

Proclamation

During the tragic events of September 11, 2001, our nation saw both the worst and best sides of humanity. Close to 3,000 people, including members of our state 'ohana, lost their lives when a calm morning was shattered by hatred and destruction. On that day and in its aftermath, we saw incredible acts of heroism from police officers, firefighters, emergency personnel and everyday citizens, many of whom sacrificed their lives in order to save others. People throughout the nation gave from their hearts to help the victims. Courageous survivors rebuilt their lives. Those left behind carried on the legacy of their loved ones.

The aftermath of this horrific event has resonated across our nation and around the world. Though the peace and security we once took for granted within our own borders were destroyed, we ignited the enduring spirit of our nation and strengthened the unity of the American people with our resolve for freedom, justice and democracy. Hundreds of thousands of brave men and women continue to serve every day as members of our nation's armed forces with many having given their lives, or been injured to prevent future attacks.

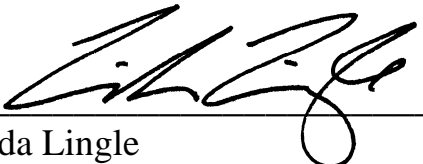
By a joint resolution approved on December 18, 2001 (Public Law 107 89), Congress designated September 11th of each year as Patriot Day. In observance of the eighth anniversary of this tragedy, we remember and honor the memories of the innocent lives lost, while reaffirming our commitment to remain vigilant in our opposition to terrorism across the globe.

On March 31, 2009, Congress passed the Edward M. Kennedy Serve America Act, which, for the first time, included the authorization and Federal recognition of September 11 as a National Day of Service and Remembrance, a bill signed into law on April 21, 2009, by President Barack Obama.

The Corporation for National and Community Service, in conjunction with various national and local service agencies and partners, created Serve.gov, a website that provides a convenient and accessible way to find volunteer opportunities on September 11 and throughout the year. September 11, 2009 is a time to recommit our hearts and dedication to our community, state and nation.

THEREFORE, I, LINDA LINGLE, Governor of the State of Hawai'i, in conjunction with President Obama, do hereby proclaim September 11, 2009 as Patriot Day and Day of Service and Remembrance in Hawai'i, and order the lowering of the Hawai'i State Flag to half-staff on all state and county buildings until sunset on September 11, 2009. I also encourage our residents to display the Hawai'i State Flag at half-staff at their homes and businesses during this time.

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


Linda Lingle
Governor, State of Hawai'i