

## Proclamation

**WHEREAS,** for 70 years, the soldiers of the "Wolfhounds" 27<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment, stationed at Schofield Barracks in Hawai'i since 1921, have displayed their generous compassion and Aloha Spirit in supporting the children of the Holy Family Home orphanage in Osaka, Japan; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1949, Wolfhounds deployed to Osaka witnessed the poor living conditions of the Holy Family Home orphanage and subsequently raised funds and dedicated their free time to building a new home for the children under the leadership of Sergeant Hugh F. O'Reilly; and

**WHEREAS,** after leaving Osaka, the Wolfhounds continued to assist the Holy Family Home orphanage, beginning a tradition of sending Christmas gifts to the children each year; and

**WHEREAS,** since 1957, the Wolfhounds, along with other sponsors, have annually provided funds to bring children from the Holy Family Home to 0'ahu for a weeklong vacation so the orphans can experience the wonders and aloha of family life in Hawai'i; and

**WHEREAS,** Peace Bridge, Inc., founded in 2007 to perpetuate the efforts of the late Hugh F. O'Reilly, has made it their mission to continue and build upon this unbroken tradition of compassion and friendship between the children of the Holy Family Home orphanage in Osaka, the Wolfhounds, and the State of Hawai'i; and

**WHEREAS**, families from the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion "Wolfhounds" at Schofield Barracks volunteer as homestay hosts for the two girls and two boys from the Holy Family Home who will arrive in Hawai'i on July 23, 2019; and

**WHEREAS**, the visiting children will experience the host culture of Oʻahu, supported by community partnerships with Hilton Hotels, KoAloha Ukulele, Hawaiʻi Museum of Art, Outrigger Canoe Club, Waikiki Aquarium, Menehune Mac Factory and other generous local sponsors; and

**WHEREAS**, the Wolfhounds have displayed an unwavering commitment to the Holy Family Home orphanage – through war, conflict, and foreign deployments – thereby giving hope and joy to hundreds of children while strengthening the friendship between the people of Japan, the State of Hawai'i, and the United States;

THEREFORE I, DAVID Y. IGE, Governor, and I, JOSHUA B. GREEN, Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim July 23, 2019 as

## "WOLFHOUNDS DAY"

in Hawai'i and encourage the citizens of the Aloha State to welcome the visiting children from the Osaka Holy Family Home to Hawai'i while extending our deep gratitude to the Wolfhounds and Peace Bridge, Inc. for continuing this outstanding and compassionate tradition.

Done at the State Capitol, in Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this seventeenth day of July 2019.

IOSHUA'B. GREEN

Lieutenant Governor, State of Hawai'i

DAVID Y. IGE

Governor, State of Hawai'i