



# *Proclamation*

**WHEREAS**, greenhouse gases from human activities worldwide are the most significant driver of climate change since the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century; and

**WHEREAS**, climate change is real and we're seeing its impacts right now in our island state in rising sea levels, warmer air and ocean temperatures, coral bleaching, an increase in ocean acidity, coastline erosion and extreme weather events, which are all threats to the health and environment of the Hawaiian islands; and

**WHEREAS**, sea level rise is already having an impact on beaches, roadways and homes near the shoreline on every island; and

**WHEREAS**, the statewide tree planting initiative is a response to the growing threat of climate change to our counties and our state; and

**WHEREAS**, trees help fight climate change. As trees grow, they remove carbon dioxide from the air, storing carbon in the trees and soil, and release oxygen into the atmosphere; and

**WHEREAS**, trees provide many benefits to us, every day. They offer cooling shade, attract birds and wildlife, purify our air, prevent soil erosion, clean our water, and add beauty to our homes and communities; and

**WHEREAS**, on October 30<sup>th</sup>, with the goal to plant 100,000 trees, with 10,000 volunteers, on 1,000 sites across the state, public, private and non-profit organizations will plant trees and other plants that sequester carbon from the atmosphere and beautify our islands;

**THEREFORE I, DAVID Y. IGE, Governor of the State of Hawai'i**, do hereby proclaim October 30, 2020 as

## **“STATEWIDE TREE PLANTING DAY”**

in Hawai'i and ask the people of the Aloha State to join me in recognizing the value of trees and plants in combating climate change and ask all residents and visitors to do their part to protect the health and environment of our island state.

Done at the State Capitol in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this twenty-ninth day of September 2020.

  
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DAVID Y. IGE  
Governor, State of Hawai'i