

Proclamation

WHEREAS, Blue Star Families is a nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting military families and strengthening communities across the United States; and

WHEREAS, Blue Star Families seeks to empower military families by connecting them with their neighbors —individuals and organizations—to create vibrant communities of mutual support; and

WHEREAS, during "Blue Star Welcome Week," we recognize the 600,000 active-duty and transitioning military families who move to new communities each year; and

WHEREAS, a sense of belonging is essential to the well-being and readiness of military families, yet only 30% of military family respondents to the 2021 Military Family Lifestyle Survey reported that they feel a sense of belonging to their local civilian community; and

WHEREAS, Hawai'i is honored to serve as home to more than 100,000 military personnel in all branches of service and their families who are a vital and vibrant part of our island 'ohana; and

WHEREAS, the people of the State of Hawai'i are grateful for the sacrifices made by service members, transitioning Veterans, and their families; and

WHEREAS, Hawai'i is committed to ensuring that military-and Veteran-connected families feel a strong sense of belonging to their local civilian communities;

THEREFORE I, DAVID Y. IGE, Governor of the **State of Hawai'i,** do hereby proclaim September 24–0ctober 2, 2022 as

"BLUE STAR WELCOME WEEK"

in Hawai'i and ask the people of the Aloha State to join me in spreading the aloha spirit with military-connected families, and share the joy of living in peace, compassion and harmony.

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

Governor, State of Hawai'i