

Proclamation

WHEREAS, every day, more than 110 Americans are killed by gun violence, alongside more than 200 who are shot and wounded, and on average there are nearly 16,000 gun homicides every year; and

WHEREAS, Americans are 26 times more likely to die by gun homicide than people in other high-income countries; and

WHEREAS, in an average year, 55 people die by guns in Hawai'i with a rate of 3.8 deaths per 100,000 people; and

WHEREAS, gun violence prevention is more important than ever as the COVID-19 pandemic continues to exacerbate gun violence after more than two years of increased gun sales, increased calls to suicide and domestic violence hotlines, and an increase in city gun violence; and

WHEREAS, conditions that create safe communities must continue to be identified and improvements to those conditions must continually be made as an ongoing effort to improve community safety; and

WHEREAS, the color orange has become the defining color of the gun violence prevention movement and honors the more than 100 lives cut short and the hundreds more wounded by gun violence every day; and

WHEREAS, people across the United States will recognize National Gun Violence Awareness Day and wear orange in tribute to Hadiya Pendleton who was tragically shot at the age of 15 and other victims of gun violence, and their families; and

WHEREAS, on the first Friday in June and the following weekend each year, we renew our commitment to reduce gun violence and pledge to do all we can to keep firearms out of the wrong hands, and encourage responsible gun ownership to help keep our communities safe;

THEREFORE I, DAVID Y. IGE, Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim June 3, 2022 as

"NATIONAL GUN VIOLENCE AWARENESS DAY"

in Hawai'i and ask the people of the Aloha State to join me in helping to raise awareness about gun violence; honor the lives of gun violence victims, survivors and their families; and to instill in ourselves and each other a deep obligation to do our best to help prevent gun violence and help make a meaningful difference in the lives of our communities and our country.

Done at the State Capitol in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this nineteenth day of May 2022.

Governor, State of Hawai'i