

Proclamation

The people of Hawai'i are deeply indebted to the men and women serving in the United States Armed Forces, as well as their families. Whether in times of peace or conflict, the members of the National Guard, Reserves and active duty military have served our state and nation with great honor. Their sacrifices have changed the course of history, touched lives and spread freedom and democracy to nations around the world. Along with being first-responders in the line of defense here in Hawai'i, they have also been the first to respond in relief missions and to bring aid to our residents.

Hawai'i's servicemen and women continue to defend our nation with distinction in all parts of the world. Soldiers stationed at Schofield Barracks and Marines stationed at the Marine Corps Base Hawai'i are currently deployed to Iraq, with more forces scheduled to deploy later this year. Moreover, air units from Hickam Air Force Base, naval units from Naval Station Pearl Harbor, as well as the men and women serving in the Hawai'i National Guard and Reserve and Hawai'i-born soldiers assigned to units of all branches across the nation have courageously served in combat zones as an important part of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan.

At home, military spouses and dependents support their loved ones admirably. They too make tremendous sacrifices for our nation, and provide love, inspiration and hope for the soldiers, enabling them to continue serving us all overseas.

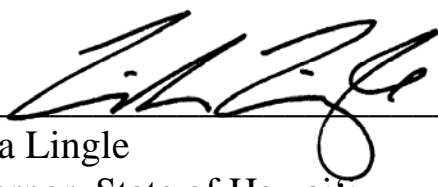
As designated by Congress, *National Military Appreciation Month* is observed throughout the country each May in order to reflect on the many sacrifices our soldiers continue to make for our benefit, and express our appreciation to them. For the past 22 years, the Chamber of Commerce of Hawai'i, led by the Military Affairs Council, has coordinated a month-long celebration to honor Hawai'i's military 'ohana. This year, events will begin on April 26 with Opening Ceremonies at the Pacific Aviation Museum on Ford Island.

THEREFORE, I, LINDA LINGLE, Governor, and I, JAMES R. "DUKE" AIONA, JR., Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim **May 2007** as


MILITARY APPRECIATION MONTH

in Hawai'i, and strongly encourage all of our citizens to express their appreciation to members of the U.S. military and their families for their continued sacrifices made in defense of our liberty.

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



Linda Lingle
Governor, State of Hawai'i



James R. "Duke" Aiona, Jr.
Lieutenant Governor, State of Hawai'i