

Proclamation

WHEREAS, in 1964, President Lyndon B. Johnson signed the first Presidential proclamation for White Cane Safety Day; and

WHEREAS, the white cane is recognized as a staff of independence and self-reliance for blind and visually impaired people; 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, there are more than 3,200 blind and visually impaired individuals listed in the State of Hawai'i'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 in Vocational Rehabilitation, Older Individuals Who Are Blind Program, New Visions Program, Business Enterprise Program, and Low Vision Clinic; and

WHEREAS, White Cane Day in Hawai'i will be recognized with the 30th White Cane Walk in downtown Honolulu on October 14, 2022;

THEREFORE I, DAVID Y. IGE, Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim October 14, 2022 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 fourteenth day of October 2022.

Governor, State of Hawaiʻi