

COUNTY OF HAWAI'I

Proclamation

WHEREAS SUMMER is not canceled! Even as we navigate the limits of a global health pandemic, summer is bursting with possibilities for all students to grow, learn, and thrive, and instrumental in closing the achievement gap between privileged children and less-resourced children; and

WHEREAS high-quality summer learning and enrichment opportunities will be more important than ever in 2022. Across the country, summer programs are adapting and innovating to ensure children and their families can access quality summer learning opportunities and critical supports and services throughout the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS "Summer Learning Week" is a time to reflect on the importance of keeping young people curious, engaged, safe, and healthy every summer, ensuring they return to school in the fall ready to succeed in the year ahead; and,

WHEREAS there is still a role for summer youth employment programs to engage older youth. Whether virtual or in-person, with the support of business and community leaders, our youth can learn, gain real world experience, contribute to their community and economy, and experience safer environments through summer jobs, internships, mentoring and/or volunteer opportunities; and,

WHEREAS the Wallace Foundation's largest-ever summer learning study conducted by the RAND Corporation found that it was clear that low-income students experienced more setbacks over the summer compared to their wealthier peers; and,

WHEREAS summer learning programs are proven to maintain and advance students' academic and social/emotional growth, keep children safe and healthy during the summer, and send young people back to school ready to learn; and,

WHEREAS a wide array of public agencies, community-based organizations, schools, libraries, museums, recreation centers, camps and businesses in the community contribute to the well-being of youth through summer programming; and

WHEREAS joyful summer learning experiences are a critical component of our collective effort to ensure Hawai'i County's educational recovery and that all students heal, grow, and thrive through and beyond this global pandemic.

NOW THEREFORE, I, MITCHELL D. ROTH, Mayor of the County of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim July 11-15, 2022, as

SUMMER LEARNING WEEK

in Hawai'i County and encourage our citizens to support and participate in high-quality summer learning enrichment programs and activities on Hawai'i Island.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused The Seal of the County of Hawai'i to be affixed. Done this 11th day of July 2022, in Hilo, Hawai'i.



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

**MITCHELL D. ROTH
MAYOR**