



# *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**, 2012 National Coming Out Day is celebrated with events throughout the State of Hawai'i; and encourages Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender community and their allies, no matter their age, 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 that 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, BRIAN SCHATZ, Lieutenant Governor** of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim **October 11, 2012**, as

## **"NATIONAL COMING OUT DAY"**

in Hawai'i and encourage the people of the Aloha State to join us in commending the more than 20 organizations, churches, service agencies, and advocacy groups who will share their resources for creating a climate where lesbian, bisexual, gay, and transgender youth are accorded dignity and respect for who they are.

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

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

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