

ASHFORD HOSPITALITY TRUST INC

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**UNITE HERE calls for special meeting of Ashford Hospitality Trust shareholders**

Lodging REIT urged to restore shareholder rights and preserve strategic alternatives prior to spinoff of advisor

New York City -- UNITE HERE today announced that it has requested a record date to solicit a special meeting of shareholders at Ashford Hospitality Trust (AHT).

Earlier this year AHT's Board doubled the number of shares [link: <http://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20140514006362/en/UNITE-Shareholders-Request-Special-Meeting>].

Immediately after AHT's May 2014 annual meeting – where the lead independent director received the support of only 41% of outstanding shares – UNITE HERE requested a special meeting.

If a majority of outstanding shares request a special meeting, UNITE HERE intends to introduce resolutions strengthening corporate governance and protecting shareholder rights.

\* Binding resolutions reversing AHT's unilateral changes from earlier this year and preventing the Board from staggering the terms of its Directors

\* Putting the terms of the spinoff of Ashford Inc. to a vote by shareholders, and

\* Suggesting shareholder-friendly corporate governance measures to be undertaken at Ashford Inc. pre-spinoff.

The request for a record date comes days after two insiders, including AHT's chairman and CEO, purchased a 40% stake in Ashford Investment Management LLC.

The solicitation is available here: <http://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/1034426/000103442614000019/ashfordrevproxy.htm>.

Visit [www.unlock-ashford.org](http://www.unlock-ashford.org) and follow @HotelCorpGov.

UNITE HERE members are beneficiaries of pension funds with over \$60 billion in assets. UNITE HERE Local 878 represents workers at Ashford Hospitality Trust.

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