

# COUNTY OF HAWAI'I

## *Proclamation*

**WHEREAS** more than 28 million children in the U.S. have parents who work outside the home, and 19.4 million children have no place to go after school; and

**WHEREAS**, launched in 2000, "Lights on Afterschool", is a nationwide event celebrating quality afterschool programs and underscoring the need to invest in afterschool programs, which provide fun, hands-on learning opportunities, homework help, and healthy snack and meals; and

**WHEREAS** quality afterschool programs and opportunities provide safe, challenging, and engaging learning experiences that help children develop social, emotional, physical, and academic skills; support working families by ensuring their children are safe and productive after the regular school day ends; and

**WHEREAS** quality afterschool programs build strong communities by involving students, parents, business leaders and adult volunteers in the lives of young people, promoting positive relationships and community partners in advancing the welfare of our children; and

**WHEREAS** afterschool programs are essential to Hawai'i County's economic recovery as they provide safe, supervised spaces for students and give parents peace of mind when they go back to work. Afterschool programs have continued to support Hawai'i County's children and youth providing virtual and in-person academic and social-emotional support, and emergency childcare services; and

**WHEREAS** this year marks the 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Lights on Afterschool. The citizens of Hawai'i County stand firmly committed to quality afterschool programs and opportunities to help close the achievement gap and prepare young people to be productive members of our communities.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, MITCHELL D. ROTH, Mayor of the County of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim October 19, 2022, as**

### **LIGHTS ON AFTERSCHOOL DAY**

*in the County of Hawai'i and encourage all citizens to commit to invest and engage in innovative afterschool programs to ensure the lights stay on and the doors stay open for all children after school.*

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused The Seal of the County of Hawai'i to be affixed. Done this 19<sup>th</sup> day of October 2022, in Hilo, Hawai'i.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mitchell D. Roth".

**MITCHELL D. ROTH**  
Mayor