



Proclamation

Presented

In Recognition of Cooperative Extension Service Day

WHEREAS, May 8, 2014, marks the centennial of the Smith-Lever Act, which created the Cooperative Extension System (CES), the world's largest non-traditional education system, found in almost all counties in all 50 states and U.S. Territories; and

WHEREAS, CES reached the islands in 1928, although agents had been offering agricultural and home-economics outreach to the community through Farm Institutes and the College of Mechanic Arts since 1902; and

WHEREAS, CES continues to contribute to the state as 279 people in Hawai'i receive direct help every day from the 65 agents and specialists, other College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources (CTAHR) faculty and support staff at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, and 28 extension and research stations throughout the islands; and

WHEREAS, CES receives federal guidance and support enabled by the Smith-Lever Act and other legislation through the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Institute of Food and Agriculture; and

WHEREAS, CES implements research-based education for farmers and ranchers, helping establish the United States as a leading agricultural-producing nation and continues to support Hawai'i's move towards food and energy independence; and

WHEREAS, CES programs help expand the agricultural sector through new farmer and agribusiness incubator programs that provide training in business planning, marketing, technology, and other supports; and

WHEREAS, CES has reached millions of youth since 1924 with its nationwide youth development program, 4-H, and helped prepare them for adulthood, including more than 12,000 resident children and military dependents in Hawai'i in 2012; and

WHEREAS, CES prepares citizens for healthy, productive lives through sustained education, such as the Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program; and

WHEREAS, CES engages with rural and urban learners through practical community-based and online approaches, instilling the knowledge, skills and motivation to strengthen the profitability of animal and plant production systems, protect natural resources, ensure a safe and abundant food supply, encourage community vitality, and grow the next generation of leaders;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, NEIL ABERCROMBIE, Governor, and I, SHAN S. TSUTSUI, Lieutenant Governor for the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim May 8, 2014, as

"COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE DAY"

in Hawai'i, and ask all citizens of the Aloha State to join us and many other states and land-grant institutions in recognizing CES and its role in promoting goals such as food and fuel independence and promoting a healthy and productive workforce.

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


NEIL ABERCROMBIE
Governor, State of Hawai'i


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