



Proclamation
Presented to
Emme Tomimbang

WHEREAS, Emme Tomimbang was inspired by her late father, Tommy Tomimbang, a pioneer of radio broadcasting; Emme accompanied him to work at KISA radio station, where he was the voice in the morning hours for the Filipino community back in the 1940s and 1950s; at the age of 10, she had her own radio show called “Teenage Corner” on KŌHO 1170 and continued to broadcast until her mid-teens; she attended Wallace Rider Farrington High School, Leeward Community College and the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa, earned a Bachelor of Arts in Secondary Education, and became actively involved in student government and other student activities; and

WHEREAS, Emme Tomimbang’s passion for the media blossomed after she graduated from the University of Hawai‘i and returned to KISA to be the “Morning Girl” for a few years until she was approached by Don Robbs to work as a program director and promotions manager at KITV (Channel 4); she started with the weather report went on to serve as the 10 p.m. news anchor for several years, and, after leaving KITV in 1987, became the face of the KHON (Channel 2) *Island Style* segment reporter; she also got married to retired Hawai‘i Intermediate Court of Appeals Chief Judge James “Jim” S. Burns (they have been together for over 20 years and married for over 16 years); and

WHEREAS, Emme Tomimbang started on the KHON morning news desk in 1990 with Howard Dashefsky and Leslie Wilcox and — with an adventurous spirit and courage — pitched the addition of a featured Friday morning entertainment segment; her first guests were actor Robert Wagner and the Brothers Cazimero; and

WHEREAS, Emme Tomimbang in 1993 started her own business, EMMÉ, Inc., and her first broadcast of *Emme’s Island Moments*, on KHON was born; the show, a one-hour segment featuring island people and aspects of island life, has been on the air now for over a decade and seen on in-flight programming on Hawaiian Airlines and Continental Airlines; she considers the show a real milestone in her personal journey in television; and

WHEREAS, Emme Tomimbang in 2003 began a weekly health and wellness show titled “*Emme’s Island Living*,” covering a wide variety of topics including diabetes, high blood pressure, dyslexia, and interior design; she also had a weekly Saturday afternoon series on KGMB (Channel 9) called “*Emme and Friends*,” which was broadcasted for two summers; and

WHEREAS, Emme Tomimbang marked the 10th anniversary of EMMÉ, Inc. with six episodes of “*Emme’s Island Moments*” (including a 90-minute special) and an “*Island to Island Moments*” Concert Series; in 2009, she marked the 15th anniversary of her company’s founding with six specials including bringing back the John A. Burns documentary on DVD, The Queen’s Medical Center 150th Anniversary Special, and a variety of “*Island Moment’s Revisited*” segments; and

WHEREAS, Emme Tomimbang was appointed by the Hawai‘i Filipino Centennial Commission to produce a two-hour documentary on the Hawai‘i Filipino Centennial, titled “*Mabuhay with Aloha—The Hawai‘i Filipino Experience 1906-2006*,” which aired on KHON in primetime over a two-night period, June 28-29, 2006, and also played at the Louis Vuitton Hawai‘i International Film Festival in October 2006; the Director’s cut version was aired on PBS on October 2007 and played in Manila and Cebu in 2009; the film is also a part of a teacher’s workshop series sponsored by the Smithsonian; and

WHEREAS, Emme Tomimbang, veteran radio and television broadcaster, news journalist, entrepreneur, and winner of many journalism awards — including a 2006 Pamana Ng Pilipina Award from the Office of the Philippine President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo and a 2009 Telly Award in the political commentary category for her piece on presidential candidate Barack Obama in 2008 — will be honored at the Filipino Community Center’s 11th Annual Gala on Saturday, November 9, 2013;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, NEIL ABERCROMBIE, Governor, and I, SHAN S. TSUTSUI, Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawaii, do hereby proclaim November 9, 2013, as

“EMME TOMIMBANG DAY”

in Hawai‘i and urge the citizens of the Aloha State to join us in congratulating Emme for achieving 35 years of excellence in media and sharing the Aloha Spirit with the world.

Neil Abercrombie

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
Governor, State of Hawai‘i

Shan S. Tsutsui

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