

Proclamation

Author E.B. White observed, “Everything in life is somewhere else, and you get there in a car.” Because the automobile is central to our way of life, there’s a lot of truth to this adage.

Whether it is making the daily commute to work, visiting friends or driving to your favorite beach, automobiles need regular maintenance. That is the job of automotive service professionals, who help keep Hawai‘i residents on the move.

Until the 1970s, consumers had no way to identify a competent mechanic from those who lack skills or experience. In response to this need, the National Institute for Automotive Service Excellence (ASE), a nonprofit organization that tests and certifies automotive repair technicians and professionals was formed. ACE’s certification process helps ensure that the skilled workers of our state and nation have the tools they need to maintain, service and repair the motor vehicles on which we all depend. To remain certified, those with ASE credentials must be retested every five years.

Nationwide, there are about 400,000 certified professionals who work at dealerships, garages, fleets and service stations. In Hawai‘i, there are more than 2,700 ASE-certified automotive service professionals working in more than 300 general automotive service and repair facilities. ASE-certified professionals usually wear blue and white ASE insignia or a lapel pin and carry credentials listing their area of expertise, while their employers often display their technicians’ credentials in the customer waiting area.

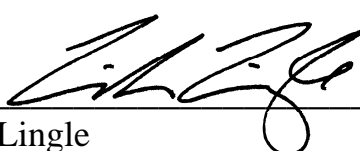
As a result of the extensive training of these service professionals, whose credentials must be retested every five years, our vehicles are more reliable, Hawai‘i’s roads are safer and consumers are able to easily distinguish automotive service professionals who are guaranteed to provide quality service.

THEREFORE, I, LINDA LINGLE, Governor, and I, JAMES R. “DUKE” AIONA, JR., Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai‘i, do hereby proclaim June 8–14, 2009 as

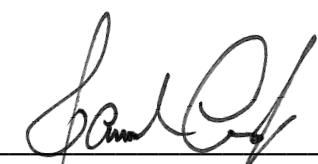
AUTOMOTIVE SERVICE PROFESSIONALS WEEK

in Hawai‘i, and offer a warm mahalo to the honest, hard-working men and women who maintain our vehicles.

DONE at the State Capitol, in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai‘i, this fifteenth day of May 2009.



Linda Lingle
Governor, State of Hawai‘i



James R. “Duke” Aiona, Jr.
Lieutenant Governor, State of Hawai‘i