



# Proclamation

**WHEREAS**, June 1, 2019 marks the establishment of World Reef Day; and

**WHEREAS**, World Reef Day was inspired by Hawai'i's pioneering legislation to ban the sale of sunscreens containing reef-toxic oxybenzone and octinoxate, effective January 2021; and

**WHEREAS**, Hawai'i's decisive action to protect our coral reefs led to similar proposed legislation in Florida, Bonaire, Palau and Aruba; and

**WHEREAS**, Hawai'i has more than 410,000 acres of coral reefs hosting over 5,000 known species of marine plants and animals; and

**WHEREAS**, the complex and delicate ecosystems of coral reefs support 25 percent of marine species and are vital to subsistence, fisheries, tourism, cultural and religious practices, coastal protection, and the development of new medicines; and

**WHEREAS**, World Reef Day is a call to action, highlighting sustainability, responsibility and education and reminding everyone that change is possible through simple, everyday choices; and

**WHEREAS**, Raw Elements partnered with Hawaiian Airlines and Aqua-Aston Hospitality to dedicate the inaugural World Reef Day to the State of Hawai'i for its internationally recognized leadership in banning the sale of reef-toxic sunscreens; and

**WHEREAS**, Haereticus Environmental Laboratory, Friends of Hanauma Bay, and Sustainable Coastlines Hawai'i are commended for their leadership in protecting and preserving not only Hawai'i's coral reefs and shores but coral reefs and near-shore marine environments worldwide;

**THEREFORE I, DAVID Y. IGE, Governor, and I, JOSHUA B. GREEN, Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim June 1, 2019 as the inaugural**

## **"WORLD REEF DAY"**

in Hawai'i and ask consumers, businesses and environmental nonprofit organizations to work collaboratively to protect and preserve our precious coral reefs and coastlines, encourage the people of the Aloha State to join us in raising awareness on how human activity can hurt coral reefs, and urge everyone to make simple, everyday choices to save our reefs for tomorrow.

Done at the State Capitol, in Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this twenty-ninth day of May 2019.

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

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