



Proclamation

In Recognition of

Wolfhounds Day

WHEREAS, for the past 67 years, the soldiers of the 27th Infantry Regiment "Wolfhounds" of the U.S. Army, have exemplified compassion and the "Aloha Spirit" through their generous support of the children of the Holy Family Home orphanage in Osaka, Japan; and

WHEREAS, the special relationship between the "Wolfhounds" and Holy Family Home commenced in 1949, when a group of soldiers, led by Sergeant Hugh O'Reilly, witnessing the poor living conditions of the orphans, subsequently raised funds and dedicated their free time to building a new home for the children; and

WHEREAS, the 27th Infantry Regiment has continued to assist the orphanage since leaving Osaka, and continues to contribute to this day, sending Christmas gifts to the children of the Holy Family Home each year; and

WHEREAS, since 1957, the "Wolfhounds," along with other sponsors, have annually provided funds to bring children from the Holy Family Home to O'ahu for a weeklong vacation, so that they may experience the wonders and *aloha* of Hawai'i and family life through homestays with Wolfhound families; and

WHEREAS, Peace Bridge, Inc., founded in 2007, continues the efforts of the late Hugh O'Reilly, and have made it their mission to perpetuate and build upon this unbroken tradition of compassion and friendship between the children of the Holy Family Home orphanage in Osaka, the "Wolfhounds" and the community of Hawai'i; and

WHEREAS, on July 29, 2016, soldiers from the "Wolfhounds" will welcome to Hawai'i four children – two girls and two boys – from the Holy Family Home orphanage at a reception to be held at the Honolulu International Airport; and

WHEREAS, the visiting children from Holy Family Home will be hosted by families from the 2nd Battalion "Wolfhounds," commanded by Lt. Col. Glen T. Helberg; and

WHEREAS, the visiting children will experience the host culture of O'ahu, supported by community partnerships with the Polynesian Cultural Center, KoAloha 'Ukulele, Hawai'i Museum of Art, Dole Plantation, and the Waikiki Aquarium; and

WHEREAS, the "Wolfhounds" have displayed an unwavering commitment to the Holy Family Home orphanage – through war, conflict, and foreign deployments – thereby giving hope and joy to hundreds of children while strengthening the friendship between the people of Japan, the State of Hawai'i, and the United States;

THEREFORE I, DAVID Y. IGE, Governor, and I, SHAN S. TSUTSUI, Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim July 29, 2016, as

"WOLFHOOUNDS DAY"

in Hawai'i and encourage the citizens of the Aloha State to welcome the four children of the Holy Family Home to Hawai'i, while extending our deep gratitude to the Wolfhounds and Peace Bridge, Inc. for continuing this outstanding and compassionate tradition.

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

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor, State of Hawai'i

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