positive changes, we believe Mr. Caldwell is the best candidate for Honolulu mayor,” said Jon Gasper, HGEA’s State Political Action Committee Chair. “He truly cares about improving the City and is willing to work together with City employees and other groups to move Honolulu forward.”

“With his experience in federal, state and county government, Mr. Caldwell brings a common-sense approach to addressing the important issues our city faces,” added Angel Santiago-Cruz, a member of UPW’s Political Action Committee and a third-generation City employee. “In addition, he strongly supports public employees and values the services we provide in our communities.”

The Political Action Committees from HGEA and UPW are each composed of members from the respective organization.

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#### 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 42,000 members. HGEA represents state and county employees in seven bargaining units. HGEA also serves a large associate membership composed primarily of retirees, other state and county employees and officials, and federal and private sector employees.

#### About UPW

UPW grew from a small group of Hilo road workers in 1944, committed to bring more economic and political resources to Hawaii’s working families. Today, UPW represents 11,000 public employees, which include blue collar, non-supervisory employees and institutional, health and correctional employees in the State of Hawaii and various counties. UPW also represents about 1,500 members of the private sector.