



Proclamation

Presented

In Recognition of Food Day

WHEREAS, Food Day is a nationwide celebration and a movement for healthy, affordable and sustainable food aiming to promote safer and healthier diets, support sustainable farm practices and reduce hunger; and

WHEREAS, Food Day goals align with the mission of the Hawai'i State Department of Health (DOH) to protect and improve the health and environment for all people in Hawai'i, and as the health and well-being of Hawai'i's residents is of primary concern for the State of Hawai'i, expanding access to healthful food and reducing hunger is of critical importance; and

WHEREAS, the typical American diet contributes to obesity, diabetes, heart disease and other health problems, and in Hawai'i nearly 24 percent of adults and 12 percent of children and adolescents are obese; and

WHEREAS, according to DOH data and statistics, 19 percent of the households in Hawai'i experience food insecurity, highlighting the need for the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) and its service to low-income families, providing nutrition education and healthy foods to tackle food insecurity and enable families to make life-long healthy eating and lifestyle choices; and

WHEREAS, the Hawai'i WIC Program provides services to approximately 34,000 participants monthly, and works to safeguard and advance the health and nutritional status of mothers and children who have or are at risk of developing nutrition-related health problems, including being overweight, obesity and type 2 diabetes; and

WHEREAS, the National WIC Association, a Food Day national partner, and DOH WIC Services Branch join other public health and community organizations nationwide to celebrate October 24 as Food Day;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, NEIL ABERCROMBIE, Governor, and I, SHAN S. TSUTSUI, Lieutenant Governor for the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim October 24, 2014, as

"FOOD DAY"

in Hawai'i, and ask all citizens of the Aloha State to take part in the observances and activities in honor of Food Day, and support the DOH WIC Services Branch in their efforts to promote healthy eating.

DONE at the State Capitol, in Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this eighth day of October, 2014.

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
Governor, State of Hawai'i

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