

Proclamation

Influenza, commonly referred to as the flu, claims the lives of more people each year than any other vaccine-preventable disease. In the United States, about 36,000 people die and more than 200,000 are hospitalized from flu complications each year. Of those who are hospitalized with influenza, more than 20,000 are children under the age of 5.

The single best way to prevent influenza is to get a flu vaccination each year. Getting vaccinated is especially important for people at high risk of serious flu complications, including young children, pregnant women, those with chronic health conditions, people 65 and older and anyone who lives with or cares for at-risk individuals.

The Hawai'i State Department of Health has collaborated with the Department of Education, Hawai'i Association of Independent Schools, Hawai'i Catholic Schools, health care providers and many other community partners to conduct the annual Protect Hawai'i's Keiki: Stop Flu at School program. This nationally recognized, award-winning public health service offers free, statewide influenza vaccination to children in kindergarten through the eighth grade.

During the first two years of the program, more than 120,000 students and more than 18,000 faculty and staff were vaccinated. Now in its third year, the Stop Flu at School program is reaching more keiki than ever to protect them and their families against seasonal influenza.

THEREFORE, I, LINDA LINGLE, Governor, and I, JAMES R. "DUKE" AIONA, JR., Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim **October 13, 2009** as

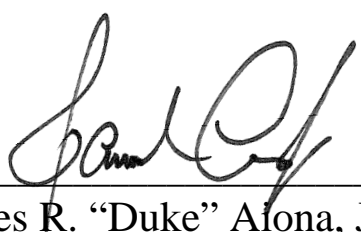
INFLUENZA VACCINATION DAY

in Hawai'i, and encourage our citizens to join the Hawai'i State Department of Health and the Hawai'i Immunization Coalition in getting vaccinated.

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