

Proclamation

The tolling of the Liberty Bell at Independence Hall in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, at two o'clock in the afternoon of July 4, 1776, proclaimed the signing of the Declaration of Independence. The adoption of this historic document marked the birth of the United States of America as a free and independent nation.

For 232 years, the United States of America has been a beacon of hope and a symbol of possibilities for people throughout the world. More than a mere collection of states, our country represents freedom and an existence without tyranny and oppression.

As a nation, our people, who are comprised of a multicultural blend of global ethnicities, are the solid foundation from which we build a country based on the rule of law and the pursuit of individual dreams. As we celebrate this event each year, it is important to reflect on how our freedom was made possible.

Throughout American history and to this day, courageous men and women have willingly answered the call to defend our inalienable rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Whether you are watching fireworks displays, barbecuing with family or celebrating in other ways today, we hope you and your 'ohana enjoy this holiday and take time to reflect on its significance, while keeping our soldiers, sailors, airmen and marines, stationed around the world, and their families in your thoughts and prayers.

The Fourth of July celebration, with its backyard barbecues and firework displays, honors those founding fathers along with brave men and women of the armed services whose unyielding courage and sacrifice have made this country strong.

THEREFORE, I, LINDA LINGLE, Governor of the State of Hawai'i, and **I, JAMES R. "DUKE" AIONA JR.**, Lieutenant Governor, do hereby proclaim **July 4, 2008**,

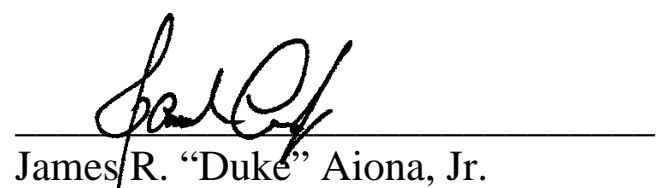
INDEPENDENCE DAY

in the Aloha State, and support this celebration of our nation's birthday.

Done at the State Capitol, in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this twentieth day of June 2008.



Linda Lingle
Governor, State of Hawai'i



James R. "Duke" Aiona, Jr.
Lieutenant Governor, State of Hawai'i