



# *Proclamation* *Presented*

## **In Recognition of the Big Brothers Big Sisters Hawai'i Unification**

**WHEREAS**, Big Brothers Big Sisters of America (BBBSA) is the oldest, largest and most effective youth mentoring organization in the country, which serves more than 280,000 youth annually and more than three million since its inception in 1904; and

**WHEREAS**, Big Brothers Big Sisters aims to provide children facing adversity with strong and enduring, professional supported 1-to-1 relationships that positively impact their lives forever;

**WHEREAS**, Big Brothers Big Sisters provides young people the opportunity to develop healthy relationships that have a direct and lasting effect on their lives; and

**WHEREAS**, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Honolulu, an affiliate of BBBSA, began in 1963 under the leadership of Hawai'i Judge Gerald R. Corbett as Big Brothers of Hawai'i to benefit "fatherless" boys on O'ahu; and, shortly after, in 1972, Hawai'i Big Sisters was founded for girls; in 1979, Big Brothers of Hawai'i and Hawai'i Big Sisters merged to form Big Brothers Big Sisters of Honolulu; and

**WHEREAS**, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Honolulu has helped children reach their potential through professional supported, one-to-one mentoring relationships with measureable impact; and

**WHEREAS**, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Maui began in 1968 as an affiliate of the BBBSA to serve the children of Maui County; and

**WHEREAS**, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Honolulu expanded in 2007 to serve the Island of Kaua'i, and expanded in 2012, to serve the Island of Hawai'i; and

**WHEREAS**, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Honolulu, Maui, Kaua'i and Hawai'i will celebrate its unification to form Big Brothers Big Sisters Hawai'i on June 29, 2012; and

**WHEREAS**, Big Brothers Big Sisters Hawai'i, as part of the nation's largest donor and volunteer supported mentoring network, makes meaningful, monitored matches between qualified volunteers ("Bigs") and children ("Littles") in communities across the state; and

**WHEREAS**, Big Brothers Big Sisters Hawai'i has served more than 600 youth annually on the islands of O'ahu, Kaua'i, Hawai'i Island and Maui; and, as the number of youth in need continues to grow, Big Brothers Big Sisters Hawai'i is committed to responding to the urgent needs of the community;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, NEIL ABERCROMBIE, Governor, and I, BRIAN SCHATZ, Lt. Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim July 1, 2012 as**

## **"BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS HAWAII DAY"**

and encourage the citizens of the Aloha State to join us in celebrating the unification of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Honolulu, Maui, Kaua'i and Hawai'i Island, and their joined efforts to serve more children throughout the State with professional supporting mentoring programs.

**DONE** at the State Capitol, in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, Hawai'i, this nineteenth day of June, 2012.

  
NEIL ABERCROMBIE  
Governor, State of Hawai'i

  
BRIAN SCHATZ  
Lt. Governor, State of Hawai'i