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HGEA ANNOUNCES 2016 PRIMARY ELECTION ENDORSEMENTS

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Hawaii Government Employees Association, the state's largest labor union, announced its endorsed candidates for the 2016 Primary Election today.

"Candidates seeking our endorsement went through an involved process including a question and answer session with our Political Action Committee members," said State Political Action Committee Chair Jon Gasper. "Endorsed candidates understand the issues that are important to working people, their families and our communities."

Candidates endorsed by HGEA are selected by a member-driven process that starts with political action committees, which are made up of rank and file HGEA members from various bargaining units. Political action committee recommendations are then reviewed by the HGEA board of directors, which is composed of members elected by their respective bargaining units and/or island memberships.

Following is the slate of HGEA endorsed candidates, minus Maui, whose endorsements were not yet released due to scheduling challenges:

(Note: An "open" endorsement means the union does not endorse a candidate. Members are encouraged to support and vote for any of the candidates in that race. "No action taken" means candidates did not contact HGEA for endorsement consideration in a timely manner or at all.)

U.S. SENATE

Brian Schatz

U.S. CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 1

Colleen Hanabusa

U.S. CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 2

Tulsi Gabbard

(more)

STATE SENATE

Hawaii

District 1: Kaiali'i Kahele
District 2: Russell Ruderman

Kauai

District 8: Ron Kouchi

Oahu

District 9: Stanley Chang
District 10: Les Ihara
District 11: Brian Taniguchi
District 13: Karl Rhoads
District 14: Donna Mercado Kim
District 15: No Action Taken
District 19: Will Espero
District 20: No Action Taken
District 22: Donovan Dela Cruz
District 25: Laura Thielen

STATE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Hawaii

District 1: Mark Nakashima
District 2: Clift Tsuji
District 3: Richard Onishi
District 4: Joy San Buenaventura
District 5: Richard Creagan
District 6: Nicole Lowen
District 7: David Tarnas

Kauai

District 14: Nadine Nakamura
District 15: Thomas Oi
District 16: Daynette "Dee" Morikawa

Oahu

District 17: Open
District 18: Mark Hashem
District 19: Bert Kobayashi
District 20: Open
District 21: Scott Nishimoto
District 22: Tom Brower
District 23: Isaac Choy
District 24: Della Au Belatti

(more)

District 25: Sylvia Luke
District 26: Scott Saiki
District 27: Takashi Ohno
District 28: John Mizuno
District 29: Valerie Belen Dionne
District 30: Open
District 31: Aaron Johanson
District 32: Linda Ichiyama
District 33: Open
District 34: Open
District 35: Roy Takumi
District 36: Open
District 37: Ryan Yamane
District 38: Henry Aquino
District 39: Ty Cullen
District 40: Randy Gonce
District 41: Matthew LoPresti
District 42: Open
District 43: Stacelynn Eli
District 44: Jo Jordan
District 45: Open
District 46: No Action Taken
District 47: Open
District 48: Jarrett Keohokalole
District 49: Ken Ito
District 50: Open
District 51: Chris Lee

HONOLULU MAYOR

Kirk Caldwell

HONOLULU PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

Keith Kaneshiro

HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL

District I: Kymberly Pine
District III: Ikaika Anderson
District V: No Action Taken
District VII: Joey Manahan
District IX: Ron Menor

KAUAI COUNTY PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

Justin Kollar

(more)

KAUAI COUNTY COUNCIL

Arthur Brun
Mason Chock
Gary Hooser
Ross Kagawa
Arryl Kaneshiro
Derek Kawakami
KipuKai Kualii
Mel Rapozo

HAWAII COUNTY MAYOR

Harry Kim

HAWAII COUNTY PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

Mitch Roth

HAWAII COUNTY COUNCIL

District I: Valerie Poindexter
District II: Aaron Chung
District III: Moana Keli'i
District IV: Eileen O'Hara
District V: Danny Paleka
District VI: Maile David
District VII: Dru Kanuha
District VIII: Karen Eoff
District IX: Herbert Richards

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 eight 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.

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