



MEDIA STATEMENT

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NA'I AUPUNI'S RESPONSE TO NOVEMBER 13 PROTEST AT THE CAPITOL

HONOLULU –The protesters are concerned that the convention will result in federal recognition. However, the decisions will be made by the elected delegates, and the bios of the 200 candidates show that their perspectives are broad-based and most of them say that they are open-minded and look forward to debating the issues with the other delegates.

The protesters also assert that the list of voters is flawed and does not represent a sufficient percentage of Hawaiians. A federal court judge last month rejected a claim that the list is flawed. The list has 89,000 Hawaiians, which includes a significant portion of adult Hawaiians who reside in Hawaii. It is unrealistic to believe that a significantly larger list will ever be developed.

No group, including the protesters, has offered an alternative plan to achieve Hawaiian self-determination or form an effective government.

Na`i Aupuni believes that its process is pono because it trusts the collective judgement of the voters and the 200 candidates.

About Na'i Aupuni

Na'i Aupuni is an independent organization made up of a volunteer board of directors from the Hawaiian community. It exists solely to help establish a path for Hawaiian self-determination and is guiding an election, convention and ratification process where all Hawaiians who wish to participate can be heard. Na'i Aupuni was formed in December 2014 and is separate and independent from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs and the State of Hawaii. For further information about Na'i Aupuni and the upcoming elections, please visit <http://www.naiaupuni.org/>.

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