Proclamation Presented to

Hawai'i Afterschool Alliance

WHEREAS, quality afterschool programs and opportunities are vital because they engage families, schools and community partners in advancing the welfare of our children, and also support families by ensuring their children are safe and productive after the regular school day ends; and

WHEREAS, the State of Hawai'i has provided significant leadership in the area of community involvement in the education and well-being of our youth, grounded in the principle that quality afterschool programs are key to helping our children become successful adults; and

WHEREAS, the State of Hawai'i is committed to investing in the health and safety of all young people by providing expanded learning opportunities that will help close the achievement gap and prepare young people for success; and

WHEREAS, according to the May 2016 "Afterschool Fostering Student Success in Hawai'i" report by the Afterschool Alliance, roughly 38 percent or close to 60,000 children who are not enrolled in afterschool programs would participate if programs were available in their community; and

WHEREAS, the mission of Hawai'i's educational system is to strengthen our public schools and university by focusing on 21st century skills and learning, and ensuring that schools provide a healthy and safe learning environment to help children develop social, emotional, physical and academic skills both during and after school hours; and

WHEREAS, afterschool programs can build stronger communities by involving students, parents, business leaders and adult volunteers in the lives of young people, thereby promoting positive relationships among youth, families and adults; and

WHEREAS, Lights On Afterschool is the only nationwide event that celebrate afterschool programs and how important they are in the lives of children, families and communities;

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

"LIGHTS ON AFTERSCHOOL DAY"

in Hawai'i and encourage the citizens of the Aloha State to join us in reinforcing our commitment to promoting innovative afterschool programs and activities for all of our students.

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