



Proclamation

Presented

In Recognition of Farm-to-School and School Garden Month

WHEREAS, Farm-to-School and School Garden Month recognizes that Hawai'i's Farm-to-School initiatives connect school food programs to local farmers, ranchers, dairymen and fishermen with the objectives of serving healthy meals in school cafeterias, improving student nutrition, and providing agriculture, health and nutrition education opportunities; and

WHEREAS, Farm-to-School and School Garden Month acknowledges that school gardens enhance children's understanding of their food's origin while also contributing to science, technology, engineering, and mathematics curricula; and

WHEREAS, Farm-to-School and School Garden Month celebrates locally sourced food and increased nutritional awareness that can help decrease and prevent childhood obesity, thus avoiding future health care costs throughout the State of Hawai'i; and

WHEREAS, Farm-to-School and School Garden Month in Hawai'i coincides with National Farm-to-School Month which rejoices in the connections being made across the United States between schools and local food;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, NEIL ABERCROMBIE, Governor, and I, SHAN S. TSUTSUI, Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim October, 2013, as

"FARM-TO-SCHOOL AND SCHOOL GARDEN MONTH"

in Hawai'i and encourage the citizens of the Aloha State to support the health and wellness of Hawai'i's schoolchildren by participating in activities that heighten the awareness of school gardens and community farms as a successful means of improving the health and wellbeing of our *keiki*.

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

Handwritten signature of Neil Abercrombie in black ink.

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
Governor, State of Hawai'i

Handwritten signature of Shan S. Tsutsui in black ink.

SHAN TSUTSUI
Lt. Governor, State of Hawai'i