



# *Proclamation*

**WHEREAS**, for almost 150 years, Arab Americans have been making valuable contributions to virtually every aspect of American society: in medicine, law, business, education, technology, government, military service, and culture; and

**WHEREAS**, since migrating to America, men and women of Arab descent have shared their rich culture and traditions with neighbors and friends, while also setting fine examples of model citizens and public servants; and

**WHEREAS**, they brought with them their resilient family values, strong work ethic, dedication to education, and diversity in faith and creed that have added strength to our great democracy; and

**WHEREAS**, Arab Americans have also enriched our society by sharing in the entrepreneurial American spirit that makes our nation free and prosperous; and

**WHEREAS**, there are over 4 million Arab Americans residing in all fifty states, and more education and awareness are needed to change Arab American stereotyping; and

**WHEREAS**, Arab Americans join all Americans in the desire to see a peaceful and diverse society, where every individual is treated equally and feels safe; and

**WHEREAS**, in Hawai'i, Arab Americans have prominent roles in government, education, medicine, business, performing and visual arts and other professions and are a part of the diversity that define our population to make our islands unique;

**THEREFORE I, DAVID Y. IGE, Governor of the State of Hawai'i**, do hereby proclaim April 2020 as

## **“ARAB AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH”**

in Hawai'i and ask the people of the Aloha State to join me in celebrating the rich cultural heritage of Arab Americans and appreciate the contributions they have made to our society.

Done at the State Capitol in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this third day of March 2020.

  
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DAVID Y. IGE  
Governor, State of Hawai'i