



*Proclamation*  
*Presented*

## To Anastacio "Arnie" Laida Palafox, Ph.D.

**WHEREAS**, Anasacio "Arnie" Laida Palafox was born in Barrio 12, in Turod, Philippines on April 24, 1914, and came to Hawai'i at the age of 3, when his father, Emeterio, arrived on the Island of Hawai'i to work at the Ola'a Sugarcane Plantation; the family returned to the Philippines three years later, and Arnie received his first through eighth grade education in the Philippines; and

**WHEREAS**, Anasacio "Arnie" Laida Palafox dreamed of traveling to America, so in July 1931 Arnie and his father went to Manila to sail on the USS President Lincoln; Emeterio had a cold and was not allowed aboard the ship, so Arnie continued on the journey by himself, and landed in San Francisco on September 10, 1931; upon landing in San Francisco, Arnie was recruited along with other young adults to work on lettuce, tomato and apple farms in Watson, California; he earned 10 cents an hour; a cousin from Los Angeles assisted Arnie to resume his education by attending the ninth grade at Belmont High School; and

**WHEREAS**, Anasacio "Arnie" Laida Palafox, in the midst of the Great Depression (1929-1939), supported himself by working on farms and in small restaurants, washing dishes and cleaning; during his senior year he moved to San Bernardino to work in his cousin's restaurant and graduated from San Bernadino High School; he then attended State College of Washington in Pullman and Washington State University (WSU), where he worked for the Dean of the School of Engineering in exchange for room and board; during the summers, he went to Alaska to work in the salmon canning industry; and

**WHEREAS**, Anasacio "Arnie" Laida Palafox received his B.S. in 1940 and M.S. degree in 1941 in Agriculture from WSU; was drafted into the U.S. Navy in 1942 during World War II, and in June 1946 was honorably discharged in Bremerton, Washington; following his military service he was recruited in September 1946 to be a tenure tract faculty member of the Poultry Science Department at the University of Hawai'i; he began as a researcher and taught Embryology and newer concepts of nutrition; Arnie has the distinction of being the first professor of Filipino ancestry at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa; and

**WHEREAS**, Anasacio "Arnie" Laida Palafox met Jesusa "Jessie" AVECILLA, a school teacher, and they married in 1950 and settled in Aina Hina, Oahu and eventually had four sons, Brian, Neal, Riley and Edgar, all successful professionals, and also adopted a niece, June (deceased); he is blessed with 17 grandchildren and seven great grandchildren; and

**WHEREAS**, Anasacio "Arnie" Laida Palafox received his Doctorate of Philosophy degree in Poultry Science in 1970 from Michigan State University; he has published 70 research papers and, as a representative of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, presented his poultry science and nutrition research findings in the United States and other countries; in 1980, at the age of 66, and after 34 years of service, Arnie retired as a UH Professor; in 1981, Arnie was recruited by the University of Guam and spent 6 years as a Professor to implement the foundational academic and administrative elements of the Animal Science Department; and

**WHEREAS**, Anasacio "Arnie" Laida Palafox's life and contributions to our community will be recognized in a celebration of his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday on Saturday, April 26, 2014, at the Ko'olau Ballrooms with family and friends;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, NEIL ABERCROMBIE, Governor, and I, SHAN S. TSUTSUI, Lieutenant Governor** for the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim April 26, 2014, as

### "ANASTACIO 'ARNIE' LAIDA PALAFOX DAY"

in Hawai'i, and ask all citizens of the Aloha State to join us in congratulating Arnie on achieving this milestone in life, and saying *maraming salamat* for his many contributions to our community.

**Naragsak nga ikasangagat a pangkasangay mo! Happy 100<sup>th</sup> birthday to you!**

**DONE** at the State Capitol, in Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this twenty-second day of April 2014.

  
NEIL ABERCROMBIE  
Governor, State of Hawai'i

  
SHAN S. TSUTSUI  
Lt. Governor, State of Hawai'i