

Proclamation

WHEREAS, the State of Hawai'i is committed to ensuring the safety and security of those living in and visiting our State; and

WHEREAS, fire is a serious public safety concern locally and nationally, and homes are the locations where people are at greatest risk from fire; and

WHEREAS, home fires killed more than 2,700 people in the United States (U.S.) in 2022 according to the National Fire Protection Association, and fire departments in the U.S. responded to 360,000 home fires; and

WHEREAS, roughly three out of five fire deaths happen in homes with no smoke alarms or no working smoke alarms; and

WHEREAS, working smoke alarms decrease the risk of dying in reported home fires by more than one-half; and

WHEREAS, smoke alarms sense smoke well before you can by alerting you to danger in the event of fire in which you may have as little as two minutes to escape safely; and

WHEREAS, Hawai'i residents should install smoke alarms in every bedroom, in hallways, and on every level of the home, including the basement; and

WHEREAS, Hawai'i residents will make sure their smoke alarms meet the needs of all family members, including those with sensory or physical impairments; and

WHEREAS, Hawai'i residents should test smoke alarms at least once a month; and

WHEREAS, residents who have planned and practiced a home fire escape plan are more prepared and will be more likely to survive a fire; and

WHEREAS, Hawai'i's first responders are dedicated to reducing the occurrence of home fires and home fire injuries through prevention and protection education; and

WHEREAS, Hawai'i's residents are responsive to public education measures and able to take personal steps to increase their safety from fire, especially in their homes; and

WHEREAS, the 2024 Fire Prevention Week theme, "Smoke Alarms: Make them work for you!" serves to remind us of the importance of having working smoke alarms in our homes;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JOSH GREEN, M.D., Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim October 6 - 12, 2024, as

"Fire Prevention Week"

in Hawai'i and urge the people of Hawai'i to take the time to check their smoke alarms to make sure they have working smoke alarms and to support the many public safety activities and efforts of Hawai'i's fire and emergency services.

Done at the State Capitol, in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this twenty-seventh day of September 2024.

Josh Green, M.D.
Governor, State of Hawai'i