

COUNTY OF HAWAII

Proclamation

WHEREAS, the year 2026 marks the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence; and

WHEREAS, P.L. 114-196, July 22, 2016, 130 Stat. 685 ("P.L. 114-196"), established the United States Semiquincentennial Commission and its nonprofit partner, the America250 Foundation, to collaborate with affiliates at the local, territorial, state, tribal, regional, national and international levels to educate, engage and unite Americans throughout a commemorative period concluding in 2027; and

WHEREAS, in passing P.L. 114-196, Congress found that July 4, 2026 is the 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States, as marked by the Declaration of Independence in 1776, and the historic events preceding 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 inalienable rights; and have had a profound influence throughout the world; and

WHEREAS, in the 2022 legislative session, the Hawai'i State Legislature passed House Concurrent Resolution HCR 166, 31st Leg., Reg. Sess. (2022) ("HCR 166") that states, in part, 'That the Governor is requested to establish a Hawai'i Commission on the United States Semiquincentennial by Executive Order; and

WHEREAS, on December 15, 2023, Josh Green, M.D., Governor of Hawai'i, via Executive Order No. 23-04, established a commission to be known as the "Hawai'i Semiquincentennial Commission", also to be known as the "Hawaii America250 Commission" ("Commission"), to plan, encourage, develop and coordinate in the State of Hawai'i the commemoration of the history of the United States leading to the founding of the United States celebrated on the 250th anniversary of the founding; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of via Executive Order No. 23-04 is to provide for the coordinated observance and commemoration events and activities within the State of Hawai'i commemorating the 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Hawai'i America250 Commission is made up of a diverse group of citizens from across the Islands, including at least two members from each County, including Hawai'i County; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the County of Hawai'i engages fully with our past and looks toward a shared future; and

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that I, C. Kimo Alameda, do hereby proclaim that the County of Hawai'i will fully engage in commemorative activities leading up to and during the Commission's stated length of observance: now through December 31, 2027;

I urge all community members to take advantage of the resources available from the America250 Commission, the Hawai'i America250 Commission, and the County of Hawai'i to observe the semiquincentennial anniversary by coordinating commemorative events, planning historical activities, providing opportunities for public discourse, creating new scholarship around Hawaii's complete history, creating new educational opportunities, and by seeking opportunities for historic preservation. County of Hawai'i pledges to uplift, support, and generate commemorative opportunities.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused The Seal of the County of Hawai'i to be affixed. Done this 1st day of April 2025 in Hilo, Hawai'i.



A stylized, dark ink signature of C. Kimo Alameda, consisting of a large, looping 'C' followed by a horizontal line.

C. KIMO ALAMEDA, Ph.D.
MAYOR