

Proclamation

WHEREAS, on March 22, 1972, President Richard Nixon signed into law a measure that amended the Older Americans Act of 1965 and established a national nutrition program for seniors 60 years and older; and

WHEREAS, Meals on Wheels America established the March for Meals campaign in March 2002 to highlight the importance of the Older Americans Act Nutrition Programs, both congregate and home-delivered, and raise awareness about the escalating problem of senior hunger in America; and

WHEREAS, the 2020 observance of March for Meals provides an opportunity to support Meals on Wheels programs that deliver vital and critical services by donating, volunteering and raising awareness about senior hunger and isolation; and

WHEREAS, the Lanakila Meals on Wheels program - both congregate and home-delivered, has served our communities on O'ahu for more than 49 years; and

WHEREAS, volunteers for Lanakila Meals on Wheels are the backbone of the program, not only delivering nutritious meals to seniors and individuals with disabilities who are at significant risk of hunger and isolation, but also practice caring concern and attention for their welfare; and

WHEREAS, Lanakila Meals on Wheels provides nutritious meals to seniors throughout O'ahu to help them maintain their health and independence, thereby preventing unnecessary falls, hospitalizations and premature institutionalization; and

WHEREAS, Lanakila Meals on Wheels program provides a powerful socialization opportunity for hundreds of seniors to help combat loneliness and isolation; and

WHEREAS, Lanakila Meals on Wheels is commended for the contributions they have made and will continue to make to our local communities:

THEREFORE I, DAVID Y. IGE, Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim March 2020 as

"MARCH FOR MEALS MONTH"

in Hawai'i and urge every citizen to honor our Meals on Wheels programs, the seniors they serve and the volunteers who care for them.

Done at the State Capitol in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this 2nd day of March 2020.

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Governor, State of Hawai'i