



Proclamation

In Recognition of

Mosquito Control Awareness Week

WHEREAS, the goal of National Mosquito Control Awareness Week is to encourage people to take mosquito abatement and prevention into their own hands by eliminating potential breeding areas and reducing adult mosquito populations in order to protect their communities from the threat of diseases spread by mosquitoes; and

WHEREAS, the threat of mosquito-borne diseases, such as Zika, dengue, and chikungunya, pose an elevated threat to Hawai'i with summer's rising temperatures and increased travel into and out of the state from regions potentially experiencing disease outbreaks; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) activated its Emergency Operations Center (EOC) for Zika on January 22, 2016, and moved to a level 1 activation - the highest level - on February 8, 2016, following action on February 1, 2016 by the World Health Organization, which declared a Public Health Emergency of International Concern over the Zika virus and the health problems it can cause; and

WHEREAS, although none of these diseases are native to Hawai'i, Hawai'i County experienced a nine-month-long outbreak of more than 260 cases of dengue fever that had been imported by a traveler to the state, and was successfully overcome thanks to the close coordination of State and County officials and the diligent efforts of the community to reduce the mosquito population on the Big Island; and

WHEREAS, the Hawai'i State Department of Health is leading the charge and bringing together partners from both public and private sectors across the state to "Fight the Bite" and raise awareness about the importance of preventing mosquito bites, preparing carefully and traveling responsibly, and protecting communities from mosquito-borne diseases by eliminating potential breeding areas;

THEREFORE I, DAVID Y. IGE, Governor, and I, SHAN S. TSUTSUI, Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim June 26 - July 2, 2016 as

"MOSQUITO CONTROL AWARENESS WEEK"

in Hawai'i and encourage the people of the Aloha State to join us in recognizing this observance and heeding the best practices and sound advice of health professionals to keep Hawai'i free from mosquito-borne diseases by taking precautions to avoid being bitten by mosquitoes and to reduce mosquito populations around our homes, neighborhoods, and workplaces.

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

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor, State of Hawai'i

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