



Proclamation

Presented

In Recognition of the Hawai'i Food Bank 25th Annual Food Drive

WHEREAS, Helping to Feed Hawai'i's Hungry Month recognizes that hunger remains a serious issue in Hawai'i, and due to financial constraints, homelessness, disability, unemployment and illness, those in need often face difficult choices, between food or paying rent, mortgages, transportation to work, utilities or health care; and

WHEREAS, Helping to Feed Hawai'i's Hungry Month reminds us that since 1983, the Food Bank Network of Hawai'i has provided food to those less fortunate to fight hunger in our state *'ohana*, and that island food banks are an important link between donors and the hungry, gathering food and support from the community and distributing food to charitable agencies serving those in need; and

WHEREAS, Helping to Feed Hawai'i's Hungry Month highlights that in 2013, the Hawai'i Foodbank, the Hawaii Foodbank-Kaua'i Branch, The Food Basket on Hawai'i, and the Maui Food Bank distributed a statewide total of more than 16 million pounds of food to more than 400 member agencies throughout the islands; and

WHEREAS, Helping to Feed Hawai'i's Hungry Month underlines that these four food banks and their member agencies feed 183,500 people statewide each year, including 55,050 children, 11,010 seniors, low-income families, the homeless, the disabled—including veterans, the working poor, people in recovery from substance or domestic abuse, the unemployed and underemployed; and

WHEREAS, Helping to Feed Hawai'i's Hungry Month stresses that while food banks on each island have experienced growth over the years, they rely daily on the generosity of donors and volunteers; and on April 19, the state's four food banks will hold their 25th Annual Food Drive Day to raise awareness of hunger in Hawaii and collect food and funds to feed the hungry;

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

"HELPING TO FEED HAWAII'S HUNGRY MONTH"

in Hawai'i, and ask all citizens of the Aloha State to join us in supporting the Hawai'i Foodbank 25th Annual Food Drive by helping to fight hunger in the islands with compassion and generosity.

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


NEIL ABERCROMBIE
Governor, State of Hawai'i


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