

COUNTY OF HAWAII

Proclamation

WHEREAS, July 4, 2026, marks the 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States, commemorated by the approval of the Declaration of Independence in 1776; and

WHEREAS, this historic milestone presents an opportunity for us to pause and reflect on our nation's past, honor the contributions of all Americans, and look forward to the future we aspire to create for the next generations; and

WHEREAS, the significant events leading up to and following the adoption of the Declaration of Independence have played a crucial role in the development of our national heritage and the defense of the United States; and

WHEREAS, on October 13, 1775, the Second Continental Congress took a pivotal action by establishing what is now the United States Navy through the following resolution:

"Resolved, that a swift sailing vessel, to carry ten carriage guns and an appropriate number of swivels, with eighty men, be fitted with all possible dispatch for a three-month cruise; and that the commander be instructed to cruise eastward to intercept transports laden with warlike stores and other supplies for our enemies, and for such other purposes as Congress shall direct."

WHEREAS, by 1776, the Colonies had 27 warships in operation, with approximately sixty vessels of various sizes serving throughout the course of the war in the Continental Navy. In contrast, the powerful Royal British Navy had about 270 warships in 1776 (a number that doubled by the end of the American Revolution); and

WHEREAS, despite being vastly outnumbered, the Continental Navy seized hundreds of British vessels, including some near the British Isles, contributing to the demoralization of the enemy and forcing the British to divert warships to protect their convoys and trade routes. The Continental Navy played a crucial role in securing victory in the war; and

WHEREAS, following the American Revolutionary War, the U.S. Constitution empowered the new Congress "to provide and maintain a navy." Acting on this authority, Congress established the Department of the Navy on April 30, 1798; and

WHEREAS, today, America is a maritime nation. For 250 years, the U.S. Navy has operated globally as America's primary forward-deployed force, deterring and combating threats to our liberty. The Navy's dominance has made it an essential tool of foreign policy and a guarantor of global trade across the world's interconnected oceans.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, C. Kimo Alameda, Mayor of the County of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim **October 13, 2025**, as the

"250th Birthday of the United States Navy Day"

in the County of Hawai'i and encourage all Americans to join me in honoring the service and sacrifice of our Sailors and to reflect on the Navy's enduring contributions to our nation's history and future. Anchors Aweigh!

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused The Seal of the County of Hawai'i to be affixed. Done this 13th day of October 2025 in Hilo, Hawai'i.



A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "C. Kimo Alameda", is written over a horizontal line.

C. Kimo Alameda, Ph.D.
Mayor, County of Hawai'i