Proclamation

WHEREAS, National Medal of Honor Day is observed on March 25 every year to celebrate Medal of Honor recipients and ensure that a grateful nation never forgets the sacrifices and courage of these heroic individuals who faced extreme adversity; and

WHEREAS, created in 1861, the Medal of Honor is the United States of America's highest military honor and is awarded only to U.S. military personnel by the President of the United States, in the name of Congress, for personal acts of valor above and beyond the call of duty; and

WHEREAS, there are three versions of the Medal of Honor: one for the Army, one for the Air Force, one for the Navy, which includes the Marine Corps and the Coast Guard; and

WHEREAS, the first Medals of Honor were presented by Secretary of War, Edwin Stanton, on March 25, 1863, to six members of Andrews’ Raiders for volunteering and participating in an American Civil War raid in April of 1862; and

WHEREAS, since its inception, there have been 3,505 Medals of Honor awarded to the country's soldiers, sailors, airmen, marines and coast guardsmen; and

WHEREAS, seventy-two recipients are still living; 19 recipients have been awarded the Medal of Honor twice; one woman, Dr. Mary E. Walker was awarded the Medal of Honor on the 11th day of November 1865 by President Andrew Johnson; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Major Allan J. Kellogg Jr. (United States Marine Corps, Retired), Hawai’i’s only known living resident Medal of Honor recipient, earned this honor by falling over a grenade to prevent serious injury or possible death to several of his fellow marines while serving his second tour of duty in Vietnam; and

WHEREAS, in 1990, the United States Congress designated March 25th as National Medal of Honor Day to show our respect and appreciation to all Medal of Honor recipients;

THEREFORE I, DAVID Y. IGE, Governor, and I, JOSHUA B. GREEN, Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai’i, do hereby proclaim March 25, 2019 as

“MEDAL OF HONOR DAY”

in Hawai’i and ask the people of the Aloha State to join us and the rest of the nation in paying tribute to all National Medal of Honor recipients and honor their sacrifices and valor for our country.

Done at the State Capitol, in Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai’i, this twentieth day of March 2019.

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

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor, State of Hawai’i