

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 07-03

WHEREAS, the success of a society depends greatly upon the strength and vitality of its families; in all cultures and in all ages, a strong family unit has been the foundation of healthy societies;

WHEREAS, family, or ohana, is especially important in Hawaii because of the richly diverse ethnic and cultural backgrounds of its people; and

WHEREAS, in 2006, the Twenty-Third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, with both chambers concurring unanimously, adopted House Concurrent Resolution No. 269 requesting the Governor to designate and celebrate 2008 as the year of the family and to establish a Family Celebration Commission to administer the celebration;

WHEREAS, section 26-41, Hawaii Revised Statutes, authorizes the Governor of the State to establish such temporary boards and commissions as the Governor "may deem necessary to gather information or furnish advice for the executive branch" and to prescribe the temporary board's or commission's "organization, functions, and authority";

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Linda Lingle, Governor of the State of Hawaii, pursuant to House Concurrent Resolution No. 269 and section 26-41, Hawaii Revised Statutes, do hereby:

1. Designate 2008 as the Year of the Family; and
2. Establish a Family Celebration Commission to gather information and furnish advice on a program to celebrate the Year of the Family, and I further order as follows:
 - a. The Commission shall be placed within the Office of the Governor for administrative purposes. Staff support shall be provided by the

Office of the Governor. The Governor shall appoint fifteen members to the Commission, four of whom shall represent each of the four counties and the remaining members shall represent government, labor, business, and the community at large. From among the appointed members, the Governor shall select the Chairperson of the Commission. Members of the Commission may elect any subordinate officers from among its members as the Commission deems appropriate. The Commission may form subcommittees and the Chair may appoint members to those subcommittees.

b. All members shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor. In the event of a vacancy, the Governor may appoint a new member to fill the vacancy.

c. Commission members shall serve on a voluntary basis without compensation, but shall be entitled to reimbursement for necessary travel expenses for attending Commission meetings and while in the discharge of their duties and responsibilities under this Executive Order.

d. The Commission's meeting schedule shall be determined by the Commission members. The meetings shall be subject to part I of chapter 92, Hawaii Revised Statutes. A majority of the members appointed to the Commission shall constitute a quorum to do business.

e. The Commission shall prepare and recommend an overall program to celebrate the Year of the Family, recognizing the importance of the family unit in the development of the State, and encouraging and fostering strong family relationships to assist families in dealing with the

problems that threaten family unity and stability, such as drug or alcohol abuse or gang membership.

f. The Commission shall develop and recommend the various program activities that are to be scheduled throughout the year of the celebration.

g. The Commission shall encourage the participation of all segments of the State's population and consider any related plans and programs developed by interested private and public organizations or agencies.

h. The Commission shall submit to the Governor, by December 31, 2007, a comprehensive report for the Year of the Family to include, at minimum, recommendations on: (1) the production, publication, and distribution of books, films, and other educational materials on the importance of the family in Hawaii; (2) conferences, convocations, lectures, and seminars; and (3) ceremonies, theatrical productions, and other special events commemorating the year of the family.

i. The Commission shall consult, cooperate with, and seek advice from appropriate organizations or agencies.

j. The Commission shall determine the availability of grants and recommend one or more public or private agencies to apply for grants, to accept donations to finance the project, programs, and activities of the Year of the Family celebration, and to coordinate such programs and activities for the celebration.

k. The Commission shall cease operations on completion of its duties, but no later than the last day of the second regular session of the Legislature after the date of establishment of the Commission, and shall submit to the Governor and the Legislature, a final report prior to its termination.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Hawaii.

DONE at the State Capitol, Honolulu,
State of Hawaii, this 21~~st~~ day of
August, 2007.



LINDA LINGIE
Governor of Hawaii



APPROVED AS TO FORM:



MARK J. BENNETT
Attorney General