



Proclamation

WHEREAS, the Hawaiian archipelago in the middle of the Pacific Ocean is one of the most isolated places on earth and home to approximately 1,400 native plants; and

WHEREAS, nearly 90 percent of Hawai'i's native plants are found nowhere else in the world; and

WHEREAS, Hawai'i is dubbed "the endangered species capital of the world" with over 200 plant species with only 50 or fewer remaining in the wild; and

WHEREAS, more than 100 of Hawai'i's native plants are already extinct, and over 350 native plants are listed as endangered or threatened species; and

WHEREAS, Hawai'i makes up less than 1 percent of the continental United States land mass but contains 44 percent of the nation's endangered and threatened plant species; and

WHEREAS, Native Hawaiians, botanists, conservationists, and government agencies continue to work together to conserve and contribute to the sustainability of Hawai'i's unique environment; and

WHEREAS, the Hawaiian Rare Plant Program under the state's Department of Land & Natural Resources, Division of Forestry and Wildlife seeks to perpetuate the native flora of the islands; and

THEREFORE I, DAVID Y. IGE, Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim April 2021 as

"NATIVE HAWAIIAN PLANT MONTH"

in Hawai'i and ask the people of the Aloha State to join me in recognizing the importance and urgency of supporting the work being done to protect and cultivate the endangered and threatened species of native plants in the Hawaiian Islands.

Done at the State Capitol in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this twenty-first day of January 2021.



DAVID Y. IGE
Governor, State of Hawai'i