



Proclamation

Presented to

Consul General Yasushi Misawa

WHEREAS, Japan was among the first countries to establish diplomatic relations with the Kingdom of Hawai'i in the late nineteenth century, with the first Consul General of Japan arriving in Hawai'i in 1886; and

WHEREAS, Consul General Yasushi Misawa was born and raised in Kyoto, studied political science and modern history at the University of Kyoto, entered the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1985, visited over 50 countries, and became Consulate General of Japan in Honolulu in December 2015; and

WHEREAS, the Consul General is responsible for expanding the friendship between Japan and Hawai'i and enhancing Japan-United States relations but Consul General Misawa and his wife, Yoko, went further by embracing the culture and history of Hawai'i and its Japanese community by learning about their host culture through 'ukulele lessons with Roy Sakuma and sanshin lessons with Grant Murata; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure Consul General Misawa helped commemorate the 75th anniversary of the December 7, 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor, held a joint ceremony between the Japanese Consulate and Navy Region Hawai'i on Ford Island to pay tribute to the American and Japanese lives lost, and hosted a visit from Prime Minister Abe and President Barrack Obama aboard the USS Arizona Memorial as they paid their respects to the lives lost, noting that this anniversary was a "historic milestone symbolizing the strong bond that now exists between the two nations, a bond that showcases the power of reconciliation that transformed former adversaries into the closest of allies"; and

WHEREAS, Consul General Misawa also has been instrumental in encouraging numerous exchange programs and promoting sister-state relations between Hawai'i and Japan, including Ehime, Fukuoka, Okinawa, Hiroshima, and Hokkaido, and on February 9, 2017, commemorated the 17th anniversary of the Ehime Maru incident in which four students and five teachers from the Ehime Prefectural Uwajima Fishery High School lost their lives off the waters in Kakaako; and

WHEREAS, Consul General Misawa is inspired by his father to learn about and share the history of the Japanese American World War II veterans in Hawai'i, and has been working with Nisei Veterans Legacy on several projects, including photo exhibits at the Daniel K. Inouye International Airport and Hawai'i Convention Center to educate visitors on the history of *Nisei* veterans and to encourage everyone to strive toward world peace;

THEREFORE I, DAVID Y. IGE, Governor, and I, SHAN S. TSUTSUI, Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim September 20, 2017 as

"CONSUL GENERAL OF JAPAN DAY"

in Hawai'i and ask all citizens of the Aloha State to join us in extending our mahalo to Consul General Yasushi Misawa for his leadership, service, friendship and aloha spirit during his two-and-a-half year posting in Hawai'i, and also in sending our best wishes to him and his wife, Yoko, for continued good health and happiness as he becomes the deputy chief of mission with the Embassy of Japan in Germany.

DONE at the State Capitol, in Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this fourteenth day of September 2017.

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor, State of Hawai'i

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