



Proclamation
Presented to
Soka Gakkai International

WHEREAS, Soka Gakkai International (SGI) is a Buddhist association with more than 12 million members in 192 countries and territories that actively promote peace, culture, and education through personal change and humanistic social contributions; and

WHEREAS, Soka Gakkai International is recognized by the United Nations as a non-governmental organization that promotes messages of world peace through non-violence, social change and tolerance and respect for human rights; and

WHEREAS, Soka Gakkai International heralds the accomplishments of SGI President Daisaku Ikeda, who began his worldwide travels for peace in Hawai'i on October 2, 1960; he has received more than 300 honorary doctorates and numerous acknowledgements for his work, including the United Nations Peace Award, International Tolerance Award from the Simon Wisenthal Center, and the Rosa Parks Humanitarian Award; and

WHEREAS, Soka Gakkai International contributions to our communities in Hawai'i through various initiatives, programs and activities such as:

- Creation of the Millennium Peace Garden in Diamond Head;
- Creation of the Urban Peace Garden in Pearl City;
- Creation of the Ohana Peace park in Hilo, Hawai'i;
- Creation of the Victory Over Violence program - a youth sponsored initiative that helps young people identify and counteract the root cause of violence in their lives;
- Sponsorship of the Culture of Peace Lecture Series;
- Participation in the annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. parade through Waikiki; and

WHEREAS, Soka Gakka International will honor SGI founding President Tsunesaburo Makiguchi, second President Josei Toda, and third President Daisaku Ikeda on May 3, 2013, known as "Soka Gakkai International Day"; and

WHEREAS, Soka Gakkai International will celebrate the fifty-third anniversary of Dr. Ikeda's inauguration as the third president of Soka Gakkai; under his leadership the movement began an era of innovation and expansion, as the organization became actively engaged in cultural and educational endeavors worldwide; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, NEIL ABERCROMBIE, Governor, and I, SHAN S. TSUTSUI, Lieutenant Governor for the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim May 3, 2013, as

"SOKA GAKKAI INTERNATIONAL DAY"

in Hawai'i and ask the people of the Aloha State to join us in recognizing Dr. Daisaku Ikeda and his wife, Kaneko, for their humanitarian contributions to Hawai'i and the world. *Nam-myoho-renge-kyo!*

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

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
Governor, State of Hawai'i

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