WHEREAS, fifteen years ago, the Waikiki SPAM JAM Festival was founded by the SJ Foundation, a non-profit corporation, to create a unique food and entertainment event that appeals to both local residents and Waikiki visitors to celebrate our community’s love of SPAM and to generate revenue to help feed the hungry and needy in Hawaii; and

WHEREAS, the Waikiki SPAM JAM has become one of Waikiki’s largest street festivals featuring restaurants cooking up SPAM in every way imaginable coupled with a variety of contemporary and Hawaiian entertainment, as well as unique Made-in-Hawaii retail products; and

WHEREAS, the festival has grown in popularity over the years with an estimated 25,000 or more in attendance, of which about half are local residents and half are visitors to Hawaii from around the world; and

WHEREAS, a portion of the proceeds from the Waikiki SPAM JAM are donated to the Hawaii Foodbank, Visitor Aloha Society and the Waikiki Community Center; and

WHEREAS, previous festivals have raised an excess of $148,000 in donations, which has provided over 394,000 meals to feed people in need; and

WHEREAS, the Waikiki SPAM JAM Festival organizers say that they hope to make an even greater impact on Waikiki, Hawaii non-profits, visitors, and residents in the future;

THEREFORE I, DAVID Y. IGE, Governor, and I, SHAN S. TSUTSUI, Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawaii, do hereby proclaim April 29, 2017 as

“WAIKIKI SPAM JAM FESTIVAL DAY”

in Hawaii and ask the people of the Aloha State to recognize the SJ Foundation’s efforts to raise funds to help local organizations serving visitors and Hawaii’s hungry and needy population.

DONE at the State Capitol, in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawaii, on this twenty-seventh day of April 2017.