

ProclamationIn Recognition of

Hawai'i Women Veterans' Appreciation Day

WHEREAS, women have served honorably and courageously in all of America's wars and conflicts since the American Revolution: and

WHEREAS, women served in the military long before they could vote; and

WHEREAS, the United States Military has evolved from a predominately male force to one with more than 15 percent women who are currently serving on active duty and 18 percent who are serving in the Reserves and National Guard: and

WHEREAS, it is imperative that women veterans receive the recognition and support earned by their service to our great nation; and

WHEREAS, with a rapidly increasing number of women serving in the military today and returning from deployments as seasoned veterans with exposure to combat, the Hawai'i Office of Veteran Services and veteran service organizations across our state and nation are working to ensure that the post-deployment mental and physical health needs unique to women veterans are being met; and

WHEREAS, the Hawai'i Office of Veteran Services, in collaboration with the Hawai'i State Legislature, has recently established a Women Veterans Coordinator position to support Hawai'i's women veterans;

THEREFORE I, DAVID Y. IGE, Governor, and I, SHAN S. TSUTSUI, Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim November 19, 2016 as

"HAWAI'I WOMEN VETERANS' APPRECIATION DAY"

and encourage the people of the Aloha State to join us in honoring our women veterans and thanking them and their families for their service and sacrifice.

DONE at the State Capitol, in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, on this twenty-fourth day of August 2016.

Governor, State of Hawai'i

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