



# *Proclamation* *Presented*

## **In Recognition of International Assistance Dog Week**

**WHEREAS**, assistance dogs serve as devoted companions and transform the lives of their human partners with physical and mental disabilities; and

**WHEREAS**, assistance dogs, which include guide dogs, services dogs, hearing alert dogs, and medical response dogs provide a valuable service to thousands of Hawai'i's residents; and

**WHEREAS**, guide dogs assist people with vision loss; leading these individuals around physical obstacles and providing assistance with seating, crossing streets, entering or exiting doorways, entering and exiting doorways; and

**WHEREAS**, service dogs assist people with disabilities; providing these individuals with the help they need to walk, dress, do household chores, retrieve and carry items; and

**WHEREAS**, hearing alert dogs alert people with hearing loss to the presence of specific sounds such as doorbells, telephones, crying children, sirens, knocks at the door, smoke detectors, fire alarms, and clocks; and

**WHEREAS**, seizure response dogs alert or respond to people with medical needs such as heart attack, stroke, diabetes, epilepsy, panic attack, anxiety attack, and post-traumatic stress disorder; and

**WHEREAS**, Hawai'i Fi-Do Service Dogs, in partnership with community partners, will be celebrating International Assistance Dog Week on August 5, 2012 through August 11, 2012;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, NEIL ABERCROMBIE, Governor, and I, BRIAN SCHATZ, Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim August 5, 2012 through August 11, 2012, as**

## **"ASSISTANCE DOG WEEK"**

in Hawai'i and encourage the people of the Aloha State to recognize the many contributions of all types of assistance dogs and their efforts to help individuals with disabilities mitigate the impact of their disability related limitations.

**DONE** at the State Capitol, in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this first of August, 2012.

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

**BRIAN SCHATZ**  
Lt. Governor, State of Hawai'i