

Proclamation

WHEREAS, Congress found that July 4, 2026 is the 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States, as marked by the adoption of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776, and the historic events preceding and following that anniversary are of major significance in the development of the national heritage of the United States of individual liberty, representative government, and the attainment of equal and unalienable rights; and

WHEREAS, the American spirit, principles, and values memorialized in the Declaration of Independence 250 years ago are valid today, as are the personal and collective responsibilities we share in protecting and perpetuating these values, "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.--That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed;" and

WHEREAS, the Constitution of the United States includes a preamble and seven articles that describe the way the government is structured and how it operates. The principles in the preamble serve as the foundation for the Constitution and guide the structure and function of the United States government, "We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defence, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America;" and

WHEREAS, also known as "America250," the "U.S. Semiquincentennial Commission" is a nonpartisan national initiative working to engage every American in commemorating the 250th anniversary of our country. This multi-year effort is an opportunity to pause and reflect on our nation's past, honor the contributions of all Americans, and look ahead toward the future we want to create for the next generation and beyond; and

WHEREAS, the "Hawai'i America250 Commission" was formed to cooperate with "America250" and provide for coordinated commemorative events and activities within the State of Hawai'i, remember the 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States, and encourage awareness and understanding of the principles of America's 'Charters of Freedom' (Declaration of Independence, Constitution of the United States, and the Bill of Rights), the winning of American independence in the American Revolutionary War, and the establishment of America's system of constitutional self-government, emphasizing the roles of active and engaged good citizens; and

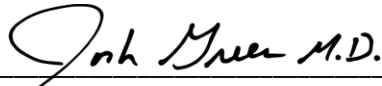
WHEREAS, knowledge of civics and the core responsibilities of citizenship and civic duty are imperative to understanding what government is, how it works, the principles upon which it was founded, how it affects everyone, and how individuals can influence or change it.

NOW, THEREFORE I, Josh Green, M.D., Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim the year 2026 as

"HAWAI'I AMERICA250"

in Hawai'i and ask the people of the Aloha State to join each of us - State Departments and Agencies, Hawai'i Department of Education, Hawai'i Association of Independent Schools, Hawai'i America250 Commission, and Counties, - to engage in America250 commemorative activities and to bring awareness of the historical events and documents preceding and following July 4, 1776.

Done at the State Capitol in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, on this sixth day of June 2025.


Josh Green, M.D.
Governor, State of Hawai'i