



## Safe Boating Week in Hawai'i

WHEREAS, the State of Hawai'i is blessed with a vibrant ocean environment that provides many leisure opportunities for its residents and visitors; and

WHEREAS, safe boating practices and basic knowledge about boating and ocean safety remain extremely important, as boaters and non-boaters can be affected by accidents on the water, even during short expeditions; and

WHEREAS, numerous government agencies, private groups, and community organizations work on educating boat operators about ocean safety principles by offering safety courses, showcasing safety displays at harbors boat ramps, yacht clubs and shopping centers, and examining boats for safety equipment and taking part in other activities to keep Hawaiian waters safe; and

WHEREAS, it is important for all persons to know that wearing life jackets help save lives when properly worn and carrying the proper safety equipment on board a vessel, which includes a VHF Radio or Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacon, also can save lives; and

WHEREAS, always remembering to leave a float plan with a relative, friend, or neighbor which can take the "Search" out of Search and Rescue:

THEREFORE I, DAVID Y. IGE, Governor, and I, SHAN S. TSUTSUI, Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim May 20 - 26, 2017 as

## "SAFE BOATING WEEK IN HAWAI'I"

and urge all boaters of the Aloha State to wear a life jacket, carry a VHF radio, obtain safe boating education, have a vessel safety check, and utilize the services of the Department of Land and Natural Resources, the Hawai'i Sail and Power Squadron, Honolulu Sail and Power Squadron, U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, and the U.S. Coast Guard in practicing safe boating in our waters.

**DONE** at the State Capitol, in Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this sixteenth day of May 2017.

Governor, State of Hawai'i

Lt. Governor, State of Hawai'i