

Proclamation In Recognition of

Hawai'i Beach Safety Week

WHEREAS, ocean lifeguards are responsible for protecting the lives of more than a million Hawai'i residents and nearly 10 million visitors who visit and vacation in the Aloha State annually; and

WHEREAS. lifeguards protect beachgoers who surf, bodysurf, swim, snorkel, stand-up paddle board, fish, kayak, jet ski, and paddle off the shores of our islands; and

WHEREAS, lifeguards are the primary responders for ocean emergencies in waters within one mile of the shoreline; and

WHEREAS, Hawai'i's lifeguards are trained to provide first aid, assess and navigate hazardous ocean conditions, communicate with beachgoers, and become calm and assertive leaders in emergency situations; and

WHEREAS, since the first hotels were built on the shores of Waikīkī, lifeguards and experienced watermen and women have kept beachgoing visitors and tourists safe while sharing with them an appreciation for aquatic activities; and

WHEREAS, the safety of our beachgoers has a direct impact on the tourism industry, our local economy, and the overall well-being of our state; and

WHEREAS, local keiki from every island participate in the state's summer Junior Lifeguard Program where they learn about ocean currents, perform mock rescues, and gain a greater knowledge of and appreciation for local beaches:

THEREFORE I, DAVID Y. IGE, Governor, and I, DOUGLAS S. CHIN, Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim the week of July 29-August 4, 2018 as

"HAWAI'I BEACH SAFETY WEEK"

in Hawai'i and ask the people of the Aloha State to join us in recognizing the important work of lifeguards from Maui, Hawai'i, Kaua'i, and Honolulu Counties who put their safety on the line to protect others every day.

Done at the State Capitol, in Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this second day of July 2018.

Governor, State of Hawai'i

DOUGLAS S. CHIN Lt. Governor, State of Hawai'i