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MENOR TO RUN FOR CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 9 SEAT

Former Hawaii State Senator Ron Menor has announced his intention to run for Honolulu City Council, representing District 9. District 9 includes the Central and Leeward Oahu communities of Mililani, Waikele, Waipahu, Village Park, Royal Kunia, and Ewa Beach. Menor, a longtime resident of Mililani, represented many of the same neighborhoods while a state representative and senator.

“I have been blessed with so many opportunities in my life, from my family, the community and the State of Hawaii,” Menor said at a recent community rally at August Ahrens School in Waipahu where he officially announced his candidacy. “It is one reason why I have dedicated most of my career to public service, as a way to give back a little to the place that gave me so much. I would like to continue to do that as a City Councilman for District 9.

“I am running because I can provide an experienced voice for the residents of Central and Leeward Oahu on the City Council who can hit the ground running from day one,” Menor said. “I also have a clear understanding of the needs, hopes, and dreams of our district that comes from a lifelong commitment to a place I’m proud to call home.”

If elected, Menor said he will fight for a fair share of City resources for District 9, for badly needed services and infrastructure improvements. He will also work to alleviate traffic congestion through a comprehensive and coordinated transportation system that is multi-dimensional and multi-purposed. He will push to make Central and Leeward Oahu neighborhoods safer and freer of crime.

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In addition to these basic and important issues, Menor said that a top priority will be to promote the adoption of policies at the city level that will help create jobs and encourage meaningful economic growth.

“For the last several years, I have watched from the sideline as government and the private sector wrestle unsuccessfully with a stagnant economy,” Menor said. “That’s one of the main reasons why I’ve committed to returning to public service in 2012. I believe I can contribute positively to the discussion and search for a sustainable solution that will benefit all of Hawaii.”

Menor also noted that the 2012 election is about budget efficiency and financial responsibility and making the most of the taxpayer’s money. “It is about understanding where those dollars come from and where they go. It’s about getting the biggest and best bang from the public’s dollar and not forgetting that it IS the public’s dollar,” Menor said.

While in the State Senate, Menor chaired the Senate Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Housing Committee and the Energy and Environment Committee. He also co-chaired the Joint Senate and House Affordable Housing Task Force; was a member of the Senate Committees on Business and Economic Development, Education, Transportation, Ways and Means; and was a member of the Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Task Force.

“Many people have told me that the City Council needs the kind of strong, committed and responsive leadership that I can provide,” Menor said.

Among Menor’s many enthusiastic supporters at the community Rally at August Ahrens School, were State Representative Marilyn Lee, who represents the 38th Representative District of Mililani; and State Senator Will Espero, who represents the 20th Senatorial District (Lower Waipahu to Ewa Beach).

Menor is the son of the late Hawaii Supreme Court Justice Benjamin Menor and Lillian Menor. His family moved to Central Oahu from Hilo more than 40 years ago. After attending college and law school on the mainland, Ron returned to Central Oahu to raise his own family and practice law. Menor was first elected to the State House of Representatives in 1982. He served in both the House and Senate for over 20 years.