

Proclamation

As the future leaders of our communities, nation and world, the next generation will be responsible for the well-being of our society. Character building is an important aspect of a child's upbringing, and more than ever, our keiki need positive and constructive guidance, which can come from families, schools, youth organizations, religious institutions and civic groups.

The character of our nation is only as strong as the character of its individual citizens, and everyone benefits when young people learn that good character counts in personal relationships, as well as academic and professional settings.

Character Counts, a program administered by the nonprofit organization, Josephson Institute, is an approach to character education, helping to change the lives of millions of youth for the better. The program centers on basic values collectively referred to as the Six Pillars of Character, which include trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring and citizenship.

Reaching more than seven million young people every day, Character Count offers support, development, training programs, e-newsletters, resources, products and free consultation. The program is a means in which to advance curricular and behavioral goals in schools, public agencies and nonprofit organizations.

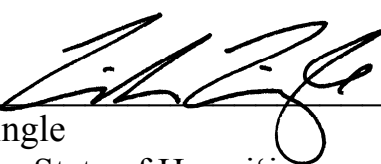
Each year, schools across the country participate in Character Counts Week as a time to emphasize the importance of striving for good character at all times, in every situation. We appreciate the following schools and organizations that are participating in this important annual event: Maui Taekwondo and Hapkido Center, Hawai'i Preparatory Academy, Boys and Girls Club of America, Sullivan Elementary School, Tinian High School Parent Teacher Association, the Hawai'i State Department of Education, Ka'ū High School, Pāhala Elementary School, Schofield Middle School Teen Center, Boys and Girls Club of the Big Island Ocean View and Windward Boys and Girls Club.

THEREFORE, I, LINDA LINGLE, Governor, and **I, JAMES R. "DUKE" AIONA, JR.**, Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim **October 18 – 24 2009**, as

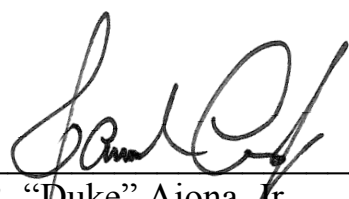
CHARACTER COUNTS WEEK

in Hawai'i, and encourage our residents to include their keiki in the various activities and events available throughout the state.

DONE at the State Capitol, in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this thirteenth day of October 2009.



Linda Lingle
Governor, State of Hawai'i



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

