



# *Proclamation*

## *Presented*

### **In Recognition of 50th Anniversary of the March on Washington and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s "I Have A Dream" Speech**

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was a pivotal figure in the civil rights movement who challenged racism and segregation through non-violent resistance; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s thirteen years of leadership of the modern American Civil Rights Movement, from December 1955 to April 4, 1968, resulted in more genuine progress toward racial equality in America than the previous 350 years; Dr. King is widely regarded as America's pre-eminent advocate of nonviolence and one of the greatest nonviolent leaders in world history; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. in 1963 was one of the driving forces behind the "March on Washington," which drew approximately a quarter-million people to the National Mall; it was at this march that Dr. King delivered his famous "I Have a Dream" speech, which cemented his status as a social change leader and helped inspire the nation to act on civil rights; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s "I Have a Dream" speech is among the most revered orations and writings in the English language, and is now taught to children of all races; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and the March on Washington are credited in part with prompting U.S. Congress in 1964 to pass the landmark Civil Rights Act, essentially eliminating legalized racial segregation in the United States; the legislation made it illegal to discriminate against minorities in hiring, public accommodations, education or transportation, areas which at the time were still very segregated in many places; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and his legacy are being recognized today by our Nation and the world, including The King Center and the 50th Anniversary Coalition which have called on governors of the 50 states and all people and organizations across the world to help culminate the 50th anniversary of the March on Washington and Dr. King's speech with "Let Freedom Ring" bell-ringing events; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. will be remembered today in Hawai'i as places of worship – such as Harris United Methodist Church – as well as government buildings and all facilities with the capability sound bells at 3 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 28, 2013, as part of the worldwide 50th anniversary commemoration;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, NEIL ABERCROMBIE, Governor, and I, SHAN S. TSUTSUI, Lieutenant Governor** for the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim August 28, 2013, as

## **"LET FREEDOM RING DAY"**

in Hawai'i and ask the people of the Aloha State to join us in recognizing and striving to continue Dr. King's legacy of hope, unity and freedom not only today but every day.

**DONE** at the State Capitol, in Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this twenty-eighth day of August 2013.

  
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**NEIL ABERCROMBIE**  
Governor, State of Hawai'i

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