



# *Proclamation*

*Presented to the*

## **Coalition for a Tobacco-Free Hawai'i**

**WHEREAS**, smoking kills more people than alcohol, AIDS, car crashes, illegal drugs, murders, and suicides combined; and

**WHEREAS**, health complications resulting from tobacco products cost the State of Hawai'i \$526 million in annual healthcare costs; and

**WHEREAS**, it is estimated that 54,000 of Hawai'i's children today will become smokers by early adulthood without intervention; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2016 Hawai'i became the first state in the nation to prohibit the sale of cigarettes and other tobacco products to anyone under age 21; and

**WHEREAS**, e-cigarettes have surpassed traditional tobacco products as the most popular tobacco product among youth, despite years of progress in tobacco prevention and control, with 1 in 4 public high school students and 1 in 6 public middle school students in Hawai'i reporting the use of vapor products; and

**WHEREAS**, e-cigarettes contain nicotine and can cause addiction, harm brain development, and cause lung disease; and

**WHEREAS**, a high density of tobacco retailers near schools make it easier for youth to access tobacco products and is associated with a higher prevalence of youth smoking rates; and

**WHEREAS**, Kick Butts Day is an annual national day of activism that empowers kids and young adults to stand out, speak up, and seize control against Big Tobacco;

**THEREFORE I, DAVID Y. IGE, Governor, and I, DOUGLAS S. CHIN, Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim March 20, 2018 as**

### **"KICK BUTTS DAY"**

in Hawai'i and ask the people of the Aloha State to join us in raising awareness of the risks of tobacco products, including e-cigarettes, and exposure to secondhand smoke; applaud the hundreds of middle school and high school students in Hawai'i who are leading the fight against youth tobacco and e-cigarette use; and kick the habit of smoking today.

**DONE** at the State Capitol, in Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this fifteenth day of March 2018.

DAVID Y. IGE  
Governor, State of Hawai'i

DOUGLAS S. CHIN  
Lt. Governor, State of Hawai'i