



Proclamation

Presented to the

Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs and the Executive Office on Aging

WHEREAS, the State of Hawai'i includes a thriving community of older Americans, or *kupuna*, who deserve recognition for their contributions and sacrifices as trailblazers advocating for themselves, their peers, and their communities, to ensure a better life for our future generations; and

WHEREAS, the Executive Office on Aging is committed to raising awareness about issues facing our *kupuna* and helping all individuals thrive in communities of their choice, for as long as possible; and

WHEREAS, the Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs is determined to advocate for and help our *kupuna* to successfully contribute to and benefit from their communities; and

WHEREAS, since 1965, the Older Americans Act has provided services that help older adults remain healthy and independent by complementing existing medical and health care systems, and with their *'ohana* and extended family, by helping prevent hospital readmissions and supporting some of life's most basic functions, such as bathing or preparing meals; and

WHEREAS, these programs also support family caregivers; address issues of exploitation, neglect and abuse of older adults; and adapt services to the needs of *kupuna* and their *'ohana* throughout *Hawai'i nei*; and

WHEREAS, our community can provide opportunities to enrich the lives of individuals of all ages by:

- Promoting and engaging in activity, wellness and social inclusion;
- Emphasizing home- and community-based services that support independent living;
- Ensuring community members of all ages benefit from the contributions and experience of *kupuna*; and
- Nurturing culturally competent and inter-generational services for *kupuna*;

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

“OLDER AMERICANS MONTH”

in Hawai'i and urge the people of the Aloha State to celebrate the significant contributions and sacrifices of our *kupuna*—and the people who serve and support them—as powerful and vital members of our community.

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

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor, State of Hawai'i

SHAN S. TSUTSUI
Lt. Governor, State of Hawai'i