

Proclamation

In Recognition of Farm to School Month

WHEREAS, **Farm to School Month** in Hawai'i coincides with National Farm to School Month, designated by Congress in 2010, to demonstrate the growing importance of farm to school programs as a means to improve child nutrition, support local economies, and educate children about the origins of food; and

WHEREAS, Farm to School Month recognizes that farm to school and school gardening programs empower children and their families to make informed food choices and form lifelong healthy habits while strengthening the local economy and contributing to vibrant communities; and

WHEREAS, Farm to School Month celebrates programs which are proven to provide benefits in the areas of agriculture, education, and health by providing fresh local foods for school meals and snacks, increasing educational opportunities in agriculture, food, health, and nutrition, and supporting learning gardens in schools that connect to core curriculum; and

WHEREAS, Farm to School Month is a growing national movement with thousands of schools across the United States participating in mutually beneficial programs that join local small and mid-size farms with school cafeterias;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, DAVID Y. IGE, Governor, and **I, SHAN S. TSUTSUI,** Lt. Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim October 2015 as

"FARM TO SCHOOL MONTH"

in Hawai'i and ask all the citizens of the Aloha State to support activities that heighten the awareness of farm to school and school garden programs as successful means for improving the health and well-being of our *keiki*, communities, and *'aina*.

DONE at the State Capitol, in Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this twenty-third day of September 2015.

Governor, State of Hawai'i

SHAN S. TSUTSUI Lt. Governor, State of Hawai'i