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Keohokalole Launches Campaign for Congress, Vows to Fight for Hawai'i's Future

Calls for Urgent Leadership and Announces District-Wide Survey

HONOLULU - State Senator Jarrett Keohokalole officially announced his candidacy on Tuesday, July 29, 2025, for the U.S. House of Representatives in Hawai'i's 1st Congressional District, pledging to bring urgent, community-rooted leadership to Washington.

Speaking before a crowd of supporters in Honolulu, Keohokalole shared a deeply personal vision of public service shaped by his upbringing as the son of a nurse and a construction worker.

"We weren't rich, but we had everything we needed," he said. "What makes Hawai'i special is our connection to family and community, and it's getting harder and harder to hold on to that."

Keohokalole cited the rising cost of living, environmental degradation, and federal dysfunction as threats to Hawai'i's future. "Too many local families are being priced out, and too many of our kids are leaving because they don't see a future here," he said.

"We need leadership that doesn't wait around, but runs toward the problem with urgency and energy."



In the State Senate, Keohokalole led efforts to hold Hawaiian Electric accountable after the Lahaina wildfires, reformed the state's broken homeowners insurance market, and modernized legislative hearings by expanding public livestreaming and community access.

"Our job is to help people," Keohokalole said. "Leadership means showing up, taking action, and doing the hard work that makes life better for the next generation."

Dr. Olivia Manahan, a local physician, warned about the effects of Medicare cuts, stating, "Our population's ability to access their right to healthcare is directly shaped by policies set far from our shore."

Former Governor Neil Abercrombie and Walter Dods, the retired CEO of First Hawaiian Bank, supported the call for generational change. They highlighted Keohokalole's leadership as "bold, timely, and necessary."

Keohokalole concluded by launching a 90-day listening tour of the district and inviting residents to share their thoughts at jarrettforcongress.com.

"Our kids demand change. Our future requires it. And together, we can make it happen."

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