Establishing a Hawai‘i Economic and Community Navigator

WHEREAS, COVID-19 has had severe and unprecedented impact on the economy of the state, causing hotels, shopping malls, airlines, restaurants, retailers, service professionals, nonprofits, and a wide variety of Hawai‘i businesses to significantly reduce or shut down operations; and

WHEREAS, the state’s critical economic pillars including tourism, healthcare, agriculture and social service agencies are experiencing extreme financial hardship resulting in furloughs; and

WHEREAS, as of April 3, 2020, the Hawai‘i Department of Labor and Industrial Relations received over 180,000 initial unemployment applications statewide due to the economic damages, losses and impact of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the only successful way for Hawai‘i to emerge from this crisis is to have government, private sector, nonprofits and the community-at-large work together collaboratively and to engage and find solutions that address our communities’ most immediate and critical needs while concurrently charting a path for recovery and planning for the future; and

WHEREAS, the success of the development and implementation the Hawai‘i Economic and Community Recovery & Resiliency Plan will be based on engaging stakeholders, coordinating efforts, collecting input and data, leveraging all available funds (including federal, state, county, private and philanthropic) and developing data driven analysis for decision-making; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 127A-2, Hawai‘i Revised States, “emergency management” means a comprehensive integrated system at all levels of government, and also in the private sector, which develops and maintains an effective capability to prevent, prepare for, respond to, mitigate, and recover from emergencies or disasters;

THEREFORE, I, DAVID Y. IGE, Governor of the State of Hawai‘i, do hereby establish a position in the governor’s office to coordinate, direct and implement a collaborative statewide plan for economic and community recovery and resiliency, and appoint Alan M. Oshima to this position.

Done at the State Capitol in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai‘i, this eighth day of April 2020.

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor, State of Hawaiʻi