



Proclamation

Presented

In Recognition of Shirokiya's 350th Anniversary Celebration

WHEREAS, Shirokiya originally opened as a dry goods store in Tokyo, Japan in August 1662 by Hikotaro Omura, and through natural disasters and economic challenges has endured for 350 years; and

WHEREAS, Shirokiya was absorbed by the Tokyu Group in 1958 under the Tokyu Department Store chain; and

WHEREAS, Shirokiya opened its first store outside of Japan in Hawai'i on October 29, 1959 at the brand new Ala Moana Shopping Center; in 1966, then moved to its present location (across from Liberty House, now known as Macy's); and

WHEREAS, Shirokiya has gone through major renovations in 2011, including:

- Phase I: renovation of the entire second level of the store, which included the addition of the Yataimura Quality Food Court featuring the Yataimura Beer Garden, based on the experience of enjoying the offerings from the food carts of Japan;
- Phase II: renovation of the mall level of the store, which included the creation of Meika Plaza, which offers a smaller trellised dining area; and
- Phase III: addition of the KZOO Radio Shirokiya Studio, which offers patrons the experience of having a radio station located within a department store; and

WHEREAS, Shirokiya will celebrate its 350th Anniversary during the month of August 2012, with events including a fashion show on Ala Moana Centerstage on August 11, 2012 featuring colorful kimono and yukata from **The Kimono Festival** in Shirokiya on display through August 14, 2012; and cultural activities such as a bon dance, taiko players and karaoke performances on August 25, 2012;

NOW, THEREFORE I, Neil Abercrombie, Governor, and I, Brian Schatz, Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim August 2012 as

“SHIROKIYA MONTH IN HAWAI'I”

and ask the people of the Aloha State to join us in congratulating Shirokiya upon the celebration of its 350th Anniversary, providing our local community and visitors with a unique shopping experience, and promoting the Japanese culture and arts in Hawai'i.

DONE at the State Capitol, in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this twenty-fourth day of August 2012.

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
Governor, State of Hawai'i

BRIAN SCHATZ
Lt. Governor, State of Hawai'i