WHEREAS, martial arts are traditional combat practices that were developed for the purpose of self-defense, competition, physical fitness and entertainment; and

WHEREAS, there are many styles of martial arts from around the world that have been passed down from generation to generation, one of which is eskrima from the Philippines; and

WHEREAS, the early migrants from China, Japan, Portugal, Korea, Puerto Rico, Samoa and the Philippines brought to Hawai‘i their traditional styles of martial arts, making Hawai‘i a major center for the cultural exchange of martial arts; and

WHEREAS, Filipino martial arts in the islands contribute to breaking down ethnic barriers and building lifelong friendships among students and masters; and

WHEREAS, the fundamental discipline of Filipino martial arts emphasizes self-control, rhythm, fluidity, and respect, nurturing the physical and spiritual aspects of all practitioners and competitors; and

WHEREAS, in celebration of the Filipino style of martial arts, the Global Stick & Blade Alliance (GSBA) World Organization presents the 2016 GSBA World Championships at the Hilton Hawaiian Village Waikiki Beach Resort during the week of July 18 thru July 23, 2016;

THEREFORE I, DAVID Y. IGE, Governor, and I, SHAN S. TSUTSUI, Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai‘i, do hereby proclaim July 18 - July 23, 2016 as

“FILIPINO MARTIAL ARTS WEEK”

in Hawai‘i and commend those who perpetuate the legacy and spread awareness of the functional and unique style of Filipino martial arts throughout the world.

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

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor, State of Hawai‘i

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