



Proclamation

WHEREAS, Hawai'i has a unique ecological history as a chain of volcanic islands populated by a set of native species, of which many are found nowhere else in the world; and

WHEREAS, Hawai'i's native species evolved in the absence of large land mammals and other species commonly found in mainland habitats, making our local environment particularly sensitive to the introduction of species from other parts of the world; and

WHEREAS, Hawai'i is an island state with a high number of rare native species; and

WHEREAS, the State Legislature has declared that "the silent invasion of Hawai'i by invasive species is the single greatest threat to Hawai'i's economy and natural environment and to the health and lifestyle of Hawai'i's people,"; and

WHEREAS, the Hawai'i Invasive Species Council has prioritized efforts to increase awareness of the unique threats that invasive species pose to Hawai'i; and

WHEREAS, preventing the spread of invasive species is a top priority of this administration; and

WHEREAS, the incorporation of the *Hawai'i Interagency Biosecurity Plan* into the *Sustainable Hawai'i Initiative* and the *Western Governors' Biosecurity and Invasive Species Initiative* will examine the impact and role of biosecurity in addressing the risks posed by invasive species; and

WHEREAS, Hawai'i continues to face a number of critical threats from invasive species including potential introduction of the brown tree snake, expanding populations of little fire ants, coqui frogs, and coconut rhinoceros beetles, miconia, albizia, and many others;

THEREFORE I, DAVID Y. IGE, Governor, and I, JOSHUA B. GREEN, Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim February 2019 as

"HAWAI'I INVASIVE SPECIES AWARENESS MONTH"

and ask that the people of the Aloha State join us in recognizing the importance of preventing and controlling harmful invasive species in order to protect our natural resources, economy, and way of life, and to recognize community and industry leaders who have made substantial contributions to the State's biosecurity efforts.

Done at the State Capitol, in Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this fourth day of February 2019.



JOSHUA B. GREEN
Lieutenant Governor, State of Hawai'i



DAVID Y. IGE
Governor, State of Hawai'i