



Proclamation

WHEREAS, Congress passed the Older Americans Act (OAA) on July 14, 1965, in response to concerns by policymakers about a lack of community social services for older persons; and

WHEREAS, in 1978, the OAA was amended to require each state to establish a long-term care ombudsman program to improve housing programs for older persons, and for other purposes; and

WHEREAS, in 1979, Hawai'i Revised Statutes was amended to establish the Long-Term Care Ombudsman (LTCO) Program within the state's Executive Office on Aging to protect the health, safety, welfare, and rights of residents of long-term care facilities in accordance with state and federal law; and

WHEREAS, the reauthorization of the OAA in 1987 charged states to establish procedures for appropriate access by the ombudsman to long-term care facilities and patients' records; and

WHEREAS, in 1992, amendments to the OAA provided more protections for the vulnerable elderly, highlighting the role of the local LTCO and the state ombudsman to advocate for system-wide changes to protect the vulnerable elderly; and

WHEREAS, the Hawai'i LTCO Program works to resolve problems related to the health, safety, welfare, and rights of individuals who live in long-term care facilities, which include nursing homes, adult residential care homes (ARCHs), expanded ARCHs, community care foster family homes, assisted living facilities, and other long-term care settings;

THEREFORE I, DAVID Y. IGE, Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim August 5, 2022 as

"LONG-TERM CARE OMBUDSMAN PROGRAM DAY"

in Hawai'i and ask the people of the Aloha State to join me in celebrating our Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program, its staff and volunteers who promote and protect the rights and dignity of our long-term care residents and provide support and education to our caregivers and family members.

Done at the State Capitol in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, second day of August 2022.



DAVID Y. IGE
Governor, State of Hawai'i