

COUNTY OF HAWAI'I

Proclamation

WHEREAS dark times call for light – this is the spirit behind the Peace Pole Project, a movement that is planting beacons for peace across the planet. Since its founding, the Peace Poles Project has spread worldwide with the first poles outside of Japan planted beginning in 1983; and

WHEREAS each year the *International Day of Peace* is observed around the world on September 21st. The United Nations General Assembly has declared this a day devoted to strengthening the ideals of peace, through observing 24 hours of non-violence and ceasefire; and

WHEREAS, achieving peace entails much more than laying down arms. It requires the building of societies where all members feel that they can flourish and involves creating a world in which people are treated equally, regardless of their race; and

WHEREAS the 2022 theme for the International Day of Peace is “*End Racism. Build Peace.*” Racism continues to poison institutions, social structures, and everyday life in every society. It continues to be a driver of persistence inequality and continues to deny people their fundamental human rights; and

WHEREAS, this year, during the week surrounding the International Day of Peace, there are numerous peace-themed activities and events planned, from the dedication of Peace Poles across our island, to a Walk of Peace on the newly completed Hilo Bayfront Trails, and a celebration of ethnic food and fun at Mo'ohau Bandstand in Hilo.

NOW THEREFORE, I, MITCHELL D. ROTH, Mayor of the County of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim September 18– 25, 2022, as

PEACE WEEK

in the County of Hawai'i and invite our citizens to join the efforts of the United Nations as we work towards a world free of racism and racial discrimination, a world where compassion and empathy overcome suspicion and hatred. A world we can truly be proud of.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused The Seal of the County of Hawai'i to be affixed. Done this 18th day of September 2022, in Hilo, Hawai'i.




MITCHELL D. ROTH
Mayor