WHEREAS, this year the National Park Service is celebrating 100 years of stewardship of American's national parks and engaging communities through recreation, conservation and historic preservation programs; and

WHEREAS, Hawai'i is home to seven national parks, with over five million visitors annually contributing $340 million to the State's economy through visits to unique treasures such as Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park and Haleakala National Park; and

WHEREAS, national parks help to safeguard Hawai'i's national and cultural heritage, protecting 114 threatened and endangered species, seven National Natural Landmarks, 33 National Historic Landmarks, 1,658 archaeological sites and two UNESCO World Heritage sites; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of our State's rich history and the importance of preserving it for future generations, the National Park Service has awarded Hawai'i $17,580,724 in historic preservation grants since 1969, and facilitated $12,724,007 of historic rehabilitation projects through tax incentives since 1995; and

WHEREAS, since 1965, the National Park Service has partnered with communities in Hawai'i and provided $39,907,190 in Land and Water Conservation Fund grants to create and maintain a legacy of high quality public outdoor recreation opportunities; and

WHEREAS, the National Park Service Centennial goal is to connect with and nurture the next generation of park visitors, supporters and advocates, including encouraging individuals and families to take advantage of our Country's natural wonders and iconic sites as part of the "Find Your Park" initiative;

THEREFORE I, DAVID Y. IGE, Governor, and I, SHAN S. TSUTSUI, Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim April 16 to 24, 2016 as

“NATIONAL PARK WEEK”

in Hawai'i and encourage the people of the Aloha State to visit America's National Parks and appreciate the contributions of the National Park Service in protecting our precious natural wonders.

DONE at the State Capitol, in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, on this fifteenth day of April 2016.