



Proclamation *Presented*

In Recognition of Best Buddies® Hawai'i

WHEREAS, Best Buddies® is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization founded in 1989 by Anthony K. Shriver; Best Buddies is a vibrant, international organization that has grown from one original chapter to almost 1,700 middle school, high school, college chapters worldwide; Best Buddies programs engage participants throughout the United States including Hawai'i and in 50 countries around the world; and

WHEREAS, Best Buddies® mission is to establish a global volunteer movement that creates opportunities for one-to-one friendships, integrated employment and leadership development for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD); and

WHEREAS, Best Buddies® created the 2020 Initiative in 2011, with the goal of opening offices in all 50 states, expanding into 100 countries, and impacting three million people with and without IDD worldwide by the end of 2020; the initiative also includes plans to train 4,000 Buddy Ambassadors, develop 1,000 jobs for people with IDD around the world, and increase the number of school-based chapters to 2,500 chapters; and

WHEREAS, Best Buddies® Hawai'i, during "A Day at the Capitol" on March 14, 2013, was represented by a group of 28 students, teachers and parents, with and without disabilities, who met with their State Senators and State Representatives; armed with 1,000 signatures from fellow students and teachers from Kapolei, Nanakuli, Pearl City and Waipahu High Schools on O'ahu, and their counterparts from H.P. Baldwin, King Kekaulike, Lahainaluna, Maui and Seabury Hall High Schools on Maui they welcomed the opportunity to discuss disability-related issues and concerns with their legislators and network with other concerned citizens; and

WHEREAS, Best Buddies® Hawai'i, during "A Day at the Capitol," was able to hear Governor Neil Abercrombie, speak and present a proclamation which declared March 2013 as "Developmental Disabilities Month in Hawai'i";

WHEREAS, Best Buddies® Hawai'i will hold a "Friendship Jam" fundraiser on Saturday, November 16, 2013;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Neil Abercrombie, Governor, and I, SHAN S. TSUTSUI, Lieutenant Governor for the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim November 16, 2013, as

"BEST BUDDIES® HAWAI'I DAY"

in Hawai'i and encourage the people of the Aloha State to join us in commending Best Buddies® programs which positively impact 800,000 individuals with and without disabilities worldwide, including here in Hawai'i.

DONE at the State Capitol, in Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this seventh day of November 2013.

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
Governor, State of Hawai'i

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