



Proclamation

WHEREAS, the white cane is recognized as a staff of independence and self-reliance for blind people; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that 109,000 of the 1.3 million legally blind people in the United States use a white cane; and

WHEREAS, White Cane Day is a national observance, a joint resolution the United States Congress signed into law on October 6, 1964; and

WHEREAS, White Cane Day educates the world about blindness and how the blind and visually impaired can live and work independently while giving back to their communities; and

WHEREAS, in the State of Hawai'i, more than 2,800 blind and visually impaired individuals are listed on the state's blind registry; and

WHEREAS, in the last fiscal year, the State of Hawai'i Department of Human Services, Ho'opono Services for the Blind, has helped more than 500 blind and visually impaired citizens; and

WHEREAS, the Hawai'i State Department of Human Services, Ho'opono Services for the Blind, will be holding its annual White Cane Safety Awareness Day Walk on October 19, 2018 through downtown Honolulu with similar White Cane Walks on Kaua'i, Hilo, and Kona; and

WHEREAS, motorists are encouraged to be more fully aware of the need to exercise extra caution for blind people;

THEREFORE I, DAVID Y. IGE, Governor, and I, DOUGLAS S. CHIN, Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim October 19, 2018 as

"WHITE CANE DAY"

in Hawai'i and urge the people of the Aloha State to celebrate the abilities and successes of the blind and visually impaired and support the efforts of the Hawai'i State Department of Human Services, Ho'opono Services for the Blind, to increase awareness about the importance of the white cane to the independence and mobility of the blind and visually impaired.

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



DAVID Y. IGE
Governor, State of Hawai'i



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