

*Proclamation*  
*In Recognition of the*

## **Year of the Hawaiian**

**WHEREAS**, on January 23, 1988, over 40,000 Native Hawaiian families, cultural practitioners, hula halau, political leaders, educators and kumu hula gathered at Aloha Stadium to celebrate Ho‘o Lako, the Year of the Hawaiian, to acknowledge their unique and special culture, their aloha for one another, and their aloha for these islands we know as Hawai‘i pae‘aina; and

**WHEREAS**, 2018 is the 25th anniversary of the formal apology from the Congress and the President of the United States to the Hawaiian people for the United States’ role in the overthrow of the Hawaiian Kingdom on January 17, 1893; and

**WHEREAS**, 2018 is the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the 1978 Hawai‘i State Constitutional Convention that led to the creation of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, reaffirmation of the State’s duty to protect traditional and customary Native Hawaiian rights, designation of the Hawaiian language as an official language of the State, establishment of Hawaiian education programs in public schools, to include Hawaiian Language immersion programs which have brought the Hawaiian language back from the brink of extinction to a thriving language now spoken by over 20,000 individuals; and

**WHEREAS**, 2018 is the 100th anniversary of the first Hawaiian Civic Club, an association established by Prince Jonah Kuhio Kalaniana‘ole and a movement which continues to advocate for improved welfare of Native Hawaiians in culture, health economic development and education; and

**WHEREAS**, today Native Hawaiians actively engage and consult with local, state, federal, and international governmental and non-governmental entities and agencies to define, develop, and pursue goals, policies, and positions consistent with Native Hawaiian culture, traditions, and values; and

**WHEREAS**, Native Hawaiians raise awareness of the importance of practicing aloha ‘āina – loving, caring, respecting, and honoring the precious and fragile lands, seas, and climate of Hawai‘i pāe‘ina, which leads to significant policies and programs to protect the sustainability of Hawai‘i’s natural resources; and

**WHEREAS**, the Hawai‘i State Senate Resolution 74 passed during the 2017 legislative session requested the designation of 2018 as “Year of the Hawaiian”; and

**WHEREAS**, the Year of the Hawaiian is celebrated in honor of Queen Lili‘uokalani, who demonstrated compassion, dignity, courage, diplomacy and love for her people in the years following the end of the Hawaiian monarchy, and whose legacy continues to inspire Native Hawaiians to be the wewehi, the crowning adornment, of Hawai‘i;

**THEREFORE I, DAVID Y. IGE, Governor** of the **State of Hawai‘i**, do hereby proclaim 2018 as the

## **“YEAR OF THE HAWAIIAN – KE AU HAWAI‘I”**

in Hawai‘i and ask the people of the Aloha State to join us in understanding the value of Native Hawaiian cultural practices and recognize the Native Hawaiians for their achievements and contributions to music, sports, the arts, dance, writing, literature, medicine, law, history, social work, education, politics, business, science, Native Hawaiian culture and traditions, and Native Hawaiian language restoration and revitalization.

**DONE** at Washington Place, Honolulu, State of Hawai‘i, this sixteenth day of February 2018.

  
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**DAVID Y. IGE**  
Governor, State of Hawai‘i