



Proclamation

In Recognition of

National Water Safety Month

WHEREAS, beautiful beaches and moderate weather year-round in Hawai'i, the only island state in our nation, yield many opportunities for residents and visitors to enjoy swimming and aquatic-related activities; and

WHEREAS, the development of safe swimming facilities, aquatic programs, home pools and spas provide healthy places to play, learn and grow and contribute to the quality of life in our community; and

WHEREAS, good physical and mental health are benefits of swimming sports and recreational aquatic-related activities, if water safety is ensured; and

WHEREAS, water safety education reinforces the importance of safe swimming and prevent drownings and recreational water-related injuries in all types of swimming environments such as private pools, public facilities, beaches and waterparks; and

WHEREAS, being "water aware" means using safe water practices that include swim lessons, the buddy system, and parental supervision, as well as following posted rules, using appropriate safety equipment, being alert to ocean conditions, swimming in designated areas supervised by lifeguards, having young children or inexperienced swimmers wear U.S. Coast Guard-approved life jackets, wearing a life jacket while boating, and avoiding alcohol use while swimming reduce accidents; and

WHEREAS, the ongoing efforts and commitments to educate the public on pool and spa safety issues and initiatives by the pool, spa, waterpark, and recreation and parks industries help to save lives; and

WHEREAS, in conjunction with National Water Safety Month, this annual awareness campaign is coordinated by the Association of Pool & Spa Professionals with support from the National Recreation & Parks Association, the American Red Cross and the World Waterpark Association;

THEREFORE I, DAVID Y. IGE, Governor, and I, DOUGLAS S. CHIN, Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim May 2018 as

"WATER SAFETY MONTH"

in Hawai'i and ask the people of the Aloha State to join us in promoting water safety and prevention of recreational water-related injuries and deaths, be "water aware" when near any swimming environment, educate children on safe water recreation practices.

DONE at the State Capitol, in Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this twentieth day of April 2018.



DAVID Y. IGE
Governor, State of Hawai'i



DOUGLAS S. CHIN
Lt. Governor, State of Hawai'i