



Proclamation

Presented

In Recognition of National Coming Out Day

WHEREAS, National Coming Out Day was founded in 1988 by Robert Eichberg and Jean O'Leary on behalf of the Personal Growth Workshop, the Experience, and national gay rights advocates to commemorate the 1987 National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights; since 1990, National Coming Out Day has been celebrated in all 50 states; and

WHEREAS, National Coming Out Day is celebrated with events throughout the State of Hawai'i; and encourages members of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender (LGBT) community and their allies, no matter their age, race or gender, to foster a safe and empowering environment to begin or continue their process of coming out to their family members, friends and co-workers; and

WHEREAS, National Coming Out Day acknowledges that coming out can be the most difficult event any member of the LGBT community initiates in their lifetime, but it also can be the most rewarding experience; and

WHEREAS, National Coming Out Day recognizes that the advances the LGBT community have made toward full equality can be directly linked to the increase of LGBT members coming out;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, NEIL ABERCROMBIE, Governor, and I, SHAN TSUTSUI, Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim October 11, 2013, as

“NATIONAL COMING OUT DAY”

in Hawai'i and encourage the people of the Aloha State to join us in commending the organizations, churches, service agencies, and advocacy groups who have shared their resources to create a climate where lesbian, bisexual, gay, and transgender citizens are accorded dignity and respect.

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


NEIL ABERCROMBIE
Governor, State of Hawai'i


SHAN TSUTSUI
Lt. Governor, State of Hawai'i