



# Proclamation

Competitive robotics is an important extracurricular activity for our students. It provides a hands-on, contextual learning experience for students to apply and expand their knowledge of science, technology, engineering and mathematics. Moreover, robotics competitions, especially through the *FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology)* program, help participants develop a diligent work ethic and learn valuable life skills, including teamwork and “gracious professionalism.”

The Waiakea High School Robotics Club was founded by 15 students during the 2002-2003 academic year to compete in the *FIRST* Robotics Competition. During the club’s first two years, the team participated in *FIRST* Regional competitions in Seattle, Washington and Portland, Oregon. The following years, the club expanded to also compete in HURC/MATE and Botball competitions within Hawai‘i. The club achieved tremendous success last year, as Waiakea sent three teams to the statewide HURC/MATE competition and placed first, third and fifth overall. Additionally, two Waiakea teams finished first and fourth in the state Botball competition.

This year, the club returned to *FIRST* competitions and had an outstanding season. **Team 2024, Kekoa O Ha‘aheo**, competed in the *FIRST* Silicon Valley Regional and won the Rookie All-Star Award for exemplifying a strong partnership effort and enthusiasm to further explore science and technology. The team traveled to Atlanta, Georgia, for the 2007 *FIRST* Championship, and represented Hawai‘i proudly by winning five of their seven matches and finishing 24<sup>th</sup> out of 86 teams in the Galileo Division, the toughest of the competition. Moreover, team members exhibited exemplary leadership and sportsmanship throughout the competition.

On April 25, the Waiakea High School Robotics Club will be honored at a school-wide assembly for its many impressive accomplishments. Team members will then travel to O‘ahu to defend their state Botball title on April 28 at the Hawai‘i Convention Center.

**THEREFORE, I, LINDA LINGLE**, Governor, and **I, JAMES R. “DUKE” AIONA, JR.**, Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai‘i, do hereby proclaim **April 25, 2007** as

## **WAIAKEA HIGH SCHOOL ROBOTICS DAY**

in Hawai‘i, and congratulate each team member, advisor, mentor and sponsor for an outstanding season.

**DONE** at the State Capitol, in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai‘i, this twenty-fourth day of April 2007.

Linda Lingle  
Governor, State of Hawai‘i

James R. “Duke” Aiona, Jr.  
Lieutenant Governor, State of Hawai‘i