

ASHFORD HOSPITALITY TRUST INC

Form DFAN14A

October 09, 2014

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 Inc.

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

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

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

- * 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 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 Inc.

Contacts:

UNITE HERE

JJ Fueser, 416-893-8570

or

Elliott Mallen, 312-656-5807

275 7th Avenue, New York, New York, 10001